

Date:08/20/93  
Page:1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

---

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : HSCA  
RECORD NUMBER : 180-10116-10330

RECORDS SERIES :  
TRANSCRIPTS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION HEARINGS

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

---

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : HSCA  
FROM :  
TO :

TITLE :  
COMMITTEE BUSINESS - EXECUTIVE SESSION

DATE : 07/13/78  
PAGES : 28

SUBJECTS :  
HSCA, ADMINISTRATION  
HSCA, METHODOLOGY

DOCUMENT TYPE : TRANSCRIPT  
CLASSIFICATION : U  
RESTRICTIONS : REFERRED OPEN  
CURRENT STATUS : ~~P~~X  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/17/93

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS :  
Duplicate copy in following folder. Box 3. Executive session committee  
business.

Date:08/20/93  
Page:1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

-----  
AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : HSCA  
RECORD NUMBER : 180-10116-10327

RECORDS SERIES :  
TRANSCRIPTS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION HEARINGS

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :  
-----

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : HSCA  
FROM :  
TO :

TITLE :  
COMMITTEE BUSINESS - EXECUTIVE SESSION

DATE : 07/13/78  
PAGES : 29

SUBJECTS :  
HSCA, ADMINISTRATION  
HSCA, MESTHODOLOGY

DOCUMENT TYPE : TRANSCRIPT  
CLASSIFICATION : U  
RESTRICTIONS : REFERRED OPEN  
CURRENT STATUS : ~~PX~~

DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/17/93

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS :  
Box 7. Folder title: Executive session committee business.

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archiver HS.

HEARINGS

Before The

ORIGINAL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONFIDENTIAL

July 12, 1975

EXECUTIVE SESSION

5212  
CHIPS  
CTM

(COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING)

- 1 -

1248  
ERIS  
CTM

(Thursday, July 13, 1978)

U.S. House of Representatives,

Select Committee on Assassinations,

Washington, D.C.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:50 ~~o'clock~~ a.m. in Room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, the Honorable Louis Stokes (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Stokes (presiding), Fauntroy, Dodd, Ford, Fithian, Edgar, McKinney and Sawyer.

Also present: G. Robert Blakey, T. Howarth, E. Berning and R. Morrison, Professional Staff Members.

<sup>Stokes</sup>  
~~The~~ Chairman. The Committee will come to order.

The Chair will recognize Mr. Blakey for a statement.

Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, the subject to be brought before the Committee this morning basically deals with the nature of the investigation. It would be appropriate to go into executive session.

<sup>Stokes</sup>  
~~The~~ Chairman. The Chair will entertain a motion.

Mr. Fauntroy. So move.

The Chairman. It has been properly moved that the Committee

1 go into executive session at this time for the reasons stated.

2 // The clerk will call the roll.

3 Ms. Berning. Mr. Stokes.

4 Mr. Stokes. Aye.

5 Ms. Berning. Mr. Devine.

6 [No response.]

7 Ms. Berning. Mr. Preyer.

8 [No response.]

9 Ms. Berning. Mr. McKinney.

10 [No response.]

11 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

12 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.

13 Ms. Berning. Mr. Thone.

14 [No response.]

15 Ms. Berning. Mrs. Burke.

16 [No response.]

17 Ms. Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

18 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

19 Ms. Berning. Mr. Dodd.

20 Mr. Dodd. Aye.

21 Ms. Berning. Mr. Ford.

22 Mr. Ford. Aye.

23 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fithian.

24 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

25 Ms. Berning. Mr. Edgar.

Rec. No.  
116-10327

RG: 233

TAB #:

ENTRY:

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
COPIES/ PPS. /CLASS.

BOX:

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

File Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

To pp. 3-~~17~~, 17-19

In the review of this file this item was removed because access to it is restricted. Restrictions on records in the National Archives are stated in general and specific record group restriction statements which are available for examination. The item identified above has been withdrawn because it contains:

Security-Classified Information

Otherwise Restricted Information

*MLK withdrawn*

HSCA

Authority

08/22/93

Date

Withdrawn by NSCA

John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-526)

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

300 7TH STREET, S.W. REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

two immunities.

*Stokes*  
~~The~~ Chairman Any questions?

We may move on to something else and then come back to this?

Do we have a motion?

Mr. Fithian. I so move, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman. It has been properly moved, then, that the Committee authorize the requested immunity order.

The Clerk will call the roll.

Ms. Berning. Mr. Stokes.

The Chairman. Aye.

Ms. Berning. Mr. Devine.

[No response.]

*(Handwritten note in a circle):*  
+ Ms. Berning + Mr. Preyer  
+ [No response]

Ms. Berning. Mr. McKinney.

[No response.]

Ms. Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.

Ms. Berning. Mr. Thone.

[No response.]

Ms. Berning. Ms. Burke.

[No response.]

Ms. Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

Ms. Berning. Mr. Dodd.

Mr. Dodd. Aye.



300 7TH STREET, S.W. REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

1 9 Ms. Berning. Mr. Ford.

2 Mr. Ford. Aye.

3 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fithian.

4 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

5 Ms. Berning. Mr. Edgar.

6 Mr. Edgar. Aye.

7 9 Chairman Stokes

7 ~~Ms. Berning.~~ We will suspend the counting of the roll  
8 call until a subsequent time, and we will come back to the  
9 roll call.

10 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, the next and probably most  
11 important item on the agenda is the Committee's supplemental  
12 funding request.

13 The Committee has before it a memorandum outlining the  
14 nature of that request, coupled with a number of supporting  
15 pages. Basically the outline is where we have been and where  
16 we can reasonably expect to go between now and December 31~~st~~.  
17 The budget has been cut by the staff really about as deep  
18 as we can. I think it is fair to say that it is razor thin  
19 with the expectation that we go through December 31~~st~~ continuing  
20 both investigations, frankly, or at least keeping the options  
21 open to continue them both right through December. It is  
22 particularly important on the King side that that option be  
23 kept open.

24 I note that over the two-year period what had been  
25 estimated as a \$5 million budget, would be, if this supplementa



Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives HSCA (RC 233)

300 7TH STREET, S.W. REFORMERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

1 were adopted, be only 1.8 percent off the original estimate.

2 In fact, I would commend on the record Tom Howarth for having

3 estimated the budget so well on all occasions. If the House

4 had given us the money we had originally asked for, of \$500,000,

5 the only amount that we really would have been off was the

6 value of the basic scientific projects, and that, indeed, was

7 a matter brought to their attention at the time. We didn't

8 include it in the original budget because we did not know in

9 January and February exactly what those figures would be?

10 *P* We did, I remember specifically Mr. Preyer indicated to them

11 that we would probably come back for a supplemental on that.

12 So in effect, what we are doing is coming back for a supplemental

13 on the scientific projects, and the relatively minor cost

14 overrun which is primarily attributable to the cost of travel

15 and telephones.

16 ~~Mr~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman Questions of any members?

17 Mr. Fithian?

18 Mr. Fithian. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 I would just ask that Mr. Blakey and Mr. Howarth provide

20 us with some information as to what happens in December. I

21 haven't gotten all the way through the budget, but obviously

22 our whole investigation will be done and public hearings will

23 be done. We will still have the need for staff to do the

24 reporting, ~~et cetera~~ <sup>et cetera</sup> but I would trust that the phase out  $\frac{2}{11}$

25 Mr. Blakey. In the best of all possible worlds, which



1 this is not, we will end on December 31~~st~~, hand in our report,  
2 and quit. Because this is not the best of all possible worlds,  
3 the likely result will be is that the ~~C~~ommittee will have to go  
4 back to the Congress for probably 90 days extension into the  
5 next Congress and spend an as yet undetermined amount of money,  
6 certainly a relatively small figure to maintain a skeleton  
7 force, to process the report through the agencies, through  
8 the Government Printing Office, and to transfer its files  
9 to wherever they will ultimately be transferred. This budget  
10 aims to end us at the end of this Congress when technically  
11 our life is over with anyway.

12 *I* If, in fact, we determine in December when it will  
13 be appropriate to determine that there is a need for a wind-up  
14 time, this is a practice virtually universally followed by  
15 ~~C~~ommittees. For example, all of our bills won't come in  
16 in December for the month of December ~~th~~ there will have to  
17 be the skeleton force around for 60 ~~to~~ 90 days just to process  
18 the bills, but what we are talking about is a relatively routine  
19 process of cleanup in the next Congress, certainly no hearings,  
20 certainly no investigation after December 31~~st~~.

21 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman, Mr. Fithian?

22 Mr. Fithian. And one further question.

23 Might it be possible to never have to go back to the  
24 House for that final mopping up operation if we could get  
25 House Administration simply to take on the responsibility of

1 payment of the remainder of the staff to finish out the  
2 purely routine?

3 Mr. Blakey. No; I think what happens is that all  
4 Committees of the House die at the end of the Congress, and  
5 technically every committee around here doesn't exist for one  
6 day, and then you must be reauthorized in the new Congress.  
7 This Congress cannot bind anything beyond the 31st.

8 Mr. Fithian. No; I understand that. I didn't make my  
9 question clear, obviously.

10 The House Administration Committee sometimes lumps in  
11 a whole series of little incidental type expenditures, rather  
12 than to retain or ask that this ~~Committee~~ be reconstituted for  
13 any part of the next Congress, do you follow me? ~~no~~ **I**n other  
14 words, whoever was doing the mopping up exercises would be  
15 employees of the House Administration Committee.

16 Mr. Blakey. I suppose that could be done. It would  
17 probably be just as simple to have the continuing resolution  
18 and put us in, and having explained at the time this was  
19 mop-up. It would be appropriate to have our life continued for  
20 legal purposes so that the staff could represent the ~~Committee~~  
21 in negotiations with the agencies. That is what I think may  
22 happen. The commitment has always been from the agencies to  
23 disclose the information to us subject to a review before  
24 final declassification. The memorandums of understanding are  
25 between this ~~Committee~~ and the Department of Justice, this



100 7TH STREET, S.W. REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

1 Committee and the CIA. It would be appropriate to have this  
2 Committee finally negotiate those positions.

3 Mr. Edgar. Mr. Chairman.

4 ~~The~~ <sup>Stakes</sup> Chairman. Mr. Edgar.

5 Mr. Edgar. Just a point following up on Mr. Fithian's  
6 comments. I would hope that some research has been done on  
7 exactly how to do what you are talking about. ~~There~~ If I  
8 remember the last two Congresses, we took the first <sup>2</sup> two weeks  
9 of January off, and the first legislative day was not until  
10 mid-January at the earliest, 18th, 19th, 20th. ~~There~~ There is a  
11 great deal of organizational work that is done there, and I  
12 would hope that we wouldn't find ourselves in a position where  
13 we die on the 31st and have to ask our staff to be volunteers  
14 for a month.

15 Mr. Blakey. It is unlikely that the staff would, given  
16 the history of the last similar request. Nevertheless, there  
17 has to be a resolution introduced by House Administration for  
18 all Committees, Judiciary on, and it would be appropriate to  
19 put us in there, and it would be extremely unusual for us to  
20 be taken out. It would require a vote for us to be taken  
21 out. And if it is put simply as clean-up, which is what it would  
22 be, I doubt that it would present an issue of controversy.

23 ~~The~~ <sup>Stakes</sup> Chairman. I think maybe what Mr. Edgar has in mind  
24 is a pay lag system that occurs in January.

25 Mr. Blakey. It is only a day and every Committee suffers



300 7TH STREET, S.W. REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

1 it. This Committee would be no different than any of the  
2 others.

3 <sup>Stokes</sup>  
4 ~~The~~ Chairman. Well, we would undergo a period where in  
5 the Democratic Caucus we go through the process of electing  
6 Chairmen of committees, etc., and so forth, and until such  
7 time as you have <sup>\*</sup>approval of that, there are no Committees,  
8 I don't believe, in operation.

9 Mr. Blakey. The staffs continue from year to year, though.  
10 They are paid continuous from year to year.

11 Mr. Edgar. **B**ut the staff continues because the jurisdiction  
12 and the authority for the staff, for the Committee, goes from  
13 Congress to Congress.

14 Mr. Blakey. No. At the beginning of each Congress  
15 there must be a new, in the House, a new resolution creating  
16 each Committee anew, including the Judiciary Committee. It  
17 does not continue.

18 <sup>Stokes</sup>  
19 ~~The~~ Chairman. That is the first order of business?

20 Mr. Blakey. Yes.

21 Mr. Howarth. Also ~~provisionally~~ <sup>pass</sup> they have to ~~submit~~ a  
22 resolution to finance the Committees on a temporary basis,  
23 which covers all Committees that are in existence. If you  
24 recall, the resolution continues the Committees more or less  
25 at the same level of expenditure that they had the previous  
year until the House acts on their funding resolution for the  
current year. So all Committees have to be extended



1 financially. ~~It does~~ <sup>No</sup> committee has any funds until this  
2 general resolution is passed.

3 <sup>Stokes</sup> ~~The~~ Chairman. As that applies to select committees,  
4 standing committees I can understand having to be funded in that  
5 way, but how about select committees?

6 Mr. Howarth. Well, <sup>The resolution applies to select committees.</sup> it is in the resolution. It has  
7 ~~happened each year. That is how we had a problem, if you will~~  
8 remember the <sup>Problem we had</sup> ~~first year~~, last year, when we were restricted  
9 to about \$83,000, ~~I mean, it does cover all committees. So~~  
10 ~~the thing is we would have to be created again like any other~~  
11 ~~committees~~, but once <sup>that is done;</sup> ~~we were created~~, we would come under the  
12 general funding resolution.

13 <sup>Stokes</sup> ~~The~~ Chairman. Anything further?

14 Mr. Fauntroy?

15 Mr. Fauntroy. Mr. Chairman, I am not sure that this is  
16 the point at which you would want to consider some amendments,  
17 but I have now had an opportunity to look over this budget  
18 and I would agree with counsel that it is razor thin, but in  
19 that regard, we certainly have to commend the staff for the  
20 very tasteful way it handled the very difficult task of reducing  
21 staff so that we come in at this level, but I think that it  
22 is perhaps too razor thin a budget to take forth at this time,  
23 and particularly in light of some of the things that I am  
24 concerned about in the King investigation. I feel we need  
25 a little more latitude for some contingencies, and therefore I

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives HSCA (RG 233)

300 7TH STREET, S.W. REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345



300 7TH STREET, S.W., REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2345

1 would simply recommend and will make a motion at the appropriate  
2 time to add, oh, a \$60,000 contingency fund, that would bring  
3 it up to \$750,000 and would afford us some latitude to carry  
4 out what appeared to me to be potentially productive follow-up  
5 leads that we are now continuing to pursue.

6 Mr. Blakey. That would be very useful, Mr. Fauntroy.  
7 Obviously what we don't spend we will give back. This  
8 Committee has a unique history of, in fact, not spending money  
9 given to it. We turned ~~back~~ <sup>back</sup> \$450,000 the first session, and  
10 if there is a little flexibility in the budget, that shouldn't  
11 cause any trouble.

12 Mr. Sawyer. Why not make it \$100,000 so we go \$790,000?  
13 I don't like those round figures like \$750,000. You never bill  
14 legal bills that way. It always looks too arbitrary.

15 Mr. Fauntroy. I would have no objection to that. I suspect  
16 that once our submission is made, those of our detractors in  
17 the press will say it is more than a half-million dollar  
18 request. If it got up to \$750,000, they would say three-quarters  
19 of a million. So \$790,000 wouldn't make much difference.

20 ~~The~~ <sup>Shekes</sup> Chairman, And they are probably going to cut us some  
21 anyway, so I think that whatever the Committee feels is appro-  
22 priate ought to be entered as the budget figure.

23 Mr. Blakey. I might add, Mr. Chairman, this budget was  
24 not framed with a notion that there was need to cut it, as  
25 indeed, the last budget was not framed with the notion that there

1 was room to cut it.

2 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. As I say, with the realization that this is  
3 a barebones budget, your figure of \$690,000, I think Mr. Fauntroy  
4 is right and Mr. Sawyer, we ought to have some leeway for  
5 some contingencies.

6 Mr. Fauntroy. If it is therefore appropriate, Mr. Chairman,  
7 I will move that we add the contingency item of \$100,000 to  
8 the budget proposed by staff.

9 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. You are talking about a total figure of  
10 \$790,000?

11 Mr. Fauntroy. We are talking about a total figure of  
12 \$790,000.

13 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. Is there any discussion?

14 If not, then the ~~clerk~~ clerk will call the roll.

15 Mr. Ford. This is on the \$790,000? It is on the  
16 \$790,000 rather than the additional?

17 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. The motion is for a total figure of  
18 \$790,000 for the submission of the budget.

19 Ms. Berning. Mr. Stokes.

20 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. Aye.

21 Ms. Berning. Mr. Devine.

22 [No response.]

23 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Berning. Mr. Preyer.

24 [No response.]

25 Ms. Berning. Mr. McKinney.





300 7TH STREET, S.W. REPORTERS BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024 (202) 554-2395

1 9 [No response.]

2 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

3 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.

4 Ms. Berning. Mr. Thone.

5 [No response.]

6 Ms. Berning. Mrs. Burke.

7 [No response.]

8 Ms. Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

9 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

10 Ms. Berning. Mr. Dodd.

11 [No response.]

12 Ms. Berning. Mr. Ford.

13 Mr. Ford. Pass.

14 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fithian.

15 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

16 Ms. Berning. Mr. Edgar.

17 Mr. Edgar. No.

18 Ms. Berning. Four yeas, one no, and one pass.

19 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, I would suggest it might be  
20 appropriate to take that vote over.

21 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. All right, then without objection, the  
22 previous vote will be expunged from the record, and the clerk  
23 will call the roll.

24 Ms. Berning. Mr. Stokes.

25 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. Aye.



1 9 Ms. Berning. Mr. Devine.

2 [No response.]

3 Ms. Berning. Mr. Preyer.

4 [No response.]

5 Ms. Berning. Mr. McKinney.

6 [No response.]

7 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

8 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.

9 Ms. Berning. Mr. Thone.

10 [No response.]

11 Ms. Berning. Mrs. Burke.

12 [No response.]

13 Ms. Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

14 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

15 Ms. Berning. Mr. Dodd.

16 Mr. Dodd. Aye.

17 Ms. Berning. Mr. Ford.

18 Mr. Ford. Pass.

19 Ms. Berning. Mr. Fithian.

20 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

21 Ms. Berning. Mr. Edgar.

22 Mr. Edgar. No.

23 Ms. Berning. Five ayes, one no, and one pass, *Mr. Chairman*

24 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. What is the parliamentary situation?

25 Mr. Blakey. That is sufficient, Mr. Chairman.



1 ~~The~~ Now, we have one vote in process waiting for <sup>2</sup>/<sub>17</sub>

2 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman, On this, also?

3 Mr. Blakey. I am sorry. It would be appropriate to  
4 state that the resolution passes.

5 ~~The~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman, All right, then, five members having voted  
6 in the affirmative, the resolution is adopted.

7 Professor Blakey?

8 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, we have one vote in process  
9 awaiting the arrival of Mr. Preyer's proxy. In that interim  
10 it might be appropriate for me to note for the benefit of  
11 the committee several items. One, Charlie Mathews will be by  
12 to see each of the ~~M~~ members individually to discuss the question  
13 of specialization for the upcoming King and Kennedy hearings.  
14 The hearings have been outlined by subject matter. I made an  
15 effort myself to specialize people and I found it just simply  
16 wasn't appropriate for me to do it without getting your judg-  
17 ments first about the areas where you would like to specialize,  
18 and with a clear idea of when that material may come up in the  
19 hearings.

20 By the end of this week or certainly the middle of next,  
21 Mr. Mathews will certainly be around for you and he will ask  
22 you to set out your preferences 1 through 17. I will come  
23 back and shuffle them to try to maximize your preferences, and  
24 then come back to you with a tentative list of specialization,  
25 and then you people can work among yourselves to make sure



1 States District Judge in the Southern District. We would be  
2 facing a situation where the Attorney General might well be held  
3 in contempt, this time in contempt of Congress as opposed to contempt  
4 of court in the Southern District.

5 ~~Mr. Chairman~~ <sup>Stakes</sup> Chairman. I see.

6 Mr. Blakey. It would be a very interesting contempt. We  
7 would have one or two choices. We could either recommend to him  
8 that he prosecute himself for contempt, or that he appoint a  
9 special prosecutor to prosecute him for contempt, or that we  
10 bring him before the bar of the House for a hearing on contempt.

11 I add, at this point, that this suggestion is not malicious  
12 on my part, as much as I have indicated on the record that I  
13 would like to see this Committee have an inherent contempt, this  
14 isn't one being pressed by me for personal reasons.

15 Mr. Ford. Mr. Chairman, ~~with the Committee~~ while we  
16 are waiting I would like to know if it would be all right for  
17 this Committee to move in a direction where starting Monday  
18 night with the briefing of the full Committee and the Committee  
19 members, that we would be able to bring at least one of our  
20 people, a staff person connected with our office, inasmuch as  
21 we are moving into ~~the~~ August, you know, the public hearings,  
22 if we are going to do that, I personally would like to have a  
23 staff person that I could work constantly with, ~~in the~~ here  
24 in Washington while I'm back home in the district.

25 Mr. Blakey. There would be two elements, Mr. Ford, inasmuch

1 as we talk about the hearings and the plans to use unclassified  
2 material, there would be no problem with the staff person being  
3 present. If we wanted to summarize the investigations as  
4 they actually are in both King and Kennedy, and we got into  
5 classified material, the staff person would not be permitted to  
6 be present.

7 Mr. Ford. Well, we could ask him to leave, but I think  
8 at some point we ought to bring them in now. For my sake, you  
9 know, I need a staff person working with ~~me~~<sup>me</sup> to be briefed on  
10 certain issues and certain things that are going to be brought  
11 out. If it is all right with the Chief Counsel along with the  
12 Chairman, I would like to see us next week some time ~~before~~<sup>given</sup> the  
13 permission to bring staff people in.

14 Mr. Blakey. Except for one area, apart from the classified  
15 question, which we could reveal, except for one area on King,  
16 it might be appropriate. I would be most reluctant to, at the  
17 delicate current stage of the investigation on the King side,  
18 to increase the number of staff people aware of that investigation.  
19 For example, the entire Committee staff will not be there, the  
20 entire Committee staff has not been made aware of, indeed, the  
21 entire King staff has not been made aware of our pursuit of  
22 certain conspiracy allegations. We have not had a leak up until  
23 this point.

24 Mr. Ford. I don't see any problem with that. We can tell  
25 the staff ~~when they have to step out~~ when they have to step out, ~~or~~ or

1 certain information they are not privy of or what have you.

2 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman. I think Mr. Fithian is seeking recognition.

3 Mr. Fithian. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 I just want to strongly support Mr. Ford, and I want to say

5 this. It seems to me as we prepare, Mr. <sup>\*</sup>Blakey, for the public

6 hearings, that segregation of material ~~which~~ which can and

7 ~~that which~~ cannot be made public is incumbent upon you and the

8 staff in any event. That has to be carefully done, and done in a

9 timely fashion, and all I would want, quite honestly, ~~and~~

10 ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> for my staff person ~~to~~ <sup>be able</sup> to ~~work~~ to help me coordinate

11 and prepare for the public hearing. ~~As we go~~ <sup>As we go</sup>

12 along, you will have to segregate the information and the material,

13 in any event, and as you segregate by section, by parts of inquiries

14 by parts of the investigation, it seems to me that we could ~~have~~

15 ~~arrange~~ permit our staff to have access to that which is

16 no doubt going to be used in the public hearing.

17 And I am only concerned about the public hearing at this point.

18 All of us have carried the classified section ourselves on the

19 ~~Committee~~ Committee. I am only concerned about the public hearing anyway.

20 Mr. Blakey. Insofar as we talk about the hearings, there

21 is no problem. Insofar as we talk about the full investigation,

22 the personal staff people would probably have to be on a revolving

23 door, in and out, in and out, and what I am questioning here is

24 the utility for them coming and asking them to leave over major

25 portions of the briefing. It might be more appropriate to bring

1 the staff people in when we focus squarely on the hearings, as  
2 indeed we will, as soon as specialization is fully completed.

3 Mr. Fithian. So you are saying that this Monday night  
4 session might not be the best session.

5 Mr. Blakey. It might not be the best time to begin.

6 Mr. Fithian. I am not quarreling with that, but I just want  
7 to join in ~~in~~ saying I want to move a staff person in soon. I  
8 don't want it to be ~~two~~<sup>2</sup> days before we begin public hearings.

9 Mr. Dodd. Will the gentleman yield on that point?

10 I would, Mr. Chairman, <sup>Mr. Sawyer</sup> like to support what ~~is~~  
11 suggesting. ~~that, and I think~~ We have all discussed with  
12 each other here the necessity to have some sort of help, particularl  
13 during the public hearing proce<sup>s</sup>ss. I think most of us had a  
14 staff person assigned in our own offices some time ago to this  
15 area. ~~and then~~ In my own case, that staff person has left my  
16 employment, and I don't even know what they are doing, but I think  
17 in the case of everyone else, ~~they~~ they haven't done anything  
18 ~~for~~ for a long time because of the nature of our hearings.

19 I was curious ~~about~~ about trying to bring someone on to  
20 work with me over the next ~~three~~<sup>3</sup> or ~~four~~<sup>4</sup> months, and it raised  
21 ~~the possibility of going back~~ the possibility of going back  
22 and maybe getting some of those people that we no longer have  
23 with us. I realize there are particular special problems involved  
24 with that, issues that Mr. Blakey raised that I think are entirely  
25 legitimate.

I would like to add ~~is~~ a request here. Since I would like to be able to have someone work with me, <sup>is</sup> there ~~is~~ a possibility of getting someone ~~from the Committee, since~~ the Committee is aware of, <sup>who</sup> ~~that~~ would be a <sup>helpful, someone</sup> ~~goalpost to have, that~~ they may have dealt with or ~~someone~~ <sup>by</sup> would have brought on, ~~we~~ didn't, because they reached a level, <sup>where</sup> they couldn't bring anyone else on, <sup>and</sup> I just would like to be able to have someone, and I don't know what pool of resources to go to, to get someone who would have a good working knowledge of the thing before we begin.

<sup>Mr. Sawyer's</sup> I would like to endorse ~~that~~ concept. I think we are absolutely going to have to have it.

Mr. Blakey. One of the things that is going to happen or is happening is that senior staff counsel are being assigned precisely the areas in which each of you will be specializing, and you will be directly, personally briefed by the senior staff people.

Mr. Dodd. It gets more complicated than that, Bob. We are going to have <sup>to deal with</sup> ~~our own local~~ our own local press in addition to what goes on here, and <sup>(there will be)</sup> calls coming into the office, <sup>concerning</sup> ~~and~~ what <sup>we</sup> are ~~is~~ doing, and we, as individual members, have to <sup>handle</sup> ~~do~~ all of that in terms of what was actually said and what wasn't, and we have to <sup>get some help</sup> ~~deal with it~~ with it.

I think we are being awfully shortsighted, in terms of the demands that are being placed on us as individuals, during that time period.

And I think as much knowledge as these people are going to



1 have, without encroaching on the very sensitive areas you have  
 2 outlined, ~~that~~ is really <sup>important</sup> ~~something~~ at this point. ~~Behind me~~  
 3 ~~are probably going to have to have~~ I would support ~~that~~  
 4 idea, and I would add only ~~that~~ that I would like some <sup>help</sup> ~~personal~~  
 5 ~~with~~ the committee, <sup>in</sup> coming up with someone who could be helpful to  
 6 me personally that I would put on my own payroll during this period.

7 ~~The~~ <sup>States</sup> Chairman, I see no problem in working that out.

8 Mr. Dodd. I have a request, Mr. Chairman. ~~That~~  
 9 ~~during these briefing sessions,~~ You are talking about having  
 10 informal briefing sessions beginning on Monday, or at least  
 11 having one on Monday about where things are. ~~What about~~ As we  
 12 eventually pull the thing together, <sup>when</sup> <sup>know</sup> ~~where~~ we ~~have~~ the  
 13 areas of specificity where we are going to be working, <sup>why not</sup> ~~we~~ have some  
 14 sort of cell meetings with that staff person from <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ committee?

15 Mr. Blakey. Let me outline what will happen. We have  
 16 outlined August and September, into 17 subject matters, covering  
 17 the entire Kennedy hearings and the first phase of the King  
 18 hearings. They have been assigned to senior staff people to  
 19 outline in detail. Those outlines will include the suggested  
 20 text of the narration, the suggested witness lists, and the questions  
 21 to be asked of the witness, our recommendation as to whether  
 22 cross-examination would be appropriate of that witness, and if  
 23 cross-examination is appropriate, what it should sound like, the  
 24 specialization of at least two ~~M~~ Members of Congress on that witness,  
 25 what areas those two ~~M~~ Members of Congress might want to raise with

1 this witness, all of the exhibits and demonstrable evidence that  
2 might be introduced on that day. When all of that is outlined  
3 and the backup material that supports it is put together and  
4 the specialization has been cranked into it, a senior staff person  
5 will come and work with the Congressman or the Congressman and  
6 his staff in that area.

7 // The books will be prepared on each of the areas so that it  
8 will be possible for any Member of Congress to come and read  
9 directly through all the books, in effect, preview the entire  
10 set of hearings. Once it gets outlined with that kind of specificity  
11 it will then be possible for the entire Committee to sit in a  
12 strategy session on exactly what the hearings look like, what  
13 questions should be asked, what questions should be done on  
14 certain days. By specializing like that, it should be possible  
15 for a Member of Congress to choose not to be present on a certain  
16 day because he knows what is coming up and probably in the context  
17 of the hearings, not necessarily missed, because major roles will  
18 be played by different people on different days, although some time  
19 will be reserved for, probably under the five-minute rule, for  
20 each Member to ask any questions any day.

21 Well, I am sure you can remember in the hearing involving  
22 Mr. Nosenko, how frustrating and ineffectual questioning of a  
23 significant witness is under the five-minute rule. You get your  
24 first question in and it goes on to the next person. The defector  
25 really was wiped out by direct and cross-examination and then

1 totally regained his posture and composure, and frankly began  
 2 to give the top level, he gained the upper hand in dealing with  
 3 the ~~Committee~~ because he talked all the time and the ~~Committee~~ only  
 4 talked five minutes.

5 *9* So that if we can avoid that kind of situation in our hearings,  
 6 we would be much better off.

7 Mr. Chairman, it might be appropriate at this time to  
 8 resume the roll call on the immunity question.

9 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman, The ~~clerk~~ will inform Mr. McKinney at this  
 10 time of the motion.

11 Ms. Berning. There is a resolution to confer the immunity  
 12 that you have before you, <sup>Mr. McKinney</sup> Mr. Fithian made the motion. We have  
 13 a vote.

14 Have you had a chance to look at it?

15 Mr. McKinney. Yes.

16 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman, All right, continue the count.

17 Ms. Berning. Mr. McKinney. Aye.  
 18 Mr. ~~McKinney~~.

18 Ms. Berning. And Mr. Preyer.

19 [No response.]

20 Ms. Berning. Eight ayes, Mr. Chairman.

21 ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Stokes</sup> Chairman, All right. Eight members having voted in the  
 22 affirmative, the immunity order is granted.

23 Mr. Blakey. There is nothing else to bring before the  
 24 ~~Committee~~ at this time, Mr. Chairman.

25 Mr. Dodd. You will let us know about the meeting on Monday

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

night?

Mr. Blakey. Yes.

<sup>Stark</sup>  
Chairman, All right, if there is nothing further to come before the committee at this time, the Chair will adjourn the meeting subject to the call of the Chair.

[Whereupon, at 11:35 ~~o'clock~~ a.m., the committee recessed subject to the call of the Chair.]

- all