Reinecke's Test



REINECKE LEFT THE FBI OFFICE AFTER LIE TEST

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Candidate's Effort to Clear Name

By George Murphy Chronicle Correspondent

Sacramento

Somewhere in the files inside an anonymous gray building at 2800 Cottage way on the outskirts of town, the political future of Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke was shaped shortly before 3 p.m. yesterday.

For it was in that building that Reinecke, a candidate for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, submitted to an FBI interrogation and lie detector test concerning his role in bringing the 1972 Republican National Convention to California.

The lieutenant governor spent a total of 13 hours, Wednesday and yesterday, answering questions.

When he emerged yesterday afternoon, carrying his attache case, Reinecke was besieged by newsmen who

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asked how this affair affected his campaign.

Will it hurt his quest for the seat now held by Governor Ronald Reagan, Reinecke was asked.

"I don't think so. I'm on the ballot now, I am running, I am optimistic.

"As I have always said, I would be cleared, but time remains to be seen what Mr. Jaworski's office would do with this."

He referred to federal spe-

cial prosecutor Leon Jaworski, whose office has been looking into the possibility that either Reinecke or former U.S. Attorney General John Mitchell have committed perjury.

The investigation centers on when Reinecke informed Mitchell about a \$400,000 guarantee to defray the costs of the GOP convention (which was originally scheduled for San Diego, but actually took place in Miami Beach, Fla.).

Mitchell says he did not know about the offer until well after the Justice Department settled an antitrust suit against ITT. Reinecke says he told Mitchell about it earlier.

Reinecke had asked Jaworski's office last month to give him the polygraph test.

In February, he spents three days in Washington reportedly trying to urge Jaworski to order the tests.

"I am pleased that they finally granted my request for this test because I know it will conclusively clear me of any wrongdoing," Reinecke declared yesterday.

Reinece's major opponent in the Republican primary election June 4 is Controller Houston I. Flournoy, who has steadfastly maintained a discreet silence concerning the lieutenant governor's discussions with the Jaworski staff.

In Washington James Doyle, a spokesman for Jaworski, refused comment on the case, in keeping with the special prosecutor's office dictum that pending cases will not be discussed.

In the parking lot outside 2800 Cottage way, Reinecke yesterday was cordial, as always, and appeared relaxed.

He did appear to tense up a bit when he was asked if he had requested Jaworski to make public the findings of the two-day interrogation.

"I have no commitment that they will inform me of the results, as a standard procedure for the FBI..."

He said, though, that, "my hope is that through all the interviews and the cooperation I have shown the Jaworski office that I will be cleared . . putting it succinctly."

Asked, "You want Jaworski to say, 'Ed Reinecke is cleared'?" Reinecke said simply: "Yes."

Reinecke, eager to get on a 4 p.m. plane (he was scheduled to speak last night to the Laguna Hills Republican Club), was asked "Did they outright ask you if you committed perjury?"

The lieutenant governor said, "I believe they did, yes . . . I answered I did not."