

And I haven't been able to find out which is the case yet.
Mr. MORGAN. Well, in 2 years in that one-man job in Oregon, and 2 more years, almost 2 years here, I have learned to appreciate, even more than I did as a student, the necessity of having men of strength and character and creativeness and imagination and courage in these jobs.

And I wanted to pass that on to the President again before I left. That is why I did it.

Now, you said yesterday—

Mr. BENNETT. Why did you give the letter to the press then?

Mr. MORGAN. I did that because about a day or so—perhaps 2 days after the letter went to the White House Mr. Pearson published a version of the letter in his column.

He had not seen the letter and none of the Senators, with whom I had discussed the fact that I was going to write the letter, had seen it either.

But on the basis of conversations in the Senate Mr. Pearson published a version of the letter which was not entirely accurate.

It was not seriously inaccurate, but it did contain statements which were not in the letter, and I—

Mr. BENNETT. What difference did that make?

What difference did it make what Pearson said? The President had the letter. He knew what you said.

What were you trying to prove, that Pearson was wrong, by releasing this to the press?

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Pearson's column is published all over the United States—

Mr. BENNETT. I mean, if you were trying to prove that, I would say that you are trying to do a job that people are engaged in every day in the year without apparently too much success.

I just can't see why you gave this letter to the press, Mr. Morgan, unless it was for the purpose of embarrassing the President.

Mr. MORGAN. No, it was not for that purpose.

Mr. BENNETT. By indicating to the public that he was not appointing the right kind of people to public office.

Mr. MORGAN. It was not for that purpose. It was for the purpose of clarifying the matter.

Mr. BENNETT. It was for the purpose of straightening out Drew Pearson?

Mr. MORGAN. It was for the purpose of clarifying the question as to the contents of the letter.

Mr. BENNETT. Did you get a reply to this letter?

Mr. MORGAN. I got an acknowledgment.

Mr. BENNETT. Did you get a reply?

Mr. MORGAN. I wouldn't call it a "reply."

Mr. BENNETT. Well, I am not surprised.

Why did you send this letter to the President 6 months before your term expired?

Did you believe it would take him 6 months to find an extraordinary character like yourself to go on the Commission?

Mr. MORGAN. I have not, and I do not, characterize myself as extraordinary but it took him 6 months to get me in office.