

## FOREWORD

### **Transcript Warning:**

All written transcripts are imperfect abstracts of spoken conversation. Variations in sound quality and in the aural acuity of listeners can and do produce wide variations in what is heard. Even though transcripts may be prepared at great effort and with great care, many points of ambiguity are inevitable, and erroneous interpretations from transcripts are always possible. Therefore, to ensure full confidence in any and all quotations from the presidential recordings, users are strongly urged to check all transcript renditions against the actual tape recordings before publication.

### **Copyright:**

The donors assigned copyright that they might have in the recordings to the United States; however, copyright of the donors does not extend beyond statements uttered by John F. Kennedy, his minor children, and the donors themselves. Statements uttered by officials of the United States government in the course of their duties are considered to be in the public domain. Users of this material are cautioned, however, that not all persons recorded were members of the Kennedy family or government officials. A number of the people recorded were, at the time of recording, private citizens. Therefore, those intending to quote from this material beyond the accepted limits of fair use are cautioned to determine the copyright implications of any intended publication.

### **Punctuation:**

The following conventions are used throughout the transcripts:

- \* \* \*      To indicate a pause in the recording while the speaker listens to the person speaking at the other end of the telephone. Used when only one side of a telephone conversation is recorded.
- [ ? ]      When the transcriber is not certain of what is said on the recording.
- . . . .      To indicate a sentence which the speaker trails off without completing it.
- . . .        When a speaker is interrupted before a sentence is completed.
- \_\_\_\_\_    To indicate the speaker's emphasis.
- [ / ]        Used to enclose editorial comments of the transcriber such as */Meeting appears to be breaking up/* or */Several speakers speak at once and none of the words are intelligible./*

### **Names:**

The first time a name is mentioned, the full name is provided whenever it is known. "JFK" and "RFK" are used for President Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, respectively. When the identity of a speaker is unknown, "Speaker?" is used; when the identification of a speaker is uncertain, a question mark follows the name. The heading of each transcript gives the names of all participants listed in the President's Appointment Books as scheduled to attend the meeting.

### **Preparation:**

These electronic documents were created from transcripts available in the audiovisual research room in the John F. Kennedy Library. The transcripts were scanned using optical character recognition and the resulting text files were proofread against the original transcripts. Some formatting changes were made.

## Dictabelt 4G, Item 4G4

Voice 1:           Waiting. Waiting.

Voice 2:           [Words unintelligible]

                      [Phone rings.]

Lincoln<sup>1</sup>:         Hello.

Voice 3:           I have Mr. Archibald Cox, the solicitor general, returning the president's call.

Lincoln:           Okay.

Voice 3:           Thank you.

                      [Pause of about 40-45 seconds.]

JFK:               Hello.

Cox<sup>2</sup>:             Good morning, Mr. President.

JFK:               Good morning, Arc-. . . . I'm just on my way up there. Now, the only question I had was whether there are any additional proclamations or powers, et cetera, that we might need in the Mississippi matter if it gets worse, and, uh, the, uh, for arresting people, and under what charge and what legal penalties they face and so on. For example, we wanna arrest General Walker,<sup>3</sup> and I don't know whether we just arrest him under disturbing the peace or whether we arrest him for more than that. I wonder if. . . . How long are you going to be at the court this morning?

Cox:               Not beyond, uh, half past ten.

JFK:               Yeah, well then I wonder if we can get, uh, more precise information on where we are legally on arresting people, including the governor if necessary and others?

Cox:               Right.

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<sup>1</sup> Evelyn Lincoln

<sup>2</sup> Archibald Cox

<sup>3</sup> Edwin A. Walker

JFK: And what the penalties are because we might want to announce that on the radio and television that anyone involved in any demonstration or anything would be subject to the, this penalty, and if not, maybe the general could announce it.

Cox: Right. Good-bye.

JFK: All right. Okay. Thank you.

Cox: Thank you.

[Phone hangs up.]