

---Observations : Re Mr. R - April 7, 1964

1. He was an unwise choice considering (a) attitude in past toward FBI security checks (b) stand on capital punishment (c) affiliation with certain groups. He simply wasn't a good choice.
2. Be that as it may, what is the situation?  
Is he, of himself, dangerous to the work of the commission? Probably not -- he is not in a position to be that important nor is there any reason in his work thus far to find fault.
3. However, the fact remains that the commission will be--and has been criticized for having him on.
4. What then can be done about it?  
(1) He can be asked to resign. (2) He can be fired. (3) He can remain on until cut-back (4) or he can be given a back seat.
5. If he is fired? Reaction A -- liberals criticize commission  
Reaction B -- security conscious people commend it  
Reaction C -- public can be confused and feel there is even more basis for "plot" theories and ultimately lack of confidence in commission work  
From the immediate public standpoint it is hard to see what favorable reaction can come from outright firing.
6. Thus it seems there are two sensible ways of handling the matter
  - (1) That he be told frankly of what is going on and asked if he wants to resign.
  - (2) That he be kept on payroll but simply excluded in the future from the work of the commission  
/ important
7. It seems that this latter course might be by all means the best ways to handle the matter.  
He continues to receive a salary on the theory that he was hired and in a sense has an implied contract. If he is not actually fired, his associates and friends can't raise a big hue and cry. He wasn't fired so he can't be made a martyr.  
  
Security conscious people can then be told factually that he has been cut off from classified information and responsibility in the commission and he is simply being paid because in an implied sense he had a contract. He has no duties.
8. Now what can he do about this? NOTHING. He is just in that harmless spot. He has only a right that involves salary--if he is not deprived of this he has not been treated unjustly nor would his reputation suffer.

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