NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

NEW YORK POST, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2001

Kerik might stay, if Mike asks him

By MURRAY WEISS, ROBERT HARDT Jr. and MAGGIE HABERMAN

Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik — who earlier said he'll leave when Mayor Giuliani's term is up — would consider staying if Republican Mike Bloomberg captures City Hall, sources said yesterday.

The news came as Democratic candidate Mark Green and runoff rival Fernando Ferrer met for the first time since Green was declared the apparent winner last week.

Green also met with the Rev. Al Sharpton, who last week blasted the public advocate as a "race baiter."

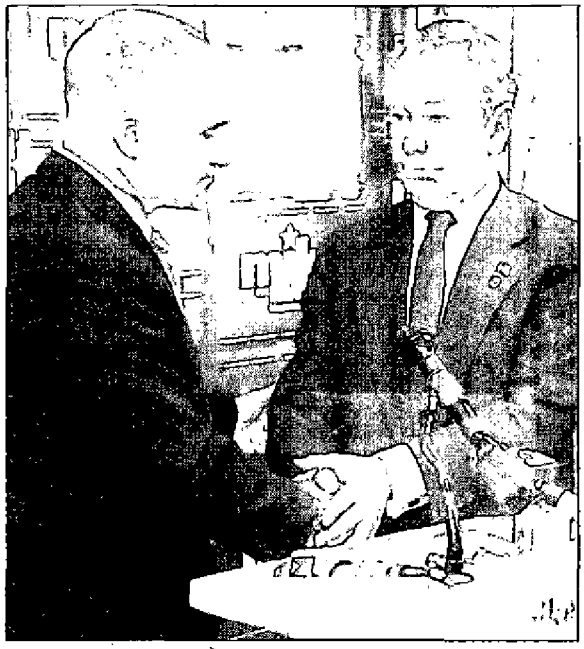
Green and Ferrer, whose camps have been feuding over campaign tactics, will meet again today, this time with Ferrer's supporters.

Some Democratic leaders were hoping Ferrer will back Green immediately.

Board of Elections officials said they may finish canvassing runoff votes today — and have indicated Green is still the likely winner.

Meanwhile, Bloomberg and Green bickered over who's the most "arrogant" — and the media mogul said he has more experience dealing with governments than "probably anybody in the whole world" because of his company's global holdings.

Bloomberg, who earlier was endorsed by ex-top cop Ray Kelly, said the two will "double-team" Kerik to convince him to stay on.



RAY OF HOPE: Former top cop Ray Kelly (left) shakes hands with GOP mayoral candidate Mike Bloomberg after endorsing him yesterday. Joey Newfield

"He's done a great job. This is not a time for change," said Bloomberg.

"I'm flattered," was Kerik's only reply. "I think Michael Bloomberg would make a terrific mayor."

Kerik insiders said the commissioner would consider staying if Bloomberg — but apparently not Green — asks.

Green is supported by ex-top cop William Bratton and ex-emergency czar Jerry Hauer, and was backed by virtually every uniformed-services union in the runoff.

Bloomberg, praised by Kelly as a "doer," also said it was "premature" of Green to talk about transition plans when he hasn't been certified yet as the runoff winner.

"I think it is arrogant to say that you don't want to talk about anything other than your transition planning," Bloomberg said. "He should talk about why people should vote for him, and not go and measure the drapes for Gracie Mansion."

Green, who toured TriBeCa businesses suffering from the terror attacks, fired back: "It's probably more arrogant for him to think he can buy the election."

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