

Former IRS Counsel Says Nixon 'Correct'

Washington

Roger V. Barth, former deputy chief counsel for the Internal Revenue Service, says he believes the President was correct in taking every possible deduction from his income taxes.

Barth also said in an interview yesterday that White House memos in 1969 asking about possible tax deductions "were entirely consistent with the President's statement he was not intimately involved with details of his tax returns."

He saw the memos as requests for "sound tax advice" for the President.

"I think a fair reading

of these memos would indicate the President or his advisers — on assuming a new office—would be thinking about the general subject of tax returns and tax affairs," Barth said.

Barth, who resigned from the IRS last year and now is with a Washington law firm, said he had never heard of a request from the White House to see tax returns of other presidents.

Associated Press