

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 4G3

[Begins mid-conversation]

- Barnett¹: . . . let the public know that we talked so many times, don't you think?
- JFK: That's correct. Now here's what I, I'm gonna . . .
- Barnett: Now, I can tell you, uh. . . . I think you said it mighty well last night, that tried to reach the, uh, conclusion and couldn't, or words to that effect.
- JFK: Now, I was very. . . . As you know, in my speech, I didn't even mention [will?] . . .
- Barnett: “[Avenues to negotiate?] fail,”² I believe you said.
- JFK: That's right, you know, and I didn't go into, uh . . .
- Barnett: You made a wonderful statement there.
- JFK: Well, now, the thing is, uh, Governor, I want your help in, uh, getting these state police to continue to help during the day, because they're their own people. And, uh, we are gonna have a lot of, uh, strange troops in there, and we are gonna have paratroopers in and all the rest. And I think the state police should be the key, and that depends on you.
- Barnett: Oh, I. . . . You'll have, you'll have the whole force that we have.
- JFK: Well, now, you tell 'em . . .
- Barnett: The [word unintelligible] men are not equipped like yours.
- JFK: I understand that. But during the daytime they can help keep order on these roads and keep a lot of people from coming in. And that's the. . . . I think that, uh, that doesn't change your position on the issue, but at least it helps maintain order, which is what we've got to do today.

¹ Ross R. Barnett

² The full text of the president's radio and television report to the nation on the situation at the University of Mississippi, September 30, 1962, may be found in the Public Papers of the Presidents: John F. Kennedy, 1962, pages 726-728.

Barnett: All right, Mr. President.

JFK: Thank you, Governor.

Barnett: I'll stay here now.

JFK: Thank you very much.

Barnett: Thank you so much.

JFK: And keep, keep after your state police now.

Barnett: I will.

JFK: Thanks.

Barnett: I, I'll, I'll call him soon as we hang up . . .

JFK: Thanks.

Barnett: . . . 'n' tell him to do all he can to keep peace.

JFK: Okay, thanks, Governor.

Barnett: And when'll I hear from you again?

JFK: I'll be talking to you about noon . . .

Barnett: Okay.

JFK: . . . my time.

Barnett: Thank you so much. Good-bye.

JFK: Okay, Governor.

[Phone hangs up.]