

Waldie Says He Heard 'Slurs'

Washington

Representative Jerome Waldie (Dem-Calif.) said yesterday he heard President Nixon make an ethnic slur on a White House tape recording that is in the possession of the House Judiciary Committee.

Waldie, a member of the panel which is conducting an investigation into Mr. Nixon's possible impeachment, said that "beyond any question of a doubt" he heard the President make "ethnic references that were in the nature of a slur" on a tape recording of Feb. 28, 1973.

Waldie did not say who the President was talking with at the time nor would he repeat exactly what was said.

"No matter how insensitive the listener might be, you could not interpret that language (on the tape) other than an ethnic slur," Waldie said.

Waldie said he heard the "slurs" on a portion of a Watergate tape that most other committee members have not yet listened to.

Responding to Waldie, Presidential spokesman Gerald L. Warren reiterated the White Houses previous statements that the tapes contain



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CONGRESSMEN JEROME WALDIE AND LAWRENCE HOGAN The House Judiciary Committee members disagreed about 'slurs'

no ethnic or racial remarks.

Waldie, one of panel's most outspoken proponents for impeachment, and Representative Lawrence J. Hogan (Rep.-Md.), one of the President's strongest supporters on the 38-member committee, were interviewed jointly on the CBS-

TV's "Face the Nation."

Hogan said he had "not heard any ethnic slurs in any of the tapes that I have heard." He admitted, however, he had not heard the section of tape Waldie was referring to.

The issue of ethnic references was first raised last

month when the News-Times reported that Mr. Nixon had used the terms "Jewboy" and "Wop" while talking with his former counsel, John Dean III.

J. Fred Buzhardt, the President's special counsel, denied the allegation during a "Face the Nation" appearance on May 12. He charged the Times story was part of a "concerted campaign" to "poison the public mind against the President."

Buzhardt said later he stood by his previous remarks that he had heard no slurs and said revival of the issue was an attempt "to divert attention from the inability of the committee to find substantive evidence of an impeachable offense."

When asked about Buzhardt's denial, Waldie said he would suggest that Buzhardt listen to a portion of the February 28 tape that was expunged as irrelevant to impeachment by committee chairman Peter Rodino (Dem.-N.J.) and vice chairman Edward Hutchinson (Rep.-Mich.).

Waldie said the full committee heard the February 28 tape, minus the portion with the alleged slur. He said he asked to hear the deleted portion in the privacy of the committee offices after studying Buzhardt's May 12 denial.

Hogan labeled the slur issue "a red herring."
"What in the world does this have to do with the impeachment inquiry?" he asked. "I think it's totally nongermane."

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