

Mr. Moss. I do not know what the members of the committee considered it to be.

Mr. SWIDLER. Let me read to you the paragraph that I read before, Mr. Moss, and see——

Mr. Moss. Oh, I know we shall——

Mr. SWIDLER. See if you can find anything in this except——

Mr. Moss. We shall go over it with care.

Mr. SWIDLER (continuing). A signpost to everyone.

Mr. Moss. Mr. Chairman, I have become rather sensitive over the years, 14 years in elective office, and I have learned how artful interpretations can be when you deal with parts out of context.

I am very conscious, when I write a letter, of the possible use out of context. And when I write to some, I with great care review each sentence and weigh each word because of the knowledge of the hazard facing any public figure who writes a letter. So I don't like to just take out of context. If we are going to discuss it, let us discuss it in its relationship of its parts one to the other.

That is how I want mine to be evaluated.

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. Moss. The first paragraph—do you take any umbrage to it?

Mr. SWIDLER. No, sir.

Mr. Moss. And the second.

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir; serious umbrage.

Mr. Moss. All right.

There are a number of reasons for my decision, but I am sure I should be considered less than gracious if I were to list them all.

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. Moss. That is one you find repugnant?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. Moss. Why?

Mr. SWIDLER. I am sorry?

Mr. Moss. I say do you find that repugnant to you?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir; very.

Mr. Moss. Why?

Mr. SWIDLER. Because it implies to me, in a very left-handed way, that his experiences were such that if he revealed them he would be ungracious, that his experiences——

Mr. Moss. This was a case where he accepted appointment——

Mr. SWIDLER. Why would a man say a strange thing like that in a letter to the President, that he would be ungracious——

Mr. Moss. Because he might have felt that in his coming here, the discommoding of his family was too great a sacrifice and it might be ungracious to mention that to the President, knowing he had accepted an appointment knowing full well there would be a disturbance.

Mr. SWIDLER. He was staying out his term, sir. It would be not ungracious to leave after staying out his term.

Mr. Moss. That is not what it says here, is it?

Mr. SWIDLER. I am just saying what it meant to me and meant to a good many people.

Mr. Moss. I want to say, I am not trying to pick a fight here. I view myself more fought against than fighting. If I had seen any honorable way to avoid this confrontation, I would have done so, because