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HEARINGS

Before The

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BUSINESS MEETING

Washington, D.C.

October 13, 1977

Alderson Reporting Company, Inc.

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BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, October 13, 1977

House of Representatives,  
Select Committee on Assassinations,  
Washington, D. C.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 2:20 p.m.,  
in Room 2220, Rayburn House Office Building, the Honorable  
Louis Stokes (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Stokes, Preyer, Dodd, Fithian,  
Devine, McKinney, and Sawyer.

Also Present: G. Robert Blakey, Gary Cornwell, James  
Wolf, Robert Behner, Tom Howarth, Dorothy Kuhn, Elizabeth  
Berning, Jan Schlichtman, I. Charles Mathews and Robert  
Morrison.

The Chairman. At this time we will call the meeting to  
order, a quorum being present.

I understand, Professor Blakey, that the majority of the  
matters to be considered by the Committee under the rules  
must be considered in executive session and that there may  
be one or two items that can be discussed in open session, and  
in addition to that, we still need one member of the Committee  
in order to close the hearing for executive purposes.

So if there is something that can be done in open

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session at this time, the Chair would entertain --

Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, there is one item on our list that could be done in public session without difficulty.

As you know, under our House Resolution 222 and Committee Rule 4 it is possible to designate counsel to take statements under oath, and you have before you a draft resolution that would designate ~~counsel~~, primarily from the Kennedy side, to take statements under oath.

(The above referred to resolution follows)



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1 Mr. Blakey. I would indicate to you beforehand that  
2 this is a limited number of counsel, primarily those of the  
3 supervisory rank, or senior counsel, and that intent is that  
4 they take statements under oath only under limited circum-  
5 stances.

6 We will have for you a similar resolution at the next  
7 Committee meeting finally designating the counsel to take  
8 statements under oath on the King task force.

9 My recommendation to you then is that yself, Mr. Cornwell,  
10 Mr. Goldsmith, Mr. Leodis Mathews, Mr. Hornbeck, Mr. Charles  
11 Mathews and James Wolf be designated as counsel to take state-  
12 ments. This will be primarily on the Kennedy side.

13 Mr. Sawyer. May I make an inquiry?

14 The Chairman. Certainly.

15 Mr. Sawyer. Does this designation then subject the  
16 person who is being interviewed to perjury if he falsifies  
17 himself?

18 Mr. Blakey. The effect of it would be to authorize the  
19 statement under oath and if the oath was violated he would  
20 be subject to perjury sanctions.

21 I would call to your attention, Mr. Sawyer, that these  
22 kinds of statements cannot be taken pursuant to subpoena;  
23 they have to be voluntary statements. So it does not have a  
24 formality of a Committee meeting although we intend to use it  
25 only in significant circumstances.

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Mr. Sawyer. The reason I ask this, I am not familiar with the Federal law, but under my State's law you have to go through some kind of designation or else it is not perjury, and I just wondered if that is the same thing in Federal law?

Mr. Blakey. Our practice is to have a Federal Magistrate swear the witness in. A court reporter would be present, the witness obviously would be represented by counsel.

Mr. McKinney. The witness would have to be volunatry?

Mr. Blakey. Yes.

The Chairman. Mr. Devine.

Mr. Devine. I have two questions. Number one, Mr. Blakey, any lawyer that is a notary public is authorized to give an oath. Do you need something in addition to being a notary public?

Mr. Blakey. You many not. But we have taken the position as a matter of good practice that we would make it as formal and solemn as possible and thus get a Federal Magistrate to do it.

Mr. Sawyer. It is psychologically good with the witness.

Mr. Blakey. That is true.

Mr. Devine. The other question I have is maybe it is an omission or maybe Mr. Lehner has qualified. I don't see his name on the list.

Mr. Blakey. We will have for you next week the names of the people on the Martin Luther King side.



1 Mr. Devine. You can't do it all at once?

2 Mr. Blakey. There is some debate as to who should be  
3 designated on the King side. We haven't resolved that yet.  
4 I don't mean real debate, it is discussion. There are some  
5 people on the King side, including Mr. Lehner, who are already  
6 designated.

7 Mr. Devine. That is what I thought.

8 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Lehner, Mr. Lee and Mr. Johnson are  
9 already designated, so the question is which additional  
10 counsel on the King side would have to be designated.

11 The Chairman. Mr. Dodd.

12 Mr. Dodd. I raise my own ignorance. We had a debate  
13 several weeks ago in the Rules Committee. The Select Committee  
14 Looking at the Korean investigation requester permission to  
15 take sworn statements from witnesses without a member of  
16 Congress present. Do we still require the presence of a  
17 member for these?

18 Mr. Blakey. No, the difference between what the Korean  
19 Committee asked for and what we already have is primarily that  
20 there is no compulsion involved in our taking of statements  
21 under oath whereas, correct me if I am wrong someone, what the  
22 Korean people requested was a Congressional subpoena to compel  
23 testimony before a staff counsel without a Congressional  
24 member present.

25 Mr. Dodd. I think you are correct, I think it was having

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1 to do with a subpoena and compelling testimony, but I was  
 2 under the impression during that debate that the thrust of  
 3 the arguments did not have to do with the compelling nature of  
 4 the testimony but rather the fact that sworn testimony would  
 5 be taken of a witness without a member of Congress being  
 6 present and in fact Chairman Rodino of the Judiciary Committee  
 7 argued no committee of Congress had ever had that authority  
 8 in the past, in fact the Judiciary Committee did during the  
 9 impeachment process but never utilized it. We have been doing  
 10 it, apparently.

11 Mr. Blakey. We have. It provides two things for us.  
 12 One, it provides an important means of paying witnesses,  
 13 frankly, when we talk to them incident to taking a statement  
 14 under oath, and it does provide us, what amounts to a deposi-  
 15 tion, primarily to bringing a witness before the full Committee.

16 Under our rules the witness's statement is not evidence  
 17 and it is only under a comparable set of circumstances that  
 18 would be applicable in civil proceedings or criminal proceed-  
 19 ings, the witness being dead or unavailable or not in the  
 20 interest of justice, that the Committee could openly rely on  
 21 it in formulating its final report as evidence. So it is a  
 22 very limited but very useful authority.

23 Mr. Dodday. But a subsequent contrary statement could  
 24 subject the witness to perjury?

25 Mr. Blakey. Well, if the statement under oath is false

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1 it would subject him to perjury without necessarily having  
2 contradictory statements. It is not terribly different than  
3 the authority given to IRS agents in investigating fraud  
4 cases or to the FBI in investigating fraud cases in certain  
5 limited circumstances to take a statement under oath.

6 Mr. McKinney. Still, if you wanted to use the statements  
7 for evidence we have to then subpoena and have a formal hear-  
8 ing with the Congressman present?

9 Mr. Blakey. Yes sir, unless there is a series of excep-  
10 tions applicable.

11 Mr. Sawyer. The problem with contradictory statements  
12 is you have the burden of proofing which one is false. You  
13 can't do it just with the two contradictory statements.

14 Mr. Dodd. The argument is that the House really doesn't  
15 have any civil rules of procedure here, so that when we  
16 interrogate witnesses, the Committee staff do, we don't have  
17 any operating rules as such. I am not sure whether this is  
18 true with the IRS and FBI when they --

19 Mr. Blakey. Approximately the same sort of rules are  
20 applicable to us. We do have a statement of relevance. If  
21 we ask the person something outside of our legislative mandate  
22 I suspect he would be privileged to answer, and since it is  
23 all voluntary, anytime a person doesn't want to continue the  
24 conversation they get up and walk out.

25 Mr. Dodd. Yes, that is I think a significant difference.



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Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman. Mr. Fithian. Having heard all our learned lawyer friends I would move the question.

Mr. McKinney. I second the motion.

The Chairman. Properly moved that the resolution now before us be adopted.

The Clerk will call the rolle.

The Clerk. Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Devine.

Mr. Devine. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Preyer.

Mr. Preyer. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. McKinney.

Mr. McKinney. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Fauntroy.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mr. Thone.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mrs. Burke.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mr. Sawyer.

Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Dodd.

Mr. Dodd. Aye.

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1 The Clerk. Mr. Ford.

2 (No response)

3 The Clerk. Mr. Fithian.

4 Mr. Fithian. Aye.

5 The Clerk. Mr. Edgar.

6 (No response)

7 The Clerk. Seven ayes.

8 The Chairman. Okay, seven ayes and the motion is agreed  
9 to.

10 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, the additional matters that  
11 would be before the Committee are such that they should be  
12 in closed session.

13 The Chairman. These are matters which under the rules  
14 must be considered in executive session?

15 Mr. Blakey. Yes.

16 The Chairman. Then at this time the Chair would enter-  
17 tain a motion.

18 Mr. Devine. So move, Mr. Chairman.

19 The Chairman. Proposal moved that the Committee go into  
20 executive session and the Clerk will call the roll.

21 The Clerk. Mr. Stokes.

22 Mr. Stokes. Aye.

23 The Clerk. Mr. Devine.

24 Mr. Devine. Aye.

25 The Clerk. Mr. Preyer.

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1 Mr. Preyer. Aye.  
 2 The Clerk. Mr. McKinney.  
 3 Mr. McKinney. Aye.  
 4 The Clerk. Mr. Fauntroy.  
 5 (No response.)  
 6 The Clerk. Mr. Thone,  
 7 (No response)  
 8 The Clerk. Mrs. Burke.  
 9 (No response)  
 10 The Clerk. Mr. Sawyer.  
 11 Mr. Sawyer. Aye.  
 12 The Clerk. Mr. Dodd.  
 13 Mr. Dodd. Aye.  
 14 The Clerk. Mr. Ford.  
 15 (No response)  
 16 The Clerk. Mr. Fithian.  
 17 Mr. Fithian. Aye.  
 18 The Clerk. Mr. Edgar.  
 19 (No response)  
 20 The Clerk. Seven ayes.  
 21 The Chairman. Okay, at this time the Committee is now  
 22 in executive session. We will ask members of the public to  
 23 leave the room.  
 24 (Whereupon, the Committee proceeded to executive  
 25 session.)



1 (Discussion off the record)

2 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, the next matter that I would  
3 like to bring up is really two items, not one.

4 We have now finished the negotiations and the drafting  
5 of memorandums of understanding with both the Secret Service  
6 and the Department of Justice. You have copies before you.  
7 Basically, the terms should be familiar to you. They are  
8 based on the general agreement reached with the CIA, The  
9 specific agreement with the Department of Justice is the  
10 draft one that I believe you were shown at the preceding  
11 previous meeting.

12 Again the heart of it in both situations, if I can  
13 discuss them at this time, is basically the Secretary Service  
14 has agreed to give us everything in the first instance and  
15 then when it comes down to disclose, if we cannot agree, we  
16 have agreed to be bound by the litigation.

17 The Department of Justice has basically agreed to give  
18 us everything in the first instance except live informants,  
19 and as to live informants they will discuss it with us up to  
20 the maximum degree possible short of actually giving us the  
21 name, and the assumption is that in this case that should be  
22 less than one percent of what we are dealing with.

23 We thought then that would be kind of set aside, if  
24 we got say, five instances of live informants that they wanted  
25 to retain, then we would go to the issue of ultimate disclo-

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1 sure, and again if we could agree, there would be no problem.  
2 If we couldn't agree, we would be bound by the litigation.

3 As to the one percent informants, if we felt it was  
4 absolutely essential that we saw them, that would become part  
5 of the subsequent litigation.

6 My own recommendation to you is that the Committee ratify  
7 both understandings. Basically they are far more than to my  
8 knowledge, any other Congressional committee has ever gotten  
9 from either the Department of Justice or the Secret Service.

10 Mr. Devine. We have had them for sometime. I have read  
11 them through and I am prepared to make a motion to adopt the  
12 memorandum of understanding in both instances, if that is in  
13 order.

14 Mr. Dodd. Before we --

15 The Chairman. Before doing so does any member of the  
16 Committee have questions?

17 Mr. Dodd. I do. Again I have the same kind of reluc-  
18 tance I did in the past, and I recognize that this may be a  
19 real breakthrough in terms of relationships with these  
20 various agencies, but I still find myself in that very uneasy  
21 feeling of getting into binding agreements, and am particu-  
22 larly concerned about the releasing of authority of the  
23 service when it comes to certain materials that they would  
24 offer, for whatever reason. I don't have a massive case of  
25 paranoia about it, but sometimes the rationale for not wanting

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1 to release information doesn't have anything to do with the  
2 sensitivity of the material, as we have seen in the past,  
3 as it does with the image of some of the agencies in their  
4 own embarrassment or what they perceive to be their embarrass-  
5 ment.

6 Id there any kind of documentation we have that spells  
7 out what the releasing authority --

8 Mr. Blakey. The releasing authority is a technical word,  
9 and what it means is there are two kinds of documents that  
10 they can have. Documents that they themselves have generated.  
11 That is obviously within the releasting authority.

12 The second class is documents given to them by a third  
13 agency. And that is not within their releasing authority.  
14 We have to go to the third agency.

15 What we have been doing is carving up the pie, getting  
16 an agreement with every agency so, for example, if we went to  
17 the Secret Service and said give us everhting on Lee Harvey  
18 Oswald, they would give us under this all the documents that  
19 they created. Those documents that they derived from another  
20 agency, for example, the CIA, they would tell us the name,  
21 date and place of the document and number and would tell us  
22 it is a CIA document. We then would go to the CIA and get  
23 it from them.

24 So in effect, we would get everything. And the releas-  
25 ing authority means whatever we can release we will. Whatever

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1 only a third party can release you must go to the third and  
2 get and get permission to turn it over. By getting the  
3 Secret Service, the FBI and the CIA, we have gotten all of  
4 the agencies now, I think the basic agencies on the Kennedy  
5 side anyway, who will have documents either in their own  
6 files or in the files of other agencies, so we should be  
7 seeing everything.

8 Mr. Dodd. With regard to the disclosure of information,  
9 I may have raised this once before. As I read the paragraph  
10 5, there will be no disclosure without the prior written  
11 consent of, in this case I am looking at the Department of  
12 Secret Service, I guess that is what I am looking at here,  
13 or his delegate.

14 How are we going to get around the eventual problem when  
15 it comes to writing a report and certain information material  
16 that clearly has come from one of these agencies where we  
17 decide for their own reason, because apparently they don't  
18 have to give any reason other than they deny consent to allow  
19 it to be made public?

20 Mr. Blakey. What we will do, we won't do it without  
21 their consent, and if you read the last paragraph fully, part  
22 of paragraph 5, unless we sue them. In other words, we will  
23 sit down in good faith and negotiate out the maximum release  
24 possible. If there is still something they want to hold, we  
25 want to let it go and they want to hold it, litigation will

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1       ensue and we will both end up being bound by whatever the  
2       courts tell us, which is probably where we are anyway.

3           Mr. McKinney. That is probably a case we ought to have,  
4       too.

5           Mr. Blakey. The interesting thing is we are in the best  
6       of all possible litigation postures. We have got the document  
7       and if litigation ensues they will be in the position of  
8       taking a public position that we cannot release something that  
9       we think is necessary to explain what happened to Martin  
10      Luther Kind or John Kennedy.

11           So I think from a practical standpoint, I just don't  
12      think they are going to quarrel with us, they can't afford  
13      the heat.

14           Mr. Dodd. With regard to the Department of Justice,  
15      last year I went down and spent time going over the assassi-  
16      nation file of Oswald, and they are all excised, and I was  
17      trying to read one page with numbers all over the sides of  
18      them and they were xerox copies and it was a laborious task,  
19      even sitting there with a couple of agents to explain to me  
20      what each part meant.

21           Why is it necessary, if we have the proper security  
22      clearances, that we cannot have total access to unexcised  
23      material, then let the Department make a judgment as to what  
24      they would like to excise?

25           Mr. Blakey. What you saw was I think the file excised

1 pursuant to the Freedom of Information standards.

2 Mr. Dodd. Probably was.

3 Mr. Blakey. Which is very general. Ours go beyond that.  
4 The only thing they say they will be openly holding back from  
5 us is the identity of live informants.

6 Mr. Dodd. Why would they hold that back from us if we  
7 have the security clearance?

8 Mr. Blakey. If you remember reading, not last week but  
9 the previous week, in the New York Times Magazine an article  
10 by Nick Gage, that indicates that Organized Crime section in  
11 the Department of Justice has lost, been killed, 23 informants  
12 and there is some question, Gage alleges at least, some ques-  
13 tion that that leak came from within the Department of  
14 Justice, within the FBI itself.

15 Mr. Devine. Law enforcement agency, their life blood  
16 is informants and they can't exist without them and when they  
17 dry up why it makes it a pretty ineffective agency and I  
18 think that they try to protect live informatns at all cost.  
19 I can certainly understand their attitude on that and I don't  
20 know that there is any great need on our part to know the  
21 identity of live informants if they will vouch for the  
22 integrity and credibility of the information supplied.

23 Mr. Dodd. I agree. I am sensitive to the whole  
24 question of leaks, obviously, and the effect on law enforce-  
25 ment efforts, but I wish I could function on the same with the

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1 same degree of faith. Whether or not someone is a live  
2 informant or a dead informant or just a name of someone who  
3 is nothing, I never can make that determination, you are  
4 looking at something that has been excised and if we are  
5 limited in the amount of people that can have access to the  
6 documents in the first place I don't see where necessarily  
7 we are going to increase the likelihood of leaks any more  
8 than they already exist, they have already been going on in  
9 the agency itself.

10 Mr. Blakey. Their position is, it is not just us, I  
11 don't really mean this or not, but what they say is you guys  
12 are okay, you have got all your security clearances, you  
13 have got a tight system of security over there, and they will  
14 say Bob, look I know you and I trust you, but what are we  
15 going to do about the blank blank committee. If you get it  
16 how can we refuse them.

17 The Presidential character of this is such that we can't  
18 resist them. How are we going to say in court on the next  
19 motion to suppress that we can't turn it over? We really  
20 have to take the principal position that no live informants  
21 are ever turned over, period. And this is an issue that  
22 transcends this investigation.

23 Now, I might add that when they do excise, there is a  
24 provision in here what we call for random audit, we will  
25 call for the number of excisions on a random basis and then

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1 when I will sit down with them and go over in detail why  
2 these excisions were made to see if they were made properly,  
3 and so there is a check on them, it is not just a blind  
4 acceptance of what they have been doing, and one of the really  
5 remarkable characters of these two agreements, in fact three  
6 of them, is for the first time a Congressional committee has  
7 gotten agreement for random audit, and I say this reluctantly  
8 because I don't think we should talk about it. We got it,  
9 let's keep it and let's not crow about it, we might lose it.

10 Mr. Sawyer. If you dealt with the FBI or really any law  
11 enforcement agency, on this names of informants, they will go  
12 to prison before they will tell you who their informants are.  
13 This is a life and death matter to them and they don't care,  
14 they feel this absolute trust that has been vested in them  
15 and the life of the witnesses depend on it and they will be  
16 like newspaper people, they will go to prison, there is no  
17 way you can negotiate them out of this.

18 Mr. Blakey. The place to litigate this is at the end of  
19 our investigation when we know precisely how many excisions  
20 they want to hold back and we want to look at. There may  
21 be two or three. If it turns out there is not any there is  
22 no sense in litigating. If we stick at this point and insist  
23 on it we don't get any files, in which case our investigation  
24 ends now. So I think given our time limitations this is  
25 better than I thought we would get.

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1 The limitations are adequate to do our job.

2 Mr. Dodd. Do we have everyone now?

3 Mr. Blakey. These are the three major ones. Well, I  
4 think maybe we will enter into an agreement with or propose  
5 an agreement to the Alcohol and Tobacco and perhaps Customs.

6 Mr. Dodd. What I was going to suggest is INS.

7 Mr. Blakey. Well, that is right, Immigration and Natural-  
8 ization Service. They are not major problems. Once you get  
9 on from Justice, one from Treasury, and one from the CIA,  
10 the others fall in line pursuant to their agreements, the  
11 previous agreements.

12 Mr. Dodd. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 The Chairman. Okay, Mr. Fithian.

14 Mr. Fithian. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

15 The Chairman. No questions?

16 Mr. Devine. I renew my motion.

17 The Chairman. Okay, properly moved that these documents  
18 be approved. The Clerk will call the roll.

19 The Clerk. Mr. Stokes.

20 Mr. Stokes. Aye.

21 The Clerk. Mr. Devine.

22 Mr. Devine. Aye.

23 The Clerk. Mr. Preyer.

24 (No response)

25 The Clerk. Mr. McKinney.



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Mr. McKinney. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Fauntroy.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mr. Thone.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mrs. Burke.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mr. Sawyer.

Mr. Sawyer. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Dodd.

Mr. Dodd. I will vote present. I am moving.

The Clerk. Mr. Ford.

(No response)

The Clerk. Mr. Fithian.

Mr. Fithian. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Egar.

(No response)

The Clerk. Five ayes, one not voting.

Mr. Dodd. One present.

The Chairman. Okay, the motion is adopted.

I think once again we have forgotten proxies can be used. WE ought to try. The Clerk will contact all members on the day of our meeting and try to get proxies. I think it will help expedite our business in Committee.

Mr. Blakey.

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1 Mr. Blakey. The next issue to tak up, Mr. Chairman, has  
2 a number of dimensions to it. I would draw the Committee's  
3 attention to the passage of the Federal Pay Comparability  
4 Act of 1970, pursuant to which the President issued his  
5 Executive Order giving all executive employees a 7.05 percent  
6 raise. That has been to our knowledge generally followed by  
7 all the standing committees. People have been given an auto-  
8 matic percent raise. I would underline the phrase in the  
9 title, however, Federal Pay Comparability Act. It was not  
10 designed as a cost of living or as a merit process, and in  
11 light of the fact thqt we just adjusted our salaries in  
12 August, making an effort to achieve comparability -- while  
13 my staff may impeach me for this -- I cannot in good faith  
14 suggest that an automatic seven percent be given at this time.

15 I think the salary structure was, with some compensations  
16 which have grown up since the last time we talked on this  
17 subject, are roughly equitable and more or less comparable.  
18 Consequently, I am going to recommend to the Committee that  
19 there not be an automatic seven percent raise given across  
20 the board.

21 I would raise with you the following however, as we have  
22 gone over the budget in the period of time since August. It  
23 seems to me that we need to increase the number of people.  
24 The last budget I gave you contemplated \$2 million \$328,500  
25 annual basis with with 108 people. It is my judgment now

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1 that we really ought on an annual basis to operate with 114  
2 people. This is an addition of one lawyer on the Martin  
3 Luther King side, two document clerks on the Martin Luther  
4 King side, one deputy chief clerk to assist the chief clerk  
5 in the setting up of hearings, which is going to be a major  
6 administrative burden, far more than even Elizabeth Burning  
7 can do.

8 If we take that salary structure on an annual basis, with  
9 some equitable adjustments, it would figure out on the yearly  
10 basis to \$2 million \$439,500.

11 We will spend in fact, however -- this is an authorized  
12 basis on a 12 month budget -- we will in fact spend approxi-  
13 mately \$450,000 less this year. This is directly related to  
14 the fact that we haven't hired people as quickly as we might  
15 have and we haven't done as much field work as we might have.

16 My suggestion to you is the new budget be approved at  
17 114 and at that figure that would give us over the two year  
18 cycle, under the \$5 million that was originally authorized,  
19 and we would pick up in the second year what we didn't spend  
20 in the first year.

21 So in effect we would come in under the two year budget,  
22 we would spend in fact less this year than we were authorized,  
23 and we would have less than 115 people.

24 I know that is kind of complicated to juggle figures  
25 around but I would be glad to answer any questions about either



1 the memorandum that you have on the salary structure or the  
2 memorandum on the probably estimate of cost for the next two  
3 years.

4 Incidentally, I do not expect to come back to you with  
5 any additional budget changes or any additional personnel  
6 changes. I would ask that in this context that the Committee  
7 authorize up to seven percent merit increases for people after  
8 they have been here a year to be handled on a case by case  
9 basis.

10 Mr. Devine. Mr. Chairman, I don't want to deal in  
11 numbers and I will assume that the numbers are accurate and  
12 equitable as prepared on the memorandum.

13 Mr. Blakey. There is a resolution.

14 Mr. Devine. Yes, I merely want to say I agree with you,  
15 Mr. Blakey, on the manner in which you have approached this.  
16 You know all members of Congress are faced with the same  
17 thing as far as their own staff is concerned. Each one  
18 handles it differently. This particular Congressman signed  
19 the sheet that we are not authorizing seven percent increase  
20 for anybody, and then I took a sheet and had the Finance  
21 Office advise me how much of a raise last year a person got  
22 and what date that was and then adjusted the salaries upwards  
23 to what I thought was equitable and rounded it off rather  
24 than going to the 7.5 percent; you run into peculiar figures.  
25 So I think some of them did get an equal percent, many

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