

## Ashbrook's Advice on Watergate

Washington

Representative John M. Ashbrook (Rep-Ohio) said yesterday that conservatives should abandon their sympathy for President Nixon in his Watergate troubles and speak on moving the government "out of this fantastic quagmire we're in."

Ashbrook, who challenged Mr. Nixon in some 1972 primaries, spoke to the conservative Young Americans for Freedom convention.

Ashbrook said that if Republicans had chosen and elected California Governor Ronald Reagan "we wouldn't be in this mess we're in."

Watergate came about, Ashbrook said, because of "false loyalty, loyalty to an individual rather than principles."

Speaking before the President's latest statement on the Watergate affair, Ashbrook said there is a feeling among Republican conservatives "that President Nixon is down and out now, let's not rock the boat."

He added: "This bothers me. He can be down and out for four years. Conservatives should speak out no matter where the chips fall."

Associated Press