

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 4K, Item 4K7

- JFK: . . . he'll blow me out of the water? Uh, what . . . Is there any . . .
- Mansfield¹: Not you, Kerwin.
- JFK: Yeah. But, uh, . . . He's probably gonna ask me to do something. Is there anything I can do?
- Mansfield: Well, now, the only thing is this. Uh, What a . . . He is very much disturbed because of his opposition to the aquarium bill that Kerwin has knocked out a lot of his projects in the public works bill.
- JFK: That's right.
- Mansfield: He will show you newspaper clippings which will indicate his and Edith Green's defeat. And there is nothing that you can do. All you can say is that you'll call up Kerwin and see what you can do and we will try to get Bob Kerr to do the same thing over here.
- JFK: I see. Well, why did . . . Why did the senators let it go? Because I suppose they're mad at him, too, aren't they? He's been kicking everybody around for so long and finally they decided to kick him, I guess. Didn't they?
- Mansfield: Well, of course, that's partly it. But, it was a personal thing with, uh, with Mike . . .
- JFK: Surely.
- Mansfield: . . . and I think a lot of them are a little bit afraid of Mike because of his power, uh, on the Interior and other, uh, appropriations committees over there, and they thought, well, they'd better go along.
- JFK: Yeah.
- Mansfield: And it's The amounts are really small. They . . . They don't mean anything.
- JFK: Yeah. Yeah.

¹ Mike Mansfield

Mansfield: But, I think, uh, that if you would say, well you'll call Kerwin and I'll get Bob Kerr to talk to Kerwin, that might be the best way out of it.

JFK: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Well, why don't I call Kerwin before I see Wayne and see whether I can do anything?

Mansfield: OK.

JFK: Uh, but, I mean Wayne sheesh! . . . OK, Mike. Right.

Mansfield: OK, Mr. President.