

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 saying these



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volunteer workers. It was a magnificent group. \$500,000 was spent, according to Newsweek Magazine, to get out the vote on election day. They had a right to do that if they could get the money. We didn't have that kind of money, but believe me, we had wonderful spirit. And our 100,000 volunteer workers I was proud of. I think they did a magnificent job. I only wish they could have gotten out a few more votes in the key precincts, but because they didn't, Mr. Brown has won and I have lost the election.

I would like to say a word nationally. I know that some of you are interested in that. I have not been able to appraise the results of the Congress because there is not enough of them in. I only understand that we approximately broke even. Is that correct? In the Congress?

Well, at least that is what I have. Did you have a report on the Congress -- any of you? I understand it's about even. (Reporters: Democrats picked up some.) They picked up some? (Reporters: Some in the Senate.) I know in the Senate they did. I understand that in the House we picked up five -- we can't tell because California isn't in on that yet.

Well, the most significant result of this election was what happened in four major states. Rockefeller's victory in New York, Scranton's victory in Pennsylvania, Rhodes' victory in Ohio, Romney's victory in Michigan means that in 1964 the Republican Party will be revitalized.

Now it will be revitalized, of course, provided the Republicans in California also can, under new leadership -- not mine, because I have fought the fight and now it's up to others to take this responsibility of leadership. And I don't say this with any bitterness because I just feel that's the way it should be.

But the Republican Party under new leadership in California needs a new birth of spirit, a new birth of unity because we must carry California in '64 if we are to carry the nation. For when you look at New York and Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan -- and the solid Republican Midwest -- 1964 is a horse race. I say this with no indication that I don't think that President Kennedy has immense popularity at the moment, and popularity which came out as a result of his handling of the Cuban situation.

But on the other hand, now the problems arise. What will happen in Cuba? Can we allow this cancer of communism to stay there? Is there a deal with regard to NATO? Is there going to be with regard to NATO on the Warsaw Pact? Are we going to continue any kind of agreement in Cuba which means that Khrushchev got what we said we would never agree to before he made his threats with regards to his missiles -- and that is, in effect, ringing down an iron curtain around Cuba. These are things that Mr. Kennedy, of course, will have to face up to, and I'm -- I just hope, and am confident that if he has his own way he will face up to it.

If he can only get those who oppose the atomic test, who want him to admit Red China to the U.N. -- all of the woolly heads he has around him -- if he can just keep them away from him and stand strong and firm with that good Irish fight of his, America will be in good shape in foreign policy.

Domestically, I am answering these questions because I know that some of you will ask them. Domestically, the economy needs to get along again. The Cuban thing, of course, has had a tendency to obscure that. A lot of defense contracts have come into California and other areas... I am not complaining about it, that's the way the political game is played. But I do feel that it is important that the economy get going again and I trust that through tax reform or some other device, relying on individual enterprise and individual opportunity, that the economy will get going again.

To me, more important than anything else, America has got to move



Well, my plans are to go home -- I'm going to get acquainted with my family again. My plans, incidentally, are, from a political standpoint, of course, to take a holiday. It will be a long holiday. I don't say this with any sadness. I couldn't feel, frankly, more proud of my staff for the campaign they helped me to put on.

We campaigned against great odds. We fought a good fight. We didn't win. And I take the responsibility for any mistakes, and as far as they are concerned they are magnificent people and I hope whoever next runs in California will look at my staff and take some of these people -- use them because they are great political properties, shall we say, putting it in a very materialistic way.

One last thing, people say, "What about the past? What about losing in '60? Losing in '62...?" I remember somebody on my last television program said, "Mr. Nixon, isn't it a comedown having run for President and almost making it, to run for governor?" The answer is, I am proud to have run for governor.

Now, I would like to have won, but not having won, the main thing was that I battled, battled for the things that I believed in. I did not win. I have no hard feelings against anybody, against my opponent, and least of all the people of California.

We got our message through as well as we could. The Cuban thing did not enable us to get it through in the two critical weeks that we wanted to, but nevertheless we got it through and it is the people's choice. They have chosen Mr. Brown. They have chosen his leadership and I can only have hope that that leadership will now become more decisive. That it will move California ahead so that America can move ahead, economically, morally, spiritually, so that we can have character and self-reliance in this country. This is what we need to move forward.

One last thing, at the outset I said a couple of things in regard to the press. I noticed some of you looked a little irritated about. My philosophy with regard to the press has never gotten through. This cannot be said for any other American political figure today, I guess.

Never in my 16 years of campaigning have I complained to a publisher, to an editor, about the coverage of a reporter. I believe a reporter has got a right to write it as he feels it. I believe if a reporter believes that if one man ought to win rather than the other, whether it's on television, or radio, or the like, he ought to say so. I will say to the reporter sometimes, that I think "now look, I wish you would give my opponent the same going over that you give me."

And as I leave the press, all I can say is this: For 16 years, ever since the Hiss case, you have had a lot of fun, a lot of fun, that you've had an opportunity to attack me and I think I have given as good as I have taken. It was carried right up to the last day. I made a talk on television, a talk in which I made a flub. One of the few that I make. Not because I am so good on television, but because I have done it a long time -- I made a flub in which I said I was running for governor of the United States. The Los Angeles Times dutifully reported that.

Mr. Brown the last day made a flub. A flub, incidentally, to the great credit of television, it was reported. I don't say this bitterly but he said "I hope everybody wins, that you vote the straight Democratic ticket, including Sen. Kuchel." I was glad to hear him say it because I was for Kuchel all the way.

The Los Angeles Times did not report it. I think that it is time that our great newspapers have at least the same objectivity, the same fullness of coverage, that television has. And I can only say thank God



have a right to take every position they want on the editorial page, but on the news page they also have a right to have reporters cover --men who have strong feelings -- whether they're for or against a candidate, but the responsibility also is to put a few Greenbergs on a candidate they happen to be against. Whether they are against him on the editorial page, or just philosophically deep down, a fellow who at least will report what the man said. That's all anybody can ask.

But apart from that, I just want to say this. Among the great papers in this country that people say that I should be concerned about are the Louisville Courier-Journal, the New York Post, the Milwaukee Journal, the Fresno and the Sacramento Bee, I couldn't disagree with that more. I want newspapers, if they're against a candidate, I want them to say that. I believe they should say that. I don't mind reporters saying it.

I would hope that in the future, as a result of this campaign, that perhaps they would try, at least simply to see that what both candidates say is reported, that if they have questions to ask of one candidate to ask the same questions of the other candidate.

Last point. I leave you, gentlemen. Now, you will now write it. You will interpret it as you like.

As I leave you, I want you to know, just think how much you're going to be missing. You won't have Nixon to kick around any more because, gentlemen, this is my last press conference and it will be one in which ...I have welcomed the opportunity to test wits with you. I've always respected you. I have sometimes disagreed with you but, unlike some people, I have never cancelled a subscription to a paper and, also, I never will.

I believe in reading what my opponents say. And I hope that what I have said today will at least make television, radio and the press first recognize the great responsibility they have to report all the news and, second, recognize that they have a right and a responsibility, if they are against a candidate -- give him the shaft. But also recognize, if they give him the shaft -- put one lonely reporter on the campaign who will report what the candidate says, now and then. Thank you, gentlemen, and good day.

And as I leave the press, all I can say is this: For 16 years, ever since the Hiss case, you have had a lot of fun, that you've had an opportunity to attack me and I have given as good as I have taken. It was carried right up to the last day. I made a talk on television, a talk in which I made a flub. One of the few that I make. Not because I am so good on television, but because I have done it so many times -- I made a flub in which I said I was running for governor of the United States. The Los Angeles Times dutifully reported that.

Mr. Brown the last day made a flub. A flub, indeed. Really. A great credit of television, it was reported. I don't say this because he said "I hope everybody wins, that you vote the straight Democratic ticket, including Sen. McNamara." I was glad to hear him say it because it was for Richard all the way.

The Los Angeles Times did not report it. I think that is a shame.