THE DIRECTOR IS ALWAYS RIGHT

Dear Paul, 2/16/78

Serial 168 in what I take to be 62-109090 amd Not Recorded in (invisible) 62-109060, says, with appropriate Hooverian modesty that only the court reporter made errors when Hoover testified.

"It is noted that apparently the court reporter did not record the Director's testimony accurately in some instances."

This was established how? "This testimony was gone over by Messrs. Mohr, Malley, Granigan, M. A. Jones, Gheesling, Rogge and me," A.H.Belmont, "on a word-by-word basis. In addition, Assistant Directors Sullivan, Rosen, DeLoach and Conrad have read the testimony and furnished their suggestions."

I don't know who was present when Hoover testified but I believe the record shows Belmont only. They did not quite put the FBIm out of business for the time of the Director's Testimony.

In what can be taken to be DeLoach's handwritting and above abd below his characteristic initialling it says " memo 5/21/64 See 62-109090-169 for original testimony 6/12/64" and I now see the initials "WM."

With this battery of all the important FBI personages (anyone other than Tolson missing?) they did not catch a serious factual error or what is more likely, did not dare find a mistake even Hoover could not be made to believe the court reporter did not make.

I have it in Whitewash. It caused some internal problems until the top brains decided that if there is a tree anywhere then there is indeed a tree on houston Street and The Director War Right - even if the pictures showed otherwise.

I got that one under PA. It is in a thickmm but incomplete file of records on me.

I don't know if Jim can use this in court. I think it is possible. I know it can be used in depositions or questioning witnesses.

Conjectures aside this could be great fun stuff - all those fat FBI cats not catching so gross an error, all seeing the emperor's clothes.

I think it is possible that comparing the typescript with the printed version might be worthwhile, especiall if the "original testimony" is the corrected typescript.

If this does not interest you if you willl be kind enough to get 168, this "original testimony" and whatever else it might include, and the 5/21/64 memo I'll be glad to pay for it.

I can only wonder why a copy of this went to Personnel Records Unit.Do you think they were keeping tabs on The Director?

Memorandum

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: 5/19/64

FROM : A. H. Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Malley
Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Attached is a copy of the transcript of the Director's testimony before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy. This transcript has been examined for accuracy, including misspellings and typographical errors on the part of the court reporter. It is noted that apparently the court reporter did not record the Director's testimony accurately in some instances. We have made as few changes as possible, in order to preserve the intent and accuracy of the Director's testimony.

This testimony was gone over by Messrs. Mohr, Malley, Branigan, M. A. Jones, Gheesling, Rogge, and me, on a word-by-word basis. In addition, Assistant Directors Sullivan, Rosen, DeLoach and Conrad have read the testimony and furnished their suggestions.

It is planned that I will personally go over these changes with Mr. Rankin of the Commission.

Enclosure

AHB:CSH (5)

NOT RECORDED
199 JUN 11 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN

ENCLOSURE

9 JUN 15 1964

memo 5/21/64 GK

62-109090-169

for original testimony

REC 112 6 168

6/12/64

PERS. REC. UNIT