

How Goldwater Is Criticizing Nixon

Salt Lake City

For the past week, Senator Barry Goldwater (Rep.-Ariz.) has been criss-crossing the West and delivering his harshest criticism of President Nixon's handling of the Watergate scandals.

While insisting there is no reason for the President to resign or be impeached, Goldwater has pictured Mr. Nixon as a political loner who has repeatedly made serious mistakes because he will not listen to friends who could help him.

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"This particular president is the most complete loner I have ever known," Goldwater told a University of Utah audience.

"How you change that I don't know. I have been trying my damndest to get him to be a little more human and to come down and speak with the boys and girls and find out what the legislative branch is thinking.

"When you talk about the arrogance, the rudeness, that is an individual matter which we are hopeful we can correct. But I wouldn't bet a lot of money.

TAPES

Nor was Goldwater any gentler in discussing Mr. Nixon's handling of the Watergate tapes, particularly the disclosure that two key tapes were missing.

"I am not here to defend the President," Goldwater told a college audience in Pocatello, Idaho. "He has been very, very wrong but I am not going to suggest he resigns."

Since last Monday, Goldwater has spoken once and sometimes twice a day at university and college campuses in Utah, Idaho, Washington and Wyoming. He wound up his tour Saturday at a Boy Scout gathering in Burley, Idaho.

At Idaho State University in Pocatello, Goldwater was applauded when he said President Nixon should not

resign. Goldwater won even more applause when he said Mr. Nixon's credibility is "now at zero level."

Discussing the missing Watergate tapes, Goldwater said he could understand what might have happened because "the least dependable piece of electrical equipment is a tape recorder.

"But you can't tell this to the American people," the Arizona senator declared. "The American people think the President actually destroyed those tapes and frankly I can't blame them."

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