



Representative John W. Wydler, Republican of Garden City, L. I., checking in yesterday at the White House for a briefing by President Nixon.

One Reaction to Nixon Breakfast

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 14— Before Representative John W. Wydler participated in today's White House breakfast meeting with President Nixon, the Nassau Republican worried that his defense of the President would continue to be undermined by new disclosures.

"We kept getting the rug pulled out from under us," Mr. Wydler said of himself and other Congressional Republicans.

He was also unhappy about the dismissal of Archibald Cox, the special prosecutor, and could not understand why the President did not appeal to the Supreme Court before giving up the tapes or how White House officials could be involved in something as "childish" as bugging.

But that was yesterday. Today, his fears are lessened and his confidence restored.

"I'm very much encouraged," Mr. Wydler, a staunch Nixon supporter, said after the poached egg and corned beef hash breakfast, which lasted nearly two hours. "His prior statements that he knew nothing about the Watergate break-in before it happened and had no part in the cover-up are all going to be confirmed by the release to the public of the tapes and other documents."

The session produced little new information, Mr. Wydler said, but did produce Presidential assurances that he hoped put Watergate into perspective.

"It wasn't sold on the basis 'You come down here, and you'll hear the new true story,'" Mr. Wydler said. "It was sold on the basis that the old story was true, and that the members of Congress could ask questions."

For nearly two hours, 75

Republican members of the House questioned the President on Watergate, I.T.T., the milk industry, the Cox dismissal, the White House tapes and related matters.

"It was a difficult meeting for him," Mr. Wydler said. "He had to talk about his personal finances, and his family's personal finances. His final words were, 'I need your help.'"

The 49-year-old Representative has represented the South Shore and southeastern Nassau since 1963. He is the New York State Republican whip and estimated that he has voted with the Administration 70 per cent of the time.

Mr. Wydler was interviewed before and after the breakfast meeting to determine the impact of the President's remarks. Before the breakfast, Mr. Wydler said:

"The President's problem is very simple—most people in the country believe that he had some knowledge of the Watergate situation. If he can clear that up, the rest of his troubles are over."

Mr. Wydler emerged from the breakfast with the conviction that President Nixon would prevail, exonerated by the tapes and documents that will be made public.

But he hopes that the President will go one step further and hold a televised question-and-answer session with Senators Sam J. Ervin Jr. and Howard H. Baker Jr. of the Watergate committee. "I've recommended this to the White House," he said.

The Representative said before the session, "It was a great surprise to me that people as high up as has been indicated would mix themselves up with something as

childish as bugging somebody's headquarters." He said after the session that he believed that the President and high White House officials were guiltless.

Mr. Wydler said before the session that he "could never understand why the President didn't pursue his appeal on the tapes case to the Supreme Court."

"This was a bad decision, and bad legal advice," he said before the session. After the session, he said that his view remained unchanged.

Mr. Wydler said before the session, "I wasn't pleased with the way the Cox situation was handled. Later, he said that his view on this had not changed.

He said before the session that the I.T.T. case had been settled in the interests of the Government.

"The President said that John Mitchell had convinced him to go ahead with the Supreme Court appeal," Mr. Wydler said. "The President emphasized that there was no connection between campaign contributions and the initial failure to take an appeal, but rather that it was the national Administration's policy not to attack large corporations solely on the basis of their size."

Mr. Wydler said before the session that he felt the President had acted properly on milk price supports, and that these were unrelated to campaign contributions.

"The President said that members of Congress would have passed legislation to raise the prices more than he did," he said later. "He acted to head off Congressional action. I tend to think that these things are thrown in as political matters."