

December 5, 1967

8:45 p.m.

Mr. President:

I met with Jack Sutherland today. He asked if I thought Eugene McCarthy's candidacy would hurt the President.

I told him I really did not have a view on it. Indications are, I am told by Democratic National Committee and there is a great response from Democratic Party officials in the various states to organize in behalf of the President. The only public evidence I knew anything about was the vote in Massachusetts by their State Committee.

Sutherland asked if I thought McCarthy and Bobby Kennedy had an agreement on McCarthy's candidacy. I told him I really didn't know. Sutherland said "Well, I think so."

He asked if I thought the President would win in all the Primaries. I told him certainly I believed he would but that possibly I am prejudiced. Jack said he already has a bet on each Primary, that McCarthy will not get over 20% of the vote in any Primary.

I suggested he may wish to contact DNC.

He said all information is for background only. He said their people working on the Hill have noted that the Senators and Congressmen who differ with the President on Viet Nam are now very quiet. He wanted to know if I had noticed that and if I had any comment. I told him I didn't have any comment but that one Senator had called me today, saying he had announced in behalf of the President because he (Senator) thinks it is now the right time in his state.

(I did not tell Jack, but this was Senator Randolph of West Virginia.)

Marvin

*McCarthy, Kennedy, West Virginia - Senate*

*Senate*

*Robert*

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