

conference, he indicated about two months. That's been maybe five weeks ago, I would judge. So I think you will have to check with him to see how the investigation is progressing. I don't have any up-to-date information on it.

Q. Governor, on the question of the tunnel priorities, does this mean that the new tunnel may not have top priority if the expressway finally gets going?

A. Oh no, I think the tunnel will be top priority no matter what happens. But it's a question of how large a facility it should be, whether it should be a four lane or a two lane facility. Regarding the impact of the expressway — which incidentally, as you mentioned, seems to be getting further toward solution since the problems of the design concept team that have locked this thing up for about eight years have apparently been resolved — we've got to take into consideration the impact of the projected East-West Expressway on the tunnel because the tunnel has to be liquidated and the amortization costs of the bond issue met.

Q. Governor, could you now continue your comments on the Young Republicans and your characterization of Howard Denis?

A. Yes, there has been some talk about a right wing takeover of the Young Republicans because of the recent meeting and election that took place. I want to say first of all that I don't consider Mr. Howard Denis to be right wing in any sense. I think he's a very moderate young man. His judgments have generally proved good in the past. I do think, in complete candor, that some of the forces that supported Mr. Denis's election may have been to the right side of the Young Republicans. I can only regard his election as a hopeful sign that the philosophy of the people who may be termed far to the right of center is drifting toward the middle, as evidenced by their support of Howie Denis. I hope this is true.

Q. There is some talk that these forces — or some forces, as you put it, that may have supported Mr. Denis — hope that next year the Maryland Young Republicans can be used to help win the nomination for a conservative candidate. Would you address yourself to that suggestion?

A. Well, I guess the Maryland Young Republicans are going to be a factor. They're not going to be a factor to the extent that they could swing the posture of Maryland. I believe that the elective officials and the central committee members will be the most dominant forces in