

Goldwater Asserts Nixon Would Like to Return to Politics

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (UPI) — Senator Barry Goldwater said today that former President Richard M. Nixon had told him that he would like to get back into politics to help the Republican party.

Mr. Goldwater said he had met with Mr. Nixon in San Clemente, Calif., last week and had discussed the possibility of Mr. Nixon's returning some day to "the political arena" as a spokesman for the party.

Mr. Goldwater's remarks coincided with a report from Mr. Nixon's physician in San Clemente that the former President was "looking physically improved" for the first time since leaving the hospital. Dr.

John C. Lungren said in an interview that Mr. Nixon might be well enough next month to travel occasionally by automobile, helicopter or plane.

Senator Goldwater, in an interview, also said that Vice President Rockefeller would have "no chance" of winning the 1976 G.O.P. Presidential nomination in the event President Ford decided not to seek election to a full term.

"You'd have the united effort of the conservatives in the party against him," Mr. Goldwater said. "I don't think he'd have any chance at all."

Mr. Goldwater said he had lunch last Thursday at Mr. Nixon's oceanside retreat and that the former President had

"talked of his desire to get back into the political arena—not as a candidate—but as a party spokesman."

"We discussed whether he would be accepted back into the party's affairs," Mr. Goldwater said, "and I told him I thought he would be."

"My mail shows there's no lessening of interest in him within the party," Mr. Goldwater said. "After all, he had millions who voted for him."

"Of course there is the question of when his health would permit it," Mr. Goldwater said. "But he felt that when it does he might get out and try to be of some help" to Republican candidates and the party generally.

"It's not going to happen the day after tomorrow, or next month or even next year," Mr. Goldwater said, "but as time goes on I think Watergate will gradually be put behind us."

"And I have a suspicion that as time goes on he'll be available for the Republican party," Mr. Goldwater added.

Mr. Goldwater said that Mr. Nixon was still suffering from phlebitis, which almost took his life, and still "can't walk very well."

Meanwhile, Mr. Nixon indicated that he wants back his non-Presidential memorabilia—including his reading glasses, his collection of miniature G.O.P. elephants and a photo of

as a Spokesman for the G.O.P.

the wedding of his daughter Tricia.

Mr. Nixon's lawyers and the Justice Department petitioned United States District Judge Charles R. Richey today to return the collection of personal possessions to the Nixon estate at San Clemente, Calif. Judge Richey did not rule immediately.

The request covered those items Mr. Nixon took to the White House before his first inaugural on Jan. 20, 1969, and those received at the White House after he resigned the Presidency last Aug. 9.

Mr. Nixon's lawyers contended that the items were not covered under a law Congress passed retaining Federal con-

trol over all of Mr. Nixon's materials dating during his Presidency.

The Watergate special prosecutor's office said it did not need the material.

Mr. Nixon's personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, has packed the items into about 250 boxes, ready to ship should Judge Richey approve.

R. Stanley Morteson, Mr. Nixon's lawyer, told Judge Richey that the boxes contained mail, bills for renewal of credit cards, Mr. Nixon's collections of gavels and miniature elephants, a pair of reading glasses, a picture of the wedding of his daughter Tricia and a globe of the moon.

A Justice Department lawyer, Irwin Goldbloom, said that lawyers for Mr. Nixon and the department had indexed the materials.

"The material does not come within the statute or the court's restraining order," Mr. Goldbloom said. "We propose to ship it a week from today."

Philip Kriendler, representing the special Watergate prosecutor, Henry S. Ruth Jr., said he had examined the indexes and that the material to be shipped was not needed for future prosecution.

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