

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 10A, Item 10A6

March 6, 1963

[begins in mid-conversation]

Clifford¹: . . . well, uh, . . .

JFK: You heard about that?

Clifford: Well, it so happens that a . . . one . . . one minute ago, uh, uh, Mr. Jerry Seigel of the Washington Post, uh, called, and he's just this instant come into my office with something that he said he was to bring me from Phil.²

JFK: Right.

Clifford: Now, uh, . . .

JFK: Well, why don't you read it, if you would, and then perhaps you and I should talk, . . . the real . . . it's murderous . . .

Clifford: [unintelligible]

JFK: He's gonna really cause us [1 or 2 words unintelligible] with this one if he prints it. Evidently he wants to print it for Friday. Now, the question really is how we try to prevent him from printing it. Because it's . . . really, what he is doing is . . . this is really an attack on . . . Well, I don't know what it is, but it certainly is . . . It would be a helluva headache for me, which may be part of his mixed up purpose, but, uh, very bad for the corporation³ and the directors and everybody. Would you read it and call me back?

Clifford: Yes, sir. Can you hold . . . hold just a second here, [speaking to someone off the phone in his office] Um, now, . . . now did, . . . Jerry, did Phil say for you to bring this to me and then I was to read it and then . . . and then . . . what . . . [long pause] . . . I would know what to do? . . . [pause] Oh. . . . Oh. . . . Well, . . . Did he indicate in any way after I read it I was to get in touch with him? With Phil? Oh. . . . [pause] . . . yeah. . . . [pause] . . . oh., Oh, well,

¹ Clark Clifford

² Philip L. Graham.

³ Communications Satellite Corporation

when . . . when did you take it to Dungan?⁴ . . . [pause] . . . Oh, I see. Oh, yeah. Well, all right, um, . . .

JFK: Did they say that he has decided to print it or that he's susceptible to reasoning on it?

Clifford: Oh, . . . he . . . oh. That's right. Now, Mr. Seigel is saying that Phil is, as . . . as of the last word that they had from him, still seems determined to . . . to want to publish this

JFK: Yeah.

Clifford: . . . before the hearings start, uh, uh, and they start out on Monday.

JFK: Yeah.

Clifford: So, uh, uh, let me read it, and let me talk to Mr. Seigel, and then I'll have to . . . and then I'll be back in touch with you.

JFK: Okay. Fine.

Clifford: All right, Mr. President.

JFK: Thank you. Fine.

[phone hangs up]

⁴ Ralph Dungan.