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Nixon Aide

Rips Mills'

Tactics

SFChronicle

Washington

A senior White House official last night accused Representative Wilbur Mills, one of the most powerful members of Congress, of using McCarthy-like smear tactics in insinuating that President Nixon might have committed tax fraud.

The advisor, presidential counselor Bryce Harlow, said Mills, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, was engaging in "the old game of guilt by innuendo" practiced two decades ago by the late Communist-hunting Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin.

Mills (Dem.-Ark.) is a member of a congressional committee asked by the President to investigate whether he should pay back taxes he saved when he took a \$576,000 deduction for donating his vice presidential papers to the national archives.

Mills suggested at a press conference last Friday that pressure on the President to resign would intensify when the committee issued its report on various aspects of his tax returns in a month or so.

Reuters