

Hatfield Says

The Burden Is On the President

WASHINGTON — Senator Mark Hatfield, the Oregon Republican, said yesterday the burden in the Watergate case is on President Nixon to prove he is "as clean as a hound's tooth."

Quoting the remark by Dwight Eisenhower in 1952 when his running mate, Mr. Nixon, was defending himself against charges of using a "slush fund," Hatfield said, "once again President Nixon must prove himself to be as clean as a hound's tooth."

"The taint from this scandal threatens to engulf not only Mr. Nixon but also the institution of the presidency," he said.

"Already trust in all government is eroding and estrangement from the political process strains the very capacity to govern," he added.

Hatfield said that "while the current White House actions of accusation, recrimination, and vindication reflect the personal tragedy in those lives ensnared in this web, I trust that the results will expose the guilty parties and that they will be brought to justice."

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