

Remarks of RICHARD NIXON

Beverly Hilton

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Now that Mr. Klein has made a statement, now that all the members of the press I know are so delighted that I lost, I would just like to make one myself. I first want to say that I have appreciated the press coverage in this campaign.

I think that each of you covered it exactly as you saw it. You had to write it as your beliefs indicated you thought it would go. And I want to say a word on that respect that may surprise you.

I think pressmen should write that way. I don't believe that members of the press should feel that their publisher should order them to write one way or another. I don't believe that the FCC should reach its long arm out to California when one lonely voice is raised for me and a whole lot of voices are raised for somebody else to silence the one rather than the other. I want them all to be free.

I think the free press is very important. That one point I know is going to come up in questions because I understand one of you is going to ask it. I have no complaints about the press coverage. I will never complain about it. I think that each of you was writing it as you believed it, and I want that always to be the case in America.

Now, the other thing I want to say is this. I congratulate Gov. Brown, as Herb Klein has already indicated, for his victory. He has, I think, the greatest honor and the greatest responsibility of any governor in the United States. And as he has this honor and the responsibility, I think that he will now have certainly a position of tremendous interest for America, as well as for the people of California.

I wish him well.

I wish him well not only from a personal standpoint, because there were never, on my part, any personal considerations. I believe Gov. Brown has a heart, even though he believes I do not. I believe he is a good American, even though he feels I am not; I wish him well because he is the governor of the first state. He won, and I want this state to be led with courage. I want it to be led decisively and I want it to be led with the certainty, with the assurance, of the man who lost the campaign. never during the course of the campaign raised a personal consideration against his opponent -- never allowed any words indicating that his opponent was motivated by lack of heart or lack of patriotism to pass his lips.

I am proud of the fact I defended my opponent's patriotism. You gentlemen didn't report it, but I am proud that I did that. I am proud, also, that I defended the fact that he was a man of good motive. A man that I disagreed with, very strongly, but a man of good motives. I want that -- for once, gentlemen -- I would appreciate if you would write what I say in that respect. I think it's very important that you write it and in the lead - in the lead.

I don't mean by that, incidentally, all of you. There is one reporter here who has religiously, when he was covering me -- and incidentally this is no reflection on the others because some of you, you know, weren't bothered.

One reporter, Carl Greenberg -- he's the only reporter on The Times that fits this thing, who wrote every word that I said -- wrote it fairly, wrote it objectively. I don't mean that others didn't have a right to do it differently, but Carl, despite whatever feelings he had, felt that he had an obligation to report the facts as he saw them. I am saving these

