CLARK'S LETTER

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13 (UP)— Following is the text of Associate Justice Tom C. Clark's letter to Representative Velde refusing to honor a subpoena by the Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives:

Dear Mr. Congressman:

I have your subpoena dated Nov. 10, 1953, calling upon me t appear before your committee on Friday, Nov. 13, at 10:30 A. M.

As you know, the independence of the three branches of our Government is the cardinal principle on which our constitutional system is founded. This complete independence of the judiciary is necessary to the proper administration of justice.

In order to discharge this high trust, judges must be kept free from the strife of public controversy. Since becoming an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court I have scrupulously observed a complete retirement from such matters.

For this reason, as much as I

wish to cooperate with the legislative branch of the Government, I must forego an appearance before the committee.

However, as there is a possibility that the welfare of our country might be served if the personal recollection I have of the Harry Dexter White matter be made known, you may rest assured that such written questions as you and your committee may wish to send me will receive my serious consideration subject only to my duties under the Constitution. Sincerely yours,

TOM C. GLARK.

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