

H78-59

Terry Miller

Larry Holmstrom, interviewer

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Larry Holmstrom introduced himself and explained that he is a supporter of Terry Miller for the position of United States senator.

Larry asked about the money gap between Terry Miller and his opponents and what it takes to wage a successful campaign in the Alaska primaries.

Terry Miller said because he has never waged a statewide campaign before he could not answer definitively. He suspected that the final answer remains with the people themselves. He planned to spend some money in the media. He planned to get out and meet the people and talk about the issues that are important to Alaskans.

Larry asked him about his announcement speech and wanting to concentrate on issues rather than images, but he was one of the first candidates to run media spots. He asked how much traveling he planned to do.

Terry Miller said he wasn't spending any more than his competitors and he was spending his campaign funds differently. He said once his obligation in the state legislature was over he was planning to hit the road.

Larry asked him if he was engaging any outside political consulting firm or advertising agency.

Terry said no he was using Alaska talent.

Larry asked him what the main issue was in the campaign.

Terry said that there were going to be a lot of issues, but he believes the single most crucial issue will be what type of person Alaska wants in the legislature to represent them.

Larry asked about C.R. Lewis.

Terry said C.R. Lewis was a friend and he was an able person in the conservative cause.

Larry asked where Terry would put himself in the political spectrum.

Terry said that he doesn't go along with stereotypes and he takes each issue on its own merit.

Larry asked about his comments about Mike Gravel.

Terry said that Gravel has been inattentive to Alaskan issues.

Larry asked about his day to day plans as a legislature.

Terry said the role of the U.S. senator is important and you do more than legislate, you coordinate.

Larry asked about comments Terry has already made about Mike Gravel and if he plans to meet face to face with him.

Terry said he would like to give Mike Gravel a chance to debate in the general election.

Larry commented about Mike Gravel's media image.

Terry said that Mike Gravel had a highly successful media campaign and he will probably rely on a media campaign again. Terry hopes to campaign in person.

Larry asked how he plans to campaign against Mike Gravel's professional media services.

Terry said he hopes to get out and meet as many Alaskans as he can.

Larry said Terry has mentioned what he believes are Mike Gravel's weaknesses and he wants to know what Terry has for strikes.

Terry said that he was raised in the state and attended college in Alaska, he has grass roots experience, and has legislative experience in the state.

Larry asked about the age factor.

Terry said the people will judge him on the relevant actions.

Larry said if he wins the primary and general actions what committee assignment would he seek.

Terry said the most important role for an Alaskan senator would be a seat on the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Larry asked about Mike Gravel's voting in the senate.

Terry said that Mike Gravel's voting record shows that he was missing from voting sessions. His overall attendance record was less than sixty percent.

Larry asked about the Republican Party and the Watergate issue.

Terry says he doesn't think the people of Alaska will pay attention to the activities of just a few people thousands of miles away.

Larry asked about Alaskan issues that Mike Gravel has ignored.

Terry said the whole gamut from land policy to economic development.

Larry asked about running for the vice-president position.

Terry said it takes time to gain expertise.

Larry asked about national issues.

Terry said there would be a learning process. He would participate to the degree that he has the expertise, but he would hone in on issues that affect Alaska.

Larry asked about Mike Gravel's seniority.

Terry said Gravel's seniority is important but the real test is what you do and contribute.

Larry asked about having two Republican senators.

Terry said that Washington and Oregon both have two senators from the same party. The important thing is what the person will do when he gets to congress.

Larry asked about Jackson and Magnuson rankings in the senate.

Terry said Gravel was rated one of the least effective senators but he would like to discuss this in a debate.

Larry asked about polling in state wide campaigns.

Terry said he isn't involved in polling because of the cost. He thinks by meeting Alaskans he will learn what is important.

Larry asked about his legislation work.

Terry said his service on many committees has had an impact on legislation.

Larry asked about Democrat's success in the Bush.

Terry said he would treat the Bush the same as the urban by meeting with the people

Larry asked if his campaign needs more help.

Terry said he will not have a large professional staff and volunteers are welcome.

Larry asked about campaign monies from coming from outside Alaska including big oil

Terry said federal laws will show where his campaign monies are coming from and there probably will be donations from outside the state. He expects a great share will come from Alaska.

Larry asked about having President Nixon campaign in Alaska.

Terry said Nixon probably won't campaign for anyone and he would rather have people from the state endorse him.

Larry asked about how he works in Juneau.

Terry said that he doesn't believe in legislating by headlines. He thinks sitting down with fellow legislators and coming to a common sense way of solving problems.

Larry asked about which areas of Alaska will be the toughest to campaign.

Terry said he has traveled and met people all over Alaska. Traditionally the Bush votes more for Democrats.

Larry asked about how Terry sees Alaska changing in the next ten years.

Terry said there will be enormous changes in Alaska because of the changing economic base and values. He hopes to bring to the federal government an insight that isn't there now.