

Of course, that carries with it improved procedures and recommendations which we are seeking from any and all people to reach these objectives. We are not a court, and we do not want any indication in the record that we are. We are not prosecutors, we are merely a factfinding body trying to carry out our own responsibilities.

Mr. SPRINGER. Mr. Chairman, I cannot let those statements of yours stand alone, for the simple reason that my whole questioning of this witness in the latter half of my questioning was to determine whether or not this was a witness capable of being believed. And I was bringing up past relevancy only with reference to this man's past record for truthfulness and veracity, and I have as much right to do this as anybody does with any witness coming before this committee. And I have not tried to exceed the rules of this committee or any court in which I might be called as a member of the body.

The CHAIRMAN. I don't think the gentleman had any intention to go beyond any authority, but he was getting pretty close to it.

Mr. SPRINGER. Mr. Chairman, I resent that statement. I never at any time came close to impinging on the rules of this committee or the rules of any court in which I practice in this land. And I want to make sure that there is no misunderstanding in this record of my statement on that.

The CHAIRMAN. That is perfectly all right. The Chair has the duty of protecting any witness that comes before it.

Mr. MOSS. I think the gentleman's statement details some 2 days of hearings—and I think the gentleman will concede it was prepared in advance of this afternoon's hearings—and reflects a judgment based on 1 hour and 45 minutes of hearings yesterday. The gentleman contends that charges have been made. I am not an attorney. But the gentleman knows that the statement in this letter would not be accepted as charges by any court.

The statement is a statement of personal conviction, and that every man is entitled to have. And it at no point goes beyond a summary of personal conviction. It expresses opinions, it advises as to an ideal type of person, but at no point does it tie into personalities. And it takes the greatest of distortion to make from it the type of document which brought forth the statement, which was prepared in advance of the afternoon session, and at best could be based on 1 hour and 45 minutes of hearings yesterday—I think it raises gravely in my mind, sir, the question of the objectivity which brought it forth.

The CHAIRMAN. I hope we can get back to the objective of this hearing.

Mr. YOUNGER?

Mr. YOUNGER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to know whether you are going to proceed in turns of questioning in the committee. I have been waiting for all this time, and you have gone to Mr. Moss twice now out of turn.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Moss just asked permission to make a statement. I hope we can get back to whatever questions there are.

Mr. HULL?

Mr. HULL. I have no questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Younger?

Mr. YOUNGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.