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KENNEDY-LBJ 210

WASHINGTON, MARCH 19 (AP)-SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, D-N.Y., HAS TOLD TIME MAGAZINE ITS REPORT ON A RECENT MEETING BETWEEN HIM AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON WAS HIGHLY INACCURATE.

TIME REPORTED THAT AFTER KENNEDY'S RECENT TRIP TO EUROPE THE TWO MEN HAD A STORMY CONFRONTATION AT THE WHITE HOUSE OVER THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS ON THE VIETNAM WAR. THE ACCOUNT ATTRIBUTED THREATS TO JOHNSON AND COARSE EPITHETS TO KENNEDY.

IN A LETTER TO THE MAGAZINE, MADE PUBLIC HERE BY THE SENATOR'S OFFICE, KENNEDY WROTE:

"THE ACCOUNT IN YOUR ISSUE OF MARCH 17TH OF THE CONFERENCE BETWEEN MYSELF AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON IS HIGHLY INACCURATE. NONE OF THE QUOTATIONS ASCRIBED TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON OR TO MYSELF WERE SAID.

"IT IS ONE THING TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF A DISCUSSION BETWEEN PUBLIC FIGURES CONCERNING A PUBLIC MATTER WHICH WAS, AS I HAVE SAID, 'NOT WITHOUT FRICTION'; IT IS QUITE ANOTHER TO ATTRIBUTE FICTITIOUS PROFANITY OR THREATS TO EITHER PARTICIPANT.

"I DID NOT -- NOR WOULD I -- USE THE KIND OF LANGUAGE YOU ATTRIBUTE TO ME IN SPEAKING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES."

KENNEDY TOLD REPORTERS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME THING LAST TUESDAY.

TIME REPORTED TODAY THAT IT HAS RECEIVED A LETTER ALSO FROM NICHOLAS KATZENBACH, UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE WHO WAS PRESENT AT THE MEETING, BUT A COPY OF THAT WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE.

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