

[Unofficial Translation of Article]

De Standaard, Bos wou Fortis Nederland voor de zomer al kopen, 10/12/2008 (Translated).

<http://www.standaard.be/cnt/cv23r142>

Woods was considering nationalization Fortis already for the summer

By

Finance Minister Wouter Bos had considered the idea for summer to nationalize Fortis. That he says this week in Smoking Netherlands. ' For the summer and I found that with Fortis Nout Wellink did not go well. That tension could arise between the interests of Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and the top of the group. And that we should act very quickly in a situation like this. When I have the option already considered that the State could take over the Dutch part of Fortis. I have always thought: if it is necessary, then we do it. '

The pronouncement of forest comes as a surprise. Until now it was believed that the idea of nationalising the bank only at the end of september, just before the takeover.

' Jan Peter is a very good negotiator '

In the interview in the winter issue of Netherlands Wouter Bos also looks back on the Free negotiations on the nationalization of Fortis and ABN Amro. Wouter Bos and Prime Minister Balkenende, previously at two Cabinet formations as rivals were sitting opposite each other, now had to defend the Dutch interest in unison. ' I have at one point against Jan Peter said: you have to use all the tricks that you have in the formation used against me. '

According to woodland can protest loudly Balkende in negotiations: ' if the opposing team says something where he did not agree, he literally sitting briesen and puffing and say it's all nothing is. I have all been on the other side of the table. Now we sat happily on the same side. '

After a whole night of negotiations was the deal only after sunrise around. ' When are Jan Peter and I both somewhere in the corner of the room on a bench neergeploft to sleep. '

' I have my intuition back '

He also tells how the past year Forest recovered his self confidence, partly due to the credit crisis: ' I feel in this situation like a fish in water. '

After loss to the Dutch Labour Party in the last elections was the party leader will be challenged by battle. "If I had to keep speeches, the first few months I barely dared a Hall in watching. The ability to right, to proud to carry a story, with a certain looseness and humor and confidence – that was just broken. That's actually only this spring, returned this summer '.

' Long for Ella Vogelaar fought '

Woods says in the interview that he has learned ' firmer and less ambiguous '. ' I don't know if the Wouter Bos of the daring two years ago had to trust in Ella Vogelaar. '

On the criticism by the opposition that the departure of the Minister for integration in the political backroom is settled, says some butter on the head in UN Forest that has: ' I have fought longer than Ella Vogelaar Femke Halsema for Wijnand Duyvendak. And a big mouth, should he intent for Pechtold, first think back to how he was Thom de Graaf has drop. '

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