

Mr. Chairman

Members of the House Select Committee

Prior to submitting to interrogation, I wish to enter the following statement into the record. This statement is my preliminary rebuttal to the testimony given on September 17, 1974 and is my position on the subject.

With respect to Mr. Selig, I respectfully suggest that his story does not make any sense from any point of view. I categorically deny the incident alleged to have happened March, 1973 since:

- I. I never had the check in my possession.
- II. I never received \$300.00 from him.
- III. I never demanded any percentage of his gross.

I suggest that Selig himself isn't sure as to what to say happened since in his written statement in August 1974, one point he talks of 5% and later before this Committee of 10%. He cannot possibly be right both times or even once.

- IV. Nobody pays \$300.00 and then states that he does not want any contract.
- V. If this happened, he would have been upset and if he was so upset, why didn't he see the police or other authorities.

With respect to Mr. Kieper, I suggest that you consider the fact that:

- I. At the time he came in for a contract, he stated that he knew how the game was played and he was willing to kick back and I told him that we were not working under those conditions even if the Republicans had.
- II. In his August 6, 1974 written statement, he doesn't recall whether it was \$400.00 or \$450.00. Why?
- III. It is not logical that if money were being obtained from a person that the person would not be utilized in order to insure future contributions.
- IV. I categorically deny either requesting any percentage contribution or receiving any funds from Mr. Kieper.

With respect to Mr. Focke, I categorically deny that:

I. I ever offered Mr. Focke or anyone else that I would give extra hours to them.

II. His driver was caught sleeping on the job, that is why his revenues were reduced. At other times, he was called and his man was not there and could not come out and work and further, Mr. Focke would not be aware of this since he spends a great deal of the winter in Florida.

With respect to Mr. Nebel, I respectfully suggest:

I. If what Mr. Nebel says is true why would I have him do it once in 1972 to one lessor but not to anyone else or at any other time.

II. Why would I use a Republican holdover to do this task.

With respect to Mr. Brush, I respectfully suggest that the Committee consider that:

I. Mr. Brush is a member of the losing side in a hotly contested party election and has been at odds with me since then.

II. It is not logical that I did this with Brush in 1971 and waited until 1972 to talk to the others.

III. It is not reasonable or logical that I would make such a request and not follow through on it.

IV. Harrisburg directed that two front end loaders be removed from the lease list since we put on two state owned front end loaders and Mr. Brush was displeased with this.

V. I categorically deny making any contribution demand of any nature of Mr. Brush.

With respect to the entire line of testimony, I ask why these witnesses are today complaining when over two (2) years have passed by. All of these people are business people, are mature and worldly and know how to report these incidents to my superiors, to the police or to other law enforcement agencies. Yet they have remained silent and I suggest this is because the incidents never occurred.

While I categorically deny these accusations, you need not believe me. You need only analyze the individual tales recounted to you to determine the absurd nature of the charges. There is no logic, no reason, nor any common sense involved with the nature of the charges put forth.

I might add parenthetically that four contractors were produced for this Committee. Monroe County has utilized up to thirty-one (31) contractors. If the testimony of the witnesses contained any grain of truth, would not twenty-seven (27) other persons have appeared. One can only conclude that the prior testimony of witnesses is erroneous or concocted and that there is no plan or program as they have alleged.

I thank you for affording me the opportunity of entering this preliminary statement into the record.

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September 10, 1974

House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Attention: Select Committee on State Contract Practices
Mr. Patrick A. Gleason, Chairman

Dear Mr. Gleason:

Please be advised that I represent William F. Heller of R. D. #3, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding concerning Mr. Heller's position with regard to your implication that he appear in executive session before your Committee on September 9, 1974, at 10 a.m., I wish to inform you that your telegram to him dated September 5, 1974, was received by him on Saturday, September 7 and your letter of September 6 was received by him early on the morning of September 9, 1974. As a practical matter it was impossible for him to accept your invitation on such short notice.

I advised Mr. Powell of your office of this situation on the morning of September 9 when, incidentally, I was informed by your office that you did not plan to be in Harrisburg in attendance until approximately 1 p.m. although your invitation was for the hour of 10 a.m. that day.

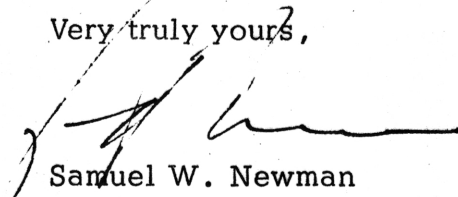
I consider your attempt to comply with Rule 51 of the House of Representatives to be insufficient and inadequate.

If you will be so kind as to afford Mr. Heller reasonable notice and to likewise furnish him with the evidence or testimony that you recite may tend to degrade, defame, or incriminate him, so

House of Representatives
September 10, 1974
Page Two

that he is in a position to know what he is suppose to rebut, I will be happy to consult with Mr. Heller concerning his appearance before the Committee in executive session.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samuel W. Newman', written over a horizontal line.

Samuel W. Newman

SWN/sg