

and went out here and dedicated yourself to the pursuit of excellence. Would you care to reflect on how much closer to excellence we've moved in three months?

A. I think it takes a lot longer than three months to move any significant distance in a direction of excellence. But I'm basically satisfied with what we have begun to accomplish during the first months of office. It seems a lot longer than three months to me because I have never had a period in my life when such intense activity was packed into such a short space of time. All we have done, actually, is establish a framework, a foothold, from which we can go forward to try to accomplish things that basically were outlined in the various position papers and objectives that I spoke of during the campaign. We have done one thing, significantly. We've got the tax structure in a condition where the subdivisions are receiving the relief that they need, which will mean that essentials of government will be improved at the local level which is certainly a matter I believe very firmly in. We've also done a little bit in the field of human relations, not just in getting through the housing bill, but in changing, through our approach to the problem, the attitudes of many people who were very much opposed to any sort of step in this direction. And I might say, parenthetically at this point, that I think that some of the leaders in the civil rights movement are doing grave violence to the movement by their confusing and twisting it into the Vietnam situation. I was very disappointed in the actions of Dr. King. I think many people who had respect for him over the years share that disappointment. I have never had any confidence in Stokely Carmichael in my life, so I didn't lose any. But certainly Dr. King and Mr. McKissick, those activists in the movement, are hindering and holding back very astute and knowledgeable people like Roy Wilkins from the accomplishment of objectives that he has been working on before they even realized there was such a thing as a civil rights movement.

Q. In this regard, Governor, when you got the present housing bill through the Legislature you said you hoped to get a stronger bill through at the next session of the Legislature. Do you think that the actions of these civil rights leaders would hamper you in this regard?

A. I think it could. I think that public resistance to this irresponsible outpouring of censure against the United States government has got to reflect adversely on the chances of going forward with this legislation. One thing I want to continue to make clear every time this subject comes up, that I will not support — I said it during the