

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.

Papers of John F. Kennedy

Presidential Recordings

Dictabelts

Dictabelt 18A

Conversation #7: President Kennedy and Edith Green

May 7, 1963

President: Hello.

Mrs. Green: Good morning, Mr. President.

President: Good morning, Mrs. Green, how are you?

Mrs. Green: I am fine.

President: Good.

Mrs. Green: I--deeply appreciate your returning my call.

President: Oh, no, fine, glad to talk to you.

Mrs. Green: I read an article on the front page of the New York Times, which disturbed me very greatly this morning, in which it refers to me as a former Kennedy supporter.

President: I haven't seen that. [laughing] I haven't read that unpleasant piece of news.

Mrs. Green: Well, this is not the case and I really while we have had maybe some differences on the education bill, certainly I think the record of the last several months is replete with speeches I have made across the country in support of your program.

President: Oh, yea, as I said, I haven't seen that, but they are always doing all those

things. You and I, as I said to you that day, I am anxious to try to . . . You have been a great friend of mine and I don't want to have disagreement with you, particularly when we agree about ninety eight percent on this matter.

Mrs. Green: Right.

President: And it is really just a question of what represents the best way to move ahead on what we agree on. I saw the . . . what happened yesterday. As I say, the only thing that concerns me is to a . . . is perhaps that I have got a traumatic reaction to last year's experience, but I am anxious that we not, uh, I don't quite see clearly the way yet to do it. Because the problem, of course, is what the NEA [National Education Association] wants they won't get. The question is whether we can prevent them from doing what they did to us last year or not.