

## 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 4D**

Note for Researcher

No Kennedy Library Transcript was prepared for Dictabelt number 4D.1

## Dictabelt 4D

[September 1962]

### Item 4D2

[Sound of phone ringing, from inside the system.]

Lincoln<sup>1</sup>: Hello?

Voice: I have Congressman Macdonald for the president. In Malden.

[pause]

JFK: Hello. Hello?

Macdonald<sup>2</sup>: Hello, Mr. President.

JFK: How're you doing?

Macdonald: Oh, all right. How are you?

JFK: Where are you? Up at York?

Macdonald: Oh, no. No, I'm in Maiden, Jack.

JFK: Oh, I see.

Macdonald: Yeah.

JFK: Listen. Bill was down here this weekend. I didn't know whether you'd be able to come down. And I'd get Sam Atkinson.

Macdonald: Well, not until the first of the week.

JFK: Oh, you can't?

Macdonald: No.

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<sup>1</sup> Evelyn Lincoln

<sup>2</sup> Torbert H. Macdonald

JFK: You can't get away [from?/up?] there tomorrow?

Macdonald: No.

JFK: Oh. OK.

Macdonald: How long is he going . . .

JFK: Well, he's gotta go back to, uh, work tomorrow night late. What d'ya got tomorrow?

Macdonald: Well, uh, you know, it's been a full week.

JFK: I know. Oh, I know you've had . . . I agree with that.

Macdonald: And, uh, . . .

JFK: You have to speak tomorrow?

Macdonald: Yeah.

JFK: Oh.

Macdonald: And, uh, . . . They've sent some stuff up for me that has been postponed, uh, during the week you know.

JFK: Yeah. Yeah.

Macdonald: And so . . . I'd love to, uh, . . . not until, uh, . . . What time is, uh, he going back?

JFK: Well, he'll probably go back . . . I don't know. You know, in time to get there at class Monday morning. But I didn't know whether you could sort of arrange your schedule, because it seems to me this is going to be one of those things that you wouldn't wanta miss.

Macdonald: I'd certainly . . . I'd certainly try to do it, uh, . . .

JFK: Well, why don't you check on it and then give me a call in the morning?

Macdonald: All right. I will.

JFK: Will you be home in the morning?

Macdonald: Yes.

JFK: Well, I . . . my judgment would be . . . based on long years of, uh, . . . Bill's been down here today. I just talked to him. And my judgment would be that it . . . it's worth the trip.

Macdonald: Well, it's worth the trip if I can do the trip.

JFK: Yeah, but, well, you have to make a judgment about whether these trips are worthwhile or those speeches are worthwhile.

Macdonald: Well, it's . . .

JFK: OK.

Macdonald: It isn't just that, Mr. President. . . .

JFK: I understand. Oh, I understand. But I just wanted to be sure that, uh, you knew about it.

Macdonald: The spirit is willing, and of course . . .

JFK: OK. I know.

Macdonald: I think this will be [nice?].

JFK: OK. Well, in any case . . .

Macdonald: You really want me to call you tomorrow?

JFK: Well, no. But I think it would be worth doing.

Macdonald: Well, how about in the afternoon or night tomorrow?

JFK: Yeah. Can you come down tomorrow?

Macdonald: Well, uh, late afternoon, maybe. Yes.

JFK: You mean, when you get finished?

Macdonald: Well, I figure that I could get out of here by about four, five o'clock in the afternoon . . .

JFK: Yeah. That's fine. Good.

Macdonald: All right.

JFK: OK. I'll call you. I'll give you a call in the morning. You can get ahold of Bill Atkinson.

Macdonald: All right.

JFK: OK. Bye now.