

Goldwater Blasts Nixon

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Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.) said yesterday that former President Nixon could do the United States a favor by staying in China.

Asked if Nixon's China trip had any impact on President Ford's performance in the New Hampshire primary, Goldwater said:

"I don't think Mr. Nixon's visit to China did anything and if he wants to do this country a favor he might stay over there. He is violating the law."

Goldwater made the statements on ABC television's "Good Morning America."

"The Logan Act prohibits any American—and that's all he is, he's an ex-President and a private citizen—the Logan Act says no one but the President and the Secretary of State can discuss foreign policy, and he made a tremendous mistake in doing what he did at the time he did it.

"I don't think it (the trip) hurt Mr. Ford," Goldwater said.

"I don't think the average American has enough respect for Mr. Nixon anymore to really believe that what he's doing is in anybody's interest but Mr. Nixon's."

The Logan Act prohibits citizens from trying "to influence the measures or conduct of any foreign government or any officer or agent thereof" without authority from the U. S. government.