

UNCLASSIFIED

SC44

*

TELECON
Elliot Richardson/Secretary Kissinger
August 13, 1974
12:55

RELEASED IN FULL

R: Henry.

K: Elliot.

R: Thanks for calling back. I am sitting here on the Island of Maui with a mynah bird that keeps saying good morning.

K: And you reply?

R: Yes.

K: He probably thinks you are very boring.

R: He may be right.

K: He can't learn anything if he only hears what he knows already.

R: But I don't have any patience to teach him anything else.. We got here a few days ago from Japan and I know there is alot of agitation over successor to the second spot. I don't want to put you in a spot, but I thought I shouldn't neglect to call you.

K: I have been asked to suggest names..

R: Well the situation is one in which you are not restricted to one name. I don't know how you would feel between Nelson Rockefeller and me or between Nelson Rockefeller and me and the rest of the world, but I hope that depending on the alternatives, you might feel I was a better alternative than some.

K: There is no question about that.

R: How do you see the situation.

K: My impression is that he is considering, of course, Nelson, -- I hear alot of talk about George Bush and some talk about you. We have left it that he will review it with me tomorrow after he has solicited views from others. I have heard some talk about Goerge Bush. I personally am not as high on George Bush as some others are.



-2-

R: I couldn't hear that last part.

K: I am not as high on George Bush, as some others are, partly because of his lack of experience .

R: He is an attractive fellow.

K: Very attractive but to go to that age-group and outlook he should look for more executive experience.

R: I don't think I would win a personality contest with George Bush. Based on the speech, I have had experience in every single one of the areas he talked about except on the economics and on the domestic side both State and Federal, so from the point of view, that experience is a factor -- I suppose that is an asset.

K: Let me do this -- I will be talking to him tomorrow. I think you know how highly I think of Nelson -- you know this. My view would be that if he did not take him for a variety of reasons --unpopularity, age, and so forth, you would be a natural -- in fact I wouldn't have anybody else.

R: I would appreciate that.

K: When will you be back.

R: Excuse me?

K: When will you be back?

R: Not until Sunday. I had to stay out here because I have a long-standing invitation to speak to a luncheon engagement for the ABA and then I have to stop over in _____. I would have come back but I couldn't think of a way to explain it to the ABA and I didn't want to come right out and campaign for the Vice-Presidency.

K: I don't think it would make any difference. You don't need me to put your name...but your...will carry alot of weight.

R: Our background, that you and I have is we have worked effectively together and our relations in these areas...and I think I can honestly say and you can attest to it that I am able to work well with ...

K: I can do this with great conviction, as well as an extraordinary relation with... And if there is anything, if I catch any mood I will call you. Is this the number at which you can be reached?

R: Yes.

K: Well, why don't you call me on Thursday morning.

UNCLASSIFIED



-3-

R: Alright.

K: Call me on Thursday.

R: I'll be in Honolulu then.

K: Call me on Thursday.

R: Thanks alot Henry.

END

UNCLASSIFIED