

The Day Nobody Talked to Congress



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FRED M. FRISBEE, a 32-year-old Duluth recluse, spent another busy day testifying before 16 different Congressional committees.

As the last living American allowed to talk to congressmen under the President's doctrine of Executive Privilege, Frisbee has been in great demand on Capitol Hill.

"After all," said one congressman, "most of Congress' work is done in committee. You can't have a committee hearing without a witness. And Frisbee's it."

The doctrine of Executive Privilege was first closely defined a year ago when the administration said the President had the power to forbid all two-and-a-half million federal employees to testify before Congress.

This was later expanded to include their relatives, their friends, friends of their relatives and acquaintances of either — "in order to preclude," the White House said, "hearsay and gossip."

"Let me make one thing perfectly clear," said the President sincerely. "No one in my administration has anything to hide. If we had anything to hide, we would go before Congress and openly explain why we were hiding it. It is only because we don't have anything to hide, that I must uphold the sacred secret relationship between my staff and my campaign contributors."

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THERE WAS talk at the time among angry congressmen of impeachment. But the President quickly put a stop to that.

"Let me remind all congressmen that they are federal employees," he said. "And as such, under the doctrine of Exec-

utive Privilege, I forbid them henceforth to talk to each other."

As every American seemingly knew at least a friend of a friend of a federal employee, it appeared Congress would be silenced forever. It was then that an enterprising reporter discovered Frisbee.

Orphaned and friendless, Frisbee was a confirmed misanthrope. He knew no one and hated everybody. Whisked to Washington, he became a sensation. Single-handedly, he revitalized Congress.

As was his nature, he never made a friend nor recalled a name. But he delighted in telling the committee chairmen he didn't know his views on any subject whatsoever.

He was, he testified before this committee and that, in favor of buying more nuclear bombs to blow up the world, starving the poor, more sprawling urban sprawl, any kind of pollution and all diseases, including post-nasal drip.

In a dramatic development this morning, Frisbee was asked his views on Executive Privilege. "I'm against any privilege for anybody anytime anywhere," he cried. "And when I testify again tomorrow, I'll blow the whole thing wide open!"

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THIS AFTERNOON, Frisbee was commanded to appear at the White House, "Mr. Frisbee," said the President, offering his hand, "you're a man after my own heart."

"Frankly, there's something about you that appeals to me, too," said Frisbee. "It's good to have you as a friend."

"Likewise," said the President with a smile. "Especially considering I'm a federal employee."

Film clips of the historic handshake appeared on tonight's 6 o'clock news.

At 6:15 p.m. Congress adjourned forever.