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## M. Caldwell Butler Audio Diary with Thomas Mooney re July 25-27, 1974

M. Caldwell Butler

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MOONEY - I have a document here - it has got to be earlier. It's six pages and it's marked up. I really don't know where it came from. I don't think the group marked it up. It may have been a working draft I was playing around with.

BUTLER - No, that -

MOONEY - Here's something that's a little more -

BUTLER - No, this is further along.

MOONEY - You see this. Here is a copy.

BUTLER - That's the same thing, isn't it?

MOONEY - But it's properly marked. I think that's what the group was thinking.

(Interrupted by telephone call)

MOONEY - Where's that (unintelligible) shortly after one of Mr. Mann's drafts. It was long and had a lot of things in it.

BUTLER - But it's also got - it hasn't got subpoenas in it though.

MOONEY - No. Subpoenas came in later, really. Mr. Mann's first draft - did his have subpoenas in it?

BUTLER - Yeah, the first time it got to us it had subpoenas in it. Of course, it could have got subpoenas in it someday I didn't see it. All right. Yeah, it does, see. Yeah, this does on page 5. This really - this must have been the thing Jim Mann had in there the first night and didn't show us a copy of it. Said he was working on abuse of power. But that wasn't typed up like this.

MOONEY - No. That was mine. That's my typing. I had the lines numbered and everything.

BUTLER - Is this your typewriter?

MOONEY - Yeah. Well, it came out of me. (unintelligible)

BUTLER \_ Well -

MOONEY - That's the only time - the only place open after midnight where you can get some work done.

BUTLER - Yeah. Well, let's just - for purposes of identification give it a number - we don't know where it came from, do we?

MOONEY - I think my best guess is that it's -

BUTLER - Are these the same things here?

MOONEY - Yeah, they're the same. That was a better marked up one which I gave to you. I don't -

BUTLER - I see. All right, now. You marked up both of them. Well, you keep them. I don't remember seeing that. This must have been some of your interim drafts.

MOONEY - It could well be, yes. Maybe something I was working on in the room or something.

BUTLER - All right, let's go back -

MOONEY - It probably pre-dates this. Yeah, I think. I (unintelligible) marked 15.

BUTLER - What's Railsback's statement there for?

MOONEY - That's - he was using it. That's my writing. Apparently it was his draft.

BUTLER - I see. Well, wait a minute. That's item number 15. That's the 12:15 thing, isn't it?

MOONEY - Yeah. OK, I'll just put these in here somewhere between 15 and 14 and I'll try to figure out where they -

BUTLER - Well, let me call them - let's number them 14 - well, you don't want to copy them yet, do you? When you figure them out you can copy them, can't you?

MOONEY - Yeah, let me figure them out. May be something -

BUTLER - OK, now. So, the last item I've got here is 7:00 P.M. - I made number 17 7:00 P.M. draft on the 25th. You see that? Do you have number 17?

MOONEY - Yeah.

BUTLER - And then we've got the rewrite of that on the 25th.

MOONEY - That's what she just made a copy of?

BUTLER - Yeah - rewrite of the 7:00 P.M. of the 25th. Have you got that over there?

MOONEY - Uh hum. This is something Jim Mann did.

BUTLER - That's his rewrite? On the 26th.

MOONEY - In other words, he took this late - item marked 17 - it shouldn't - this is a draft he took home with him late that night and he came back with it - with this rewrite which -

BUTLER - Which we'll call 18, right?

MOONEY - 18.

BUTLER - Draft will be 7/26/74 - rewrite of 7/25/74 7:00 P.M. draft. All right. Now, what do you think this thing that's called rewrite of 7/25/74 9:00 P.M. draft - what do you think that is?

MOONEY - Where is that? Do I have a copy of that? OK, it says - it is called 7/26 - a rewrite of 9:00 P.M.

BUTLER - I don't remember seeing that.

MOONEY - Well - 7:00 P.M. - Oh, maybe this is - this may be a rewrite of one of McClory's.

BUTLER - Oh, oh, oh.

MOONEY - Now I don't know that.

BUTLER - Yeah, that's McClory type language. Go back here - no it isn't. Well -

MOONEY - I've got a note on it that says (unintelligible) Rewrite of - well, this is not a rewrite. This is a draft the 26th at 9:00 P.M.

BUTLER - Is this the one you got? Let's see what you are looking at. Oh, oh, oh, oh.



MOONEY - Well, what's this - this is a rewrite -

BUTLER - Here, let me look at this just a second. No, this is unrelated. This rewrite of 7/25/74 9:00 P.M. draft - that's unrelated to anything I have seen anywhere - isn't it?

MOONEY - Well, I've got a rewrite of the 7:00 P.M. draft.

BUTLER - Yeah.

MOONEY - That makes sense because -

BUTLER - That's number - we just numbered that item 18.

MOONEY - Yeah, that's item 18. It's a redraft of item 18. No - 17. 18 is the rewrite of 17. Because it shouldn't contain this Frank Polk language - yeah, 1 and 2 on page 2.

BUTLER - That's still the rewrite you are talking about?

MOONEY - Yeah. Item 18 - 7:00 P.M. - rewrite of the 7:00 P.M.

BUTLER - All right.

MOONEY - And you've got one that says rewrite of 9:00 P.M. What's the top date on that?

BUTLER - 7/26 - This is what you and I were just looking at.

MOONEY - A rewrite of the 7:00 P.M. - This is 7:00 P.M. and this is the rewrite of that one. A rewrite of 9:00 P.M.

BUTLER - Well, it doesn't have much to do with the chain of events that we wound up with but -

MOONEY - Well, I - it has a different style.

BUTLER - Yeah, that's what I mean. It came from out of nowhere and we're not real sure. All right, do I have a copy of that?

MOONEY - Of this one here? No, I think this - it has my writing on it but it's your draft.

BUTLER - No, that came from you.

MOONEY - It came from me?

BUTLER - Yeah, it came out of your file.

MOONEY - I don't know where it fits in.

BUTLER - OK, well, let's just keep **this aside for** a second.  
The thing that looks to be operative to me right now  
is the rewrite of 7/25 -

MOONEY - 7:00 P.M. rewrite.

BUTLER - 7:00 P.M. yeah, right.

MOONEY - That's item 18.

BUTLER - That's right.

MOONEY - I think that's (unintelligible)

BUTLER - What have you got after item 18?

MOONEY - OK, we have this 9:00 P.M. the 26th. Maybe that's  
a rewrite of this. Well -

BUTLER - You have a 9:00 P.M. and this is a rewrite of 9:00  
P.M. Let's see. But it just don't look like the same  
animal. See? No way is one a rewrite of the other.

MOONEY - What's the date on it? Is it the right dates?

BUTLER - 7/26/74 9:00 P.M.

MOONEY - What does that say it rewrote?

BUTLER - Rewrote 7/25/74 9:00 P.M. They're just not kin.  
Whose name is this up here?

MOONEY - That's savings. That's a note I made about talking  
about savings (unintelligible) but I never got to that.

BUTLER - All right.

MOONEY - Well, where do you think this - I got a note on  
this saying Doar. So it obviously came from Doar.

BUTLER - Well that's it. That just floated in there from Doar. Well, I'll make a copy of it and call that number 19. But what do you have after that?

MOONEY - Oh, yeah - no, now I recollect this. Mr. Mann had a copy he circulated - I'm not even sure he circulated it - but he had this at one of our meetings and the people went through it and - remember the discussion of that - number 8 - because, I remember the coalition never did adopt that. I mean, they were talking and then, after the meeting, I was so confused I said, Mr. Mann, what are we going to do with 8? Then he says, well, you are going to put 8 in between dot and dot. I said what about the word "destroy"? He said we are going to knock out the word "destroy" because I think that's what the feeling of the group is. And then put 8 - that was going to appear in another draft somewhere. So I said - my question was should I put it in the next draft? It was really Frank - at this point Frank was taking the notes because I was confused and he had the damn drafts. I couldn't figure out what he and Mann were doing, so I kinda at this point faded out as far as the note keeping and preparing the next draft and Frank kinda took over as far as the draft preparing.

BUTLER - Yeah, OK. Let me run and vote and see what you can construct in the meanwhile.

(INTERRUPTED FOR VOTE)

BUTLER - All right, what you have done is - have you told her to make copies of this?

MOONEY - Yes, the copies are here.

BUTLER - OK, let's number them all so we are on the same wave length.

MOONEY - We left off with 18 and then that's the rewrite of 7/25 7:00 P.M. draft.

BUTLER - Right.

MOONEY - Now, we have this strange hybrid rewrite of 9:00 P. M. Draft.

BUTLER - Right - can't explain it.



MOONEY - Can't explain it all but I think I have a copy of it. Yeah, Pop it on the bottom of the 7:00 P.M. draft and hope that Mr. Mann and Mr. Polk or somebody can shed a little light on it.

BUTLER - All right - I'll number that number 19 so that we are both on the same wave length on that. We'll just write - inexplicable - how about that?

MOONEY - That came out of (unintelligible)

BUTLER - Yeah, that came -

MOONEY - It does look like a Doar -

BUTLER - Yeah, it has Doar's style. What next?

MOONEY - All right, next we go to 7/26. Is this the 26th -

BUTLER - Yeah - 4:00 P.M.?

MOONEY - 4:00 P.M.

BUTLER - I see, yeah.

MOONEY - This came out of my shop.

BUTLER - That's number 20?

MOONEY - That's 20. Then we have the 9:00 P.M. draft.

BUTLER - We'll call that number 21.

MOONEY - Have you got that?

BUTLER - Yeah. 4:00 P.M. is 20. That's done by Mooney.

MOONEY - Yeah, I came up with that. Then the 9:00 P.M. came out of Doar's shop. We are still miles apart.

BUTLER - That's right. It just seemed like we were going along on two different wave lengths.

MOONEY - All right, the last thing that I have in my file is a 1:00 P.M. draft on the 27th.

BUTLER - Call that number 22. All right.



MOONEY - What is the 27th - is that

BUTLER - Saturday - 1:00 P.M. Well, I am sure it is.

MOONEY - I think it is, because Frank had to-wit in that draft and that came from that Friday - remember we he was drafting that on Friday night at the Congressional Hotel when Cohen was going to rewrite all the articles specific?

BUTLER - That's right - that was panic evening.

MOONEY - Yeah - panic evening when, I think, Cohen was, you know, going to introduce the specifics and he would say to-wit. So this to-wit thing appeared on the next draft of Article II which Frank came up with. Do you have a copy of that?

BUTLER - No, I don't - well, you just gave it to me. This to-wit - that's number 22. So all we got out of Cohen was to-wit?

MOONEY - To-wit.

BUTLER - All right. I slept late on Saturday morning and missed the caucus and found out when I got to the place we had settled on plan and course of conduct for policy in Article I and Article II was on the way. That was Saturday morning. So this must have been the Article II. You all must have had a drafting meeting on Saturday morning that I didn't attend.

MOONEY - Yeah, I think we did.

BUTLER - Yeah, I remember. I was invited, because I got a message but just never got there.

MOONEY - Yeah. Right. Frank - that's when - Saturday morning, Frank was taking the notes down.

BUTLER - And what we have come up here with -

MOONEY - And I know for a fact that Sunday morning at 10:00, Rodino and Frank and McClory met and - to come up with something or some Article II for Monday. Because Article II hadn't been introduced yet. I mean the substitute.

BUTLER - Even now - even now our drafting efforts don't look like what we finally wound up with, do they? They don't finally look like the Hungate substitute. They've got in them pretty much the same thing. We've still got - all right, at this point in time we had dropped out paragraph B and I think that's probably the main affirmative decision - the main impact that our drafting efforts had on the over-all picture.

MOONEY - Yeah, plus - there was another meeting - meeting on Sunday morning at 10:00 and then a meeting on Monday morning in McClory's office at 9:00. Were you there?

BUTLER - I was invited to that, but I don't remember attending. And I can't remember what happened. I just, you know - to tell you the truth, I just reacted negatively to things going on in McClory's office.

MOONEY - And most of time I am sure you were pretty accurate. I was there and think mainly McClory and Mr. Mann and Frank -

BUTLER - Oh, I know why I missed the darn caucus. I had to appear before that steering committee to give them a briefing. So I missed the McClory caucus. Yeah. But that's where we were all right. So I didn't play an active part in it like you say.

MOONEY - And I didn't either.

BUTLER - We've got to get it all from Frank Polk and Jim Mann and Bob (unintelligible)

BUZZ IN BACKGROUND DROWNS MOST OF THIS OUT.  
There is some discussion about the New York Times article