

## 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:**

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### **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 23A, Item 23A2

July 10, 1963

JFK: [Reading] ". . . Harrison,<sup>1</sup> Joe Block,<sup>2</sup> Stuart Saunders, George Meany, the secretary of labor and the secretary of commerce undertake in consultation with the parties, a review and report limited to the facts and issues," the statement I put out, "limited to the facts and issues in this case and the respective positions of the parties. This report will be transmitted to the Congress on July 22, 1963, with appropriate legislative recommendations from me which would be designed to dispose of the issues in this particular case. After consultation with congressional leaders, I am asking the parties to withhold any rule change or strike notice until July 29 to permit appropriate consideration of this matter, with the understanding that no further such request for a continuance will be made by this administration."

Harris:<sup>3</sup> Yeah.

JFK: So, uh, that puts it until then. Then, of course, they'll come in on Sunday and Monday, that, uh, of the, in which they'll probably disagree. Then I will make a rec-, recommendation with their report on Monday and if there's [not?], my understanding is it will go to your committee in the House and the Senate. There will be a week in which there won't be any action. Then, of course, it's up to whether, they're, after that they're not bound beyond the 29th as to what action the railroads would take or the unions would take.

Harris: Your message would then, uh, get here the 22nd, Monday, the 22nd?

JFK: That's right. That's right. So we'll see.

Harris: Well, that will be a whole ba-, that will give us a week.

JFK: That'd give us a week. That's right. Well, if we're, we just have to, uh, after talking to a couple of the boys over in the Senate who were very much opposed to any congressional action, it would seem to me probably that there won't be much action until the hot breath is on everybody's neck up there.

Harris: I think that's right.

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<sup>1</sup> George M. Harrison.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph L. Block.

<sup>3</sup> Oren Harris, congressman from Arkansas.

JFK: So this gives 'em a week without it and, uh, maybe a few days with it.

Harris: Yup, well, has there been any discussion as to whether or not, uh, you would want to undertake in the Senate first?

JFK: No, no, maybe have a joint, at least, maybe a joint, uh, hearing at least of the various parties who will be complaining about whatever I propose or whatever your judgment would be on that. We can have a meeting, maybe next week, and see what looks like the best thing or the week after.

Harris: All right, fine.

JFK: Good, thank you, Oren.

Harris: Thanks for the report.

JFK: Okay.

Harris?: Bye.