

choice that is before you is simply whether you want a continuation of progressive, sound and honest government or whether you want to turn our State House over to a group of insincere and inexperienced men who would like to control that government for their own selfish purposes. To put it a bit more plainly, the choice you have is between me and an opponent of mine in this primary race who in the opinion of many is completely dominated by and wholly subservient to Jack Pollack.

If there was ever a doubt in the mind of anyone of you that this self-centered, greedy and ambitious political boss wants to take over your State government, such a doubt, I am sure, has been erased by events which have occurred during these past few days. For Jack Pollack, cornered, frightened and desperate, has displayed his true character and his real objectives for all to see. Like many others in political life before me, I gave some recognition to Jack Pollack, and like many others before me also, I have learned through hard, bitter experience that one does not deal with Jack Pollack in the same way that one deals with ordinary people. He is cruel, calculating and heartless, and, when frustrated, as he has become frustrated during this campaign, he is capable of any mischief, regardless of how ignoble or how dishonorable.

In my 1958 campaign for the Governorship, I discussed my plans with any number of political leaders throughout this State. Jack Pollack was among these. Political patronage, as is always the case, was among the many topics discussed. I had been in office only about three months when I realized that it would be impossible for me to continue a workable relationship with Jack Pollack and at the same time perform my duties to you the people of Maryland in the Office of Governor. My duty, in such a situation, of course was clear, and, in repudiating him and his demands, I created the first in a long series of controversies which led to the final, irreparable split between us in this campaign.

It was after I had refused his unreasonable demands for patronage—for control of the Baltimore City Liquor Board, for control of The Board of Supervisors of Election, for judgeships—that I first heard of the secret tape recordings you have heard about. His first threat was made within the shadow of my Office, while the General Assembly was in session, when he threatened to play some kind of tape he said he had unless I yielded to him on some of the executive nominations I had made. I stood my ground and told him to go ahead and play his tape. The mysterious tape recording as a device of blackmail