

The original documents are located in Box 38, folder “Primaries - Arizona” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Ron Nessen donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

President Ford Committee

40 EAST THOMAS ROAD, SUITE 107
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012
(602) 277-4855

ARIZONA

CHAIRMAN
Burton S. Kruglick

CO-CHAIRMEN
Barbara Janoff
Kerry McDonald
Mary Beth Tompane

FINANCE CHAIRMAN
Wayne E. Legg

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN
Harry Rosenzweig

April 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: Ron Nessen

FROM: Al Zapanta

Enclosed please find the news articles that appeared in the Phoenix papers after the Press Conference held for Rogers C. B. Morton.



THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

1-8381 , Classified 271-9111 Other 271-8000

Phoenix, Arizona, Tuesday, April 6, 1976

(Two Sections, 48 Pages)

Kissinger likely to stay, Ford's election chief says

By JOE COLE

Henry Kissinger's name gathered new political scuffs here Monday, as the Ford administration set out to negate speculation that the secretary of state might be eased out of office.

Rogers C. B. Morton, President Ford's campaign manager, spent a good part of his time in two Valley appearances Monday carrying out presidential instructions to say that Kissinger is staying.

Morton, at a business press convention and at a press conference, identified as "personal speculation" the comments he made in California on Satur-

day about the possibility of Kissinger's leaving before Ford's term expires.

A leading Democratic Party campaigner, Sen. Ernest F. "Fritz" Hollings, D-S.C., told the American Business Press convention at the Arizona Biltmore that the world is "catching on" to Kissinger's "route of secrecy" in foreign policy.

In Washington, spokesmen for the White House and the State Department said there is no effort to ease Kissinger out.

Kissinger and Ford's foreign policy have come under regular attack from Democratic presidential contenders and from Republican challenger Ronald Reagan.

Ford's press secretary, Ron Nessen, was asked in Washington if Kissinger has indicated that he might not want to serve if the President is elected to a full term.

"Not that I know of," he replied, according to an Associated Press report.

At the State Department on Monday, spokesman Robert L. Funseth said: "The President has stated many times he would like the secretary of state to remain on as long as he remains President."

Continued on Page A-14



THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

71-8381 , Classified 271-9111 Other 271-8000

Phoenix, Arizona, Tuesday, April 6, 1976

(Two Sections, 48 Pages)

More about Secretary of state

Continued from Page A-1

Ford and Kissinger met for 50 minutes on Monday, one of two or three such meetings they hold each week. Afterwards, Kissinger declined substantive comment, saying he didn't know what Morton had said about him.

When a reporter offered a summary, Kissinger said jokingly, "Is he (Morton) running for president?"

The stir about Kissinger's future began Saturday in San Jose, Calif., with remarks Morton reportedly made at a meeting of a California conservative group.

Sources at the meeting first were quoted as interpreting his comments to indicate that Kissinger was on the way out.

The text of a tape recording released Sunday in California by a Ford campaign aide, Larry Peck, quoted Morton as saying:

"He (Kissinger) realizes that any secretary of state who has been in as long as that has enough scars to worry about. I'm sure Mr. Kissinger is getting toward the end of a long political career.

"It would be bad politics to throw him out bodily. But I would anticipate — and I'm sure I'm right on this — that he would not go beyond this year."

In a press conference Monday at the Arizona Ford for President headquarters, 40 E. Thomas, Morton opened by saying: "I see no reason in the world Kissinger should leave, certainly not before this term is out."

Morton said he based his earlier speculation on the fact that Kissinger has served since 1969 in sensitive

national positions and might want to move on to other endeavors.

"I would not want to see him forced out or fired on the assumption that he had not done a good job in foreign affairs," he said.

Those who try to make Kissinger a campaign issue are "injuring their country and engaging in political expedience," he said, adding that it would be "terrible" for the nation to lose its secretary of state now.

In his speech to the business press convention, Morton summed up his feelings about Kissinger by saying, "O! Henry is getting run against by everybody pretty hard."

Hollings, on the same podium earlier, suggested to the business publishers that perhaps the Republicans "can find a ski lodge for Henry to get into."

The ski lodge reference was aimed at events that led last week to the resignation of Howard "Bo" Callaway as Ford's campaign manager. Callaway quit after an investigation of his involvement in a federally approved ski resort development became public. He was succeeded by Morton.

Morton said at the press conference that he didn't think Callaway's resignation had much effect on the Ford campaign.

Morton appeared with Burt Kruglick, Ford's Arizona election committee chairman, and Mary Crisp, GOP national committeewoman for Arizona.

He acknowledged that Reagan has "vocal strength" based on "emotional judgment" in Arizona, but said he was encouraged by signs of support for Ford among the "big middle" rank and file of Arizona Republicans.





Republic photo by Lud Kesten
Rogers C. B. Morton, President Ford's campaign manager, spoke Monday at Arizona Ford for President headquarters, 40 E. Thomas.



Morton Backs Kissinger, But Says He May Leave

President Ford's campaign director today said he thought Secretary of State Henry Kissinger may leave the cabinet at the end of Ford's present term in office.

But Rogers C. B. Morton, a former Republican party chairman and secretary of commerce, emphasized he was not predicting Kissinger's removal from office nor a falling out with Ford.

Morton responded to California press accounts of his Kissinger remarks at a Phoenix press conference.

"I want to be on record that he is my choice for secretary of state," he said.

People interpreting Morton's earlier remarks as a move to dump the increasingly controversial Kissinger are "trying to do this as political expedient, and I'll have no part of it," he added.

Morton said his comments were "purely personal speculation on my part, and based on a conclusion it would be logical he would probably want to do something else," after eight years.

Turn To ●MORTON, Page A-4

● MORTON

(Concluded from Page A-1)

Morton said the resignation of Howard "Bo" Calloway, whom he replaced as campaign chief, had had little if any impact on campaign progress.

He predicted Calloway would be "completely exonerated" of allegations he used improper influence in getting government favors for a ski resort.

