

Thursday, February 25, 1954

In at 8<sup>30</sup> Stevens-McCarthy now really kicked up a mess - Staff meeting broke early so Adams, self, Persons, Martin, Morgan could have meeting with Nixon and Bill Rogers - later moved meeting to East Wing where Sen. Dirksen joined us = piecing together yesterday's [mess?] seems that the Senators really [jobbed?] up on Stevens, or else he didn't realize what he was doing = may have good results in long run, however

Dirksen agreed to get Rep. members of committee together and see if they could issue additional statement saying committee had complete confidence in Stevens "integrity and ability." (2) that he was pursuing proper course of action in dealing with problems arising from Peress case (3) action to be taken by Stevens after completion of Inspector General's report made it evident may not be necessary to call any officers involved and (4) if called, would be treated with "proper respect."

Also Dirksen will work on Rep. members and Dems on committee to get Cohen [sic] fired, to stop one-man committee from meeting and to strip McCarthy of some of his powers by saying subpoena could be issued only by majority vote. - Dirksen couldn't deliver

Pres. very mad and getting fed up - it's his Army and he doesn't like McCarthy's tactics at all = Stevens and Kyes joined Nixon and all of us at 4 P.M = worked 'til 5:30 on statement = cleared it with Pres. who made it stronger and then released it in joint conference in my office

Quotes - Ike on subject: "This guy McCarthy is going to get into trouble over this. I'm not going to take this one lying down" - "my friends tell me it won't be long in this Army stuff before McCarthy starts using my name instead of Stevens. He's ambitious. He wants to be President. He's the last guy in the world who'll ever get there, if I have anything to say."

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1954

56th  
Day

109 Days  
to come

In at 8<sup>30</sup> - Steiner - Mr. Conroy was really kicked up a mess -  
stuffed me, but he really so calm, really Steiner, Martin, Morgan  
could have meeting with them and tell Poyser - later would  
meeting to East Wing where Sen. Doberman joined us = pricing together  
yesterday's news seems that the Senator really jolted up on  
Steiner, as he he didn't realize what he was doing = may have  
good results in long run, however

Doberman agrees to get Rep. members of Committee together  
and see if they could voice additional statement saying Committee  
had complete confidence in Steiner's "integrity and ability". (2) that he  
was pursuing proper course of action in dealing with problems arising from  
Poyser case (3) action to be taken by Steiner after completion of Inspector  
General's report made it evident & may not be necessary to call any  
officers involved and (4) if called, would be treated with "proper respect".

Also Doberman will work on Rep. members and down on committee  
to get them fixed, to strip one-man committee from meeting and  
to strip Mr. Conroy of some of his powers by saying subpoena could  
be issued only by majority vote. - Doberman wouldn't believe

Pres. very mad and getting fed up - it's his lawyer and  
he doesn't like Mr. Conroy's tactics at all = Steiner and Poyser  
joined him and all of us at 4 PM - worked 'til 5:30 on statement -  
checked it with Pres. who made it stronger and then read it in  
front of press in my office

Quote - "He on subject: "This guy Mr. Conroy is going to get into trouble  
over this. I'm not going to take this one lying down" - "My private feeling  
I would be long in this long staff to put Mr. Conroy a half way my name  
instead of Steiner. His ambition. He wants to be President. That's the last  
guy in the world who'd ever get there, if I have anything to say".