

Q. Governor, have you heard anything from the Attorney General in reference to the report on Commissioner Pomerleau?

A. I have a note on my desk this morning, and I want to point out that I didn't get into the office yesterday because I didn't return from Asheville until late last night. The note indicates that I should have some word from the Attorney General, certainly by Monday.

Q. Governor, both Mr. Rockefeller and Governor Reagan of California have indicated that Mr. Reagan will not run for vice president nor will Governor Rockefeller run for president, being governor of New York for a third term. Are you now prepared to look elsewhere for a candidate?

A. Well, had I seen these statements two or three years ago I probably would have been prepared to give up, but my experience with basic party politics now tells me that the complete disavowal on the part of Governor Rockefeller, saying he has no interest whatsoever and under no circumstances will he become a candidate, coupled with the rather irrefutable statement by Governor Reagan that he will not run with Governor Rockefeller and has no interest in that kind of a ticket, makes me believe that it becomes even more possible.

Q. Governor, then you don't believe it?

A. No, I don't. I believe what they are saying is right now, as of this moment, this is how they feel. But I have been around the political machinery long enough to know that sometimes stranger things than this have happened.

Q. Will you endorse this?

A. No, I'm thinking about a Reagan-Rockefeller ticket, now — Mr. Reagan along with Winthrop Rockefeller.*

Q. Aren't you skeptical about politicians and elected office holders who say they will not seek this or that office?

A. I would think so. I don't think I have to tell you that, Mr. Weiss.

Q. Are you willing to run for Vice President?

A. It's rather useless to ask me that, if predicating it on the previous statement.

*The tone is facetious in the taped recording.—Ed.