

# Barry hits Nixon on credibility

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. Barry Goldwater says the White House assertion that two Watergate tapes never existed plunges President Nixon's credibility to "an all-time low from which he may not be able to recover."

"As one schooled in electronics," said the Arizona Republican, "I can understand it, but as a practical person in close touch with the American people, I doubt that they will accept this."

The 1964 GOP presidential candidate renewed his appeal for Nixon to personally appear before the Senate Watergate Committee to answer questions.

"I feel now more than ever that this may offer the only way out," said Goldwater.

Goldwater, meanwhile, urged Americans to give Nixon the benefit of the doubt until U.S. District Court Judge John J. Sirica "can announce his opinion of the lost tapes."

The White House claims that two of the nine Watergate tapes sought by ousted Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox never actually existed.