

of the Union message or some equally important story. However, I am not here speaking for live television. I am speaking generally for visual reporting, and I am more concerned with the report on film than I am concerned with the live electronic report.

Now, for example, here you have to have a tripod permit to photograph the dome of the Capitol with a camera on a tripod. Either if you are a valid—

Mr. MACDONALD. I would think that would be a very limited protest, because I doubt if there is much sex appeal for any photographer to take pictures of the dome of the Capitol.

Mr. COSTA. Of course; of course.

Mr. MACDONALD. There is very little news value that I can see.

Mr. COSTA. But you see the tendency might be to judge the rest of the country by what happens here. I am not being argumentative.

Mr. MACDONALD. I understand, and I am not either. We are just discussing this.

Mr. COSTA. But we get reports from members all over the United States who complain, that they were ordered out of a Federal building in their particular city because they had a camera.

Mr. MOSS. Would you yield?

Mr. MACDONALD. Yes, of course.

Mr. MOSS. This matter of the GSA's actions to ban photographers is one which has come to the attention of the committee on numerous occasions, and I believe that the last understanding we have with GSA is that photographers are permitted in all Federal buildings excepting in those areas where Federal courts have their quarters.

In other words, the Federal courthouse buildings or the combination of post office and court buildings, the areas, the floors, devoted to the courts, photographers are not permitted there, and that is because of the courts themselves rather than GSA.

We did have a couple of instances where GSA building managers attempted to go beyond the policies of the GSA, and to bar photographers from the buildings. When the complaints were received by the committee, we went immediately to GSA. Unless you have a very recent case, I think the policy is as reflected in the correspondence in the files of the committee. Photographers do have free access now except in the court areas.

Mr. COSTA. The latest instance, Mr. Chairman, that I recall from memory, and I do not want to be held to it, would be within the last year, but not within 6 months.

Mr. MOSS. Well, within the last year we had a case, and that is where we reached this understanding with GSA.

Mr. COSTA. I see. Then I am glad to learn that because I think we can run a story about it in our magazine and let our members know about it.

Mr. MOSS. I thank you for yielding.

Mr. MACDONALD. I do not want to prolong this, but just recently the GSA, which runs the Federal Building in Boston, had a student sit-in during the time of Selma, and there was no question that cameras and photographers were allowed in that building run by GSA. So I just use that—that is just 2 weeks ago, so I would think that is a correct statement about current practices of the GSA position.