

Goldwater's Analogy

Watergate, Teapot Dome

Washington

Senator Barry Goldwater (Rep-Ariz.) likened the Watergate case to the Teapot Dome scandal and said in an interview published yesterday that he has urged President Nixon to speak out personally on the issue.

Otherwise, Goldwater told the Christian Science Monitor, Republican candidates will be hurt in the 1974 election and the GOP will be unable to elect a Republican president in 1976.

Presidential counselor Anne Armstrong told reporters that Goldwater is "absolutely right" in asserting that the Watergate case is hampering the party's fund-raising efforts.

'HURT'

"Yes, we are being hurt now," she said. "But I am convinced the administration is determined to clear this up to the satisfaction of the American public. So in the long run, I don't think it will be a detriment (to the party)."

Goldwater's strong language was striking since in the past the former GOP standard-bearer has tended to shrug off the bugging and break-in last June 17 of the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate apartment complex.

As recently as January 23 he said on the Dick Cavett

Watergate Issue

Baltimore

Anne Armstrong, a White House counselor, said yesterday she agrees with Senator Barry Goldwater (Rep-Ariz.), that the Watergate issue is hurting the Republican party.

Mrs. Armstrong said she also agrees that party fund-raising efforts were hurt by the controversial case.

television show that bugging and political espionage are nothing new in American politics and that he himself had been bugged when he ran for president in 1964.

TEAPOT

Teapot Dome was the name of Wyoming oil land set aside for Navy war use, and in the early 1920s Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall quietly leased Teapot Dome and other oil reserves in California to private oil interests without competitive bidding. Later, Teapot Dome came to symbolize all scandals in the Warren G. Harding administration.

In the Monitor interview Goldwater said, "the Watergate. The Watergate. It's be-

She also said the President is keeping aides from testifying publicly to avoid "putting the Republican party under a cloud for an extended period of time."

"Let's look at it pragmatically," said the former vice chairman of the Republican National Committee. "There are very few things the Democrats can agree on, except the Watergate."

Associated Press

ginning to be like Teapot Dome. I mean, there's a smell to it. Let's get rid of the smell."

The senator, who praised the Nixon foreign and domestic policy, said he sees the Watergate issue as raising the question: "Can you trust Dick Nixon? It gets right down to that."

"All of us who support Nixon are going to be on the line in the 1974 election. When they say, 'are you still supporting the president?' I'd say, 'yes, I'm still supporting the President.' And I'd say that even if . . . no, I won't say that. I might not support him if it turns out he knew all about this and kept his mouth shut. But I don't think he knows about it."

Asked what the president can say, the senator replied, "I don't know. If there's something to the whole charge of unusual, peculiar happenings in the Watergate incident, he's got to admit it. If there's nothing, he's got to say there's nothing — which he has said repeatedly through other people. But he, himself, has to have a press conference where he spells it out."

Presidential press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler declined to comment on Goldwater's statement other than to note his March 30 announcement that White House staff members will testify before a federal grand jury investigating the case and will work out a procedure to cooperate with a Senate probe headed by Senator Sam Ervin (Dem-N.C.).

Goldwater said of the offer to allow staff testimony before a grand jury: "I don't think (it) goes far enough."

He suggested that in aiding the Ervin select committee White House aides like presidential assistant H. R. (Bob) Haldeman and counsel John W. Dean III should give sworn testimony privately to Ervin and Senator Howard H. Baker (Rep-Tenn.). Then if Ervin and Baker "feel they have a sto-

ry to tell . . . let it be made public," Goldwater said.

The senator added that the political situation "is salvageable" for Republicans "if the president was not involved."

But if Mr. Nixon or Haldeman or Dean were involved, Goldwater warned, "there's no way" to salvage the situation.

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