

(Republican Presidential Nomination)

Q. Governor, do you mind clarifying just once what your situation is with regard to the Republican presidential nomination? Have you jumped off the Rockefeller scooter, or whatever it is, completely and are you now looking around for a second choice?

A. Well a scooter is a two-wheel device that can't remain upright unless it's running [laughter] and this scooter seems to have been stopped for the moment. It's pretty difficult to remain on that scooter. Whether the scooter will resume its momentum and I will jump back on it or not is a question to be seen. I will say this — I *still* think Nelson Rockefeller is the best candidate the Republican Party could offer to the electorate in November. But having someone who is not willing to become a candidate be the best candidate is certainly no way to elect anybody, so I am in the process of revising and watching and waiting to see what's going to happen. I don't have anyone who's running at the moment that I can support. I don't see the prospect of this happening, as I had hoped it would happen, up to the point of the disavowal of interest that took place last week.

Q. Well, then why are you talking to Mr. Nixon?

A. Oh, I like Mr. Nixon and he's a very important man in our party and probably the front-runner for the nomination. I am interested in his opinions — I think he's interested in my opinions and that's why I am talking with him.

Q. It doesn't sound like you can find a Republican, Sir; will you vote Democratic if you can't find a Republican?

A. I can't imagine that happening this year.

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STATEMENT ON BOWIE STATE COLLEGE

March 30, 1968

Today's events at Bowie State College should amply demonstrate that this administration has no intention of yielding to the demands and threats of those who would take matters in their own hands and attempt to run the State government.

It is unfortunate that students, who no doubt have legitimate grievances, came under the spell of outside agitators and sought to redress these grievances through occupation of the college administration