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# 'Nixon Successful Against Press'

New York Times man James Reston said the Nixon Administration has "launched a calculated campaign of suspicion" against the press and "I think they've been successful."

And Vice President Spiro Agnew has "the courage of Nixon's convictions," Reston said yesterday.

The syndicated columnist, who traveled to Peking a half year before Nixon, told newsmen prior to addressing the 81st annual Stanford University commencement that Agnew has carried out the assignments the president has given him.

But, would Nixon dump Agnew in favor of John Connally for vice president?

"If he thought he was in trouble he wouldn't hesitate to go to the vice president and ask him to stand down. But I don't think he thinks he is that state."

Reston, who was questioned on a number of political matters, said that if Nixon wanted to build a strong Republican Party after 1976,

he'd have a better chance with Connally than Agnew, whom Reston described as a "divisive figure in this country."

Asked if he thought Hubert H. Humphrey would consider Alabama Gov. George Wallace for a Democratic running mate, the Time columnist replied:

"Hubert is desperate but not that desperate."

The pipe-smoking newsman, dressed in conservative dark blue suit and tie, also had this to say on these subjects:

- On Senator Ted Kennedy — "You can't rule him out as a potential candidate in 1976. . . . Women would kill him now. . . . one of the amiable things of the American people is they have no memory."

- Senator George McGovern — "I don't think he has it (Democratic nomination) locked up. But this country is restless, unhappy — it might like to go for a simple guy like McGovern."