

Q. Do you believe it's a personal attack against you and against Mr. Wolff?

A. Well, that's nothing new for Congressman Long. He's been making personal attacks against me since I originally entered public life. All of the attacks he's mounted were made prior to my election, so I would have to assume that the electorate is not paying a great deal of attention to him.

Q. Governor, what is your opinion of Maryland's possibility of having a lieutenant governor?

A. I think we should have a lieutenant governor, and I so testified this morning before the Executive Committee. I think it would be a great assistance to the Governor. I think it would allow for the possibility of the Governor's being unable to complete his term; and I think that the responsibilities of the governorship have grown so quickly, because of the communications and transportation advances we've made in recent years, that it's much needed.

Q. Governor, in the statement you gave us on capital punishment you noted that at present there are 21 convicts under the death penalty in the State. Some months ago you said you were going to review all of those. I can recall at least one that has been commuted. What is the status?

A. There is only one that has actually come to me for a determination. In short, the one that I commuted was ready for some action. And I want to point out that that commutation was recommended by all of the people intimately involved with the case, and there was a public hearing held before the commutation was granted. None of the other cases indicates the exhaustion of all legal moves at this point. So they are not ready for disposition.

Q. Governor, you said yesterday that you have used all your influence to try to prevent a possible cutback of Federal highway funds. Exactly what weapon did you have to prevent this sort of cutback?

A. Well, I think one of the major weapons is the Maryland Congressional Delegation who will certainly be active and effective in making the point of view of the Maryland Roads Commission and the executive branch known. I secondly would like to trigger the public's attention on it so that they could in turn respond by letting a Congressman know that they are leery of these cutbacks in the area of revenue funds. It doesn't make real sense to me that dedicated funds, funds that can't be used to supplement general fund revenues, would