

The Senator:

Hello?

Mike:

Hello, this is Mike Garson. I've got to talk to you.

The Senator:

Mike, my plane leaves in 30 minutes.

Mike:

I'm in the lobby.

The Senator:

Mike, we went all over it this afternoon.

Mike:

Just give me five minutes.

The Senator:

It's no use, Mike, I'm going through with it. I thought I'd made that pretty clear.

Mike:

I met with the committee after I left you.

The Senator:

Oh.

Mike:

They asked me to see you again.

The Senator:

It won't do any good. Good bye, Mike.

Mike:

No, wait, don't hang up. Look, we can't talk over the phone. Let me come up.

The Senator:

I'm leaving for the airport.

Mike:

I'll ride out there with you.

The Senator:

Mike, what's the use? Oh, all right. Meet me out front.

Mike:

You've got to call off the hearings.

The Senator:

Too late now, even if I wanted to. You saw the spread it got in the paper.

Mike:

You can dream up an excuse. You're an expert at it. A postponement, illness, anything.

The Senator:

Save your breathe, Mike.

Mike:

Do you realize what will happen if you get yourself out on a limb?

The Senator:

I've been out there before.

Mike:

Well, this time, the committee won't go along with you.

The Senator:

I run the committee. It doesn't run me.

Mike:

Do you run the party too? One more error and they'll let you have it.

The Senator:

You're a smart politician, Mike, but you've guessed wrong before.

Mike:

I'm not guessing, I'm warning you. I'm speaking for the party now. You're going too far.

The Senator:

I've heard that before.

Mike:

This time it isn't just some crackpot college pinko or some lousy departmental assistant. This man is too big.

The Senator:

No one is too big. There's no one so high or so low as to make him immune to investigation where there's the slightest trace of evidence that his actions or beliefs are detrimental to the interests of this country.

Mike:

That kind of talk is...

The Senator:

I'm not just talking, Mike. I'm going ahead with this. You can't stop me. The committee can't stop me. The whole party can't stop me. Nothing can stop me.

The Senator:

Oh, stewardess?

Stewardess:

I'll be with you in a moment, sir. Fasten your safety belts, please. Fasten your safety belts.

Captain Jarvis:

Your attention, please. This is Captain Jarvis, chief pilot, speaking. We have developed some trouble in one of our starboard motors, but there is no cause for alarm. I repeat, there is no cause for alarm. However, we are having difficulty maintaining altitude. I have decided to turn back rather than continue with one motor not functioning. We regret the delay, but arrangements are being made for you to board another plane upon landing. Thank you.

The Senator:

Oh, miss?

Stewardess:

Yes, sir?

The Senator:

How long will it take us to get back?

Stewardess:

About four hours, sir.

The Senator:

Oh, that means we'll be delayed another eight. I must send a wire.

Stewardess:

You'll have time to do that at the terminal.

The Senator:

No, it will be too late. I'll write out my message and you ask the pilot to radio it back to the terminal and ask them to send it.

Stewardess:

I'm afraid that's impossible.

The Senator:

You ask the pilot.

Stewardess:

I'm sorry, sir, it's against all regulations. No person...

The Senator:

Do you know who I am?

Stewardess:

Yes, sir, but no exceptions can be made.

The Senator:

What is your name?

Stewardess:

I'm Miss Davidson.

The Senator:

Miss Davidson, this message concerns an investigation I'm conducting. It is of the utmost urgency.

Stewardess:

Well, I don't doubt that.

The Senator:

You acknowledge the important of my message, and yet you refuse to convey my message to the pilot.

Stewardess:

It won't do any good, sir.

The Senator:

You realize that only one interpretation can be put upon your refusal, Miss Davidson?

Stewardess:

I'm very sorry, sir.

The Senator:

It seems to me that you're deliberately obstructing an official investigation that is of vital concern to every loyal citizen of this country.

Stewardess:

No, sir. But the regulations...

The Senator:

Miss Davidson, I'm aware that you won't be the first individual who has hidden behind so-called regulations and used them as a device to further interests directly opposed to those of the majority of loyal citizens of our country. Your uncooperative attitude can only cast the gravest doubts on your own loyalty, Miss Davidson.

Stewardess:

I'm only doing my job. I'll speak to the pilot if you wish.

Speaker 3:

We're on fire!

Inspector Martin:

Good day, sir. My name is Martin. Inspector Martin of the Immigration Service.

The Senator:

Immigration? I don't understand. Where am I?

Inspector Martin:

It's quite all right, sir, you're safe now. Will you follow me, sir?

The Senator:

Where are we? I don't seem to remember.

Inspector Martin:

You'll be all right in a moment. You had a nasty shock.

The Senator:

The plane! Did we crash?

Inspector Martin:

Yes, you crashed.

The Senator:

Oh, I'm alive. I've got to send a wire.

Inspector Martin:

There's no need for that now, sir.

The Senator:

This is very important. Where's a phone I can use?

Inspector Martin:

There's no phones.

The Senator:

Oh, there must be a phone around here somewhere. What is this dump anyway? I can't see anything. It's so foggy.

Inspector Martin:

The fog will lift soon.

The Senator:

Where are the other passengers? How many survivors were there?

Inspector Martin:

There were no survivors, sir.

The Senator:

You mean I'm the only one?

Inspector Martin:

There were *no* survivors.

The Senator:

What are you talking about? Are you crazy? I'm here. I'm alive, aren't I? Come on now, I want a straight answer and no doubletalk. Do you know who I am?

Inspector Martin:

Yes, sir. I know all about you.

The Senator:

Well let's have it then.

Inspector Martin:

It would be a lot easier for you if you figure it out for yourself.

The Senator:

What's your name?

Inspector Martin:

Inspector Martin of the Immigration Service.

The Senator:

All right, Martin. You say you know all about me, then you must be aware of the importance of the work I'm engaged in. In view of this, your refusal to cooperate can only cast grave doubts on your motives. I can assure you this incident will be investigated thoroughly. Now you'll make things a lot easier on yourself if you answer my questions in a straightforward manner. Any attempt at evasion on your part can only lead me to infer that you have something to conceal. Now then, I have been in a plane crash. I asked you where I am, how I got here, where the other passengers are, and you tell me there are no survivors. And you...

Oh, I see.

Inspector Martin:

Yes, and the fog has lifted, hasn't it?

The Senator:

But I had so much to do yet. Why me? Why? All my plans.

Inspector Martin:

I know how you feel, sir. Everybody feels like that at first, but you'll snap out of it. After all, you're one of the lucky ones. You're up here. Of course, you've only got a temporary visa, but I'm sure you won't have any trouble in getting a permanent visa at the main gate.

The Senator:

The main gate?

Inspector Martin:

Yes, just follow me, sir, to the head gatekeeper.