

Mr. Moss. It is in context with this. It says that—
I should, however, like to make a general comment concerning the regulatory agencies which may be of small help to you, to my successors, and to the public interest.

And obviously, you feel it is of small help. Nevertheless, it is in context with that statement that the advice is given?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. Moss. Then the last three paragraphs are fairly general?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes; no quarrel with those.

Mr. Moss. But really, when you get down to it, you object to the letter because you feel it constitutes a personal attack upon you?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. Moss. Yet would you not have great difficulty, Mr. Swidler, as imagining yourself as the type of man this letter is describing that should not be in office—

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. Moss. It really describes the type of person that should be and the type that should not be.

Reading the letter, did you honestly feel it described you?

Mr. SWIDLER. I did not think so, but the papers thought it did.

Mr. Moss. I read a lot of things about the Congress. We are one of the favorite whipping boys of the public, and I do not get all heated up that somebody do something to satisfy my feeling of wounded pride. I read it and if I don't feel that it refers to my type of Member, I do not bother with it too much, because if I did, I would be running around here in high dudgeon all the time.

But you, fellows do not begin to get the abuse that we do.

Mr. SWIDLER. Members of Congress acquire a greater degree of nonchalance about these things, perhaps, than agency members do. But I want to impress upon you, Mr. Moss, that I am here, not complaining, but in response to the summons of the chairman of the subcommittee, and I am here to defend myself because he has told me that I am under attack and I must defend myself here. That is all I am trying to do.

Now, who attacked me?

Mr. Moss. I don't know.

Mr. SWIDLER. I can feel the bullets whistling around my head. Somebody is either aiming at me or he is mighty careless with his gun.

Mr. Moss. I haven't seen any attacks on you. I saw one a few years ago, but I have not seen any recently.

Mr. SWIDLER. Even if I were summoned, if I didn't feel I was attacked—

The CHAIRMAN. Let's not let the record get far beyond what the facts were. You were not summoned here, were you, Mr. Swidler?

Mr. SWIDLER. I was invited, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. You were given an opportunity, weren't you?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir. I appreciate the opportunity, sir.

Mr. Moss. There are probably a great many things I could ask you about cases, but I don't think it is any of my business. You have stated your position in opinions, and I have the right to agree with you, disagree with you, evaluate your performance, on the basis of those decisions.

Mr. SWIDLER. Thank you.