

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.

Papers of John F. Kennedy

Presidential Recordings

Dictabelts

Dictabelt 21A

Conversation #5: President Kennedy and C. Douglas Dillon

June 4, 1963

President: Hello.

Sec. Dillon: Yes, Mr. President.

President: Doug, did you see what Juan Trippe did?

Sec. Dillon: No, I did not.

President: He put out an announcement this afternoon that he is going to buy six planes from the British and the French. How could he do that when he knew we were about to go ahead?

Sec. Dillon: Oh, I don't know. He'd said, apparently to Halaby, I haven't talked to him recently, that he was under pressure from the British and French governments to . . .

President: Well, what kind of pressure, because the goddam plane isn't going to be ready in six years, and here the United States government is about to go into a major program. And where does that leave us? I mean, didn't we have any understanding with him that he wouldn't go ahead while we were trying to come up with our proposal?

Sec. Dillon: I don't think that there was any, uh . . .

President: Didn't anybody tell him?

Sec. Dillon: I think Halaby did tell him. Halaby has been with him today.

President: Did you have any talks with him?

Sec. Dillon: I only had that one that I sent a memorandum to you. It was over about a week ago, and I haven't talked with him since then.