

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 9B, Item 9B2

March 4, 1963

JFK: . . . or any other operations . . .

Voice 1: I see your point.
[Bundy?¹]

JFK: . . . of the CIA in this decade . . .

Voice 1: Uh-huh.

JFK: . . . Guatemala or any place else . . .

Voice 1: Yeah. Yeah.

JFK: . . . just for our own record in the last ten years.

Bundy: Uh, Mr. President, I talked to Bobby . . .

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: . . . he thinks it's very important to deal gently with John McCone and that we don't need to. . . . I, I also talked to McCone and he's in a relatively cooperative mood at the moment, I think.

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: He claims that he told Childs all this himself.

JFK: Yeah, I figured he did, yeah.

Bundy: And did it [laughs or coughs] because Childs was given the note, told about the honeymoon telegrams by three or four senators. McCone is getting told by the Stuart Symington's of the world that we are out to get him.

JFK: Yeah.

¹ McGeorge Bundy?

Bundy: And, uh, he believes all that kind of crap unfortunately.

JFK: Is that what he said? How do you know that? Is that what Bobby sa . . .

Bundy: He told Bobby.

JFK: That what? That who's out to get him?

Bundy: That, that the senators were telling him that they, that we were out to get him and that that was how that thing about the ten-day fight occurred in the story on me in Newsweek. That that must have come from us because, uh, we must have been in control of that story and Newsweek is well known to be our journal and so forth and so on.

JFK: Well, actually how many days fight was that?

Bundy: Two-day fight and it was settled, uh . . .

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: . . . by [Roswell] Gilpatric.

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: McCone was on the West Coast.

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: You're right. What happened was he came back that Sunday and then he went out again because his stepson was killed.

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: And that's why he was away . . .

JFK: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

Bundy: . . . on Monday. But he's, he's just fantastically sensitive and he believes that there are wolves in every woods.

JFK: Yeah.

Bundy: And I am not sure that the way to straighten that out isn't for you to say something nice about him at a press conference soon.

JFK: Okay.

Bundy: Right.

JFK: Fine.

[Telephone disconnects]