

even to describing verbally their impressions of how the committee members and the witnesses looked and acted whereas visual reporters, whose pictures would permit the public to see for themselves, are banned.

The late Honorable Learned Hand, in the case of the *United States v. The Associated Press*, said:

(The press) serves one of the most vital of all general interests; the dissemination of news from as many different sources, and with as many different facets and colors as is possible. That interest is closely akin to, if indeed it is not the same as, the interest protected by the first amendment; it presupposes that right conclusions are more likely to be gathered out of a multitude of tongues, than through any kind of authoritative selection. To many this is, and always will be, folly; but we have staked upon it our all.¹

We respectfully submit that whether it is an ICC hearing or a congressional inquiry, the public is entitled to a complete report in both words and pictures.

News photographers must have access to news and news sources just as freely as word reporters in order to assure the availability of complete information in the public interest.

In closing let me repeat that we of the National Press Photographers Association support passage of a bill that will require each authority of the executive branch of the Government to "make all its records promptly available to any person."

In behalf of the officers, directors, and members of the National Press Photographers Association, permit me to express our appreciation for this opportunity to appear before you. And, in the name of all those I represent, from coast to coast, I want to publicly thank Congressman Moss for his 10 years of dedication and service to the cause of a truly informed public, and for his enlightened and highly successful efforts in bringing complete information to the American people, in both words and pictures. If there are any questions I would be more than happy to try to answer them.

Mr. Moss. Well, Mr. Costa, I want to thank you very much for the compliment and for the testimony.

Mr. Griffin, do you have any questions?

Mr. GRIFFIN. Well, Mr. Chairman, I do have a question for Mr. Costa. In view of your testimony and your concern about whether photographers may take pictures, I wonder if this bill permits anything that you are not able to do now? It makes records promptly available to anyone and, I suppose, to the extent that you want to photograph records, it would make them more available than otherwise. But what about taking pictures in various offices and agencies of the Government? Do you understand that this bill would allow you to do that?

Mr. COSTA. No, I have no such understanding. In fact, my interpretation is, sir, that it does not concern itself with pictures at all, and this is one of the things, about which we would like to see something done, if it is humanly possible.

Mr. GRIFFIN. I see.

Mr. COSTA. For example, the General Services—

Mr. GRIFFIN. I had the impression you were in favor of the bill and were satisfied.

¹ Learned Hand in *U.S. v. Associated Press*, 52 F. Supp. 362, 372 (1943).