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*7/28*

RICHARD M. NIXON  
P. O. BOX 1968  
TIMES SQUARE STATION  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

July 26, 1968

Dear Bob:

Should I receive the nomination at the convention, the first and probably the most important political decision I will make during the course of the campaign is the selection of my running mate.

I am writing this letter to you and a few other close friends and political leaders to get the benefit of your advice on this decision. I would like you to consider all the men who have been mentioned as possible candidates. Please take into consideration the three questions which I believe are fundamental in reaching this decision:

1. Which man do you consider to be best qualified to be President?
2. Which man do you believe would be the best campaigner for the national ticket?
3. Which man do you believe would add the greatest strength to the ticket in the major marginal states we have to carry in November?

I realize that in most instances you may well come up with the same name in answering each question. If that is not the case, however, I would appreciate it if you would so indicate.

-2-

You may send in your reply anonymously if you prefer. In any event, all replies are for my information alone and will be kept in confidence. I would appreciate hearing from you before August 5.

I want you to know how much I appreciate the support you have given my candidacy and the counsel you will provide to me on this critical decision.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dick Nixon". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered on the page below the word "Sincerely,".

The Honorable Bob Dole  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

P.S. I have taken a special post office box for these answers - please reply to:  
P. O. Box 1515, Grand Central Station,  
New York, New York 10017. R.M.N.