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# Goldwater Says Democrats Used Wiretaps in '72 Race

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Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) charged yesterday, admittedly on hearsay, that the Democrats as well as the Republicans engaged in political wiretapping in the 1972 campaign.

Goldwater made his accusation at a breakfast meeting with reporters, said it was based "on a few little facts" he declined to disclose, and added:

"Just be patient... You've been reporting hearsay for a long time. Report this... This came to me from sources I can't disclose, so shut up about it."

Speaking of the political espionage scandal centered around the Watergate break-in incident, Goldwater said:

"The Democrats are going to be in this in a very vivid, vivid way." He was not referring to the Watergate incident itself, he said, but to other political bugging.

But when pressed for details, Goldwater backed away. "I have no duty to tell it," he said. He had not reported what he had heard to the Justice Department, he said, because "I've only been told this." And he added of the subject he had raised voluntarily: "For Christ's sake, get off this subject. I'm not going to talk about it."

Though he raised the matter in a discussion of the Watergate case, Goldwater acknowledged that what he had heard about was not of the scope of that affair, and he said he doubted disclosure would lead to any indictments.

Goldwater also said he

had heard "rumors I can't prove that (Sen. Edmund S.) Muskie was bugging (Sen. George) McGovern and vice-versa" in the 1972 campaign, but he did not elaborate.

Informed of Goldwater's remark, McGovern and a Muskie aide denied their campaign ever had engaged in bugging.

"As President Nixon advised in his Monday night speech, in dealing with the Watergate case," McGovern said, "we must all avoid statements or actions which appear to reflect on innocent people. I am sorry Sen. Goldwater did not hear or heed the President's words. I am saddened that Sen. Goldwater could charge in a public forum with no foundation other than rumor, that my campaign organization and Sen. Muskie's engaged in electronic eavesdropping against each other."

"There is no proof for this charge. There is no truth to any allegation that my campaign organization 'bugged' any of my opponents, and Sen. Goldwater having made such an allegation has an obligation to share any evidence he has with the grand jury, the Ervin committee, the Justice Department and, I would hope, a special prosecutor."

Maynard Toll, Muskie's aide, said: "If we were bugged from any source we don't know about it. Any suggestion that we bugged anyone is utterly ridiculous."

While declining to provide details to back up his charges of Democratic bugging, Goldwater clearly in-

dicated that at a later time they would be made available. "Wait until you run the Republicans all over the hill, (then) we'll throw the meat to you," he said.

The Arizona Republican met with reporters in advance of a visit with President Nixon yesterday morning. He said he would not inform the President of the alleged Democratic bugging because "I don't want to bother him."

Asked what he thought the eventual impact of Watergate would be, Goldwater said: "I think what will wind up in people's minds is, a curse on both your houses"—that both parties would be tarnished in the public eye.

Goldwater said he did not believe Mr. Nixon was personally involved in the Watergate scandal but he reiterated his belief that if the President turned out to be implicated, there would be impeachment proceedings. He said he disagreed with former Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, who said Tuesday he would be impeachment proceedings. He said he disagreed with former Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, who said Tuesday he would rather not know if Mr. Nixon was involved.

"We're not talking about Richard Nixon but about that office," Goldwater said, "and that office must be kept clean."

The 1964 GOP presidential nominee also said he was concerned that Secretary of Defense Elliot L. Richardson, selected by Mr. Nixon to be the new Attor-

ney General, would run into the same problem that the man he replaces, Richard G. Kleindienst, said forced him to quit. Kleindienst said he had too many personal associations with individuals mentioned in the Watergate case to continue effectively in the job.

The President, Goldwater said, should have kept Kleindienst, a 1964 Goldwater lieutenant, in the post and appointed Richardson as a special prosecutor in the case. In any event, he said, such a special prosecutor should be named.

Goldwater said the Watergate case has caused Republican contributors to back off, and he proposed that next Wednesday's \$1,000-a-plate Republican dinner at the Washington Hilton be called off. He said he had sent his own ticket back.

Concerning this week's switch of former Secretary of the Treasury John B. Connally from the Democratic to the Republican Party, Goldwater predicted "a dogfight" for the 1976 nomination between Connally and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew if both men choose to run.

Goldwater said he spoke to Connally shortly before the switch. "I told him, 'You better get your ass in another saddle, John,'" Goldwater related. "He said, 'I'm going to do that.'"