

# Saxbe Quoted as Urging Destruction of the Tapes

## Washington

Senator William B. Saxbe, whom President Nixon has nominated to become attorney general, has been quoted as advocating in August the destruction of Watergate tapes "if they're incriminating," the Washington Post reported today.

The newspaper said the Ohio senator was quoted August 23 by the Hong Kong Standard in a speech to a chapter of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong.

Saxbe was unavailable for

comment. A spokesman for the Ohio Republican said yesterday, "He doesn't remember making any statement to that effect."

According to the newspaper, a transcript, prepared from a tape recording of Saxbe's remarks, quoted Saxbe: "I think the President is right on standing on his rights not to disclose the tapes.

"I personally wish I had never heard of the tapes and, unless they're incriminating, they should be destroyed and I'm sure he will."

*Associated Press*

\*See SFChronicle 6 Nov, where this phrase is given as "If they're incriminating

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