Office of Governor Dan Evans
October 14, 1972
Seattle, Washington

TRANSCRIPTION OF DEBATE

(Debate occurred between Governor Dan Evans and his Democratic opponent, Al Rosellini, at the "Candidates' Fair" at North Seattle Community College. The first part of the transcript includes the conversation between the two candidates that took place on the platform as the program started but before the debate got underway.)

Rosellini - Well good morning ladies and gentlemen.

Evans - Governor Rosellini, as was printed in the P-I this morning and as you very well know from remarks I made yesterday, we have been searching for the time for us to appear on the same platform and answer the same questions, to discuss the issues before the people of this state. And I think that's what the people deserve. And I understand from the people we have talked to and from your camp and as reported in the P-I this morning that you are willing to appear on the same platform with exactly the same format, which was then agreed to was my understanding, from 1964 and I am ready. You are here. I think it's time to conduct a debate. I think both have agreed that Mr. McDonald is suitable as moderator. And the audience themselves are the ones who should ask questions and should get at the candidates. In that way we can all see, and hear, and compare. And I am delighted to arrange my schedule so I can be here and join with you.

Rosellini - Well thank you very much Danny Boy. I am delighted to have you here. I really am because maybe you can learn something about state government. Ladies and gentlemen, I am happy to have a chance to be here as I was committed to be here for the purpose, certainly I will engage in a debate or whatever Danny Boy wants to call it......make my presentation.....

Evans - Mr. Rosellini, the only way to do....

Rosellini - Danny, I wish you would quit these childish like you have been all this campaign so far.

Evans - I think it's pretty clear to the people, pretty clear that you are not willing and to stand up and under the right kind of circumstances, with Mr. McDonald sitting right here, make a presentation of three or four minutes, then allow me to make a presentation, ...

Rosellini - I'll be happy and I am going to make my presentation and if there are any questions from Dan or any of the audience or Art McDonald, or anybody, I would be more than happy to try to answer them.

Evans - You are saying that you....

Rosellini - We have done this before. We did this before the Association of Washington Business and we are going to do it again in a couple of weeks. And I think this is fine. I think questions and answers is the best way to handle .....but I think we better proceed because the time is running out. Whose in charge here. What's up.

Evans - Mr. McDonald

McDonald - Mr. Rosellini if I may, would you agree to an opening statement of three minutes, the Governor an opening statement of three minutes, rebuttal to that statement and then questions from the audience.

Rosellini - Well I came prepared with a statement that I want to make and I am afraid that it is going to take a little more than three minutes.

McDonald - You may make that statement, sir.
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Rosellini - That's why I was invited to do. That's what I have come prepared to. Now if you decide that you are going to change the rules, whose in charge here, let's talk to them and find out......

McDonald - Three minutes for a debate...

Rosellini - Yes, I am and .......

McDonald - Does your schedule now permit you to have a debate. If so, I think we ought to run it under the rules that were established in the Kennedy-Nixon Debate a couple of years ago. You will appear before Mr. Andrews, with Mr. Evans and others with this debate format. A format which can be very workable as an opening statement of three minutes, followed by an opening statement by your opponent of three minutes, ...with a rebuttal time for two minutes, two and a half minutes for the answer of questions with a minute and a half for rebuttal of that question. You will end at a given time period when a summary will be allowed. The only thing that would require a decision at the moment is who is going to decide to go first.

Rosellini - The only problem, Art, I'll do it because basically unfair as I think it is to come here prepared on a set statement, and I don't mind debate but I wanted more than three minutes to present the issues which have not been articulated during this campaign, rather than give rebuttal to name-calling such as referred to ............ have a right to articulate the specific issues that the people are interested in. All right, there are two things - taxes and unemployment. And these are the things that we are going to articulate.

McDonald - The Community College is willing to give the time and I am sure those issues will come out. Would you like, sir, to call the coin flip for the start of the debate...You call it.

Rosellini - Heads
McDonald - Heads says you have your choice or what you would like to do. Whether to start the debate or whether to have the final word in the debate, closing statement.

Rosellini - A final word
McDonald - At the end of questioning.

Rosellini - I'll take the final word.

McDonald - All right. One question, Mr. Evans, you have the choice sir of whether you would like to be first or second in the opening statement.

Evans - Oh, I would love to go first.

McDonald - I know you have another appointment, sir.

Rosellini - No, I just wanted to know how much time we have.

McDonald - Three minutes for an opening statement.

Rosellini - I mean the entire program. So I can try to be on time.

McDonald - You have a 12:00 appointment, sir, I think we can cut it off.

Rosellini - That's fine, thank you.
Evans - Just a moment, so we both understand the groundrules which as I understand were worked on and accepted last night. Three minutes for an opening statement, I presume Mr. McDonald you will call the time and let us know when we reach the end of the time. Then a minute and a half rebuttal to each opening statement. Questions from the audience. Under what circumstances?

McDonald - I'll give it to you once again. The opening statements of three minutes in length, followed by rebuttal time of two minutes, questions from the floor and response to that question - two and half minutes, rebuttal to the question - one and a half minutes. Reserving six minutes at the end for summary. Mr. Rosellini won that right to have the final word at the last. All right, ready to go.

Evans - I am delighted to finally have the opportunity to stand side by side so people can compare. This isn't the old style politics anymore of yesterday. We can't hide anymore. The people today demand and should get the kind of openness in government that they are asking for, the kind of openness in government I believe they should receive. Since my opponent first ran for election, thirty-eight years ago, television has been invented. Since that time most of you have been born. Now I think it's time since both of us have an equal period of time in office of eight years, mine current and understandable and generally of great knowledge to all of you. It's time to remind people of the eight years of my predecessor. He talks now and has gotten this far in this election on the basis of property tax relief. What did he do in office. Well as a legislator, he was one who voted against the basic forty mil limit which is of such great importance, the only protection we really have in the property tax today. During his eight years in office not one single solitary relief for property taxation was offered. So much for his record on property taxes. On taxes, during his period in office he initiated and carried forward the largest tax increases in the history of the State of Washington before or since. After, in running for office he promised no new taxes in 1956, ran on that basis and in 1957 there was a tax increase. In 1959, the largest tax increase in history. Now in 1960, he came back and said no new taxes and a year later presented the $60 million tax package to the legislature. Spending, more than doubled during his period of time in office. But more importantly he presented four budgets to a legislature and so did I. His four budgets included deficits at the end of every single biennium. Mine had surpluses at every single biennium. And as far as the legislature is concerned, the Senate in their wisdom cut each of his four budgets and raised each of my four budgets. So much for who is the fiscal conservative in office. And finally and I expect that I will get that in my rebuttal - the real issue, the total issue of this campaign is that of openness and credibility and believability in government. Thank you.

McDonald - May I ask one favor of the audience, would you lower your plaques while the speakers are going, obstruct the view from behind. Governor Rosellini, your time for your opening statement.

Rosellini - I am delighted to have the chance to try to get Danny Boy to be specific at some issues. Up till now he has resorted to nothing but distortions and name-calling and trickery, trickery to try to confuse the public and the best example of it is the one that he uttered yesterday, trying to make the public believe that I was concealing state records. Now, let me just point out and maybe we will get other.......his own state librarian, a very respectable lady, Maryan Reynolds, with reference to the records which Dan Evans tries to tell the public that I am trying to tell the public that I am trying to conceal from them says this, ......

"You are to be commended, addressed to me, for being the first governor of the State of Washington to ensure that your personal papers accumulated during your service as Governor will be available to future researchers. Papers of elected officials have been regarded as personal and found are usually taken by the individual when they leave. In our state, from territorial days, governors have taken their papers or the files were destroyed by staff leaving no record there for the
incoming governor or historian. During your term of office the state archivist and our staff kept working on your staff to please . . . . make sure and you abided it and allowed us to keep the records. You probably have forgotten but at one point, now listen to this, Governor Evans' office if they could search the files to see if there was any information which would give background to a problem they were having. We asked permission to do a search which you readily gave. We sincerely hope that no one, and I might add including Dan Evans, has tried to imply any cynical motives to your position as we regard it as a act of real concern for history not displayed by any previous governor. I point this out specifically because this is the latest example of the attitude of this individual to try to deceive the public of the State of Washington and I expect that he is man enough to make an apology for his charges yesterday. Instead of talking to the issues and the issues are simple, the question of taxes what is he going to do about taxes. The question about employment, I don't mean employment on the state payroll or employment that is caused by generating more taxes on the people. I say these are the two principle issues. He has not addressed himself to these issues. Something needs to be done about this and that's why the people have gathered such a sounding on September 19 and will do so again on November 7.

McDonald - Governor, your time is up. According to the rules, there will be a rebuttal statement of two minutes for each candidate. Governor Evans.

Evans - Let me speak now to the old question of openness in government as Mr. Rosellini has brought it up and I am delighted to suggest again that it was indeed an unusual thing to do. But I suggest no cynical motive only suggest that this is a good example of the old politics. But it is interesting to note that in 1956 at the same time Mr. Rosellini took office in 1957 a bill was passed. A very specific bill and it says all public records shall be and remain the property of the State of Washington. They shall be delivered by outgoing officials and employees to their successors and shall be preserved, stored and transferred to storage or disposed of or otherwise managed only in accordance with provision of this chapter. You know when I first took office, the very first day I walked into the office, went into the room in which files were kept with Senator Jim Anderson. We walked in and we turned the lights on but the lights weren't even there. And there were no files there of any kind, no personal files but no official records and they had been placed under lock and key. And only once in a specific way were we able to get at them. In contrast, I believe we should and have in our administration consistently transferred those files to the Archives for public use and I will do so all during my term in office. But openness includes, also, the willingness of candidates to expose their tax returns for each of the years in public office as Governor. I have done so, my opponent has not. To make a complete disclosure of campaign contributions and spending. I have done a complete job and I would ask my opponent if he has indeed made a complete disclosure and intends to make a complete disclosure of all campaign contributions and expenditures.

McDonald - Your time is up, sir. Mr. Rosellini.

Rosellini - I detected a note of apology there. I accept your apology. With reference to the campaign contributions, if Danny Boy would just walk across the hall to the Secretary of State's office, he will find every contribution that has been made to me. We started late, we didn't receive the thousands of dollars of contributions that the special interests have contributed to Danny Boy. But at the same time we received enough, together with some credit we had to run a decent campaign in the primary. And we will always, of course, be short of money because in our position we don't get money. We don't get any money, for instance, from the racetrack and I understand a sizeable amount went to Dan Evans. We didn't get any money from the pinball interests, and he himself admitted he received some, at least in the 68 campaign. We have received no money except from good citizens who have made, has been disclosed
and what we disclose in the future. ...The same old thing with reference to fiscal responsibility. When I became Governor, sure there was a deficit inherited from my Republican predecessor of $32 million. And there was a deficit in program, particularly in public institutions and as a result we straightened that up. We got the state out of the red and just turned it into the black when turned the reins of governor to Dan Evans. And of course, now, the latest reports from the State Treasurer of the State of Washington in spite of what Dan Evans tells you now, shows that we are $48.3 million in debt today in the red.

McDonald - As rearranged, there will now be questions from the floor. I will recognize the person. I will ask that there will be no microphones other than the ones here and it is not a P.A. microphone. Please speak loudly and clearly, state your question and to whom you address that question. The gentlemen behind the press table in the pink coat. Your question, sir, and to whom you address it?

Question - Mr. Rosellini, you have talked about the advances you have made in spending reform and spending reduction during your eight years in office. Would you answer this question for me, in light of these statements, why did you in 1963 veto a bill that appropriated money from a Democratic legislature to investigate your programs and agencies at that time?

Rosellini - Because of the fact that is was a political vehicle put together by a coalition headed by one Dan Evans. It was created purposely for the purpose of utilizing taxpayers' money, state funds, for political motives to have Dan Evans and some of the others run for Governor the following year.

McDonald - You may have, Governor, actually two minutes to answer that question.

Evans - Well I think before I answer that question, let me only suggest in light of the last remarks of Mr. Rosellini I can use at least a portion of this time to point out that he is not being totally candid to the people in terms of campaign contributions. I came across a very interesting letter just yesterday signed by his Walla Walla County Campaign Manager. It's called the Rural Educational and Agricultural Political Action Committee, interestingly Scott Wallace who is his campaign manager is on the board of directors. And the mailing address is Carnation, Washington, an interesting coincidence because that is Mr. Wallace's home bailiwick. The last sentence is key and important for everybody to understand. It calls for donations to my opponents campaign and it says this committee is under no obligation to and will not publicize any individual donations. So much for openness and candor in campaign contribution reporting. As far as the Legislative Interim Committee is concerned, it's interesting to note that any Governor would veto funds for any interim committee whether or not it was controlled by the opposition party. I have never done so, never have felt any need to do so in spite of the fact that legislative interim committees for the entire eight years I have been Governor have been dominated with a majority of those from the opposite political party. But I have nothing to hide. Our administration has nothing to hide. On occasion they find mistakes and they find things that they think should be corrected. And we intend to respond.

McDonald - I have to interrupt. Your time is up. A question for Governor Evans, the gentlemen in the front row with the glasses. Speak loudly please.

Question - Yes, I have followed some of the statements about cutting expenses recently and I was wondering Governor Rosellini has indicated that he can save $100 million and transfer it to schools. If this is possible why haven't you done it in the past?

Governor Evans - The needs of our state change with changing populations. The state government has the same problems of inflation, the same problems of responding to such things as a tripling of community college enrollment and our needs to respond
to those needs of our citizens. During both of our administrations, budgets have increased by approximately the same amounts. A doubling under Mr. Rosellini, a doubling under my administration. To respond to needs and to respond to changing requirements. As far as reducing $100 million, this is a will-o' the-wisp which is here today and gone tomorrow. He talks about reducing it this biennium, then the next biennium. He talks about it in terms of reducing property taxes eighteen percent but it won't do that. It will only to half that. But most of all he needs to answer the question, is he saying that the total dollars in the state's general fund, the total dollars in the state's general fund for expenditure next biennium is going to be lowered by $100 million than the total dollar spending in today's general fund. And if he says, yes to that. Then how in the world does he expect to add to his supposedly $100 million the $240 million salary increase he recently proposed.

Rosellini - Of course that shows where Danny Boy stands, says he can't effect any savings out of a budget that has grown 137 percent since he has been in office. Actually we can save $100 million and use it to reduce property taxes. But you know as far as increases go, there are about $300 million in increments coming up and there is going to be ample money to give a reasonable salary to teachers and state employees which we should do. But you know on this question of saving money it is kind of interesting to look back in 1964 and show what this individual said at that time. He said that he would try to economize in the operation of state government. We have the highest budget in the history of the state. He said in 1964, October 7, Dan Evans is reported as saying that he opposes both a state income tax and an increase in the sales tax to five percent. We have a five percent sales tax. We don't have an income tax, but it's no fault of his. Likewise he said at that time no man shall ever run for office three consecutive times in a row for Governor of the State of Washington. I think that he filed for the office of Governor and I think that the people are going to remember that.

McDonald - A question for Mr. Rosellini. The lady right here in the grey.

Question - Governor Rosellini, do you have the authority as governor to actually cause the hundreds of local school districts across the state to actually reduce their current property tax level?

Rosellini - Not by myself and that's what I have said consistently that I would work with the legislature and with the new superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of working out a formula to effect the $100 million that we are going to give to the school at the state level so that there will be less of a load on property taxes at the local level.

McDonald - Your response, Mr. Evans.

Evans - You know it is interesting to talk about running for Governor for the third time when my opponent ran four consecutive times for Governor and finally was rejected and now is running for his fifth time in the last twenty years. As far as local school districts are concerned, of course, no governor has the authority or the ability to determine the total spending at the local school level. It is interesting to have heard my opponent say well if we had time, let's go into the details. I think that's just fine. We ought to go into more details because he just said very clearly that the budget during the next biennium will not be lower by $100 million than the budget this biennium. That there will be increased revenues from an increasing economy I might add. And it's from that he is somehow going to take $100 million. Well let's be totally candid. A budget will be put together during the next biennium. That budget will have reasonable spending to handle the basic needs of our state. I have said clearly and consistently that that budget will require no new taxes nor any increased taxes. I think that is the fiscal
reality. I think people recognize it. We can do a reasonable job for our citizens without this back laying back and forth between $100 million savings and a $240 million extra amount of money for salaries.

McDonald - A question now for Governor Evans. Way in the back, .......right here, just speak up very loudly.

Question - How can you justify a 300 increase in the Departments of Social and Health Services as quoted by the auditor?

Evans - You are talking about total budgets now?

Question - The 300 percent increase in the Department of Social and Health Services.

Evans - The spending of the Department of Social and Health Services is related directly and virtually absolutely in the programs at the federal level. The new medical care programs, Medicaid, Intermediate Care Facility, and the other public welfare programs which have been passed by Congress and which are assigned to the State of Washington for their administration. Many of those new programs incidentally, incidentally most of them the result of "the great society programs" of Lyndon Johnson of the mid 1960's, have caused state after state across the nation to have increases in costs. The important thing is what is our record compared with the record of other states and compared with our own past. When I took office we not only had a twenty percent ratable reduction, which I think is unconscionable in public assistance, but we were the twelfth highest state in the nation in spending in the public assistance category. Today we are twentieth in spending and twenty-seventh in caseloads. The caseload has gone down the last eighteen months and we are substantially below the national average in welfare caseloads. The money in the Department of Social and Health Services goes to two major outlays. A third of every tax dollar goes directly to medical care primarily for the aged. Another fifty-five cents of that dollar goes in direct money grants, most of that to the aged, the disabled, the blind, and the young. The remaining small percentage of that goes into direct services for those people and three percent goes into administration.

Rosellini - The Department of Social and Health Services is one of the biggest administrative blunders that I have seen at any state in the nation. Nothing but...created by Danny Evans and the costs, you are right 300 percent, most of that cost has gone up in administrative levels. When you look at the figures you will find that we were operating separate five departments with two and a half million dollars. This monstrosity at the administrative level has gone to seventeen and a half million dollars, fifteen and a half million dollars more.....As a result of a top heavy layer of bureaucratic employees from Sid Smith on down, some of the Boeing rejects that know nothing about having human problems, might know something about computers. The costs have gone up.....One of the first things I am going to do is dismantle, reorganize that department so that the people will get...so the people will get from that department the sensitive and responsive care they should, particularly in public institutions. Our institutions have been deteriorating ever since that department was established. We are going to do something to get full accreditation for our hospitals, full top accreditation for our schools for the retarded children and bring ..........bring them up in line.

McDonald - A question now for Governor Rosellini. The gentlemen with the white hat.

Question - Pollution, who killed Lake Erie, who is going to kill Lake Washington?

Rosellini - I think that I can only point to this, that my administration initiated the first pollution control commission in the State of Washington. There are plenty of laws on the books at the present time. If they were fully enforced by the present administration, I think it would go a long ways toward whipping some of the pollution
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problems we have in the state at the present time.

Evans - Again it's time for openness and candor in government. In Mr. Rosellini's administration the permits of our various pulp mills, one of the greatest pollution problems we have, came up for renewal. There was not one single additional requirement placed on those pulp mills for operation during his term. He merely pushed the problem off and we were faced with it when I took office. And we made the first major requirements on those pulp mills as well as all other industrial and municipal polluters. We are now under a program in which all of them have time limits to meet, requirements to meet, and we think we are doing a reasonably job of balancing the requirements of our economy and of the jobs in our state as well as environmental protection. Basically this state today has cleaner water than it did a few years ago. It has cleaner air than it did a few years ago. And these are not my claims

(Part of transcript lost from transition from one tape to another at the time of debate.)

Evans - school districts face the problem of special levies and they will continue to face the problems of special levies until we find some better fundamental way of increasing property taxation to do a job of support of education. We have all as citizens have been facing not only during my predecessor's administration but during mine with the problem of educating the very large number of young people who were born shortly after World War II. It has caused not only pain but it has caused a real investment. For twenty years we have carried on that investment and we have arrived at a point today where, indeed, we can face some relief pressure in future years. And the number of children in our common schools is dropping. We will not face the tough pressures we had in the past, but the important thing is what we done in terms of quality. We have lifted the educational attainment of all our youngsters to the point today Washington citizens are the most educated of any state in the union but one. And I think that's a reasonable and responsible investment, one we have been attempting to achieve at the state level. One which has been aided by the necessary special levies at the local level. But a fundamental change in our system is required if we are ever going to get away from the real problems of property taxation. And this will-o-the-wisp, this $100 million which we have already seen eaten up two and half times by a promised salary increase would have about an eight percent effect on property taxation in this state if it could be done which quite obviously you have already seen he has no intention of doing.

Rosellini - I just wanted to say this, there is no question that we can do $100 million and even more, but at least $100 million...

McDonald - Let the Governor have his time, please.

Rosellini - All right, I want to address myself first to the answers this gentlemen asked about the special levies. The reason we are having so many special levies at such a high level is because the administration of Danny Boy robbed the school support we provided for schools. When I was governor, I provided around 64 or 65 percent of school funding at the state level. Since that time they have dropped it to only 49 percent they provide at the state. And that's why in the last six and seven years the people of this state in order to support their schools have had to go more and more to special levies and higher milage. All right, my proposal is to take this $100 million and give it to the schools, thereby giving them that much more so as to give more equality in schools and so to eliminate to that extent, not complete, but to that extent at least, the dependence of schools on funding from property by way of special levy. This is the first step. I think ultimately we should try
to achieve the goal and I can't promise this within the realms of the state financing but ultimately we must and I think we are going to have to as a result of a decision that I think will be forthcoming from the United States Supreme Court of full funding of education from the state level probably with some federal help.

McDonald - We have time for one more question. The lady across .........

Question - I have a question for Governor Evans, your opponent says he wants to spend money in institutions. As the mother of a retarded child, I respect the trend of keeping our children at home and using the services within the community. I would like to know how much this trend costs state taxpayers ......

McDonald - Would you repeat the question for Governor Evans?

Evans - ...Maybe the lady can...well all right, if I could paraphrase it a little, what about spending, the mother of a retarded child who wants to know what spending for the retarded in institutions, she would rather keep the child at home as I understand and empty the institutions at least to a certain degree and you want to know how this might be done in my program.

Question - In terms of money, yes?

Evans - In terms of money. This is a very, very fine example of what we have both been talking about, this question of spending versus the necessary services of our citizens. We have talked about this mythical $100 million, but he has said he wouldn't cut aid to schools, he wouldn't cut aid to the aged, he wouldn't cut aid to institutions, he wouldn't cut aid to the retarded, he wouldn't cut to the children, he wouldn't cut the vocational rehabilitation, and to put in a $240 million salary increase. You know there just isn't that much money left in the state's general fund to get $100 million from. But let's talk about the retarded because it is a good example of what I found when I came into office in terms of the vaunted institutional support of my predecessor. Four thousand citizens in the mental hospitals, thirteen hundred youngsters on the waiting lists for our schools for the retarded. We now have a little over two thousand. There is no one on the waiting lists for our schools for the retarded, And we have open up from zero to over one hundred community centers for aid to the mentally ill and aid to the mentally retarded. And I think this community concept is an important step forward. It's one where I believe most citizens of this state would like to continue to make an investment. And I think in terms of new programs, one of the things that we are seriously considering in this next biennium is the view as to whether we could give under some circumstances direct aid, direct help, to the parents of retarded to allow them to keep their youngsters at home if it is at all possible. And I think this is another step beyond that of community involvement. I am very proud of the new programs and the job we have undertaken in the field of institutions where we are at a higher rate today of excellence than ever before in Washington's history.

Rosellini - I think specifically there is no question but in the field of schools for retarded children and in the care of retarded children, group homes, are in the public interest and of course I have and will continue to support those and I am sure that funds will be found. But let's remember this, that as I mentioned this a little while ago but maybe ....as a result of the normal increment, the normal growth of government and finances, forget that $100 million for a minute, there will be at least $300 million more of state funds. They will be available for the purpose of doing a better job for the retarded, for the purpose of doing a job that needs to be done of giving a certain cost of living increase to the teachers
and employees and for the purpose of other priorities in government. This is
separate from the $100 million that we will eliminate from the present budget and
I would be happy to detail here if any of you want me to.

McDonald - Mr. Rosellini, there is a time problem, do you want to go on with the questions
or do you want to go to the summaries at this time.

Rosellini - The agreement was....

McDonald - The agreement was that we would stop our conversation, it is up to you, sir,
I am sure Dan Evans would like to stay. As agreed upon, we will stop the questions.

Rosellini - I would love to go with the questions but before I even knew about this I
had a speaking engagement at 12:00.

McDonald - Summary time is three minutes, Mr. Evans, you have the first three minute
period of time.

Evans - I appreciate very much the opportunity to come here and to share with you on a
common platform the answer to common questions. I do not believe this is the only
time, the only occasion during this campaign when this should occur and I say right
now that I am willing at anytime to share the same platform, the answer the same
questions, so that the openness and credibility of all candidates for public office
can be scrutinized by the public. You have just heard this credibility saying
$100 million cut, but then we have $300 million extra and so of course we can use
that for these needed increases in spending. Quite clearly he is saying that the
budget of the next biennium under his administration would be higher than this
biennium. All right, let's very clearly, let's very clearly understand that it's
very likely that will happen because of inflation and because of the problems of
our citizens. The real question is who can most adequately detail that budget,
who can most adequately work with it, who is most honestly telling you what the
problems are and what they will do about the problems. Frankly, you can say anything
but the real question is whom do you believe. Who has been open while in public
office. Who has released all of their tax returns. Who has released all of their
campaign contributions. Who has consistently sent to the Archives for all public
view their files. Who has in other words dealt openly with the public. That is
today's political question - the issue of today - the openness, the credibility
the believability of those who are running for political office. And Al Rosellini
has gone on long enough arguing and debating with himself and he is losing the
case. The real question is the future of this state, the management for the
next four years, the recognition that these can and should be good years for the
State of Washington. Our economy is expanding, the tax pressures will be relieved,
we do not need an increase in taxation. We need to deal with the quality of life
here in the State of Washington, to continue the environmental quality we have
attempted to build, to continue to be open and candid in government. And I think
that that is the issue and what I am laying before you. Thank you.

Rosellini - I say that Danny Evans has a lot of courage to talk about credibility after
the record of broken promises that he has established. I pointed some of them
out a while ago, but I wanted to point one or two more. He says eight years ago
no increase in the sales tax. And I have it right here, October, 1964, he said no
one should run three times for governor, ......he said we should have no income tax
and of course that's all he has been talking about for four or five. Then if he wants
to talk about candor, let's talk about the fact what happened, I would like to
Danny Boy what happened over the years to forty thousand bottles of liquor samples
that his administration got that was featured here in the grand jury. What happened
to those cases of liquors that were seized out of the warehouse during his administra-
tion. What about his three top cabinet members, members of the Liquor Board under
grant jury indictment at the present time. If he wants to talk about candor, let's talk about the pinball money he received for his campaign, the race money that he received, and others.....The real issue is the question of taxes and employment. $100 million is only two and a half percent of the total budget. Now if you had to cut two and a half percent in your home budget, I am sure you could do it; we can do it with the tremendous waste in state government at the same time. Let me say one further thing, this is not just a statement that one Al Rosellini is making. We have in this corner saying the same thing, Representative James McDermott, a legislator, a member of the House of Representatives, former candidate for governor. We have Senator Martin Durkan saying the same thing, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the State Senate. And we have Senator Perry Woodall, a former colleague of Dan Evans, a member of the legislature for......All three say that we can cut not only $100 million but even more than $100 million for the purpose of reducing the taxes on the people's property here in the State of Washington. That's where I am going to be.

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TRANSCRIPTION OF PRESS CONFERENCE DIRECTLY AFTER DEBATE

Governor Evans - ........I think they will come away with a better idea of the openness and credibility of government which I think is very, very important. It simply is no longer valid to hold things under your pocket, to hold things back, not let people know or see what's going on in government. That's what has come over the past few years - a new openness, a new credibility, and I think that ought to continue.

Question - Governor, Mr. Rosellini has indicated that he had no advance information about any debate format for today. Do you have anything to respond in that connection?

Governor Evans - Well I had a press conference yesterday suggesting that I could rearrange my schedule to be here. That word was transmitted immediately to Mr. Rosellini's campaign representatives and they spent most of yesterday afternoon and evening working on the format, the timing, the opening statements, and the closing statements. Mr. McDonald as you can readily see this morning was fully prepared for the debate and I think the Seattle P I this morning in this story wasn't inaccurate. They were accurately reporting the status of things as of their deadline last night, which was that there had been an agreement. And that it had been worked out by representatives from both sides. I just hope we have a chance to do this again, a number of times.

Question - How do you feel about it?

Governor Evans - I feel very good about it. I think the major issue which we have been trying to bring out is really reflected in the difficulty there has been in getting him on the same platform and that's the shadowy campaign of Al Rosellini. He doesn't want to get out in the open. He doesn't want to have the full light of the campaign shine on the two of us at the same time. And I think the people had a good opportunity to see and compare and the people themselves ultimately will have to decide but I feel pretty good about it.

Question - What do you react to the letter from the librarian that says he has put his personal documents in there, and you have been given access?

Governor Evans - In the first place, they haven't really followed the statute which calls for turning over official records. It's not just personal records. We are talking about all of the documents of state government. There are no even official records of the previous administration in the Archives open and available for regular scrutiny as there has been from our administration right on through.
October 14, 1972
Seattle, Washington

Question - Can you be specific, Sir?

Governor Evans - Any official records? Well all official records of whatever happened during the administration. We had to go into the locked files in order to get for instance the one thing that was very much needed and that was the official record of the assumption of Indian jurisdiction on the Quinault Indian Reservation which happened during the later days of his term in office. And I think those records ought to be transferred to a successor so that you can carry on consistently the business of state government. Frankly, it will be our intention to leave those records which have anything to do with the continuing operation of state government in the Governor's Office and readily available to my successor whenever that comes rather than taking everything away. When we arrived in Olympia, there was absolutely nothing, nothing in the files. Not one thing.

Question - In the Governor's Office.

Governor Evans - In the Governor's Office. We had to start, the same thing incidentally was true in some of the other departments I understand, the Department of General Administration is one example. And perhaps some others. I don't know about all departments, but you know the Chief Executive and the Governor's Office where there are massive numbers of official records and official documents, the things that deal with the day-to-day carrying on of state government. Of course, state government doesn't stop and begin new with a change in administration and there simply in my view ought to be a steady continuance of record keeping. I am not suggesting anything other than I think it was a mistake to lock all records. Now if he had some very personal things that he felt shouldn't be exposed for some years, that's his privilege but I don't think the massive....

Question - Governor, have you talked, go ahead.

Question - At that time did you talk to Governor Rosellini about this?

Governor Evans - I was not even aware at the time, at the time during this change-over period, I was not even aware that this had been done or was being contemplated. And it wasn't until we took office that we found that it had been done.

Question - But what efforts did you make to find them? to get access?

Governor Evans - Well, we only once when we felt it desperately necessary did we attempt to do this. Again I am not suggesting that there was any intent to do anything other than just keep them under lock and key for twenty years and suggest that that's nothing wrong with it other than the fact that it does not square with the modern day openness in government we expect with the initiatives that are now in front of the people and with the open meeting law which was passed a short time ago.

Question - You are saying that you have not talked with him and are not aware of any official .............

Governor Evans - No I have not talked with Governor Rosellini about anything official in the last eight years.

Question - You cited a law which was passed in 1957 that was passed how the Governor make this material available. Isn't he then breaking that law?

Governor Evans - Well, I don't know. That's never been tested. It's simply a law which provides for what I think is reasonable and that's the steady succession of one administration after another and the turning over of public records from one administration to the next.
October 14, 1972
Seattle, Washington

Question - Couldn't that law be used to make the librarian turn these records over?

Governor Evans - Oh, I suppose it could. But I haven't tried to bring that up.

Question - Then the need has not been that urgent.

Governor Evans - I am not suggesting that there is any great need. I don't know how many others, researchers and people interested in state government, people interested in how government changes, the scholars. I am not just the carrying on of government, I am talking about the whole scholarly process, research process, the ability of people themselves who need information, to have ready access to it.

Question - What's your reaction to the final statements about the Liquor Board?

Governor Evans - Well I think the people will recognize them for what they are - name-calling of the worse sort, charges of the worse sort against people who have not been convicted of anything. It's interesting to note that it includes not only present members of the Liquor Board, but members who were appointed during Governor Rosellini's term in office, so in that respect there is no difference. The questions that were under concern or the charges that he made related to practices which are virtually as old as the Liquor Board itself, practices which I do not think are very wise ones, practices which were stopped during my administration, and practices believe me carried on to a liberal degree during the administration of my predecessor. But I don't intend to get into name-calling on that subject. I think the people can pretty well figure that one.

Question - What about his remark about gambling money?

Governor Evans - Well if there is in this campaign, we don't know anything about it. Four years ago some dinner tickets were bought by a person we didn't even know about in fact until somebody asked. But I have no qualms about those who have contributed to our campaigns. The very fact that we have every campaign donation on public record is a pretty good indication that I am under no apprehension about those who have contributed. I just suggest that the same thing is desirable as far as both candidates are concerned. And it's pretty obvious that the very, very expensive primary campaign of my opponent doesn't match with the list of campaign donations he reported. And he has not said and I doubt that he will just where that gap was filled, either by a large loan or note. It would be interesting to know who is holding that note if that is the case. And what that means. And I have no idea what the disparity is. His reported disparity is some $60,000 or $65,000. You might say it's a "$64,000 question" because that's pretty accurately what the discrepancy is. But I think even more damaging or devastating is the letter which I just got yesterday which I am sure I would rather suspect is one in a series of phony committees set up by my opponent - the Rural Educational and Agricultural Political Action Committee - quite obviously a front organization for his campaign. The people signing the letter, the primary signers part of his campaign committee. And this says the Committee is under no obligation to and will not publicize any individual's donation. It's a pretty good indication that this is a wide open place for those who chose to hide their donations to it very comfortably and have no fear the the people will know.

Question - Was this for the primary or the general election?

Question - What is the date of the letter?

Governor Evans - I don't think there is a date on it because there is, well, as you know it costs money to reap the harvest of votes necessary to win September 19, so this was something that went our presumably just before the primary. Although it
was not received by the person I received it from, one of the farmers in the state, until after the primary. I have no idea of whether there are other letters of similar type, other committees of similar type, but I rather suspect that that's a fair assumption.

Question - Governor, how much money do you estimate that his campaign cost?

Governor Evans - I wish I knew.

Question - You got to have some ball park figure in order to make an allegation?

Governor Evans - Well, I have not suggested that he has spent more, because it is up to the people to decide. We reported slightly more than he did for primary expenses, and I think the people can measure pretty well the difference in the media and the advertising and the brochures.

Question - Surely some of your campaign people have looked at this total campaign, estimated....I don't it's quite fair to say that the individual in a bedroom or in a front room in Ballard should know this, but surely must know?

Governor Evans - All I am saying that there is a very large discrepancy between the amount of campaign donations that he has reported and the expenses he has reported. That's what I say is the $64,000 question". If, indeed, the actual spending was higher than that, then the gap is bigger. But it's pretty hard to know how much was actually spent. It would require going through all of the advertising in each of the media, plus all of the other expenses and that's pretty tough to do and besides we have more important things to do in the campaign.

Question - Nobody is doing it at the moment?

Governor Evans - We would like to have some idea, because we would like to have some idea of just how monumental the spending on his side is likely to be in the final. But to this date, we haven't got any real estimate.

Question - What you are saying, then, is that you have no idea really of how much he spent, you have seen how much has been reported in contributions and you are making some suggestions without even delivering an estimate to the people. Somehow you are expecting an innuendo of this sort to stick?

Governor Evans - Not at all, except his reporting of expenditures. I am not saying that people should question that. If we could document greater spending than that, then we would question it. All I am saying is that there is a $64,000 dollar gap between what he reported as spending and what he reported as donations. People ought to know where that money is coming from.

Okay.

Rough Draft
(Typist KP)