

since we have an absolute mandate to balance the budget we've got to balance it. We're going to operate on the premise that we can balance it.

Q. Are you still ruling out a tax increase at any time?

A. I don't rule out a tax increase at any time. Certainly not. I think that the way the costs of government are mounting we have to be ready to discuss the possibility of a tax increase at some time in the future. I rule it out for the remainder of this year, certainly.

(Conflict of Interest – Valle)

Q. Governor, would you clear up for us your present stand. You've been under some pressure from Democratic quarters to resign while you campaign for office. A year ago you demanded the resignation of Mr. Valle who was on the Workmen's Compensation Commission and also running for public office.

A. Yes, there's a great deal of difference between an elected official's seeking public office of a higher nature and an appointee seeking public office. It's been traditionally so, and not only that but – in the case of Mr. Valle – he was in a quasi-judicial capacity where during his campaign he would have had to make unilateral decisions that affected directly claimants and insurance companies with regard to the award of monies. Now I think there's great precedent for a Governor or a Senator seeking a national office. You only have to look back as far as Governor Romney's campaign, Governor Rockefeller, Senator McCarthy. To go back further you could look at Governor Warren of California, who ran for Vice President while he was still an incumbent; at Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York; Governor Theodore Roosevelt. All of these people ran for national office at the same time they kept their State positions that they were elected to. So I think there's a great amount of precedent in my case for continuing my responsibilities as Governor. There is no precedent – as a matter of fact, it's considered by most people familiar with legal matters entirely inappropriate for a person to seek elective office while he holds a judicial or quasi-judicial capacity. Just let me add this one thing – I have a telegram here I received from Mr. Valle while I was in Miami Beach which says: "Congratulations and best wishes. Putting country and State above party I will gladly offer to organize Democrats for Nixon and Agnew."

(Czechoslovakian Crisis)

Q. Governor, on the Today show today, you spoke out about Czechoslovakia. Since we all don't have access to the Today show tape, I wonder if you would give us some of your views on the Czech crisis.