

Q. Governor, speaking of your own persuasion, you support Governor Rockefeller. You are disenchanted with Mr. Romney, I assume, and if so, why?

A. No, I don't think that's a fair statement. I'm not at all disenchanted with Mr. Romney, I simply feel Governor Rockefeller is a clearly superior choice, not only over Mr. Romney but over everyone else whom I have heard mentioned as a potential Republican candidate. Apparently Governor Rockefeller at this time has removed himself from consideration and now it becomes incumbent upon me and upon other members of my party who hope to have a voice in charting its course nationally to make a selection. I'm engaged in trying to do that at the moment.

Q. About Mr. Rockefeller, there are reports that he is not making any bid at this time because he does not want a faction around Romney that would hurt Nixon. Would you be helping this?

A. I don't think so. If that's what they think he's doing, someone should ask him, not me.

Q. Have you given up, altogether, your hopes of getting Mr. Rockefeller?

A. For the time being, yes.

Q. What does that mean?

A. It means just what I said, for the time being.

Q. Governor, Governor Love of Colorado, as the chairman of the Republican Governors' Association, has announced within the past few days that he's making a fact finding trip to Vietnam. Is there any possibility that the Governor of Maryland may make a trip to Vietnam?

A. Not a chance. I have a few things to do here, and I don't intend to interject myself into the national picture in water that deep.

Q. How deep will you inject yourself?

A. Deep enough to continue to communicate with my fellow governors and with members of my party on the national level to try to keep myself as advised as I can of the current situation.

Q. Would you be interested in a national office?

A. No.