

Mr. RAY. Mr. Irwin, I believe you are confused as to the right, duties, and obligations of people, witnesses, or committees. The courts consistently hold that we do not have to demand an executive session. It is the responsibility of the Representatives of Congress.

Mr. IRWIN. I am not arguing with you about that. You try hard to keep your cool, now.

Mr. RAY. I am.

Mr. IRWIN. You made an assertion about whether you did or not, and that is the question we are talking about now. We are not arguing about whether you are obliged to ask for it, but whether you did ask for it as you assert you did.

Now a way to get this clear and, you know, on the record, is to have you make that objection under oath.

Now do you want to do that or don't you?

Mr. RAY. I don't believe I have to, Mr. Irwin.

Mr. PATMAN. May I make this suggestion.

Mr. IRWIN. You don't have to.

Mr. RAY. Thank you, sir.

Mr. IRWIN. Do you want to?

Mr. PATMAN. You are leaving your role as an attorney when you commence to testify as a witness.

Mr. RAY. I stated the grounds for my objection.

Mr. PATMAN. You are now testifying as a witness.

Mr. RAY. I am not. I was objecting as counsel.

Mr. PATMAN. But your testimony was that you sought an executive session from this committee and it was denied, and members of the committee have no recollection of that. I personally have no recollection of it, and I do not believe it actually occurred. And a member of the committee just raised the question if you would be willing to be sworn on that statement.

Mr. RAY. Sir, I am going to remain in my role as counsel.

Mr. CORMAN. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. PATMAN. Yes, sir?

Mr. CORMAN. Mr. Chairman, here is one thing for the record that may help this a little bit. This is the record of October 31. Mr. Conte asked the question of Mr. Ray:

Are you insinuating you would be glad to give us this information in Executive Session?

Mr. RAY. No, sir; I am not.

Now, that is the only reference we have in the record to executive session. There is the clear implication that executive session really didn't seem to be very important to you at that time. Counsel, you are the one that raised this in your objection.

Mr. PATMAN. Until I can confer with the members of the committee in executive session, I will not pursue this matter further, but I will ask you to answer this question, Mr. Walsh.

Mr. IRWIN. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. PATMAN. Yes.

Mr. IRWIN. Do we have copies of the statement that he just read?

Mr. PATMAN. Yes, we would like to—you read it all, I assume, for the record, and the reporter took it down, is that correct?

Mr. IRWIN. I would like to be able to look at it right now if I may.