

Q. For the first time in my memory, you are putting yourself in the area of national and international politics by going to see Governor Rockefeller Sunday. Would you be interested in becoming Vice-President on the Republican ticket?

A. No, I have no ambitions to move into the national picture. As I pointed out several times, I'm just a freshman governor trying to learn my way around in a new area. I went into the national picture because I think it was responsive to outlining why I felt the way I did about the State matter that was raised.

REMARKS IN ACCEPTING NEW SPACE SCIENCES
BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

April 26, 1967

Dr. Elkins, Mr. Smith, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with the greatest honor — and most sincere humility — that I accept the Space Sciences Building on behalf of the State of Maryland. I am honored that our State University has been chosen by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to merit this significant investment. I am humble before this assembly of scholars and scientists whose knowledge and skills enable us to ascend the barriers of the earth's atmosphere and reach toward a more complete comprehension of the universe itself. The discipline and scope of their mission symbolize our generation's contribution to world history and our nation's commitment to the future.

The United States itself is but the realization of a past civilization's faith in the future, adventuresome knowledge, and confidence that exploration of the unknown balanced the tremendous risk and investment with commensurate reward. The outcome of the explorations of Columbus and de Soto, Magellan and Coronado, Drake and Hudson brought not only new knowledge and new wealth to the Old World but stimulated the growth of new thought and philosophy, which became the foundation of a new world and our democratic society.

America has been a nation of frontiersmen. Our history reflects the challenges of conquering new frontiers, taming natural resources and civilizing vast spaces. The research which will be pursued in the new Space Sciences Building is but another link in this great tradition.