

Goldwater in Senate Denounces 'Lies' About Him in TV Reports

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 (AP) —Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, took the Senate floor today to describe the press as "a rotten bunch."

Looking into the press galleries, Senator Goldwater denounced "two damned lies that have appeared on NBC this morning and ABC this afternoon, having to do with my supposed visit to the White House last night and being turned away."

"I haven't been at the White House in about two weeks and have not seen the President since May 5 or May 10," Mr. Goldwater said.

ABC and NBC carried reports today about Mr. Goldwater supposedly having met with President Nixon at the White House.

Unless reporters do better than that, Mr. Goldwater said, "God help us."

"You're a rotten bunch," he said in conclusion. The remark drew applause from a portion of the audience in the visitors' gallery.

A short time later, Mr. Goldwater's office issued the following statement for him saying: "Twice today American television has displayed an unholy ability to lie. This morning on NBC it was reported by someone that I visited the White House in two weeks."

"Today Bob Clark, an ABC commentator, said that I told him that President Nixon was going to resign. This is lie No. 2. I have not seen Mr. Nixon since the early part of May. It is about time that the American news media stop lies such as this."

Asked for comment on the remarks, an NBC spokesman said: "The Senator is mistaken. NBC did not report that he had visited the White House and was refused admission. What NBC News did report was that Senator Goldwater wanted to arrange a meeting with President Nixon but that the meeting was not arranged. We stand on that report."

An ABC spokesman, asked for comment, said: "Clark has been in touch with his original source. The source says he was wrong in assuming Senator Goldwater was involved. The source still says he believes the President has made it clear to Congressional sources that he will resign."

Mr. Clark, whose original report was read by Frank Reynolds, a correspondent, on ABC-TV at 3:17 P.M., according to the network, later went on the ABC radio network and apologized to Mr. Goldwater for "erroneously connecting" him with the resignation story.