

Chrono File

Dec 1963

[1 of 3]

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
#18 transcript	Telephone Notes, The President to Mrs. Kennedy	12/2/63 2:42 p.m.	C

FILE LOCATION

Tapes and Transcripts of Conversations and Meetings
 "December 1963, Chron File" [1 of 3]

9/17/93

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by Executive Order 12356 governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
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December 1, 1963

1:05 p.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
DEAN STOREY (from Dean Storey)

- LBJ: I...uh...asked Walter to transfer you because I wanted to talk to you...I don't want to be in the business of making recommendations...but I would certainly do anything I could to help that boy...I think that it is a great service to your country...and I think you ought to do it.
- DS: Well, I'll do my best...I mean...anyhow, I haven't been able to talk to him but they carried it in the papers this morning...they've been calling me about it...I was'not asking you to make recommendations..
- LBJ: I just want to be in the position..where if they consult you...I hadn't discussed it...but I do feel that it would be a great service...
- DS: Well, Mr. President..just off the record...you don't see any conflict in this other commission that you've appointed..which I'm strongly..
- LBJ: No...no..no..no..they expect to use what you're..
- DS: I might add that the Dallas News called me about what I thought about the commission..they quoted it quite lengthy in this morning's Dallas News down there..but the thing...I didn't call to see you about that but it just came up and I mentioned it to Walter..
- LBJ: Yes..well I would just sure..I want that to be as quality as it can..it ought to be as speedily as it can..
- DS: Yes...certainly. Mr. President, to save your time and mine, I'll not try to come back to see you..I know how busy you are but just two things..if you've got just a minute..that I wanted to mention to you.
- LBJ: Fine. I've got a minute..but not much more..I've got a bunch of folks in here..
- DS: Well, I understand that. First, I know you're interested in peace in the world..and I'm tremendously interested in this world through peace and law..two of us are representing the United States on it..and I just want to brief you on what we were doing in that field.

LBJ: All right.. why don't you give Walter a little run-down and let him put it on a page for me and I'll.. I'll take an interest in it.. Dean.

DS: All right..and the second thing...anything that I can do..as a background in civil rights...I want to do it for you...

LBJ: Fine..fine.. thank you, Dean.

DS: Well, goodluck to you and I'll tell Walter about it...

LBJ: Thank you and keep up your good work...

DS: Well, goodluck to you.. we're proud of you and you've made a great hit..

LBJ: I'm gonna depend on you, Dean.

DS: Well, I'll do anything I can for you.

LBJ: Thank you.

DS: Bye

December 1, 1963

1:15 p.m.

2

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. AUBREY WILLIAMS (to Mr. Williams)

LBJ: Hello, my friend.

AW: Well, I just wanted to talk to you and tell you .. while I was awful
grieved and shocked at this thing... I'm mighty glad that you were
the man that was going to take over....

LBJ: Well, you're mighty wonderful... here's Lady Bird.. wants to say
a word to you..

AW: Yeah.

Mrs J: Aubrey?

AW: yes...hello..Lady...

Mrs. J Hello..

AW: Well, you've got lots of business these days...

Mrs. J Oh, Aubrey.. so much, but we'll try so hard ..and once long ago
we had a fine mentor to work under.. that being you...and, I think
Lyndon's got it all in his heart and in his head and if we can just get
it....

AW: Well, he's a great performer..and everybody as I see ..they believe
he's going to do a great job...and I know with your help that he is going
to do a great job..

Mrs J Well, we thank you and we hope very soon we'll get to see you
and Anita and God bless you for calling...

AW: Thank you, dear.

Mrs J Bye.

AW: Bye.

December 1, 1963

1:15 p.m.

3

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. AUBREY WILLIAMS (to Mr. Williams)

LBJ: Hello, my friend.

AW: Well, I just wanted to talk to you and tell you .. while I was awful
grieved and shocked at this thing...I'm mighty glad that you were
the man that was going to take over....

LBJ: Well, you're mighty wonderful... here's Lady Bird.. wants to say
a word to you..

AW: Yeah.

Mrs J: Aubrey?

AW: yes...hello..Lady...

Mrs. J Hello..

AW: Well, you've got lots of business these days...

Mrs. J Oh, Aubrey...so much, but we'll try so hard ..and once long ago
we had a fine mentor to work under..that being you...and, I think
Lyndon's got it all in his heart and in his head and if we can just get
it...

AW: Well, he's a great performer..and everybody as I see ..they believe
he's going to do a great job...and I know with your help that he is going
to do a great job..

Mrs J Well, we thank you and we hope very soon we'll get to see you
and Anita and God bless you for calling...

AW: Thank you, dear.

Mrs J Bye.

AW: Bye.

December 1, 1963

3:40 p.m.

4

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. BILL WILLIS, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (to Mr. Willis)

BW: Hello, Mr. President..

LBJ: What've you had...on that matter?

BW: I've had a couple...and we kind of held off for the holidays until...
and to let things quiet down a little bit..and I believe the value of
it is real good now..

LBJ: You get the best offer you can ..as soon as you can...and let me
know...will you?

BW: All right, sir...I will..

LBJ: We may have to get you to bring up some of my family in the next
week or so...in it..befors we turn it back...

BW: All right.

LBJ: But..we can watch our weather and ..let's do that..

BW: All right..sir, I'll be available...

LBJ: But give me your best...tell them that...I wouldn't make them any
offer..I'd make them give you the best one but I wouldn't consider
anything less than 35...see how far you can go...

BW: All right...will do..

LBJ: Thank you...Bill

BW: Yes sir...thank you..

December 1, 1963
3:50 p. m.

5

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. ABE FORTAS (to Mr. Fortas)

LBJ: Yes?

AF: Hello... Mr. President. This is Abe.

LBJ: Abe? Are you ready to come down.

AF: Yes sir.

LBJ: You want me to send a car for you?

AF: Well...that would be wonderful.

LBJ: Whats your address there?

AF: 1229 - 19th ..

LBJ: 1229 - 19th...I thought it...oh, that's your office?

AF: Yes sir.

LBJ: O.K.

AF: Fine. Thank you

December 1, 1963

4:05 p. m.

6

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
SECRETARY STEWART UDALL (to Secy Udall)

LBJ: Hello... Lyndon Johnson...

SU: Sorry I missed your call, Mr. President... I was at the hospital with my daughter... and just got home...

LBJ: Home with your kid?

SU: Well... she broke her arm..

LBJ: Oh, my goodness... well, I'm so sorry to hear that... what's her name?

SU: Lynn... she's a thirteen-year-old... roller-skating last night... and I had to take her over and have it X-rayed and.....

LBJ: L-y-n ?

SU: L-y-n-n

LBJ: Where is she? Where is she... at Arlington?

SU: No.. I brought her back home... she's got it in a cast... you know how kids are..

LBJ: Well, I'll declare... I was out at a friends house not long ago.. in Los Angeles.. and his little girl.. about eleven or twelve years old... broke her arm riding a bicycle... fell off of it.. and, it was just tragic... it was so painful... I broke my leg when I was a kid... coming down a ladder with my little sister ... damn.. one of the partition's nail gave way.. and under the weight.. and I fell.....
I called you to ask you to do something for me..

SU: You bet..

LBJ: You remember.. or maybe you won't remember.. but I remembered it impressed me.. after you came back from Moscow.. you were talking to me and philosophizing one day.. and you said as I recall it.. this is the general theme.. you've developed it... that they had more population than we did.. they had 225 million, we had 185.... they had 600 million arable acres of land... we had 185.. or 200... that maybe they had more potential.. even more potential oil.. more potential water resources.. more potential minerals.. but the thing that ultimately going to win

LBJ
Cont'd

was our system...and where capitalists could take a dollar..and manage it...get up and manage that dollar...and all day...and the men who made up the labor who worked their hearts out...that three of them had some incentive and they'd divide their earnings..and that system would ultimately prevail...if we prevail...I wondered if you would take that and develop it into maybe some 700-800 words for me between now and Wednesday...maybe a little factual on minerals...water..and whatever else it is...and I might want to use it for this Advisory Council and maybe this labor Executive Committee...it rather touched me when you said it and I have prejudiced it some since and it is pretty effective..but I just wanted to do it up right this time...if you'll take a little time on it..

SU: Well, I'd be delighted to work it up and who shall I give it over to?

LBJ: I would say Walter Jenkins..who's probably the best one..and..he told me today when I told him to get you that you'd want to come in so I'd call him in the morning...and tell Bill Moyers here that I want to see you either tomorrow or the next day...or you bring it in when you get through with it...just come on in the door and we'll slip you in between some time..

SU: / Fine...
Mr. President...let me say this ...I think I can be helpful to you on a few areas like this...that may be outside my own special responsibilities as an administrator here..and I'm delighted to have this opportunity to make a contribution..

LBJ: I know you can and I know you will and I have great faith and confidence in you and you just get busy on it...try to make short sentences and small words as you can..because I have difficulty reading and writing both..and you just get it to me..you've got the general outline of what I want and I get it from you...so...you can turn it out better.

SU: Well ..you'll have no difficulty Wednesday..you're off to a great start.

LBJ: Give me 7 or 800 words.

SU: Grand.

LBJ: Thank you...my love to your wife and tell Lynn I'm sorry for her.

SU: O.K...I certainly will. Thank you.

LBJ: Bye.

December 1, 1963
4:10 p.m.

7

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND MR. FRANK McGEE, NBC, NYC (to Mr. McGee)

LBJ: Frank?

FMcG: Mr. President.

LBJ: Lyndon Johnson...I want to tell you..I enjoyed your show this afternoon..thought it was very good and I appreciate your confidence.

FMcG: Well, thank you very much, sir. I enjoyed doing it.

LBJ: You did a good job and I'm grateful to you.

FMcG: Thank you, sir and the very best of luck to you.

LBJ: First time you're around..come in..

FMcG: I'd love to.

LBJ: Bye.

FMcG: Bye.

December 1, 1963

4:45 p.m.

8

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET, KERMIT GORDON

KG: Yes, Mr. President.

LBJ: I want to put out this release this evening and I want to talk to you about it first...and I want to ask your judgment...I want to put a little chill on these money spenders that are wasted...so we will have some left over to meet these unfilled needs that we're talking about...that we're interested in...

KG: Good

LBJ: I may even want to talk to the Comptroller General and get any suggestion he has...I at least want to do it only after conferring with you...here's the way the announcement reads...I'll go over it very quickly...
...The President announced today that after conferring with the Secretary of Defense, he is sending a personal letter to defense contractors to enlist their cooperation in carrying out his pledge to Congress to get a dollar's value for a dollar spent in his program for thrift, frugality and economy in government operations. The President pointed out that defense spending amounts to more than 50¢ out of every Federal government dollar. The President has requested the Secretary of Defense to give consideration to contractor cost saving in awarding future contracts and fixing target profit rates. The President strongly endorsed the Department of Defense cost-reduction program which under Secretary McNamara's leadership has already shown actually realized savings in excess of \$1 billion for the fiscal year 1963. The overall goal of the program would produce annual savings of \$4 billion by fiscal year 1967 was increased last July from the \$3 billion goal set in July 1962. President Johnson announced, with Secretary McNamara's concurrence, he'd fixed a goal of \$1-1/2 billion and actually realized savings for the current fiscal year. In order to emphasize the importance of cost reduction program, the President is sending a personal letter to some 7500 defense contractors who account for some 90 percent of the prime defense contracts entered into by the Department of Defense calling on each contractor to undertake their own cost reduction program in support of the government program. The President has also instructed the Secretary to inform all personnel of the Department of Defense both civilian and military of his personal concern to accomplish additional savings in procurement, operation, maintenance, always consistent

LBJ
Cont'd

with the combat readiness of the armed forces. The President has further asked that every military officer and civilian employee associated with procurement and maintenance, should be advised his cost-consciousness will be given important consideration in determining his efficiency rating and his eligibility for promotion. Cost-consciousness, the President stated, includes the success in achieving savings at the present cost-reduction program and in devising and carrying out new ways to cut costs and increase efficiency operations.

I think I ought to put a sentence in there saying that he... before we talk about conferring with the Secretary of Defense... after we talk about that... the President has requested the Secretary to give consideration to contractor cost-saving... we ought to say... he also appealed to the Joint Chiefs of Staff to exercise their influence with each of their departments...

KG: Very good... I think the tone of that is excellent, Mr. President.

LBJ: Bob McNamara and Yarmolinsky and some of my people have been working on it for a couple of days and... I've been delighted with your letter... I gather you thought that he could bring it down...

KG: Well... I'm feeling pretty good about the outlook, now... Mr. President... I was going to report to you when I came in tomorrow afternoon... I think I can pretty nearly promise you that we can keep that number under 100...

LBJ: That's what we've got to do...

KG: Well... I think we've practically done it... and... of course, we couldn't have done it without the help of the Defense Department... but with that... is the push to get it across the line...

LBJ: You have any objection to my talking to the Comptroller General about this... just because a few... I know his independence... but I know a good many Commanding Officers... don't like to have these people around on the base...

KG: Well now...let me...my view of the Comptroller General...I'd like to explain, Mr. President, as you may know...there's a long-standing tension and hostility between the Comptroller General and a lot of the agency heads...my own view is that by and large, the Comptroller General is a very useful and constructive influence...in this government. Now, he's not always right...I've looked over a number of Comptroller General reports...I think that on most of them...the situations it uncovers need correction on some of them I think he misses the mark and...criticizes unjustly...but I think the general tenor...the general impact...of the Comptroller General audit reports is a very constructive influence. Now, the only thing I would urge is that we steer away from any "blanket endorsement" of Comptroller General/^{audit} recommendations ...

LBJ: I wouldn't...I had no thought of endorsing anything he's doing..I would say that this letter...these decisions...were reached and the letter was written after consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Director of the Budget, and the Comptroller General.

KG: I think that's excellent, Mr. President. I think its a good idea to put the Comptroller General on that list..I think it will make a very favorable impression in Congress...a lot of knowledgeable Congressmen know that there is this...this coolness between the Comptroller General and a number of agency heads and I think that by putting the Comptroller General on that list..you will have taken a step toward overcoming this breach between the Executive and the Comptroller General...but I think its a good thing to do..

LBJ: I may do this...I may do this in two releases..I may do it, first, with a letter to the contractors and then tomorrow, after I see McNamara, I may do it with the officers and their efficiency rating...you see. ...

KG: Very good. Very good.

LBJ: O.K....thank you..I'll see you tomorrow

KG: Very good. Thank you, Mr. President.

December 1, 1963

5:05 p. m.

9

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
ARTHUR KROCK (to Arthur Krock)

LBJ: How are you....Lyndon Johnson.

AK: Well, Mr. President...I salute you..

LBJ: Well, Arthur, you're a mighty wonderful friend..and you have been all through the years..and I need you more now than I ever did before and I read your column just this minute..I hadn't had a chance..I've been working on other things...and I just thought how fortunate I was to have known you and to have had your confidence..I remember it.. this column that you wrote today was first written back in Corpus Christi many years ago ...and I just wanted you to know I was going to try to be worthy of it..and I appreciate it very much...

AK: You have only to call on me...and it was very gracious of you to call.

LBJ: I want you to come in next week ..and as soon as we get moved in.. we'll have a cup of tea together...

AK: Right, sir.

LBJ: Thank you, Arthur.

AK: Yes sir.

LBJ: Bye.

Date: September 17, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Mr. Joseph Campbell (to Mr. Campbell), 12/1/63, 5:10 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, last line, the transcript reads:

LBJ: "... percent of the prime defense contracts...."

The archives staff heard:

LBJ: "... percent of the prime and sub-contracts contracts...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 1, 1963

5:10 p. m.

10

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. JOSEPH CAMPBELL (to Mr. Campbell)

LBJ: Mr. Campbell?

JC: Hello, Mr. President.

LBJ: How are you this evening?

JC: Very well. You caught me playing a game of squash...

LBJ: I don't want to interrupt you... I'm sorry... I want to talk to you because I know of your interest and your responsibilities and my great respect for you and your department... I have had a series of meetings since I came in on cost-consciousness and waste in the military and I've talked to the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff pretty straightforward and I've met with the Budget two or three times... to talk to them... and I'm issuing a statement tonight... I'd like to go over with you... then I'll tell you what I have in mind....

President Lyndon B. Johnson announced today that after conferring with the Secretary of Defense, he is sending a personal letter to defense contractors to enlist their cooperation in carrying out his pledge to Congress to get a dollar's value for a dollar spent in his program for thrift, frugality and economy in government operations. The President pointed out that defense spending amounts to more than 50¢ out of every Federal government dollar. The President has requested the Secretary of Defense to give consideration to contractor cost savings in awarding future contracts and fixing target profit rates. President Johnson strongly endorsed the Department of Defense cost-reduction program which under Secretary McNamara's leadership has already shown actually realized savings in excess of \$1 billion. The overall goal of the program would produce annual savings of \$4 billion by fiscal year 1967 was increased last July from the \$3 billion goal set in July 1962. The President announced, with Secretary McNamara's concurrence, he ~~would~~ had fixed a goal of \$1-1/2 billion and actually realized savings for the current fiscal year. In order to emphasize the importance of cost reduction program, President Johnson is sending a personal letter to some 7500 defense contractors who account for 90 percent of the prime defense contracts entered into by the Department

LBJ
Contd

of Defense calling on each contractor to undertake their own cost reduction program in support of the government program. The President has also instructed the Secretary to inform all personnel of the Department of Defense both civilian and military of his personal concern to accomplish additional savings in procurement, operation, maintenance, always consistent with the combat readiness of the armed forces. The President has further asked that every military officer and civilian employee associated with procurement and maintenance, should be advised that his cost-consciousness will be given important consideration in determining his efficiency rating and his eligibility for promotion. Cost-consciousness, the President stated, includes the success in achieving savings at the present cost-reduction program and in devising and carrying out new ways to cut costs and increase efficiency operations..... The President took these steps after consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Director of the Budget and the Comptroller General.

JC: I think that's wonderful...

LBJ: I thought I'd include you in there .. just to touch them up and let you know it...you're going to be watching these...

JC: I think its very appropriate and I think its very helpful.

LBJ: Well, wa...

JC:President Kennedy helped a lot...and I know that you're in a better position...I think... to help.

LBJ: Well, I appreciate this very much and I wanted you to be in on it and I want you to be watching for it and I want you... everytime you find a dime wasted..I want you to point it out..

JC: Yes sir...I'll be in touch with you.

LBJ: Thank you, sir.

JB: Goodluck to you.

LBJ: Bye.

December 1, 1963

5:20 p.m.

11

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
ARTHUR SCHLESINGER

LBJ: I'd like you to give a little thought to maybe making some notes for me ... I have two meetings next week that are rather important and maybe you could ..kind of make a sounding or two and see what your judgment is on my...be good for me to talk to them about...first, I've got the AFL-CIO Executive Council coming in..

AS: Fine

LBJ: I believe its Wednesday...and then a little later I've got the Advisory Committee..Business Advisory Committee coming in..

AS: O.K.

LBJ: And...don't have to have anything formal..but if you'll give me 500-600 words or even make some points that you think might be good...to take up and do a little thinking on it...I'm sure they'll be fresher and have more substance than I'm going to be able to give it...just by the time I'll have to spend on it and maybe I can review some of your ideas before I have to go in there and talk to them...I want to talk to them about five or six minutes or maybe seven minutes...very much like the President did on some of these things....

AS: Yes sir...fine

LBJ: I sure do thank you, Arthur..

AS: O.K.

LBJ: Bye, my friend

AS: Bye.

December 1, 1963

5:46 p.m.

12

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. WALTER LIPPMAN (to Mr. Lippman)

LBJ: Walter?

WL: Yes....

LBJ: Lyndon Johnson

WL: Oh...how do you do, Mr. President?

LBJ: Well, I'm doing as good as I could under the circumstances...
how are you getting along?

WL: Well, I'm getting along...I'm very satisfied with you...but you know
it is a tragic business..

LBJ: Are you at home?

WL: I'm at home.

LBJ: Could I drop by and bum a drink from you?

WL: What's that?

LBJ: Could I drop by and bum a drink off of you?

WL: Oh, you certainly could...come right along..

LBJ: All right...I'm going ...I'm going to leave here...give me your
address.. Walter...

WL: 3525 Woodley Road...

LBJ: 3525 Woodley Road..I'm at the office and I'm going to be here about
another ten minutes..and I'll run by on my way to dinner..

WL: Oh, well that'll be fine.

LBJ: Thank you... Walter

WL: Righto.....

Date: September 17, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, G. Mennen Williams to the President,
December 2, 1963, 9:51 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

LBJ: "...the President had from May to December and they hadn't made any progress...."

The archives staff heard:

LBJ: "...the President did that from May to December and they hadn't made any progress...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 2, 1963

9:31 am

13

TELEPHONE NOTES
G. MENNEN WILLIAMS TO THE PRESIDENT

- a Tell Mrs. Roberts, and she'll work it out tomorrow. Today's an ungodly day -- maybe tomorrow or Wednesday, either day, but we'll be very happy to do it, and give Bill Moyer a note on what you want to talk about -- and give me a little briefing so I can have some facts and be helpful if I can.
- b I'd appreciate it very highly. Thanks very much.
- a I'll be delighted. I want to see you anyway. I want to get any ideas you got on what we can do with our negro community, too, and additional things in the field of equal opportunity and what our goals ought to be. We've got to have new plans, new programs, new ideas of our own, and you have operated in Michigan so long that you're bound to know some things that you've done there that would be good in Mississippi. And we're going to go all out on this civil rights bill and we're going to give our blood, sweat and tears, but the President had from May to December and they hadn't made any progress -- and the tax bill from January to December, so I don't know what we'll do. I think we'll win, but Howard Smith refused the Speaker even an opportunity to be heard. He said, I'll see you in January. And we've got to go the petition route and that's mighty hard route as everybody knows, but we got to put the Republicans on the spot. Halleck put it on yesterday, saying, well we got to have hearings and the bill was rushed through -- Rushed my hat, it was there from May to November. But he was telling how it rushed. Dirksen was on explaining why he couldn't quite get the job done, so we've got to find some way, some how that those people either go with us or they're anti civil rights. And I want you to give some thinking to it and talk that over with me, particularly, and our goals. Now, I'll take care of that bill itself, but we'll all work on it. Everybody will have his assignment, but I want some new fresh things and I want to rely on you to do it, and we pulled down the curtain on Los Angeles that night, and as you've seen from my relationships beginning when you wanted me to go to Senegal through Michigan we're on the team, and our one theme as long as we're going to be in this office is that we've got to get this job done.
- B Yes sir, I appreciated the fact that you've been most loyal

b
cont.

to the ideals of the convention, I'm with you all the way.

a

I know that, but let's have our own program now. Let's get some -- this is out of your bailiwick -- but you've had more -- so much experience than any others -- I talked to old Aubrey Williams yesterday, he's dying of cancer -- you ought to go by and see him -- We started out together on this thing, so let's finish up together.

b

Yes sir.

a

I. O.K.

b

Thank you very much.

TELEPHONE NOTES
SECRETARY FREEMAN TO THE PRESIDENT

- a Hello
- b Good morning, Mr. President.
- a How are, you, Orville?
- b Just fine, how are you sir?
- a Good.
- b Well you sound good. You ast like you're really moving hard and fast. I'm sitting here talking to a friend of yours, Whitney Young of the Urban League, we're trying to see what we can do about the little projects we got on our mind.
- b Mr. President, there are on wheat, cotton, and meat imports some questions that I would like to bring to your attention that are both economic, budget implications and have political implications -- and a number of things that are kind of in the ~~add~~ stream now that I would like to check with you and get my signals.
- a Give me a memo on each one of them if you can within a page or two pages and let me look at them, and when I finish digesting them, reading them, and have enough judgement to talk to you about them, together with your recommendation, I'll call you say - - probably Tuesday or Wednesday. You get that over to Bill Moyers today and tell him to see that I take them home and read them and give me your -- the facts, and give me your recommendation and give me the alternative.
- b All right.
- a Thank you, my friend. Give that Jane my love. Tell her I'm depending on her to help me with these cabinet women. I want to get them out here and get them active. They're too many people in the Cabinet that are non political. We got the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Treasury

a
(cont.)

Attorney General, so that doesn't leave anybody but Jane.

b

I'll give her the message.

a

Thank you, my friend.

b

Thank you, Mr. President

DECEMBER 2, 1963

10:20 am

15

TELEPHONE NOTES
ROBERT ANDERSON TO THE PRESIDENT

The President's side of the conversation is highly intelligible, but most of Mr. Anderson's part of it is hard to understand. It can be transcribed by a time consuming process, and will be done so when the work on transcribing belts is up to date.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Mrs. Philip Graham,
12/2/63, 11:10 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 3, in the last paragraph, the transcript reads:

A: "...I'm glad Russ Williams said...."

On page 4, in the next to last paragraph, the transcript reads:

A: "...I am 30 minutes behind on my performance...."

On page 6, the last sentence reads:

A: "That's the last thing he said in a conversation to me, and he -- it's almost unbelievable how pathetic he was -- and I'm sitting her today -- and the tax bill"

The archives staff heard:

A: "...I'm glad Russ Wiggins said...."

A: "...I am 30 minutes behind on my appointments...."

A: "That's the last thing he said in a conversation to me, and he -- it's almost unbelievable how prophetic he was -- and I'm sitting here today -- and the tax bill"

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

✓ ✓

Bill,

You phoned and gave me (Jan 2 from the Ranch) a date for the President's book for Monday, April 20 ----Associated Press Luncheon at the Waldorf.

This is to call your attention to a prior pending invitation for NYC during that week with some of the same people ----- Mrs. Kay Graham's invitation on behalf of the Newspaper Publishers to speak on Thursday the 23rd.

mjdr

Telephone Notes 12/2/63 11:10 a.m.

~~Confidential~~

Return
file on
Teleph. com.
To Robert
162

The President to Mrs. Philip Graham.

A Hello.

B Hello, Mr. President

A Hello, my sweetheart, how are you?

B Well, I'm fine. Are you?

A You know, there is only one thing I dislike about this job is that I'm married and I can't ever get to see you. I just hear that sweet voice on the telephone and that's always on the telephone and I would like to break out of here and be like one of these young animals down on my ranch, jump a fence.

Laughter from both parties

B Now, that's going to set me up for the month.

A No, that's true. But we've got to get together soon, now we've got to get together some evening and just three or four of us set around.

B Any time.

A Well, I've been here until 10 or 11 every night --

B I'm worried about you

A Not at all --

B Don't you do that too much, I know you have to know but I hope you stop it soon.

Mr. President, I'm calling you really on behalf of the Newspaper Publishers of which our publisher, John Sweeterman, is in the organization that I'm referring to. Every year, as you probably remember on the Thursday that closes the publishers meeting in New York they have a huge dinner given in fact by the Bureau of Advertising, but it is an ANPA Dinner attended by 1500 publishers, and their consorts at the Waldorf, and they hope very much that this April 23, Thursday, that you might be willing to speak to them.

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING NOT NATAL SECURITY INFORMATION, E. O. 12812

BY CA ON 9/17/93

B (cont)

I'll give you a little of the background of the President speaking to this group. President Kennedy spoke to them his first year in office and Pres. Eisenhower spoke to them in 1954. Usually, on an election year they ^{don't} -- the President or any political person -- and have a foreigner or somebody non-political. But they were -- because this is your first year in office, they hoped that you might consider speaking to them this year on that day.

A Who else is speaking? I don't want to get in a debate with Goldwater or Nixon or somebody.

B Oh, of course, they wouldn't have anybody else.

A All right, o.k., yes, I will.

B Do you want to think about it.

A I'll think it over, but I think I will.

(?)

B Jack Tarver, head of the Bureau of Advertising and they just wanted me to sound you out.

A Get them to send me a memo on it, what it is, and where and I'll get back with a firm decision. My answer would be -- I wouldn't hesitate the slightest if I had Phil here. If you would just go up in Heaven and get him and bring him back where he could sit in and advise with me awhile. But it's so difficult -- I just -- it was tragic the other night. I had Abe Fortas in my bedroom until ~~at~~ 2:30 before I got my message out to the Congress and I was -- I could have just blown everything and fallen on my head -- and I'm ~~glad~~ glad Russ Williams said he wouldn't change a word and he couldn't have substituted one. ~~But~~ But, it was such agony that I haven't recovered from it. I didn't do that when Phil was here. He would sit down and write it in longhand in 30 minutes what we were going to do and after talking it over and fighting about it and arguing, we would get it. I don't find anybody that is that easy with me anymore. I've got all these temperamental people and he didn't

A (cont)

care if you took half his stuff out and he didn't give a damn whether you didn't use any of it. What he would do -- he was trying to help a human being and a country and not trying to help himself. But these are not many of them -- they all go and cry and they say, well, Abe Fortas put this paragraph in and took ~~mine~~ my paragraph out, but Adlai did a wonderful job, bless his heart, and I want you to thank him on behalf of your children for being a big man. He came in here when this happened, he brought in a speech of his own that he had personally written, he said I am at your service, and a good deal of it was in the message delivered. I don't want that in the paper, but he was a big man and most of the rest of them were but --

B Mr. President, can I say one thing on behalf of somebody whom I don't think looked very well but I think is a great man and that is Ted Sorenson.

A Yes, I think he is absolutely indispensable.

B He is marvelous and he is very hurt and I encountered him and I know the mood he was in and I don't forgive him for it, but I

A He did it to me going up to deliver it. We spent the whole time arguing and I said, "Well, you've got 80% of your stuff in there --

B He was just unforgivable, but yet I think we all just have to imagine how he feels and he is a man instead of crying he did this naughty trick, but -- of being cantankerous and hurt -- because he had that peculiar relationship with President Kennedy.

A Well, the President took out a good deal of his stuff --

B But, Mr. President, I think he is going to come around and I think that if you give him a little love and care --

A I'm going to.

B I know you did, incidentally, that little girl of his said to me President Johnson had been an angel to Ted.

A Well, --

B And, so, she knows --

A I've done as much as I can and have any pride and self-respect left, I just --

B No, I know what you did and I think he is going to come back from the weekend and be all right and I just hope he is. I do think he can be just terrible.

A Kay, here was our feeling. He did the best job the fastest job that you ever saw, but I had Stevenson and he had some good things I wanted to say, and Fortas had the action in that speech. He just ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ met civil rights and all of them on and time for action is now, we are not only just going to continue. How, the speech that came in was a great tribute to a great friend but the Congress expected a little something else. They wanted to know how I was going to stand on these things, and I had to say so and I had to say 'action now' because I've got to talk to you about it, and now better time than right this minute, although I am 30 minutes behind on my performance and I've got the Cabinet waiting out here, but I've got to ask you this.

Howard Smith said to the Speaker of the House that I quietly and judiciously asked to go talk to him about Civil Rights, that you will have to come back and talk next year, January, and we'll all be late coming back in January, they want to have the holidays, and they won't even give you a hearing on a bill that has been up there since May, that they have had hearings on from May to November, that's reported several days ago, that they don't need any more hearings x on but we would be willing to spend all the yer^a on

A (cont)

hearings if they would give them, but he won't even give them a hearing, he won't even call a meeting. He just said I'm out at my farm and I can't have any hearings. Now I don't want him lectured on account of it, I want to give you my factual situation, so we have no alternative when you want to give a man a hearing. -- we thought Oswald ~~would~~ ought to have a hearing. We are upset. That's why we have got a Commission because we thought even Oswald ought to have a hearing and ~~that~~ in this country that's not in keeping, so they are going to try to sign a petition that will give them a hearing in the House so they can discharge the Rules Committee and bring it up.

B

Right

A

Now every person that doesn't sign that petition has got to be fairly regarded as being anti-Civil Rights because he is even against a hearing. I don't care if he votes against the bill after he gets a chance to vote on it, he says it goes too far, if he says that public accommodations ought to do this or that, we've got the votes to pass it. But I don't think any American can say that he won't let them have a hearing either ~~in~~ in the Committee or on the Floor. That is worse than Hitler did. So we've got to get ready for that and we've got to get ready every day -- front page -- in and out - individuals -- Why are you against a hearing and point them up and have their pictures and have editorials and have everything else that is in a dignified way for a hearing on the Floor. This matter has been there since May and if the Committee won't -- the Judiciary has already given it a hearing. Supposedly they are the greatest lawyers in the House so they ought to know it, but Rules Committee, which is a pure procedural thing -- and they don't have any hearings on procedure at all in the Senate -- but they usurped

A (cont)

2

their power through the years and because George Norris set them up to protect them from an arrogant Speaker they have set themselves up and they protect their own selfish interest from a popular vote. So they won't let it be voted -- they won't give a hearing, so our position has got to be that we are entitled to a hearing -- not the merits of the bill, but we are entitled to a hearing. Once we get that, then these cowards will all vote for the bill. But we have got to try to appeal to the Southerners -- a few of them in border states -- to sign that petition. We've only got 150 Democrats, and the rest of them are Southerners -- so we've got to make every Republican -- and we ought to say, "Here is the Patty of Lincoln, Here is the Image of Lincoln," and whoever it is that is against a hearing and against a vote in the House of Representatives is not a - a - a man that believes in giving humanity a fair shake. Vote against it if he wants to -- let him do it-- but don't let him refuse to sign that petition.

t
h
Now, if we could ever get that signed that would practically break their backs in the Senate because they could see that here is a steam roller that could petition it out and they will put cloture on and the psychology would be just like Texas won every game this year -- that they are a going outfit. Otherwise, now, they ~~xxx~~ are saying Johnson is a great magic man -- well, I'm not - but you want to bear in mind Mr. Kennedy ~~was~~ able and he was popular and he was rich and he had young giants helping him and much more enthusiastic in helping him than they are me, and he had the newspapers helping him and he had everything else, but his tax bill -- the last conversation I had with Phil he said he had asked the President to make me take charge of the tax bill and pass it because it would never be passed until I did. Ask Jerry Siegel. That's the last thing he said in a conversation to me, and he -- it's almost unbelievable ~~that~~ how pathetic he was -- and I'm sitting her today -- and the tax bill --

A (contd)

he came and got me and just was real ugly to me and said mean things to me, but he was trying to drive me into action. Q-- and the tax bill, but the President has tried for a year and he hasn't been successful in ~~thirteen~~ 12 months. Now I hope in 12 months I can be, but he tried since May on Civil Rights and he hasn't been successful so they better not be too quick to judge it. If this Mickey Mantle that's got a batting average of 500 and is the star of the Yankees-- if he couldn't do it how do you expect some Plug-Ugly from Johnson City to come in and do it pretty quick. But we are working on it and that's part of the effort right now so you can tell your editorial board that this Rules Committee has quietly said they are not going to do anything. And somebody ought to be asking these leaders. I can't do it. But you know ~~what~~ what I tried to do in appointing your Commission the other day -- the Kay Graham Commission --

B

Yes

A

I talked to them all day long and into the night on that, including talking to you, but they -- Justice Warren ~~turned~~ turned the Justice down -- the Justice Department down, and ~~Katzenback~~ Katzenback and them went to him and he wouldn't do it. I had to come in here and plead with him and finally got him to do it. Every body else wanted to ~~turn~~ turn it down. Dick Russell -- I had to talk with him 4 times. But we went through with all thing. Now, you know where I had to talk to them. Russell was in Winder. Dirksen was in Illinois. Humphrey was on the beach. Mansfield was on the beach in Miami in houses that people have become popular to lend them to them. Charlie Halleck was out

A (contd)

hunting turkey. Now there wasn't a human here and they are not here now, and they are not working now, and they are not passing anything and they are not going to. Now somebody has got to instead of just writing the stories about how the pages live or about Bobby Baker's girl, whether he had a girl or whether he didn't, is not a matter that is going to settle this country, but whether we have justice and equality is pretty damned important, so I would like for them to be asking these fellows where did you spend your Thanksgiving Holidays, tell me about it, was it warm and nice, and write a little story on it. Because we were here ~~functioning~~ functioning and we are going to have ~~to~~ do it now because if you don't they are going to start quitting hear about the 18th of December and they's come back about the 18th of January and then they'd have hearings in the Rules Committee about the middle of March and then they will pass the bill and it will get over and Dick Russell will say it is Easter and Lincoln's Birthday and by the time ~~you~~ ^{he} get them he will screw them to death, because he is so much smarter than they are.

B

Yes.

A

He advocates going home at 4:30 and Mansfield's wife says he can't be there after 5 o'clock and you can't ever beat this crowd doing that. You can't run your business doing that. Now you had better take these broad outlines and give to your broad people and say now let's -- I don't care what you cover in the sex route but let's cover some of these folks vacations -- not in a mean way -- but just point up that the society people says they spent them out here

A (contd)

and we surely do hope that they will take off for Christmas Eve and Christmas if they need to, but that these things haven't been done and we've paid them for doing them, and if your reporter didn't show up all this time and, of course, a part of their job is at home, and in an election year they will be at home, but they oughtn't to go home until they do something to go home to talk about.

B

Yes, Sir.

A

Thank you, darling.

Tell him my judgment is that I'll do it. Put it on a one-page memorandum and send it to me and call me again and let's get together in the next week or so.

Bye.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Mr. McGeorge Bundy,
12/2/63

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 3, in the last paragraph, the transcript reads:

a: "That happens to me every hour, and I want you to get a bill for that."

The archives staff heard:

a: "That happens to me every hour, and I want you to get a pill for that."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

TELEPHONE NOTES

The President to Mr. McGeorge Bundy

12. 2, 63

a Mac

bq Sir.

a

a I want you to get me a little memo on what we talked about the other day, my asking the Speaker to come in -- not to make it, not to commit me to have him in every Security Council meetings, but the ones that I think are sufficiently important to justify his attention, and to --

b Do you want to offer him an assistant, the way you had one, an intelligence briefing, and that kind of thing?

a Yes, what I think I would do is say to him that we will have him briefed on things that are of consequence, maybe twice a month or something like that --

b yes

a And that we will have someone in the department designated to --

b answer his questions

a answer his questions, State Department, any time he wants them, and we don't want to go too far because he might go to messing with contracts over in Defense, we will just leave it Department of State and let this boy --

b yes

a Stull, or whatever it was -- he did a good job for me. Gammon did a good job.

b Someone like that. I think Lee Stull would regard that as a demotion, and I think we can do better for him than that, Mr. President.

a All right. Well, we will find -- I'm talking to the Secretary about it now, whether he should brief him and Ball brief him. I believe if they would get you a

Telephone Notes of the President to Mr Bundy 12/2/63

- a (cont) memo every week and then I can sit down and take 10 or 15 minutes, I might also brief him on Passman (?) a little bit.
- b Yes. (laughter)
- a And on some of these other things I have to take up with him. I'll have that as a comeong, b&t -- then on stuff that needs a little evaluation and a little philosophy, I'll let Ball or the Secretary, whichever has the time to spend with him.
- b Now, Mr. President, do you want to talk to him about this after breakfast tomorrow or do want to wait?
- a I thought I would talk to him after breakfast tomorrow.
- b I'll get a conditional place to talk to Smathers, then.
- a I want to see the Speaker first, though.
- b Right, yes sir.
- a And we'll just keep Smathers waiting, but I'd get me that memo and I want the Secretary of State to get me a memo saying that pursuant to my request he's arranging to sign a man to him to report to him and brief him and bring him up to date on everything. I ~~don~~ would also like a little statement that I could make to the leadership breakfast about -- I want to read it and make it extemporaneously -- about Hayden being -- being no Vice President -- and how important it is that the Pres. Protem be in and have a knowledge of the legislative work and while he has all the knowledge that there is to have about the Senate, he ought to know what the executive branch is doing too and therefore we want him to come and sit with us and for that reason we have asked him, etc.

Telephone notes of The President to Mr. Bundy

b Is he going to be there tomorrow morning?

a Yes sir.

b Mr. President, while, one more thing, then --
it slipped my mind, Ill catch you later.

a That happend to me every hour.

bq Sir

a That happens ~~m~~ to me every hour, and I want
you to get a bill for that.

O. K.

DECEMBER 2, 1963

2:50 pm

9

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO CARL ALBERT

A Carl?

B Yes, sir.

A Pardon me for delaying you, but some folks came in I felt I couldn't talk before. I want to ask you -- how much do we need to do for Frank Coffin? How much influence has he got?

B Well, he's a nice fellow. I don't know whether he has ... influence you know. That's just between you and me.

A O.K. Thank you very much.

December 2, 1963

3:26 p. m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND MR. TED SORENSON
(from Mr. Sorenson)

LBJ:this ability like you went over with me.. so thoroughly... namely having to consult with the Attorney General and the Cabinet... and then make the decisions?

TS: You want me to do the same... that had not occurred to me.. of course... he's in a little bit different position..

LBJ: Well, you think about it and I'd like to have your thoughts on it.. I think we ought to do it pretty soon, though.. because everybody is getting worried and talking about it... and... Mrs. Johnson says she's had 30 people say I looked up there and saw those men behind you... and I've got to come home to her at 7:00 o'clock at night... and I know these wives will use anything on you.. but... that's a sample and you think about what we ought to do and give me a page of what you think...

TS: Well, the first thing we ought to do is take Mrs. Johnson's advice and take it God damned easy.. because that would be a real disaster..

LBJ: Well....

TS: With all due respect to the Speaker..

LBJ: Well, I've got you back.. now.. I can't.. so you go on and give me that page memo and I'll take over for thanksgiving...

TS: Chuckle... O.K.

LBJ: Goodbye. Thanks.

TS: Goodbye.

Date: September 17, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Senator McClellan (to Senator McClellan), 12/2/63, 3:47 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 2, the transcript reads:

LBJ: "...we've got a billion population..we need more roads...."

The archives staff heard:

LBJ: "...we've got a **bigger** population..we need more roads...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 2, 1963

3:47 p. m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SENATOR
McCLELLAN (to Senator McClellan)

LBJ: John?

JMcC: Lyndon Johnson

JMcC: Mr. President...how are you?

LBJ: I'm doing fine, my friend. I hope you're doing all right?

JMcC: All right..I know your burden...my Lord...my heart goes out to you...
it certainly does..Lyndon...I don't know....

LBJ: Well...I wish I wasn't here..and I don't know what I can do about it but
I'm glad I've got you down there..at the other end. John..I called you..
I want to get your help on...this is going to shock you..you may faint...
but I want you to investigate waste and any government contracts that you
hear about or can...I'm writing each one of the 7500 contractors and I'm
making McNamara write them..and I've had the Joint Chiefs of Staff in
and I've told them they've got to tell all their men in uniform..and here's
what I'm saying...In addressing the Congress last week...I pledge this
Administration to the utmost of thrift and frugality and to get a dollar's
value for every dollar spent..I've directed the heads of all government
agencies to accelerate immediately their efforts to operate their programs
at the lowest possible cost. The Secretary of Defense has already
established the cost reduction program aimed at achieving annual savings
of \$4 billion through efforts now in process planned for fiscal year 1967.
He committed his department to realizing a half a billion of these savings
for the current fiscal year. More than 55¢ out of each dollar^{sp} spent by
defense contractors. It is for this reason I'm calling on you personally
to assist me in achieving further significant reductions in defense
expenditures. It is my desire that you establish an affirmative program
of cost reduction in the performance of defense contracts...both those
which you now hold and those which you may subsequently receive. If
you already have such a program in being then I call on you to accelerate,
expand and intensify the effort and report the efforts you've made. I've
asked the Secretary to take into account the accomplishments of contractors
who successfully reduce the cost of defense procurement when making

LBJ
Contd

future source selections and determining profit and fee rates on non-competitive negotiated contracts. I discussed this program with both the Director of the Budget and the Comptroller General and I'm going to add that I've discussed it with you and John Stennis and the man on the House side. . . . The Secretary of Defense's letter elaborating this program is enclosed. It has my fullest endorsement and I made him get one and just tell them that. . . . how the cow ate the cabbage. . . and that they buy only what is needed. . . buy at the lowest sound price. . . they reduce operating costs. . . they assist in buying only what is needed by critically appraising procurement specifications. . . to identify the qualitative and quantitative requirements. . . they can reduce defense costs by taking steps to assure that their own purchases are made at the lowest sound price. . . how to do that. . . and watch their sub-contractors. . . . Now. . . I know that you don't exceed your jurisdiction and get out of your field and I know that they've got the Preparedness Committee. . . cause I headed it. . . but I wanted you to be prepared and know what we're doing. . . I'm trying to get this Budget down. . . they wanted \$108 billion. . . and what your Cabinet has got. . . you've nine salesmen and one credit manager. . . and everybody wants more. . . and they've got it down to \$105. . . and then President Kennedy worried with them for several months. . . and they got it down to \$102-1/2 or 2/8ths. . .

JMcC: That's on what item?

LBJ: \$102 billion. . . for the Budget for next year. . . the Budget next year. . . they had \$108 first. . . then they got it to \$105. . . now. . . they've got it. . . so finally Kennedy got it down to \$102. . . and I'm trying to get it down to \$101 or maybe \$100. . . we spent \$98 something this year. . . we've got a billion population. . . we need more roads. . . and we need \$400 million more for interest and other things and I can't get it to what it was last year. . . but I can get it to the same amount considering our growth. . . and I'm just raising hell with them to do that. . . and I wanted you to know about it and I want you to know that I asked the Comptroller General that anytime he hears of one damned waste anywhere that he get his man right after it. And I want you to do the same thing. . . and if they ask you why you're messing in it. . . you just tell them the President asked you. . . as Committee on Investigations to take in after their tail. . .

JMcC: Mr. President. . . let me say this to you. . . I appreciate your calling. . . I appreciate this program. . . policy you have. . . of trying to bring expenditures into some control. . . and I'm dictating a speech today. . . and I'm down to

JMcC:
Contd

three things you said in your address ... that I'm emphasizing.. and included in that is what you said about the frugality of Federal expenditures ...and the strength of the dollar...I'm going to emphasize that in two speeches..one Saturday night and one next week in New York..and I want you to know, sir..that I will support you 1,000 percent.. And I want to say this to you...we've got projects in my state in which I am deeply interested..and which are important...good projects...if it is necessary..cut any of them to delay them along with an overall program ...get this fiscal situation back in better stability..I'll go along with that ...I'm not asking to do something..be done somewhere else...I wouldn't do myself and I want you to know that and to this end, sir, I'll cooperate with you as much as is humanly possible to do...

~~JMcC:~~ We

LBJ: Well...you patriot...and you always..

JMcC: I mean that...I mean that..

LBJ: I knew that..I knew that..

JMcC: I've been disturbed and I don't mean lightly..I've been seriously disturbed about trends..and one of the greatest things you can do..in my judgment.. is this: that's exactly what you're doing now and try to get the financial situation of this government back in in some measure of control and in some rational position..I think we've drifted too far.

LBJ: Well..I want you to know this..that I know you're a patriot and I know you're going to do what you think is right..come hell or high water...against all the King's horses and King's men..but I wanted you to know this..that you could honestly feel that your President had asked you to monitor and watch everything we do ..and if they ought being..put them on being...period. All I want to do is be a good President and save my country. And I've got my ideas of what needs to be done..so you just tell your staff that they don need to apologize about investigating the Executive Department...they just find out what's wrong and call them as you see them..and, you'll have my support.

JMcC: Well, now..let me ask you one other thing. Not now...but three weeks from now..a month...I'd like to come down and talk to you..for about fifteen minutes about one thing. Now you've got other things more important right now..but I'm not going to bother you..but sometime later..before I make a decision or two..I would appreciate the opportunity to come down and talk to you.

LBJ: Just come down Friday morning at 8:45 and have breakfast with me.

JMcC: I can't this week..I've got to leave for a speaking engagement..then if we can do it...

LBJ: All right..all right..you just call me next week..any day that's convenient to you and we'll set up breakfast.

JMcC: I would greatly appreciate it..

LBJ: Give that sweet Norma a hug for me..and keep one for yourself.

JMcC: I'll do that...I appreciate your...thank you.

LBJ: I'll send you copies of these memos and the Secretary's letter and other things..for your file..but I want to talk to you..I want to talk to John Stennis, too and I'm going to talk to the boys on the House side.. I don't want to just harrass all my people to death..in investigation. On the other hand..I want every government contractor..and I want every employee to know that we mean business...and if I can't catch them.. I want the Comptroller General to do it..if he can't do it..I want you to do it..and if you can't do it..I want Stennis to do it..but I want every taxpayer to have the feeling that when he sends his money up here it is going to be handled frugally.

JMcC: I want you to make the best President we've ever had... || |

LBJ: I knew that...I knew that..I know it..I'll see you next week..you call me and just ask Bill Moyers in my office...write that down...just tell him I wanted to see you..and tell him what day is convenient and if any day next week is..Tuesday I'm tied up..but outside of Tuesday morning...you just let me know.

JMcC: Well I'll be in New York Tuesday..I can't that morning..thank you very much...Bill Moyer?

LBJ: Bill Moyers ... M-o-y-e-r-s... well he's just kind of handyman now and ...like Ken O'Donnell...just call Ken O'Donnell and tell him I said I want to see you ..

JMcC: I'd rather Bill Moyers..thank you kindly.

LBJ: O.K. Bye

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
SENATOR McCLELLAN

212
DECEMBER 2, 1963 3:47 p.m.

The President said: "...John, I want to get your help...I want you to investigate waste in any government contracts that you hear about....I pledge this Administration to the utmost of thrift and frugality and to get a dollar's value for every dollar spent...It is for this purpose that I'm calling you personally to assist me in achieving further significant reductions in defense expenditures.I know you won't exceed your jurisdiction...but I wanted you to be prepared and know what we're doing....."

The President told the Senator that they now had the budget down to \$102.8 billion and that he wanted to get it to \$101 or \$100. Senator McClellan agreed to do what he could and said: "I've been disturbed and I don't mean lightly...one of the greatest things you can do...is exactly what you're doing now... I think we have drifted too far."

December 2, 1963

5:35 p.m.

27

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSMAN
CARL VINSON (to Congressman Vinson)

LBJ: Carl?

CV: Yes, Mr. President...

LBJ: to the Secretary of Defense on instructions to the military men
.... when I was over in your Committee many years ago.. Mrs. Smith
and I.. we had Don Cook.. and we made a bunch of manpower studies
and we found out the enlisted men thought that there was a good deal of
wasted civilians.. too many of them in a good many places.. and a good
deal of wasted superior officers... and subsequently we put out a
recommendation that the factor of cost-consciousness is in complex
... what we want .. everything that involves waste.. waste in manpower
and waste in money to be used in a man's efficiency report before he's
promoted..

CV: Certainly.. that's a good thing..

LBJ: So.. the Secretary is going to do it and I wanted to ask your Committee
and any Subcommittees you've got... you don't need to do it unless you've
got them.. but I wanted you to know we would welcome any investigation
... any recommendation that would help us... keep these folks in line..

CV: All right...

LBJ: I've seen you keep them in line by yourself all these years.. but I wanted
you to be able to tell them that the President had personally talked to you
.. told you that he wanted to get the benefit of the recommendations
of your committee on any waste that could be eliminated... and you're
going to stay after their tail..

CV: I'll cooperate with you one hundred percent.. Mr. President.

LBJ: I know you will.. now you going to extend that to running again? |

CV: No.. No.. I can't.. !

LBJ: Oh, yes you can.. there's not a damn thing wrong with you? |

CV: Yes... yes. |

LBJ: Why would you run out on me the first week I got in office?

CV: Well..that was before you got in.

LBJ: I know it..but I'm in.. you'll just have to tell them..like Mr. Rayburn told me not to run for Vice President...at 2 o'clock in the morning. The next morning he came down and I said...he said..I had to run. And I said "why?". And he said "well, we can't carry Texas with this Catholic boy." And I said "well, you told me last night, though..that I couldn't and shouldn't run under any circumstances." "Well," he said "I'm a wiser man today than I was last night."

CV: Well..I'll be thinking, Mr. President...

LBJ: Well..now wait a minute.. you're not going to run out on me..are you?

CV: Well, I can't talk about that tonight... you must excuse me, sir.. because I've already announced it..that I would not run.

LBJ: Well..I sure do need you up here.

CV: I know that..

LBJ: I talked to your Governor the other day..and he thinks you ought to run..

CV: Well, you see, I'll be 81 years old when my term expires.

LBJ: Oh..you're as old as you feel...and you look like a spring chicken.. out there the other night you just looked like a spring chicken. I'm not going to ask you to do anything that you know is not good cause your judgment is and has always been good..but I just want you to know that there's nobody in the Congress that'd be more valuable.

CV: Well, I'm grateful, Mr. President. Very grateful, indeed..but we'll talk about that between now and the time to do it.

LBJ: O.K...all right..that's what you always do now..when you out-trade me ..I know that.. you put me off..go ahead..

CV: I told the Secretary I thought we should save at least a billion dollars on research and development..and I told Mel Price's subcommittee ..I wanted him to save at least \$500 million..and I hoped the Secretary could reduce it \$500 million...it is \$7 billion now and I think we can save at least a billion dollars without hurting the service at all.

LBJ: Umm-hmmm... well he's sure cutting his Budget now.. we're not going to have any fat in it.. we're going to try to get it down as close to last year as possible..

CV: Now.. we do not need too much public works either.. it ought to be cut down.

LBJ: O.K. I'm glad to have your recommendations.. anytime.

CV: Thank you, Mr. President.

LBJ: Bye

CV: Thank you.

LBJ: You just tell... hello.. hello.. hello...

CV: Silencs..

22 -

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN CARL VINSON DECEMBER 2, 1963 5:35 p.m

The President told Congressman Vinson that he wanted his help in cutting Defense expenditures and that he would welcome any investigations the Congressman's Committee could make to help keep expenditures in line. The Congressman offered his whole-hearted support.

The President then asked the Congressman to reconsider his decision not to run for re-election.

December 2, 1963

3:48 p.m.

23

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
AMBASSADOR ADLAI STEVENSON (to Amb. Stevenson)

LBJ: Governor?

AS: Yes sir..

LBJ: Lyndon Johnson

AS: Yes.. yes.. Mr. President.

LBJ: I'm still thanking you for the contribution you made to my speech but I want to tell you what a first-rate speech you made today and I want to tell you how I personally appreciate your willingness to revise it and show the continuity policy and your own long-time commitment to this purpose..and I expected this..after your moving remarks to the Cabinet last week and I want to reiterate again..how deeply grateful I am for what you did there and I know there's going to be many more issues where your experience and your understanding .. your eloquence.. is going to be of critical importance..I just think that you've made a first-rate beginning and I want you to come down the latter part of the week or the early part of next week whenever you're free... call my girl and tell her you're coming in and let's have lunch or dinner together.

AS: Well..that's terribly kind, Mr. President. I think the speech went well..I thought it was a little long but I think the quotes from your statements which so long predated this discussion.. were extremely effective..I've some speak to me about it afterwards..and I'm very happy that you..that you..let me use them...there was some pressure at the end..I think..to take them out..

LBJ: Well, I didn't pay much attention to that..because it didn't amount to much and I thought they ought to have gone in there..best part of my speeches are those you write..and Abe Fortas tells me you agreed to write the forward for this little booklet..and I'm grateful to you for that.

AS: I hope I can get it done properly..I'm going to have to do a little reading ..

LBJ: Whatever you do is excellent and I just wanted you to know I appreciate what you did today.

AS: I hope things are going all right..are they smoothing out?

LBJ: Yes sir.. yes sir.. I think we're going fine.

AS: Well, that's great. I'll tell you ..Abe is coming in tomorrow afternoon and I told him that I had to come down there on Tuesday the 10th to Human Rights Day..and possibly I might drop in and say hello on Wednesday, December 11th, isn't it?

LBJ: That's just.. that's just wonderful.

AS: If you can fit me in?

LBJ: You can have breakfast with me..if that suits you?

AS: That'd suit me fine.

LBJ: Well..breakfast with Governor Stevenson, Wednesday, December 11th ... 9:00 o'clock..too late for you?

AS: Sure that's all right?

LBJ: Yes..that's wonderful. I want it..that's why I told you.

AS: You know, with me.. you can cancel and all that without any problems.

LBJ: On 9:00 o'clock.. Wednesday morning..breakfast.. White House.

AS: I'll look forward to it very much.

LBJ: All right. Bye

AS: Bye

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
AMBASSADOR ADLAI STEVENSON

DECEMBER 2, 1963 5:40 p.

The President: "I'm still thanking you for the contribution you made to my speech but I want to tell you what a first-rate speech you made today and...how I personally appreciate your willingness to revise it and show the continuity policy and your own long-time commitment to this purpose. I expected this after your moving remarks to the Cabinet last week and I want to reiterate again how deeply grateful I am for what you did there and I know there are going to be many more issues where your experience and your understanding and your eloquence are going to be of critical importance...."

Ambassador Stevenson: "...That's terribly kind, Mr. President... I think the quotes from your statements which so long predated this discussion were extremely effective...and I'm very happy that you let me use them..."

Arrangements were then made for Ambassador Stevenson to have breakfast in the White House with the President on Tuesday, December 10.

December 2, 1963

5:45 p.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
CONGRESSMAN BILL DAWSON (to Congressman Dawson)

LBJ: Hello?

BD: Yes, Mr. President..

LBJ: I wanted to thank you for all you've done for me all my life..and just
tell you I was thinking of you. How are you feeling?

BD: Oh..I'm feeling fine..you know I take it easy..

LBJ: I want your Committee..I'm going to jump on the waste in the
government and the waste in all these programs and try to cut down on
expenditures some..and I want your Committee to report anything that
you hear about..

BD: Well, I've got a man over in Asia and Vietnam now...and he's following
up this "free" stuff that they're getting..these different concerns..
business and trade unions..and it is a shame what they're getting away
with..

LBJ: All right. Well..you just report that back to me..when you get back..
you come in and bring it to me..now..have you got a Subcommittee that
handles waste in the military and other places?

BD: Yes..I have..

LBJ: Who's the head of it.

BD: ^{Chet} Church Hollyfield is the head of the military.

LBJ: All right. I want somebody..you tell them to watch out after all the waste
we've got and you tell the Press I talked to you..told you these orders I
was issuing on cost-consciousness..cutting out waste..that I'd asked you
to help me patrol it.

BD: All right. I'll do that ..and I'll alert..I'll call my Steering Committee
made up of the Chairman of the Subcommittees..and give them special
instructions..

LBJ: Our boy..Jack Brooks is on one of those..isn't he?

BD: Yes..he's head of one of them..he's a good Chairman, too.

LBJ: What is his Subcommittee?

BD: Now.. what is the name of it..Inter-governmental Relations

LBJ: All right..all right.. much obliged, Bill. I just wanted to tell you I was thinking of you and you can tell the Press..

BD: Yes...that you've called and asked for our help..to help you..

LBJ: I want you to bring any waste to my attention that you run into..any waste..you bring it right to my attention personally and you can walk in here anytime you want to..

BD: I'll do that sir.

LBJ: Thank you, Bill. I appreciate that good nominating speech you made too..Bill.

BD: Thank you. Bye

LBJ: Bye

242

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN BILL DAWSON DECEMBER 2, 1963 5:45 p.m.

The President: "...I'm going to jump on waste in the government and the waste in all these programs and try to cut down on expenditures some, and I want your Committee to report anything that you hear about."

Congressman Dawson agreed to have his committee and subcommittees begin to check immediately and to tell the press that the President had called and asked him to begin an intensive check on waste.

December 2, 1963

5:50 p. m.

25

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
SENATOR STENNIS (to Senator Stennis)

LBJ: Hello? John?

JS: Yes sir... Mr. President.

LBJ: How are you, my friend.

JS: Fine.. sir. I hope you're all right, too.

LBJ: Good. John... we .. you've been reading this announcement I've made on a letter I'm sending these contractors... I'm sending a letter to all the contractors of the Federal Government asking them to be cost-conscious and watch their waste and not over-buy.. and McNamara is spelling out how he wants to try to save some money..

JS: Yes.

LBJ: I called you because I'm saying tonight that the President instructed every military officer and every civilian employee associated with procurement and maintenance .. that his cost-consciousness will be given important consideration in determining his efficiency rating and his eligibility for promotion... and cost-consciousness, the President stated includes success in achieving savings under present cost-reduction program and devising and carrying out new ways to reduce manpower costs and to increase efficiency operations.

JS: All right.

LBJ: Now.. I want to ask your Committee .. invite them.. instead of discouraging them.. I want to invite them to point out to me.. and you come in any time you want to... any waste that you can find.. and any lack of cost-consciousness .. any overstaffing.. or anything like that.. now I want to appeal to you to put some of your staff members on some of these installations... now back in 1952 we had them go to installations all over the country..

JS: Yes.

LBJ: And.. what they did.. we borrowed a few reserve officers and had them called to active duty.. and just put them at all these installations.. just kind of peep-hole boys.. spy-boys...and they made reports and it shook the hell out of them.. so I want to reduce expenditures everywhere I can ..try to get this Budget down...as close to last year as I can..

SEN. JS: That's wonderful.. fellow.

LBJ: We've got a billion..over a billion built-in.. \$300 million extra interest and \$300 million for the payroll...and veterans pension and stuff like that...it has to be over a billion more..but I'm trying to hold it down and McNamara is helping me..he's just going all out...but I wanted to say that I talked to you and I talked to John McClelland and I talked to Carl Vinson and I talked to Bill Dawson..on government operations...and tell them that this Administration is going to welcome and compliment and appreciate and be grateful for any Committee that'll bring it any evidence of waste.

JS: Well..that's fine..I heartily approve it..and I certainly will cooperate with you.

LBJ: And...naturally we don't want a bunch of harrassment and just giving us hell for hell's sake..but we want that dollar that comes up here for the taxpayers to feel like they're getting a dollar's worth of value.

JS: Well..that's fine.. Mr. President. I appreciate it.. I'll back you to the limit..too. I want to back you in everything I possibly can..

LBJ: Well..thank you John...give my love to Cora.

JS: Well, now..that's so sweet..and give mine to Lady Bird.

LBJ: She's not there with you..is she?

JS: God bless you..both of you.. No..she's not..I'm way down in South Mississippi..

LBJ: O.K. Well, I'm sorry I disturbed you.

JS: Oh..no..you didn't disturb me..I appreciate your call. I'll be in Washington tomorrow...

LBJ: All right. Well..give me a ring.

JS: You call me whenever you need me. Thank you.

LBJ: Bye

252

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
SENATOR STENNIS DECEMBER 2, 1963 5:50 p.m.

The President: "...I'm sending a letter to all the contractors of the Federal Government asking them to be const-conscious and watch their waste and not over-buy...I called you because I'm saying tonight that the President instructed every military officer and every civilian employee associated with procurement and maintenance that his const-consciousness will be given important consideration in determining his efficiency rating and his eligibility for promotion. I want to ask your Committee -- invite them, rather than discouraging them...to point out to me... any waste that you can find..."

Senator Stennis: "...I heartily approve it, and I certainly will cooperate with you...I'll back you to the limit...I want to back you in everything I possibly can....."

Date: September 17, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Congressman Jack Brooks,
12/2/63, 6:30 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 2, first paragraph, the transcript reads:

A: "...McNamara's got the Inspector General working,
...."

On page 3, third paragraph, the transcript reads:

B: "...on cutting the waste...on this ABC bill...."

The archives staff heard:

A: "...McNamara's got the Inspector General worked up,
...."

B: "...on cutting the waste and doing a better
job...on this AEC bill...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

Telephone notes
The President to Congressman Jack Brooks
Dec. 2, 1963, 6:30 p.m.

A You sound like you are in a well, where are you?

B I am down here in at Cherry Point.

A Well I'll be damned. Did you finally go down there?

B Yes, Sir.

A Well, you didn't take that good looking woman with you did you?

B Yes, I did.

A Well, I'll swear Jack. That's criminal.

B But I've been reading the good news and you apparently have been working hard and feeling good.

A Jack that's criminal to do a thing like that.
A fellow oughtn't to do that.

B Well, she hasn't had to cook any meals. I've been taking her out to eat, steady.

A Laughter. Now, listen, what I called you about, I've started a cost-consciousness program and a thrift improvement program among the military.

B Good

A So I want you to watch any examples of waste and inefficiency and duplication and surplus manpower that you run into in the form of civilians or military, so that you can tell your committee that I ask Mr. Dawson and he is going to call all your subcommittee chairmen together and we are going to try to find any surplus or any waste in this government anywhere, kind~~ly~~ like you were telling me about your machines, that bill you had.

B Right.

A And we are going to try to make frugality and thrift the watchword up here and make the taxpayers at least think they are getting a \$1 worth of value out of a \$1 spent. I called Carl Vinson and he is going to put his subcommittees on it. I called McClellan and he is going to ~~xxxx~~ help me. And John Stennis Preparedness Subcommittee; McNamara's got the Inspector General working, so we are really going to not cut a dime out of combat but we are really going to cut the living hell out of all this overhead.

B I'm for it. And you know that bill of mine will save \$10 million a month. McClellan's got it in his Committee over there and hasn't even had hearings.

A Well, you get back here and I'll see if I can't -- I'm going to have breakfast with him Wednesday week and you get back here -- when are you coming back.

B I'm coming back Monday morning.

A That district of yours needs a Congressman, Jack.

B Oh, I've been working for them.

A Y u have.

Bq Yes Sir. I'm ~~xxxxxx~~ coming back Monday morning, and will be back Tuesday - drive back. And to speak to the ~~xxxxxx~~ Rotary Club on ~~xxxxxx~~ Wednesday.

A All right.

B In Beaumont. I'm going to be up for Wednesday to vote on that Cotton Bill and I'll check in with you.

A Well, how are you going to speak at the Rotary Club Wednesday --

B The following Wednesday.

A Well, give your sweet bride my love and I just called you -- I forgot you were out of town and they just got you wherever you were.

B Well, I'm glad. Sound like you are feeling good.

A I feel all right. I've had a good day.

B Well, I've already read that statement that you made the memorandum - the newspaper report to the AGENCIES on cutting the waste and I called my staff today and told them to draft a rough of a letter to you on this ABC bill and I'll look at it Wednesday when I am there and I'll talk with you about it and I'll have it ready for you.

A O.K. Bye.

Give my love to Charlotte and I'll see you when you get back.

B Here, she wants to say hello.

A All right

B (Mrs) Hello, sir.

A You are hell of a woman, just run off and leave town.

B Y uknow, we have to do it.

A Well, you missed a lot and we'll see you when you get back, honey.

B All right, thank you sir.

A Thank you, and good to hear you.

26

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN JACK BROOKS DECEMBER 2, 1963 6:30 p.m.

The President: "...I've stated a cost-consciousness program and a thrift improvement program among the military...I want you to watch any examples of waste and inefficiency and duplication and surplus manpower that you run into...civilian or military..." We are going to make frugality and thrift the watchword up here and make the taxpayers at least think they are getting \$1 worth of value ~~for~~ out of a \$1 spent....We are really going to not cut a dime out of combat but we are going to cut the living hell out of all this overhead.:

Congressman Brooks said that he was for it and that his bill, which was in McClellan's Committee would save \$10 million a month.

DECEMBER 3, 1963

6:30 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
CONGRESSMAN DICK BOLLING

27

- A Just a little run down I want to keep this secret. I don't want them to be thinking I'm running around them -- but I just want to get your -- you just keep this confidential, but give me your idea about what are your prospects up there?
- B Well, the -- I think with the position that you are taking and the Speaker's taking that we will get our maximum Democratic signatures pretty quick. What the Republicans are going to do us, I don't know, with all the mumbling and grumbling, I am to meet with Brown -- Clarence Brown -- tomorrow morning as soon as he is in his office. I arranged that on last Wednesday when I told him I was going to put this resolution in. Brown has been more or less cooperative, but he doesn't give us a "when." He tried to push Smith into having hearings on Civil Rights before Christmas, but didn't get anywhere, and that really was the thing that convinced me that we had to go this route or we wouldn't have any lever at all, we would just be whistling in the breeze.
- A I think you can really make a point of that. Just say that the humblest man any where has got a right to a hearing. In the first place, there is no real necessity for having hearings. They have been hearing it from May till November, but if a procedural Committee in the House has to have a hearing, they don't have them in the Senate, but if they have to have them on this subject, they oughtn't to be extensive, and if they are going to be extensive, they ought to begin them, but you have been denied any opportunity to be heard at all, and the only way you can be heard is on the House Floor itself.
- B That is right.
- A And anyone that is for Civil Rights is going to be signing this petition, and if they are not for civil rights, all right. But don't hide behind a procedural thing, because it is well known they want to wait until they get back in January, and then -- Easter, and then the Senate thinks it can kill it, and that's what the play is, and anybody that wants to be anti-civil rights, that's their right. We got no objection to that -- they can do what they want to. They vote their convictions. But they can't pretend to be for civil rights and then say that they won't even allow them to have a hearing.

DECEMBER 2, 1963

-2- (cont.)

A Let them sign the petition and then vote against the bill.

B I think that kind of pitch ought to come out of the Speaker's mouth when he leaves the WhiteHouse tomorrow. Something very like that. I think we've got to put them on the frying spot but I don't think it's appropriate for you to do it, at this stage.

A No.

B But I do think it's appropriate for him to do it. Just to lay it on the line. When I talked to him on Tuesday last, he told me to go ahead, but to do it on my own, and then when I put it in, he approved it. He's got every right to make a statement like that -- it ought to be said sort of gently and low key, but so that it -- I'm sure there will be lots of coverage. This will be the first leaders' meeting, and I'm sure there'll be lots of coverage -- and make the point and put the pressure on him. Then next week, I'm organizing an inside group -- I'm also working with -- as I know you have been -- with the various people on the outside that are for this bill, and I will talk to them on Wednesday afternoon when they have a meeting describing the technical aspects of this -- so they'll understand what they're dealing with, and I think we can get -- you know -- in the order of 160 Democrats pretty fast for this kind of goal.

A Are you going to get any from Texas?

B Well, I don't know. I had a sort of surprise this morning, but -- Albert Thomas called me up, wanted to know what the score was on Rules Committee, and made it very clear that he was going to be helpful. At least that's certainly what I got from him, and I assumed that was out of loyalty to you.

A I called Jack Brooks this afternoon, and he was off down in Marine Camp -- said he'd be back Tuesday.

B I get the impression that Albert is going to be helpful. Now whether he's going to want to be -- whether he's going to want to sign a petition or not, I don't know. But we could -- you know him a lot better than I do, but there are a number of fellows down there that could.

A Yes, there are a half a dozen that could.

B That's right. And I think it would be if the day
we get that decision on the desk, which I hope...

A The more you get to sign it the better.
Now, you think any Republicans are going to sign it? 207

B Well, that's up in the air. They've been sending me messages,
and I've refused to talk to them, until I talk to Brown tomorrow,
because he's the real key in the Rules Committee. I don't
know whether you're aware of this, Mr. President, but Brown
beat Halleck on the first three additional members of the Rules
Halleck. He controls Kathy St. George. (garbled)
and Halleck didn't win one until he got down to Avery who's
their fifth one. And Brown has always dealt with me in good
faith, both in both in 1956, 1957 and 1960. And he's a ~~touch~~ tough
old boy, but he's always been fair. And he's never crossed me.
I've never quite been able to get him to say how hard he was
pushed, and that's the purpose of the meeting tomorrow. His
situation is complicated by the fact that his wife is dying in Ohio.
And he has a number of other personal problems -- very substantial
and tragic proportion. So I don't feel I can shove him too hard,
all I can do is just go with him. But I don't -- I'll talk to him in
the morning, I don't think he's going to shove the Judge hard
enough to cut his people loose on this, but the four civil rights
republicans, the ones out of the east and the west have been
sending me messages that if we didn't pull the trick on them that
we did in 1960 that we ought to get somewhere between 40 and 50
signatures pretty easy. And the trick we pulled on them in '60
is that we got a flock of signatures that included only about 10
Republicans, and then the rules of the House were violated and
the New York Times had a complete list. And I think they're
obviously scared of this. I think the fact that they're scared of
this means that the more pressure we put on them...

A Well, I think it's gotta go. I'm going to ask them in the morning
to really get their teeth into this and taxes too. I don't want to
tell them about procedures -- what ought to be done -- but I did
tell McCormack what I thought about it before it started.

B Well this is the only lever we've really got.

A I agree with you.

A I think it would be a mistake for me to be quoted now, but ...

B I agree with you.

A But I think you're doing a good job, and I'll be seeing you.

B Thank you, Mr. President.

27

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN DICK BOLLING DECEMBER 2, 1963 6:50 p.m.

The President and Congressman Bolling discussed the possibility of getting the civil rights bill out of the Rules Committee.

with

Congressman Bolling: "...I think the position that you are taking and the Speaker's taking that we will get the maximum Democratic signatures pretty quick. What the Republicans are going to do, I don't know, with all the mumbling and grumbling. I am to meet with Clarence Brown tomorrow morning as soon as he is in his office....Brown has been more or less cooperative but he doesn't give us a 'when.' He tried to push Smith into having hearings on civil rights before Christmas but didn't get anywhere, and that was really the thing that convinced me that we had to go this route or we wouldn't have any lever at all, we would just be whistling in the breeze."

The President replied: "I think you can really make a point of that. Just say the humblest man any where has a right to a hearing. ...but you have been denied any opportunity to be heard at all, and the only way you can be heard is on the House Floor itself.... Anyone that is for civil rights is going to be signing this petition and if they are not for civil rights...that's their right...They vote their convictions. But they can't pretend to be for civil rights and then say that they won't even allow them to have a hearing. Let them sign the petition and then vote against the bill."

Congressman Bolling and the President were in agreement that this argument should come from the Speaker when he leaves the White House the next day and not from the President himself. Congressman Bolling was not sure how many Texans would sign the ~~bill~~ petition but he thought Albert Thomas would. He felt that they might be able to get between 40 and 50 Republican signatures.

December 2, 1963

7:01 p. m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
SENATOR FULBRIGHT (to Senator Fulbright)

LBJ: Bill? You got anything to talk to me about?

JWF: What?

LBJ: You got anything to talk to me about?

JWF: Well..lots of things. What do you have in mind?

LBJ: Well....just anything you want to talk to me about..I want to talk to you.

JWF: Well..I don't want to bother you..but if you've got something..

LBJ: You don't bother me..I always feel a little better after I talk to you...
learn something.

JWF: Chuckle...I wish that were so... Well, one thing I want to talk to you
about..is this Cultural Center matter...I sent Mike a memorandum
that he said he was going to send to you..

LBJ: I think he's got it in his hand..

JWF: Well..I had talked to Stephen..and I imagine you know all I know about it
I talked to Feldman...and Pat McNamara..Chairman of the Committee.
and we're just kind of pushing it along...I hope the time is right...

LBJ: I think what you ought to do is take this bill that...that..did he talk to
you about the matching thing? I think that's the one that'll do it.. I think
...that..as an amendment to your bill..and see what you can do with
it. I told Larry O'Brien to check out these Committee members..so
we would make a tribute to him and not a---running-out an him.

JWF: Well..I talked to Pat about the general idea and I told Mike..today..
that..of course...anything you all wanted in the way of an amendment..
it was underway..and he needn't substitute..whatever was agreed on
we'd want it done..matching up to a maximum of \$25 million is what I
understood you wanted...

LBJ: Yeah... what I think we ought to do is be very careful that we do not
let some people think that we're using his name to raid the Treasury
to do something for the District of Columbia..that they otherwise would
do..and I told Larry O'Brien..to check it out with the authorizing
Committees.. McNamara and Buckley..and check it out with the

LBJ
Contd

Appropriations Committee..and then see what we could stand and for they'd go and then..let's go..but..he hasn't given me a report and I'll ask him that in the morning....I want you to come in and see me in the next two or three days..how are you getting along on foreign aid?

JWF: Well..you know our conference was interrupted..but we were doing all right...and we resume tomorrow afternoon..it'll come out about 360..

LBJ: That's good

JWF: And...there's two important amendments..I wanted you to have a look at.....Yugoslavia...and the population control...the way we talked about the population control ..in the preliminary..the only one of the House members...all Senate members are all right..I think though they'll be coming around on that..and not a word was said about that.. there were 63 amendments and not a one of them was related...I think they all are reconciled ..

LBJ: All right. I'll have Larry O'Brien keep in touch with you about the Cultural Center ..depending on what he has...you keep in touch with us and let me know what happens on your conference on your foreign aid..and let me know anything else that I need to know..and if I don't hear from you...I'll know that you've got everything taken care of for me..
...looks like to me..our Administration...this Alliance for Progress is in pretty bad shape..and it looks like to me that the OAS is in bad shape..looks to me ..we need some good leadership in both those fields...I wish you'd think about some real top-young fellows that might help us.

JWF: Well..now I didn't whether you were ready to talk about next year's foreign aid bill or not...I want to talk to you about that whenever you have time.

LBJ: I'm not right now..but I want to before long. I want to make a little better study of the thing..

JWF: I...have talked to several people about some ways to avoid this kind of fight...we've got ..I think we ought to do something about it...

LBJ: One of the things...we've got weak personnel over there and have got a bunch of vacancies..and aides and assistants...you know any good administrators...I'd like to know them.

JWF: They're hard to find, too.. you know that. My God, I can't even keep a staff... somebody always is raiding my staff... I lost another good man... lost my AA... they pay them more than we pay them...

LBJ: Well.. I might take some of them away from you.. myself.

JWF: I'm down to the bone.. they just hired away English from him..

LBJ: Who in the hell did that?

JWF: Navy.

LBJ: Oh, well... hell with them...

JWF: Christ.. they pay them \$35,000.. we can't pay them but \$16,000.

LBJ: Well.. that's terrible.

JWF: He's got three children..

LBJ: Is Betty living with you?

JWF: Yes.. just barely...

LBJ: Give her my love..

JWF: Sure will.

LBJ: And.. I'll be... I wish you'd tell me what you think we ought to be doing in Cuba?

JWF: Well.. I don't think you ought to stir that up any... I think this election sounds good.. what I heard of it today.. in Venezuela.. I think the God damned thing ought to be let alone... I think if you stir it up...

LBJ: Well.. they're shipping arms all over the damned Hemisphere.

JWF: Well.. that.. we ought to stop. I thought you meant about going into to Cuba.

LBJ: No... I'm not getting into any Bay of Pigs deal.. I'm just asking you what we ought to... why don't you give me a one-page memo on what you'd do if you were President... about Cuba.

JWF: Well.. you mean, exclusive of any...

LBJ: I mean... what you'd do if you were President about Cuba... inclusive or exclusive... of anything. Just what you'd do. And get your good brain to working.. I'd like to look at it and see.

JWF: Well.. I'd rather wait until I get this foreign aid out....

LBJ: All right... Now what about Vietnam?

JWF: Well.. I just think that is a hell of a situation... it is hopeless... I'm not really aware of the new characteristics of it... but I think the whole general situation is against us as far as a real victory is concerned... I think that this idea of some kind of a semi-neutralized area in which they'll keep out.. by that I mean the Chinese... .. but I think we ought to give this new man a chance to see what he can do for a little while.. I don't think I would do anything..

LBJ:
~~XXXX~~ Why did you send Lodge out there for God's sake?

JWF: (this reply very faint... and not picked up by Dictaphone belt)

LBJ: I just think he's got things screwed up good.. that's what I think.

JWF: Well... that is a hell of a situation. Some things you can't do anything with.. make you want to go all out.. and I don't believe ... we had that in Laos..

LBJ: O.K... my friend. God bless you and I'll be talking to you later and come in and see me when you get a moment.

JWF: O.K... well, anytime... anytime.. that YOU have a moment.. why we'll get our thoughts together.. I've been so preoccupied with foreign aid ..

LBJ: Well.. spend sometime on Cuba for me.

JWF: O.K.

LBJ: A little bit on Vietnam, too. What would happened if I moved Lodge?

JWF: I wouldn't do it right away.. I don't know.. you see.. I'm not current

JWF
Contd on this exact situation..

LBJ: Who does he satisfy?

JWF: Well..I assume some elements in the Republican party...I assume
...I don't know..I wasn't consulted about that post.

LBJ: O.K...my friend. Goodnight.

JWF: Goodnight.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SECRETARY DILLON

DECEMBER 2, 1963

7:35 pm

27

A I wanted to see how you and Harry Byrd -- what you did to me to me today.

D I talked to him this afternoon. I talked with him with George Smathers, and Joe Fowler, and he said he was prepared as soon as public hearings finished to move right ahead and work on the bill and he said he wasn't going to do any talking, and would try to expedite the thing, but the speed with which they move would depend upon how much various members of the committee talked and he didn't think any Democrats would talk except Gore, and he thought we ought to talk to Dirksen about this, and he wasn't very sure what Dirksen's position, Williams' position was, so he intends to go ahead and talk to Dirksen.

A Tell him that we want to table all those Gore amendments, and just talk as little as he can.

B He says he'll be against the Gore amendments themselves, even though he agrees with Gore on the vote and bill, he opposes Gore's amendments because...

A Of course, he's against passing it before Christmas.

B No, he said he couldn't do that. And

A Say why?

B Yes, he just said that the Committee wouldn't move that fast -- they never had, we knew that, etc. He said there was a reasonable, good chance for complete action on the bill before Christmas. Now he did not want a -- showed no interest in advance statement or commitment or figure on the budget at this time. He did indicate he would like to have such a thing -- t/s/ said it would be helpful to have such a thing, when Congress reconvenes -- and go right ahead.

A All right.

B Of course, by January we'll have that. If we want to give it out.

A Pretty well got it now.

B He would be at that time ready to move, but the big difference I noticed in Byrd is that personally where two or three months ago he was sort of bitter about the bill and now he gives the impression of being rather relaxed about it, and still saying he's opposed to it, but indicated he believes it'll pass -- has a pretty good majority in the committee, but it's just a question of how fast they complete it.

A O. K., Doug. Sure do thank you, my friend.

B Righto. We'll see Dirksen.

A Fine.

A Dirksen and Williams, too.

B We'll see Williams.

A See if you can do as well with your Republican friends, as you do with your Democratic friends.

B Well, I can with Dirksen, but not with Williams.

A O. K.

DECEMBER 2, 1963

7:45 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES

THE PRESIDENT (A)

TO GOV. FRANK CLEMENTS (B) returning the Gov.'s call

32

B How are you?

A Fine.

B I just wanted to take one minute to brief you about this little meeting that we're going to have with you tomorrow.

A Good.

B First, of all, it was at my suggestion; secondly, as you know, the present Chairman of the Governors' Conference is Republican Governor Anderson of Kansas.

A Yes, I know it -- I know him.

B A rather nice fellow.

A Yes, I know him. Well, that's good, and I commend you on it. Think it's fine.

B And thirdly, the immediate past national chairman as you know is Governor Albert Rosellini of the State of Washington. Now Governor Barron and several of your friends and supporters are going to be there and it's going to be a display of unity on the part of the Governors Executive Committee speaking to the extent that we can for the 50 governors of the country in back of you. There's not going to be, I don't think, any -- there was some discussion about it today -- about getting down to specifics like using the word, civil rights, and things like that, but without making any qualifications, the entire group -- Republican and Democrat -- is going to tell you as President that they stand united behind you. Now we think it's a good step in the right direction.

A Fine, Governor. I'll look forward to seeing you, and I set it up because I suspected that some of you boys had been in there ...

B Well, I wanted you to know what the score is, and they're coming up on my plane and well see you at noon tomorrow.

A Thank you, my friend.

32

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
GOVERNOR FRANK CLEMENTS DECEMBER 2, 1963 7:45 p.m.

President Johnson and Governor Clements discussed the President's meeting with the Governors Executive Committee which was to take place the next day. The Governor said that there would be no specifics but that the entire group -- Republican and Democrat -- were going to tell the President that they stand united behind ~~him~~ him.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Senator Symington (from Sen. Symington), 12/2/63, 7:52 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

SS: "...is to consolidate stock proposition and at the same time give more perrogative to the Executive Branch...."

The archives staff heard:

SS: "...is to consolidate **stockpile** proposition and at the same time give more prerogative to the Executive Branch...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 2, 1963

7:52 p. m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
SENATOR SYMINGTON (from Sen. Symington)

LBJ: Hello?

SS: Mr. President?

LBJ: Hi... Stu... how are you doing, my friend.

SS: Fine.. thank you, sir.

LBJ: Good to hear you.

SS: I talked to Mike Feldman.. he called me.. and we were going through with these hearings.. I just didn't want to bother you about them. The idea.. frankly.. is to consolidate stock proposition and at the same time give more prerogative to the Executive Branch... we've had very good cooperation from the General Services Administration .. I'm not quite sure where the OEP stands in the matter.

LBJ: Who.. who are they?

SS: That's the former NSRB.. OBM..

LBJ: Is that

SS: McDermott.

LBJ: Yes.. McDermott..

SS: This fellow Beoten has been great in the GSA.. and.. there were no objections to this legislation.. except.. the Possaby case.. we're not quite sure.. both of the people want to maintain a position of the Congress in this matter as a result of the mining industries which I do not think is tenable.. the reverse in that is Wright Patman.. who perhaps is the boss of it in the House.. with whom I spent sometime this afternoon and if anything he thinks that the authority of the Executive Branch should be increased.. my problem is that my counsel.. who is a big lawyer.. a Republican from Missouri.. gave me these two days months ago.. and I just thought we'd have the hearings and get the opinions of the people in question.. in the government branch.. now.. I didn't want to bother you.. I know how busy you are.. I dropped you a note and.. it is here.. whatever you would like is what I would like to do...

- LBJ: Well.. that's all right.. that's all right.. I'd just go ahead if you've got them set ..and go ahead.. I don't know a thing about it.. he was asking me what I knew about it. I told him I didn't know. I'm not competent to pass judgment except I know.. generally.. you'd be wanting to do what ought to be done.. what's right.. and that was my position. I don't know.. now.. what do they have to do. You'll just have to find out what they say.. won't you?
- SS: Yes. That will be the way it will go. They will make their position ..I heard that the OEP were very hesitant.. I heard just before I left that GSA wants to revise some of their good statement in support of us because they don't know what your position will be.. as against the former President.
- LBJ: Had the former President endorsed the bill?
- SS: I would presume so becauseooten is so close to all the previous people.. he's a good man.. if I may say so.. good Administrator in this GSA picture... however.. nothing would happen in the way of a bill.. the legislation was passed by the Committee.. Subcommittee.. sometime back and nothing would happen in the way of a bill.. all we were doing were sort of taking opinions ...
- LBJ: You can take opinions.. and then give me your opinion after you hear ..
- SS: When you're ready to talk with me.. it would be my privilege to talk with you.
- LBJ: That's wonderful. You just get their opinions and then I'll..
- SS: May I say one more thing?
- LBJ: Sure
- SS: I've been mighty proud of you in the last few days.
- LBJ: Thank you, Stu. I appreciate it... appreciate it. Thank you my friend. hope we can get together.
- SS: Yes sir. Bye
- LBJ Bye

The President joined Speaker McCormack on a call to Mayor Daley of Chicago:

A Dick, Lyndon Johnson.

B Mr President, how are you?

A Fine, Dick. We just finished Leadership Meeting. This cotton bill, I don't know anything about it. I haven't seen it, but ...

B I was talking to McCormack. If it's your bill, it's one thing...

A Now here's the situation.

B I don't like the idea of us having no commitments on some of this other legislation.

A Here's the situation/ Dick. I don't think it'll do a helluva lot of good or harm one way or the other if we pass it. If we don't, it'll do a helluva lot of harm. Let me tell you what the picture is. This bill affects a half a million workers -- primarily the textile manufacturers -- they call it a cotton bill, but it tries to give our domestic textile people a fair shake as against the Japanese who get our cotton so much cheaper. They have the votes to pass it. President Kennedy talked to them two or three times, and ... announced that they were going to bring it up -- were going to take it up before his death. They got it all set.

B All I want to know, Mr. President. Are you for it?

A Yes sir.

B O.K.

A Thankyou, Dick, God bless you.

DECEMBER 3, 1963

10:02 am

TELEPHONE NOTES
SECRETARY RUSK TO THE PRESIDENT

✓
33
—

B

Wicked story in the U.S. News and World Report this morning that was just absolutely wrong on that reception where you received the foreign dignitaries at the funeral. It takes the line that I was very reluctant about this and that you made me do it that I hovered all over you all evening so that you wouldn't make any mistakes -- that kind of thing -- we're going to tear it apart today in a because the fact is that I strongly recommended it to you personally and if there is any reluctance -- I won't say this to the press -- it was on your side because ~~of~~ of your schedule and everything else, and secondly, that while you were seeing a dozen of these delegations I was seeing another dozen, and so we'll try to straighten that out. But I'm very sorry about that story.

A

They're going to do with this with us -- with you and McNamara and Bundy and everybody -- honeymoon is over, and we're going to have a lot of it.

B

Well, we'll go to work on it.

A

Thank you, my friend.

DECEMBER 3, 1963

10:50 am

TELEPHONE NOTES
SEN. MANSFIELD TO THE PRESIDENT

34

A ...happy to have Byrd come down here and talk to me and tell me what he ~~wa~~ thinks about the budget and what he thinks about other things. I don't want to be asking him because it looks like that I'm tying in and dealing or something, but I think if you get a chance you might just say that the man needs your help and advice and I've given him mine, but you've been here a good deal longer, and you know this fiscal picture, and why don't you give him some of your thoughts.

B Will do.

A Either write it -- or orally. And suggest orally, and just tell him that you know the great feeling I have for him and you've been down two or three times yourself but that you'd appreciate it if he and some of the others would do it, and tell him that one or two of them that I was serving there with have come down -- and you just think he ought to do it and quit being so modest.

B O.K., I'll do that, sir.

A Thank you, my friend.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, Dave McDonald to the President, 12/3/63,
12:10 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 2, the transcript reads:

B: "We need 218 now, because there's one mission."

The archives staff heard:

B: "We need 218 now, because there's one missing."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

TELEPHONE NOTES
DAVE MCDONALD TO THE PRESIDENT35

- A Sorry I missed you, my friend. Wanted to talk to you, How are you getting along?
- B Oh fine. I talked with George.
- A Yeah, yeah.
- B And I gave him the information. And I could give you a quick rundown.
- A Good.
- B And he has it all written down so you won't have to make any notes.
- A All right.
- B d We steel workers -- 108 for the petition. Plus with some questioning that we think means yes -- another 13. So that gives us 121. We have definite 45 who said no. And a possible nine more who said no. Now we believe that your key man -- you have two key men-- but the one at this moment for Texas is Albert Thomas.
- A Yes, I talked to him this morning.
- B If you talked to Albert this morning, that should mean 7 there.
- A Well, it won't mean that many, and I don't know what he's going to do, but I told him I sure wished he'd get on it.
- B Well, we'll continue to work on it.
- A Wonderful, Dave. That's mighty good and I sure do appreciate it.
- B Now, Mr. President, one more thing. It seems as though John McCormack would like to have definite word from you.

A Well, I've given it to him -- at breakfast this morning.

B Well, that's fine. That's since my report then.

A Yes, sir. You betcha"

B Because my report is of the count-up last night.
And we have to pick up 62 Republicans.

A That's right.

B We need 218 now, because there's one mission.
We're continuing there, and Dick Bolling is coming
out to talk with all of our people tomorrow morning,
and then we'll have a further report. My plans are
to get on down to Washington tomorrow -- I under-
stand you were with Meany this morning --

A Yes, sir.

B Well, I'm coming down on the 12:30 plane out of here
and see George at 3:00 and see you at 4:00, I under-
stand. Now, if there is anything you want me for
earlier, I can make that.

A No, but you just come on down, and we'll get together
when you get here.

B Excellent, and our boys are staying on top. Now, we
still haven't contact North and South Carolina, Georgia,
or Tennessee Delegations, but that will be done today
and tomorrow morning.

A Well, you won't get many there.

B No, but we can put the muscle on them.

A Here's Dr. King that's talking to me about it right
now.

then he puts Martin Luther King on the Line
then continuing the President's conversation:

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
DAVE McDONALD

552
DECEMBER 3, 1963 12:10 p.m.

Mr. McDonald told the President that they had 108 for the petition plus the possibility of 13 more, making 121, but there were 45 definite 'Noes') -- that he had 33 men working on 45 States. He said that the key man for Texas was Albert Thomas. The President said that he had talked to Thomas that morning.

TEOEPHNE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO CONG. HOLIFIELD

B Yes, hello, Mr. President.

A How you doing?

B Oh, I'm pretty good.

A Happy Birthday to you.

B Thank you very much.

A I just wanted you to know I was thinking of my chief nominator, and I just wanted to wish you many Happy Returns of the day.

B Well, thank you very much. I know how busy you've been, and I want you to know how proud I've been of the way you've been handling yourself.

A I saw you all during my speech -- at the joint session the other day.

B Well, I was also down yesterday at this ceremony, but I didn't bother speak with you. Some time pretty soon, Sen. Anderson, Sen. Pastore, and (sounds like Mel Price) and I want to come down and spend a few minutes with you talking about this overall Atomic Energy Program.

A Be glad to. We'll work it out.

B We'll work something out -- and I appreciate very much your calling.

A Thank you, Chet. Bye.

Date: September 17, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Congressman Carl Albert (to Congressman Albert), 12/3/63, 3:00 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 5, the transcript reads:

LBJ Contd: "...then I'm going to ask the whole House to function because we just can't have stand-still..do-nothing..going..."

The archives staff heard:

LBJ Contd: "...then I'm going to ask the whole House to function because we just can't have stand-still..do-nothing..government..."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 3, 1963

3:00 p. m.

✓ 30

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSMAN
CARL ALBERT (to Congressman Albert)

LBJ: Carl?

CA: Yes sir.

LBJ: How are you?

CA: Fine..how are you?

LBJ: Pretty good. I want to talk to you..I didn't get a chance to individually this morning..a little more about the situation up there..and I gather you're getting some static and backfire..tell me about Halleck's conversation last night.

CA: Well...he...

LBJ: On adjournment and all that stuff ...

CA: He just said that by God he was going to raise hell if we didn't adjourn by the 14th..that there wasn't any use going around...here..and that he was going to fuss about this civil rights bill..and if they wanted to get it up quicker for it to go the normal route..that if...have a reasonable hearing..well, his boys would go with us..but I, don't know..the truth of the matter is ..he's wanting to get a little bit of an anti-civil rights aura around him..himself..because his right wings has really chewed him..when he went down here..down to the White House there and agreed with President Kennedy to get that bill out.

LBJ: Yeah...

CA: You know...but, oh, I'm catching from all sides...because I sat on the television Sunday..a program "Face the Nation"..they asked me would we have the bill on the floor by the end of the year...and I have it up on the floor this year..and I said..well, from a practical, parliamentary ..fact... I think it is almost impossible..and, the other wing of the Republicans are chewing me for saying that..McGregor gave a blast at me..Halleck is threatening to..do anything he can..even threatening to object to all unanimous consent request to send bills to conference..

CA
Contd

could
...of course he and Smith get together..and we have to go to Rules Committee...and Smith wouldn't call Rules...why they could lock us up here..but if they do, we'll just stay here through the Christmas holidays But..he is..he's in bad shape..and he's hitting the bottle too much.. too early in the day...you know...

LBJ: Hmmm..hmmmm.

CA: But, I'll tell you..we'll do anything you want to. I'm going to work hard for that Civil Rights bill...I'm going to try to help you out..really am.. I'm going to help put it over...and that's going a lot farther than a lot of people would on other issues...you know...it is going to be a little tough..but I'm going to do it.

LBJ: I thought Charlie..that night the leaders met with me..he talked very cooperatively...

CA: Yes..he did..

LBJ: Was he drinking a little last night?

CA: Yes, drinking too heavy...but he's been smart ..do you know he..he told us to quit bringing up ..that he's getting tired of these things being brought up..named after the President..that there's a limit to all this business..that there's a limit to what we should do..

LBJ: I hear a good deal of that, Carl...a good deal of it.

CA: I do too...but the thing..where he's planning wrong..Mr. President.. is for him to say it..if these people overdo it themselves...they are the ones that'll get hurt..but if he criticizes them for that..he's the one that get hurt.

LBJ: That's exactly right.

CA: And..well...he says "it is time for Lyndon Johnson to move in the White House"...you know...well....

LBJ: That's right.

CA: But..you want me to find out anything?

LBJ: Yes..I want you to get the lay of the land...find out what they're thinking

LBJ
Contd

..I don't know of any choice we've got...if Smith won't have a hearing.
Except just try to get the petition signed...

CA: Well...I...I think we will get it signed..we may not get it signed by
Christmas...

LBJ: No..but we ought to get it..we ought to get as many the first day as we
can..

CA: That's right. Absolutely.

LBJ: George Meany said Labor is going to bat on it..Dave McDonnell called
me..told me he had 33 men on the Hill..

CA: Well..Dave's brother was up here..just now. I saw him.

LBJ: He told me he had 108 have agreed to sign it..

CA: That's right... 108..he showed me his list.

LBJ And 45 that said "no."

CA: Yes sir.

LBJ: Of the Democrats..

CA: And..I think we will...

LBJ: Can we make a little poll of our own and just start going down them
by Whips..

CA: Yes sir.

LBJ: And just say to each Whip..now we've got to know ..and this is it..

CA: Maybe not do it by Whips..may do it by..by..

LBJ: States?

CA: By..people like...yes...yes..

LBJ: Yeah... what about..

CA: People I can count on.. you know.. better it come from somebody besides the leadership or officials.. let them do it.. but we'll be behind it.. If you want a study group to do.. that's all right... cause Bolling filed a resolution on Sellar's bill and some of them wanted... Homer wanted me to file it... I can't do that.. Sellar would never forgive me.. you know..

LBJ: I believe it would be better though if you talked to him and just said.. now, this is going to be all or nothing.. we can't ..

CA: We'll be ready.. we'll be ready on Monday.. next Monday..

LBJ: I know.. but will it get more votes if you filed it?

CA: I don't know.. I asked Lou about it.. cause I don't mind filing it.. but I asked Lou and he says it would be the worst thing in the world for leadership to file that petition.. he says ... you'd be doing something that no leadership has ever done in history.. that you'll do yourself more harm than good on everything that comes along... and you'll get this one just as quick.. and his judgment is pretty good on it... I don't mind filing it..

LBJ: Does he think that you can get a rule out of Rules? Is that what he... He thinks we've got to go the discharge route.. doesn't he.....

CA: No.. No.. No... he doesn't mean that.. he thought we might eventually get one out of the Rules Committee but he has no views on the discharge petition.. he does about me filing.. and he doesn't even think the Speaker and I should sign it until the very last word.. until we have to.. I'm going to think that over whether I sign it early or not... normally they don't .. What do you think?

LBJ: I'd lead them into it.. if it were me.. but I don't know.. don't want you to take my judgment.. I think that we've got to make choice whether we want to go the Rules route or to petition it... once we make the petition out we ought to go all the way.. the quicker the better with all the steam we've got... it is just like if they say "well, we're going to pass ... we're going to try a hundred-yard pass.. and you say O.K.. but don't let the best passer.. pass.. just get him out and let somebody else do it... and now

LBJ
Contd

there's not many men going to be in on the petition. . that Sellar signed or Dick Bolling put up. . . and I think you've got to take the position that I'm against short-circuiting Committees. . . I don't want to go around any Committee. . . we've asked for hearings. . . we're. . . this procedure of question. . . we're willing to have hearings. . . the Speaker begged for hearings but they won't give us hearings. . . and we just can't wait till it is too late to pass a bill and to lay it in the Congress and kill it . . . and therefore I'm going to ask the House of Representatives to accept the hearing and the Committee to hold. . . and if its agent won't function. . . and can't function. . . then I'm going to ask the whole House to function because we just can't have stand-still. . . do-nothing. . . going. . . and it seems to me that that would be more effective than having Sellar ~~do~~ do it or anybody else because then a fellow like Homer Thornberry and Albert Thomas and Jack Brooks and some of them could walk up there and sign it. . . say . . . hell. . . the Democratic leader. . . uh. . . uh. . .

CA: Let me check this out with the Speaker. . will you? He's already talked to Sellar and he may be committed to let Sellar do it. . . you know. .

LBJ: Well I thought old . . Sellar. . wants success. . doesn't he?

CA: Sure he does. . he wants success.

LBJ: Well now don't you think that between you and Manny Sellar that you can. . .

CA: I'll find out. . and then I'll let you know. . what we can do. . I don't want . . . you know. . . as a matter of helping. . you down the line. . first of all we've got to pass this bill. . this is it. . if we don't pass this one, we're going to be blamed and you're going to be blamed. . you know. . any darne thing. .

LBJ: Sure. . sure

CA: There's no question about it. . this is it. . this is the bill. .

LBJ: Saw a story today in the paper that says I'm trying to get rid of McNamara and McNamara is going to run against me on the Republican ticket. . . he's the best Cabinet member I've got and Charlie Bartlett, the President's best friend. . wrote it.

CA: Is that so?

LBJ: Yeah. . I just can't understand it. .

CA: Well. . . they're always doing that to me and that sort of thing. . . but the other thing. . . maybe we ought to take a poll before we decide. . . and we ought to take it between now and tomorrow or the next day. . . about what we're going to do and how far we go. . . if we can't get this out by a discharged petition. . . we may have to be at the mercy of the Rules Committee. What do you think?

LBJ: Yeah. . you'll have to.

CA: Well. . I mean, we might do ourselves more harm than good if we start pushing it too hard unless we know we can do it. . see what I mean.

LBJ: Hmmmam-hmmmm. I'd take that poll. . and I think the bridge is pretty well burnt. . I think you might near got to do it but I think I'd take that poll and see. .

CA: All right. . we'll do it.

LBJ: I wouldn't tell 'em I talked to him but you call me back later in the afternoon. . let's keep pretty close touch.

CA: All right.

LBJ: Bye. .

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN CARL ALBERT DECEMBER 3, 1963 3:00 p.m.

The President told the Congressman that he wanted to talk to him about the situation on the Hill and to know more about Halleck's conversation. Congressman ~~Had~~ Albert said that Halleck had said "he was going to raise hell if we didn't adjourn by the 14th" and Congressman Albert felt that Halleck "is wanting to get a little bit of an anti-civil-rights aura around himself because his right wing has really chewed him when he went down to the White House and agreed with President Kennedy to get that bill out."

Congressman Albert then said: "But...we'll do anything you want to. I'm going to work hard for that Civil Rights bill." Albert discussed the fact that Halleck was also criticizing the fact that so many things were being named for President Kennedy and that President Johnson had not moved into the White House.

President Johnson: "...I want ~~for~~ you to get the lay of the land -- find out what they're thinking -- I don't know of any choice we've got, if Smith won't have a hearing, except just try ~~to~~ to get the petition signed." The President then asked Congressman Albert if the petition would get more signatures if Albert filed it and Albert said that Dechsler "says it would be the worst thing in the world for leadership to file that petition." -- "He doesn't even think the Speaker and I should sign it until the very last -- What do you think?"

President Johnson: "I'd lead them into it, if it were me, but I don't know, don't want you to take my judgment. I think we've got to make a choice whether we want to go the Rules route or to petition it. Once we make the petition ~~you know~~ out we ought to go all the way, the quicker the better with all the steam we've got....I think you've got to take the position that I'm against short-circuiting Committees -- I don't want to go around any Committee--we've asked for hearings we're willing to have hearings, the Speaker begged for hearings but they won't give us hearings."

December 3, 1963

3:22 p.m.

38

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND JUDGE
THORNBERRY (from Judge Thornberry)

LBJ: Congressman?

HT: Mr. President..how are you, sir?

LBJ: Did you get back all right?

HT: Yes sir.

LBJ: Have a good Thanksgiving?

HT: Sure did.

KEX: Family sent you their love.

LBJ: Well..I went up to church without you Sunday...and preacher...took
uncle Robert with me.

HT: Well..you took better company for the church...but I missed being with
you.

LBJ: Tell me..what's happening in your Rules Committee? Looks like your
man's gone on a...

HT: Yes..he has. As I understand it, the Speaker talked to him and asked him
to give the Committee on Rules an opportunity to vote to grant a rule
before Christmas...and that he wouldn't take it up until January and
Chairman turned him down. I talked to two or three other members
..to see if they felt we had a chance to get it out. They think not.
The Republicans apparently are not willing to join up..we used three
Republicans to do something about it..they're now working..as you know
on discharge petition..and I just finished talking to the Speaker a moment
ago..I said to the Speaker that I wanted to be sure that we don't have any
problems on rules here..that we get started on something and then I leave
....and I wonder what to do about it and he said,"well, I'll tell you now.
It sure would help me if you went ahead and signed the discharge petition.
I told him...I hoped he'd have some company from Texas..

LBJ: God, I hope so..I hope so.. or it'll wreck us. I talked to Albert this
morning and he indicated he's against it and I told him I sure hoped he'd
sign it..and he said..all right.

- HT: Yes..and he had a group of us over to the Committee room..this is going to be difficult, Mr. President. I don't think, Mr. President, that there will be too many..but I think Jim Wright will do it..I think Albert will..of course, I will..Don Young will..I would hope Henry Gonzalez would..he was not at the meeting..nobody else committed themselves..we just explored it and talked about it.
- LBJ: What about Jack Brooks?
- HT: He's not here.
- LBJ: I think he would, though, because he voted for the report to bill..
- HT: I would sure think he would and I'd hoped he would..that would be six and I would say that that is about the best you can do...I don't know. I'd like to see George and Tiger and Bob and Omar..I just don't know ...maybe we can get one or two more.
- LBJ: Patman can't and Beckworth can't ...and...
- HT: Ought to..but whether they will or not..I don't know. I told Walter to be sure and call them..I don't know whether he did or not..he ought to be called and asked to do it..it would help if he would..but that's about where you are. It is going to be tough unless we can some votes to join in. I don't know..
- LBJ: How many Republicans would normally do it?
- HT: I'd say about twenty-five.
- LBJ: They indicated thirty-five down there this morning and a possibility of 165 Democrats and 35 Republicans..to start that. If they do that on the first day..they get 218.
- HT: That's right.. You've got some resentment that Dick Bolling jumped into this thing and I understand they're going to have Manning introduce it.
- LBJ: Looks to me like it would be a lot better if Albert did it?
- HT: Who..Albert Thomas?

LBJ: Carl Albert...

HT: Oh, I've asked Carl to do it but he says what are you going to do about running over the Chairman?

LBJ: Well..the Chairman won't even give you a hearing.. you just have to.

HT: Oh, no..I'm talking about Manny Sellar.

LBJ: I'd tell Manny Sellar that ..believe the Democratic Majority Leader would point up the Republican party..and their weakness better.. and point out to the party of Lincoln.. wouldn't do anything..and our own Majority Leader went down there and did it..that's the way I did in the Senate.

HT: Well, I think ..

LBJ: Well, I think that's a lot better..I think Manny Sellar and a lot of them will use it ..if they don't want to go this other.

HT: Yes. I think that's right.

LBJ: And, I think that all of them like Albert.

HT: I do too. I suggested to Carl Albert. And he said he would it BUT how could he get around it. I think the Speaker ought to ask Manny Sellers to do it..but I agree one hundred percent. I went to him the other afternoon and he said he would do it..be glad to..but how can you now get around Manny Sellers. They were trying to get around Dick Bolling, you see...and managed to do it. But let me talk..

LBJ: Talk to him and just ask him if they didn't think it'd put Halleck on more of a spot..if the Majority Leader of the Democrats do it and the Republicans run and of course, this is an unusual question, is a highly moral question..it is one that they've had since May..this is one that they're perfectly willing to go into January with..if they'd get any hearing at all..but he just wouldn't have any hearing till it meant the defeat of the bill and in the light of that no leader can just stand there and let one Chairman refuse to give him a hearing so he's going to try to get him a hearing before the Committee as a whole. And, I think he could

LBJ
Contd

justify an exception in this one case .. on that attitude. .and I think that would contrast what the Republicans are doing. .here's a Democratic leader willing to do it. .got his name on it. .and. .

HT: All right. .I'll do it now that you've called me.

LBJ: No. But he told me. . .I just talked to him. .and he told me he'd be glad to do it. .

HT: Carl?

LBJ: Yes

HT: Oh. .I know he would. Told me he would and I didn't even know you'd talked to him but what I'm talking about. .got to talk to the Speaker now. .

LBJ: Got to handle it some graceful way. .but just tell him the members think it would be better if the Majority Leader did it and boy. . .if everybody didn't go along. .there'd be a question about. . .

HT: All right. . .

LBJ: Everybody except the Southerners. . .now will everybody except the Southerners pretty well go?

HT: Yes. .I think so.

LBJ: How many Southerners have you got?

HT: Well. .you've got a hard core of Southerners. . .

LBJ: 80?

HT: Yes sir.

LBJ: And how many total Democrats?

HT: Well. .let's see. .about 235? I don't remember. .that's about. .maybe it is more than that. . .240 maybe. .I'll just have to. .I don't remember. .

LBJ: Now..those 80 count the Texans..don't they?

HT: Yes sir.. I don't know about party states/Democrats...but Tennessee...
Kentucky..Oklahoma... I don't know what they'll do..that's a question
mark.

LBJ: Well..are they included in the 80?

HT: No sir.

LBJ: The 80 is just Mississippi, Carolina, Alabama .and..

HT: Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida..I imagine they
count Florida..now you might get one or two...but I doubt it...Florida.
My idea is that Miami is in it..but I don't know.

LBJ: Smathers thinks we'll get two..Pepper and Furcell..that's the Miami
ones..
O.K. Much obliged, my friend. Call me back. Maybe you can come
by after a while..

HT: Well..whatever you say.

LBJ: You call me back after you visit around some.

HT: All right.

LBJ: Bye.

HT: Bye.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN HOMER THORNBERRY DECEMBER 3, 1963 3:22 p.m

The President: "Tell me -- what's happening ~~xxx~~ in your Rules Committee...?"

Congressman Thornberry: "...As I understand it, the Speaker talked to him and asked him to give the Committee on Rules an opportunity to vote to grant a rule before Christmas -- that he wouldn't take it up until January and the Chairman turned him down. I talked to two or three other members -- to see if they felt we had a chance to get it out. They think not. The Republicans apparently are not willing to join up....They're now ~~xxx~~ working -- as you know on discharge petition --I just finished talking to the Speaker... wondered what to do about it and he said 'well, I'll tell you now -- it sure would help me if you went ahead and signed the discharge ~~petition~~ petition.' I told him I hoped he'd have some company from Texas."

The Congressman then said that he thought Jim Wright, Albert Thomas, John Young, and he hoped Henry Gonzales would sign the petition.

DECEMBER 3, 1963

5:32 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
CONG. THORNBERRY

39

A Why don't you come down and have a drink with me
and take a swim?

B Well, you're mighty nice. All right sir. Shall I
come in my car.

A Yeah, you can come in it, or I'll send one for you.

B Well, I can come in mine. Shall I come in the back
way --

A Southwest Gate

B Southwest Gate -- that's fine.

A Yes, and then Marie will tell you where we are.

B Thank you.

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DECEMBER 3, 1963

5:56 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES

~~THE PRESIDENT TO~~
~~CONG. CARL ALBERT~~

CONG. CARL ALBERT TO THE PRESIDENT

40

- B Give you the rundown as I've got it. I've got a pretty fair count. We've got 257 Democrats; 93 are definitely "no" all the way, voting, and that leaves 164 possible. I have counted 138 for -- the rest doubtful. So that leaves to work on...
- A 164?
- B 164 is the maximum. 93 are dead set against -- that's people like Clark Fisher, the Georgia delegation, you know...
- A But I didn't think it was but 80 of them.
- B Well, I got 93 in my account, if I counted them right.
- A How many Texans?
- B Well, here's what I got:
@ Alabama -- you got time to listen to this?
- A Yes, What are you doing --
- B I'm in my office.
- A Why don't you get in your car and come down here?
- B All right.
- A Come on-- Southwest Gate -- we'll have a little visit. Come in the Southwest Gate -- I'll tell them to have it open for you.
- B All right sir.
- A O.K.

December 3, 1963

6:11 p. m.

41

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
SECRETARY DILLON (to Secretary Dillon)

DD: Hello...I...saw Everett Dirksen just a little while ago and he told me he was breakfasting with you and I thought you'd like a fill-in

LBJ: Good..

DD:q He said right off that there's going to be a bill that will be retroactive and that he personally had no trouble with the bill except for the dividend credit and would need to know a budget figure sometime in January...early...not now. I found him a bit relaxed about timing and about pushing to really get something done in the next week or so when I pushed him on it a good bit..I told the need to give the image to the public that we were doing something and also the need for earlier enactments so they wouldn't have to be retroactive too much...which disrupts our Budget and disrupts the thing economically...by putting these big refunds over till next year...I think he understood that and he then said that he would try to move and get some action done and he offered to make a press statement after the Executive Session starts...indicating that he felt prospects so much better and that the bill should move faster than he'd originally thought. He told me that...which is interesting...that John Williams is in a relaxed mood and told him he would not try to delay the bill in committee sessions at all and he didn't think anyone would except...probably Albert Gore...and he is talking a lot with Byrd..I think that all he needs is...which you can do much better than I can..is a little extra shove in some..of whatever you can tell him..that will make him do that..so he gets some more positive action..but he's on the right track..and he's sort of acting as if he's our floor manager for the bill...now..interesting sort of attitude.

LBJ: That's good...well..now..I gather that they're going to try to tentatively agree to...ride on all the amendments..and write the report over the holidays...and be ready to come back when ...

DD: As quick as they can...that's what we're pressing them for..I think that what we should press him for..one thing that Senator Byrd mentioned..which I think we could ...we're pressing..that's some help from

DD
Contd

your people would be helpful with Smathers and the leadership is ... be sure as a quorum readily available .. when they get into these Executive Sessions... next week... because that's one thing that Byrd mentioned.. then it is true ones ..if they don't have a quorum ..he just sits around and nothing happens and waste an awful lot of time..

DD:
LBJ:

Well..now.. what can you do.. Why can't you put Fowler or somebody on that.. and just tail them and call them together up there.. Larry O'Brien.. and say we've got to have this quorum to get this bill out and you'll have got to help us.

DD:

That's right. Well, we'll do that..and if we have any trouble with any particular ones... we'll let you know. As you know, the ones we feel that at some point before we start.. you ought to talk to or ^{Russell Long} ~~Richard King~~ who wants to see that some commitments still stands and I don't what they are..but..there's something..and..

LBJ:

Have you got some commitments with...

DD:

We don't. But Larry O'Brien did have and he probably can fill you in on them with Russell Long..the only one I know. Clint Anderson is another one that needs a word from the top.. he always has and I guess he always will..and... we thought Vance Hartke would...could help considerably..and beyond that we have nothing unless there's someone you felt you wanted...knew..or wanted to talk to.. such as Herman Talmadge..or someone like that..but we don't think it is essential.

LBJ:

All right. Well tell me if you do and tell me..I want to try to get Byrd to come down here and talk to me.. without my asking him.

DD:

Yes. Well he never went before..you know.. to the White House so I don't know whether he'll do that. He's not used to going. But Long is really the key one but he's in Louisiana the rest of the week for his election ...but you can talk to him early next week.

LBJ:

Well. Much obliged Doug.

DD:

Yes sir. Thank you.

LBJ:

Bye.

Secretary Dillon: "...The ones we felt that ~~we~~ at tomse point before we start you ought to talk to are Russell Long, who wants to see that some commitments still stand...

The President: "Have you got some commitments....?"

Secretary Dillon: "We don't. But Larry C'Brien did have....with Russell Long...Clint Anderson is another one that needs a word from the top...we thought Vance Hartke...could help considerably. Beyond that we hawenothing unless there's someone you felt you... wanted to talk to such as Herman Talmadge...."

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Secretary Luther Hodges (from Secy Hodges), 12/4/63, 9:35

According to the President's Daily Diary, the call took place at 9:35 a.m.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 4, 1963

9:35 p. m.

42

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY
LUTHER HODGES (from Secy Hodges)

- LBJ: well there's nothing to the headline... that's a Republican governor that absolutely misquoted everything although we're working at it and I can't spend all my time correcting what some un-informed fellow said..
- LH: This comes primarily from our own government. I wasn't thinking about the Republicans... but what I've got.. if I could take a half a minute, Mr. President.
- LBJ: All right.
- LH: I would like.. as I say, I'm trying to help you... that's my only interest.. I want to talk to Kermit Gordon about some possibilities about what we can do..
- LBJ: Yes... yes...
- LH: I would think it would be very, very helpful if we could take a look at ... and I'm sure you have already begun to do so... at several things that we could.. shall we say, slow down on... and let this tax cut catch up with us... not go against the program.. but.. say to the people that we think it is essential now that we hold down on spending and let this tax cut fill this up and then pick these things up as we can better afford it.
- LBJ: Fine. Why don't you talk to him on your own. I don't want him to think I'm lobbying with him but you talk to him and tell him this is your idea and tell him you're going to talk to me about it and then give me a resume of what you said to him.
- LH: All right. But I think... like shipping and roads and things like that...
- LBJ: That's good..
- LH: ... you can do it all over the place and I think Congress will put the money back in.. and it will leave you in good shape.
- LBJ: Can you do anything with your road situation for Kentucky and W. Virginia and just really put a shot in there quick?
- LH: We've done in .. Kentucky already.. with Governor Holmes.. about as much as we can do.. legally.. but Frank and I talked to him about it.. we'll do everything we can, Mr. President.

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LBJ: Well --- we've got a new group coming in there and let's talk to them about it before we do but let us see how far you can go to take care of those desperate spots cause they use them to stretch it out all over the country and maybe \$50 million spent there might save you \$500 that has to be spread out in the 50 places.. you follow me?

LH: I do indeed, Mr. President. I'll say this..I've been through this..

LBJ: I know you have.

LH: You won't find a state that will allow you to spend in the places that ought to be spent..the state itself will not allow you to do it. they've got to distribute it politically in the state..but I'll follow it up..

LBJ: Well maybe we can..this new Administration.. get in there and call him up here and call Wally Barron and say, now, listen, we'll do this IF you'll do this... we'll put it here for these people..that's located in the spots.. Try to do that on those two states.

LH: Do the best I can.

LBJ: Thank you. Now you get back to me this afternoon after you talk to Gordon because I think it is worthy of attention and I'd like to go into it..

LH: Well, I would just hate like the devil... you have such an image ... this \$100 billion is a psychological barrier...and we've got to watch it very carefully.

LBJ: Thank you, my friend...Bye

LH: Bye

Date: September 17, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Kermit Gordon, 12/4/63, 9:50 p.m.

According to the President's Daily Diary, the call took place at 9:50 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 2, the transcript reads:

LBJ: I'd like to have a little book down on what we're doing in Health, Education and Welfare...."

The archives staff heard:

LBJ: I'd like to have a little **break-down** on what we're doing in Health, Education and Welfare...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 4, 1963
9:50 p. m.

43

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND KERMIT GORDON
(f)

✓

LBJ Kermit?

KG Yes, Mr. President.

LBJ This headline in the morning Post upset Hodges a little bit. .and he's thinking there's a good deal of magic under \$100 billion. .he says that he feels and that one or two things that Congress is going to put back. .that we can't be restrained in his field. .told him to talk to you about it. .

KG He's coming over here soon. .I'm going to talk to him. .

LBJ I told him to reason it out with you because I thought that you had pretty good comprehension of what I'm trying to do. .
Talked to Dirksen this morning. .all they can say is hell it ought to be more than last year. .which makes. .the same old line. .gotta be more but we've got to work toward a goal. .make them make it more if it is. .
so I'd give a little thought to their wisdom. .I don't want to say it twice. .don't misunderstand me. .I'll just put it up to you and I'm relying on you for real counsel here cause you're my expert and as you told me on legislation and on expenditures and on management. .that's what I'm going to look forward to but if you could. .pull in your ears a little bit on roads . . .and on maritime. . .shipping . . .even if it is a little tight. .they could add it up. .the Congress. .why might be something to consider. .
Do you raise either one of those over last year? It is not broken down. .you know. .

KG Well. .you see. .highways, Mr. President don't come in the Administrative Budget at all, they're in the trust fund. .they show up in the cash budget but not in the Administrative Budget at all. .now maritime. .that's for the subsidy. .they are in the Administrative Budget and I don't remember the number off-hand but I do remember we've got a very tight mark. .now Secy Hodges is coming over here at noon. .if he has some further thoughts on how we might trim there, I'd be very happy to explore it with him.

LBJ He shows \$800 Commerce total and it is \$840 next year so he's up \$40 some way. .not much there. .he can do but since highways are in the trust fund. .we just. .now you ought to talk to Albert Thomas on that national science foundation. . .

KG Yes, indeed. . .

LBJ Cause that offers you some hope. .and you've got to see your gimmicks. .apart that to that sheet. .try to bring this up-to-date. .

KG Let me be clear on this Mr. President, my present feeling, as you know. .can work this out where we can come out somewhere between 99 and 100 now are you suggesting we ought to try push harder. . .

LBJ No. No. No. But I'm just suggesting that you push as much as we can and see where we go and then decided because we may have to add up some when

these folks come in you know.. we may have to add on some..
They'll be coming in, Mr. President.

KG
LBJ I know that.. I'm not underestimating it.. I just wanted you to know what Hodges had said and then you'll talk to Albert Thomas on NSS and if you think of anything else.. while we might start something.. we might not shoot so much into it ... that I don't know.. whether the poverty program \$300 million... I don't know whether you can get by \$250 or not..

KG Yes, I'm sure we could.. you see... we don't even have a program yet, Mr. President... all we did there was plug in a figure that was nothing but a gue s... might come out...

LBJ I'd like to have a little book down on what we're doing in Health, Education and Welfare.. where you have substantial increases .. give me a little memo on why..

KG All right..

LBJ Now.. U.S. information Agency... you going from 155 to 178..

KG Yes.

LBJ I'd like to take a little look at that... I..

KG I know your feelings about that..

LBJ I must say Mr. President .. they're a little bit different.. I've never seen them in the field.. I have the impression that the Washington management of that organization now looks awfully good..

LBJ It improved a thousand percent and I never was against it.. I was for it..

KG except I wanted to know what they were doing.

LBJ Well, I'll be glad to give you a memo on it..

KG Now Agriculture.. what do you think I ought to say to Freeman... he's due he right now..

KG Well.. I'm sure he'll want to talk immediately about his current legislative problem.. I believe that is ~~the wheat~~ ^{the wheat} situation.. but I suppose the top issue and the Budget is mainly the REA problem. He can explain that to you.. he's ~~got~~ ^{got} getting an awful lot.. as you know the atmosphere in Congress is changing a good deal on REA.. for the first time in a long time... the House and Senate Committees have been very critical... about REA making loans for generating capacity which cut private suppliers ~~don~~ out of markets for their power.. and they have in fact instructed REA to report to them on the details of every future ~~loan~~ ^{loan} in this field ~~and~~ to show the Congress that they bargained in good faith. / the private suppliers before making a loan to put up a

LBJ Do we cut them much, though... they're pretty much the grass roots and they'll really blow the lid..

KG Well.. there's no question about it..

LBJ We can't get ourselves into a position .. just being in private power..

KG What we've done.. Mr. President.. to draw distinction here.. between regulator loans for distribution... to bring power to farmers.. where we've been ~~fairly~~ ^{fairly} generous with them and the generating transmission loans where we've got a very tight mark... now they've got enough money in there

KG

Contd

so that they've got bargaining power with the private companies and can say unless you give us a fair deal on the rate... we've got enough money to build...

LBJ

Give me a little memo on what the difference between Freeman and the budget will be on REA.

KG

All right..I'll be happy to do that.

LBJ

Good. Bye

Kg

Very good. Thank you.

December 4, 1963
9.57 p. m.

44

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND DEAN ACHESON (t)

LBJ Good morning, Mr. Secretary..
DA Good morning, Mr. President, how are you, sir?
LBJ Fine..
DA That was the greatest thing...appointing that Commission..I think..
LBJ Well..we did the best we could and I think we've got Hoover pretty well in line.. how are you getting along?
DA Fine..sir.
LBJ I want you to come over here and visit with me in the next day or two.
DA All you have to do is to set the time and I will be there.
LBJ Well, maybe we can get together tomorrow..that's Thursday..you got anything for lunch.
DA Now..I have a tentative invitation from the Secretary of State..but you..
LBJ No..No...No...No..we don't want to have...all I just want to do is just philosophize with you a little bit..
DA I would love that....
LBJ You go ahead and we'll make it Friday...
DA Let us do it tomorrow, Mr. President...I would be delighted about this.. what time would it be...
LBJ I'd say 1:00 o'clock...
DA All right, sir..I shall be there with the greatest possible pleasure...
LBJ Thank you, Dean... Bye
DA Bye

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44a

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
DEAN ACHESON DECEMBER 4, 1963 9:57 a.m.

Dean Acheson: "That was the greatest thing -- appointing that Commission."

The President then asked Mr. Acheson to have lunch with him the next day at 1:00 o'clock.

December 4, 1963

10:01 a. m.

45

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND LLOYD HAND (t)

LBJ Lloyd..I asked Roy Wilkins to talk to you and you could try to get the leading Mexicans there..tell him who they are..you don't need to get into it yourself

LH All right..

LBJH But see if we can't get the Negroes and the Mexicans to working together and see if the Negro organizations can't help the Mexican organizations get some recognition and look like a one-way street, out there in Los Angeles...cause that's important..I toldhim to call you and you'd tell him who the leading Mexicans were. I also would like to consider bringing one in the White House...and I think that fellow that's up with Brown..would be pretty good..what is his name?

LH Dan Luevano..

LBJ All right... And check that one out pretty carefully..with all the people that we would normally check out there..including Liz...and of course, Unhra and Brown..I think Brown..he told me that he was a terribly good man...get the feeling of how much he's making, if you can and let us see if that would be considered any pay-off to him in view of their ^{dealing} affiliation about doing nothing.in California..

LH All right, sir.

LBJ And give me a report on it will you?

LH Yes sir.

LBJ Love to Ann and the kids.

LH All right, sir.

December 4, 1963

11:10 a. m.

46

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND BERNARD BARUCH
(t)

LBJ Mr. Baruch?

BB Good morning, sir...

LBJ Lyndon Johnson. I appreciate your message very much..I've been wanting to talk to you for a week but they've had me kind of snowed under and I...

BB Well, I understand you're as busy as can be...

LBJ Well, I don't know how much I've accomplished but I've had quite a lot to do... how are you getting along?

BB Well I am all right. I've had some difficulties physically but I think I'm coming along and I wrote you yesterday that I was leaving for the South on Monday and I gave you my address...

LBJ Yes...fine...why don't you stop by here on your way down..

BB Well, the only time I can get an airplane is on Monday...

LBJ Yes....

BB And I've had some physical difficulties...have been in the hospital for four months but I am able to get around..I can't do anything continuously or strenuously but I still have some experience and I think I can get around and underneath the surface help you a good deal more...or do anything that I can

LBJ Fine...could you stop in for 15 ft minutes on your way to South Carolina...

BB Well, I've got the plane for Monday..and I have to have nurses and a lot of people with me...I'm supposed to leave LaGuardia at 11...I think I'd better find out exactly when I'll be there ...think it will put me there a little after 12:00...and I could come in after lunch or anytime...

LBJ No...No..you could come in just as soon as you get here...I'll just give you priority..what you do is call back and talk to Bill Moyers...

BB Bill Moyers..oh yes...you know I was looking over the correspondence I've had with you in the last sixteen years...and it certainly is impressive to read it...you've been very kind..and had a lot of fun..

LBJ Thank you and what I'd like to do is..if you'll let me know what time you will be at the airport..you can just ask your people to wait there and I'll have a car bring you down and you can have a little visit and I'll have it take you right back...you can just ask your people to wait there and..

BB All right. I'll tell you as soon as I know when I'm going to start..I'm going to try to get the plane at 11...take us about an hour and 10 or fifteen minutes and I'll let you know and will wait at the airport for your disposition.

LBJ Fine..I'll have a man meet you there and bring you right to White House.

BB Thank you sir...I hope you're well...and the Mrs., too.

LBJ Well...we're doing fine and I look forward to seeing you and I'm going to lean on you for strength and wisdom.

BB Well..laughter..I'll do what I can..cause remember this..you know..you've got a certain amount of time..and you pick your priority and make everybody live up to it.

LBJ All right..I'll do that.

BB All right..I'll see you sir.

December 4, 1963

11:15 a. m.

✓
47

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT & CONGRESSMAN CARL ALBERT (t)

LBJ
.....have you got that with you now?
CA No...I haven't got it in my pocket...
LBJ Do you remember it?
CA But ...I can... I....
LBJ You had about 95 "Nos".. didn't you?
CA That's right..
LBJ And had about 140 "Yeas"..
CA That's right.
LBJ How many doubtful... 10?
CA Something like that..
LBJ All right..and the Republicans.. you don't figure you'll get..
CA I haven't got any Republicans..I don't know..
LBJ Can you get somebody to kind of evaluate that today so we can kind of have some idea of the Republicans... Civil Rights groups is meeting this afternoon...now you've got six Democrats on the Rules Committee... right?
CA Eight Democrats...
LBJ And you need Eight Votes...
CA We've got Jim Trumbull..
LBJ Yes..but he can't come..
CA He can't come and Elliott won't vote for us..
LBJ Smith and Talmer won't...
CA Smith and Talmer won't...
LBJ You have four off of ten..that leave you six..
CA That's right.
LBJ It is a ten to five committee... isn't it?
CA That's right.
LBJ So.. you need two Republicans..
CA That's right..
LBJ Now... what are the two most likely Republicans?
CA Well... most of the Republicans will vote for it eventually.. Brown will start on it... I would think Mrs. St. George... and Avery... would be probably the two that will .. and Clarence Brown.. Hoffman of Chicago area.. Illinois... and Smith of California.
LBJ Hoffman of Chicago... what the hell.. how does he get by there?
CA From that area..
LBJ God Almighty.. I don't see how California and Chicago can stand up against Civil Rights..
CA Well.. I don't know where he comes from but did you read his statement in the paper? this morning?
LBJ No.. I didn't..

CA: Well..it had a statement from each member of the Rules Committee
X in the Washington Post this morning..

LBJ Ummmhmmm..well I'll read it.. what else?

CA And it said that Sisk didn't want to do it...didn't want to sign the discha
petition right away..he had indicated that..he told me that yesterday
that he wanted to give the Rules Committee a chance..

LBJ Well..they've got a chance...but won't take it until January..will they?

CA That's right...that's right...but I'll try to have this count a little better
...for...when is this meeting coming up...

LBJ It is coming up about 1 or 2 o'clock..

CA Well...I can't probably have it by then..

LBJ Call me at 1 o'clock and tell me what you've got..

CA All right.

LBJ O.K.

47a

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN CARL ALBERT DECEMBER 4, 1963 11:15 a.m.

Congressman Albert reported that he had about 140 "yeas";
95 "nos" and 10 doubtful. He said he did not have a count of
the Republicans.

COPY 100-100000

TELEPHONE NOTES
CONGRESSMAN THORNBERRY TO THE PRESIDENT
(returning his call)

A I talked to Jack. I was trying to reach you. The FBI can't locate you.

B Been in Rules. Don't understand.

A They said you were gone to Delegation. I'm going to come down there and have a bite to eat with the Texas Delegation. I'm not going to talk any legislation of any kind, but I just thought I've been coming every day for 25 years and there's no reason to stop now, and I'm just coming. And have a bowl of soup with them.

B It's an open meeting.

A Yes, I know it.

B All right. I'll be down there.

A You just tell -- I talked to Jack, you weren't there.

B All right. That's fine.

DECEMBER 4, 1963

2:20 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
RALPH DUNGAN

49

B Yes sir. Mr. President.

A I didn't want to catch you away from your desk. Are you back?

B Yes sir.

A On this Macomber. I wonder if you don't want to ask Dirksen if he wouldn't like to drop us a note and Halleck so we can clear those with them.

B Very good.

A Just tell them that the recommendation has been made -- that he was up there -- that he did serve the other administration and that I like him as an individual, but I don't think I don't have any obligation. I don't want to appoint anybody thats a republican without checking with them.

B Very good. I'll do it.

A And if either one have anything obnoxious about ~~te~~ against him, say so. If they don't drop a little note and say they'd be pleased to have him do it.

B Want to do it with Hickenlooper too?

A Yeah. And whoever the ranking Republican is on the other side.

B Very good.

A Now discreetly though. And let's don't make it sound like too much _____.

B Discretion is our watchword.

A Now, will you go to looking for some real top flight people for the Alliance for Progress and OAS. I mean great ones.

COPY LBJ LIBRARY

B All right sir.

A You picked a good President when you got behind John F. Kennedy. Now you pick someone that's got as much ability for Alliance for Progress and Ambassador to OAS. Because I'm worried about both of those, and I want some top flight people, and they're going to be my first ones, and I don't want any doubts about it.

B Yes sir.

A Maybe we can get Frank Stanton of CBS -- maybe we can get some young, attractive, able man.

B All right, sir. I'll do my damnest.

A Need a hell of a success. Get me three or four possibilities, and then I'll call them.

B All right sir.

A Particularly somebody that's had some knowledge of Latin America.

B Yes, they're scarce, but we'll try.

DECEMBER 4, 1963

2:30 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
TOM CORCORAN

50

- A I can tell very confidentially, and just for your ears only, I need the best 40-50 year old man that I can find that connections are all right that can speak Spanish -- that would be respected by the OAS -- as a possible ambassador. I need the best one that I can find that's a driver, that will stay up all night like you were 20 years ago, that's got prudent judgement, that's got inspiration to be head of the Alliance for Progress. Give me about three or four good names.
- B Well, you mean there are two of them, then. There's the Ambassador to the OAS and the head of the Alliance for Progress.
- a Right. Now I don't want anybody to know that I'm looking, and if you can't look without telling anybody, don't do it. But if you can, get me about three names with a page each on their background and I would like to have somebody of the general type of say -- Frank Stanton, who's got an intellectual background -- a professor -- that's got a good business background, that could speak Spanish and that could run a tight ship. But I just give you that as an illustration. I think we ought to be doing more than we're doing so far as Alliance for Progress is concerned, we ought to be doing more than we're doing on Cuba -- if you've got any ideas how we can take some additional steps without being too provocative on Cuba, I'd like to have it. Also, on Viet Nam. Lodge is not doing much good out there, so we're fighting a war, but we're doing it with both hands behind us.
- B Incidentally, I just finished a talk with Bill Youngman. Who wrote you a nice letter the other day, by the way. You know, Bill was my old partner who went in the insurance business -- and was cleaned out in Cuba. Smart as hell. He was just talking on how to put the squeeze on Cuba. I'll report to you, sir.
- A All right. Now don't get that around to anybody else. You do it yourself. Don't let them know why you're doing because if we get in the paper, it'll hurt us both

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO JACK VALENTI

51

-
- B At that meeting in the Department of State.
- A That's what you been doing. Where are you now?
- B I'm at Abe Fortas' office.
- A When you get through over there, come on over here before you go out to the airport.
- B Yes sir.
- A And I think maybe you just better work out of here the next day or so outside in my little office somewhere where I can get you, because I got too many ideas and nobody to translate them.
- B All right sir.
- A Good bye -- now get your trusteeship wrapped up --
- B That's what I'm doing.
- A All the way.

Chrono File

Dec 1963

[2 of 3]

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#82 transcript	Telephone Notes, The President to Mrs. John F. Kennedy	12/7/63 5:20	C
#109 transcript	Telephone Conversation between the President and Secretary McNamara	12/10/63 11:50 a.m.	C

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DECEMBER 4 1963

2:55

TELEPHONE NOTES
SECRETARY RUSK TO THE PRESIDENT

52

B is in the next room. He's here today and tomorrow. Tomorrow he's having lunch with Mr. Daly over at the White House at 1:00. Now he's just recently in the last few days made some important speeches in which he's urged complete support for you and national solidarity. I think it would be a very good thing if he could come in and see you five minutes before. . .

A Would like very much for him to. I've been wanting to see him anyway. Let me see what my schedule is and I'll get right back to you in just a minute.

B Yes sir.

A Did you hang up?

B I did -- I'm sorry.

A I was going to get back to you in a minute. Would 12:00 suit him?

B 12:00 -- that will be fine. Thank you very much.

A Now, you give me a note on it -- if there's anything special you want me to say.

B I surely will.

LBJ
Contd

on Labor's poll. . Labor claims they've got 146. . .

CA: Well I've got 140 that say. . . but. . . they're counting Republicans, aren't they?

LBJ: No. . they're counting 146 Democrats and 11 Republicans. . that's what they claim they've got. .

CA: Well I don't know what these 146 could be. . . they may have some of these that have told me they would do it eventually. . but wouldn't do it right off. .

LBJ: Maybe. They tell me that they've got. . . I met with all the Labor Council. . . Walter Reuther, Dave McDonald. . . Phillip Randolph. . . George Meany. . all of them. . then I met with all the Business Council and I talked to both of them about the Republican party of Lincoln. . and they're out here waiting on me now. . I'm going to try to get the CBS President to give us a few interviews. . on this. .

CA: Tell them I don't believe that over 140 Democrats are going to do it right off the reel. . but I think we'll get 20 more before it is over with. . . well that'll be 160. . .

LBJ: That'll be 160. . and then you've got to have 58. .

CA: And that 160 is going to be all awfully, awfully, awfully hard to get. . now I mean the last five we may never get. .

LBJ: God bless you and I'll be in touch with you tomorrow but let's work on the Rules Committee too.

CA: All right.

LBJ O.K.

CA: O.K.

December 4, 1963
6:25 p.m.

✓
56

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
CLARK ELIFFORD (from Clark Clifford)

LBJ: Yes Clark.

CC: Mr. President? I've just finished a two-hour session with Bobby and first, I want to say.. he's going to stay.

LBJ: Yes.

CC: And, I have the feeling that when it is convenient for you.. if you can afford about ten or fifteen minutes.. I had better report in some detail about it so you get the feel and all. We really had it out. And we covered it all. I think there are some arguments that he found unanswerable...and I'm just authorized to say now that he's going to stay.. he's going to have a talk with you and I ought to have a talk with you first. It is a relationship that I think is exceedingly important and it is one that we ought to look at together.

LBJ: All right. Let me see right now what my schedule is here. Just a second.

* * * * *

LBJ: Clark?

CC: Yes sir.

LBJ: 12:30 suit you?

CC: 12:30..I'll sure be there.

LBJ: Fine...I'll see you at 12:30..and look forward to it and I hope I'm not running behind..cause I've got a crowded day. I've got Senator Byrd comming in off-the-record, for lunch ...at 1:00....so we'll..you get here at 12:30 and I'll shoot to make it.

CC: 12:30...fine. And if by any chance you don't make it. I'll come back later.

LBJ: Thank you.

December 4, 1963
6:00 p.m.

✓ 54

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
CONGRESSMAN CARL ALBERT (to Congressman Albert)

LBJ: Carl...I'm sorry I missed you..I left a little early..

CA: Well..you'd already gone when I got down there..

LBJ: Well..bless your little heart. I appreciate it.

CA: But..all I was..my summary right now is. ..I think we'll get 140 if they're here to sign pretty quickly...get 19 eventually and 96 we'll never get..and 2 are absent that probably won't be here..sick.

LBJ: That accounts for all of them?

CA: That accounts for all..yes.

LBJ: Now what are you doing with the Republicans?

CA: Now..I have made about five different checks with the Republicans... With Les Ahrens and with different members who are interested in this...Les being the Whip, you know, and ...Les thinks they might get up to 35...some of these boys that are hot-rods and civil righters think we won't get over 25 or 30..they're afraid...

LBJ: I talked to Labor about it today and I talked to businessmen about it today and I'm going to talk to the women about it...and, I just told them that they either had to have two members from the party of Lincoln's civil rights or they ought not to have one single Republican reelected and they ought to have 60 or 70...or whatever you need...on that petition or they ought to know they're against it...and..I don't know whether we'll do either or not..but I'll tell you they're going to know that...they're going to know whose responsible and it is going to be right in the Republicans lap because..I hope you'll talk to every Texan and tell them how much this means and that we don't have ...we don't ask them to vote for the bill..we just ask for a hearing for it..and that is fair..and every Oklahoman..they can't start off by..

CA: There's three Oklahomans already and I think I'll get Wickersham.

LBJ: Wickersham said that they were going to meet and decide..I noticed

DECEMBER 4, 1963

4:15 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
SEN. BYRD TO THE PRESIDENT

53

B I'd have been up there or called you sooner, but I knew how terribly busy you were.

A Why don't you come down tomorrow?

B I'd be very glad to.

A All right, I'll have my girl call you and tell you a time. Come down and let me get some of your wisdom.

B All right, sir. I'd be delighted. My girl will call you back in a few minutes.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN CARL ALBERT DECEMBER 4, 1963 6:00 p.m.

Congressman Albert reported that he thought they would get 140 pretty quickly, 19 more eventually, and 96 never., that 2 were out sick and probably would not be there. Among the Republicans Les Arends thought they might get up to 35.

The President: "I talked to Labor about it today and I talked to businessmen about it today and I'm going to talk to the women about it...I told them that they either had to have two members of Lincoln's civil rights or they ought not to have one single Republican reelected and they ought to have 60 or 70 or whatever you need on that petition or they ought to know they're against it... they're going to knwo who's responsible and it is going to be right in the Republicans lap...we don't ask them to vote for the bill, just ask for a hearing for it..."

The President then told Albert that Labor's poll showed 146 Democrats and 11 Republicans.

December 4, 1963

6:08 p. m.

55

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
LARRY O'BRIEN (from Larry O'Brien)

LO:
79 to 225.

LBJ: Well, that's closer than I'd like it but it is better than I thought.

LO: Well, they're doing the final passes now. Now they adopted the Jones amendment ..and they were going to roll-call it out of there but then they decided in view of the circumstances not to get into a brawl ..let it stay there..if this thing goes anywhere in the Senate..they'll take it out.

LBJ: Good. I got a count from Albert that says 140 will sign the petition now and 19 later..be 160, roughly..and they don't how many Republicans now..we've just got to let the party of Lincoln get on that God damned spot and keep them there and carry it right on through the election..if they ain't for civil rights..let's find out about it right now.

LO: Well, McCulloch has made a speech up on the floor there this afternoon saying this is terrible and violates the concept as he saw it of bi-partisanship that he had established..and this..

LBJ: Yeah..established hell..he told Kennedy in my presence that he was for this bill..as soon as Kennedy dies he runs like a damned rabbit..

LO: That's exactly right..that's exactly what he's doing. Well, if that's the way they want to play it..I'm sure we're capable of playing it hard.

LBJ: We are. We'll play it for keeps, too. And you just let them know that that's what it is..let every man stand up and be counted.

LO: Well, you can give that to Charlie to start with in the morning.

LBJ: O.K. I'm going to. I saw Dirksen this morning..and he loosened up a good deal....

LO: Yes. O.K. Mr. President.

LBJ: Bye

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CLARK CLIFFORD DECEMBER 4, 1963 6:25 p.m.

Clark Clifford: "Mr. President, I've just finished a two-hour session with Bobby and first I want to say -- he's going to stay. ...And, I have a feeling that when it is convenient to you, if you can afford about ten or fifteen minutes, I had better report in some detail about it so you can get the feel and all. We really had it out. And we covered it all. I think there are some arguments that he found unanswerable..and I'm authorized to say now that he's going to stay. He's going to have a talk with you and I ought to have a talk with you first. It is a relationship that I think is exceedingly important and it is one that we ought to look at together."

Arrangements were made for Clifford to come in at 12:30.

December 4, 1963

6:30 p. m.

57

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND LARRY O'BRIEN
(from Larry O'Brien)

LBJ: Yeah, Larry.

LO: Mr. President..the passage was 216 for.. 182 against.. 7 present.

LBJ: Wonderful. Wonderful.

LO: That's a total of 405. I will say that's a hell of a total for. /this nature. ^{a vote of}
..it shows good attendance..also by the same token it shows that
it is well that we alerted these fellows yesterday morning.

LBJ: Sure is. Well you're on the ball, my friend...we've got to get over there
now and pass something there and let's work on education...now are they
doing any good with those conferences with Morse and Mrs. Green.

LO: Yep...they're working along and we've got ^a report just a short while
ago that..she's in there..the thing about her, you know, right now she's
in a pretty good mood...I told the guys here, now just don't push her
cause you're liable to push back into the cement. And if we can get
Hill over there ..they're going to meet in the morning and kind of give
a little bit on this formula. .I think they can get it done. Now, if they
don't get it done in the morning..we'll have to take a hard look at it.

LBJ: Well you just stroke them all you can. Stay right after it and watch it
close.

LO: O.K.

LBJ: You did a wonderful job..I'm proud of you.

LO: Oh, no..no. this is yours.

LBJ: No..No..proud of you. Thank you. Thank your boys.

LO: Bye

DECEMBER 5, 1963

9:38 am

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, SECRETARY FREEMAN
TO THE PRESIDENT

58

A Yes, Orville.

B Mr. President, I just called to tell you I thought you were terrific yesterday.

A Well, you're mighty nice.

B By God, you sure had that business crowd eating out of your hands.

A Well, maybe, they'll stay that way for 24 hours.

B Really, very very skillfully done -- some day when you meet with them again, give us a chance to tell some of the things we do do in government/ to get administrative efficiency. We bust our and they all assume that we do nothing. There was nothing you didn't say yesterday, but I just wanted to tell you I was proud of you and thought you did a superb job.

A Thank you, Orville. I sure appreciate it.

B We'll keep driving.

A Thank you, my friend.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
ALBERT THOMAS

59

-
- A This damned fellow, Jack Valenti, is hanging around my desk right now.
- B He ain't nothing but a troublemaker -- you going to have to pick him up and hustle him out.
- A We got a fellow named Don Hornig -- who President Kennedy had selected to succeed Jerry Wiesner. Now they came in this morning. Hornig is a physical chemist of international stature. He was trained at Harvard and taught at Brown and Princeton. Went to Princeton at a time when the Chemistry Department there was in bad shape. He's recommended by the top chemists in the country as the best young chemist administrator in sight -- and in the last 6 or 8 years he has justified his promise. The department has been greatly strengthened and Hornig has the respect and support of his colleagues in the Princeton administration. Hornig has served several years as a member of the Science Advisory Committee which assisted the President's Advisor. In that field one of his particular interests has been space and he's well and favorably known to defense and society. Here again he has shown himself sensible and effective. There are not many men who have the combinations of qualifications needed to succeed Wiesner. The man has to have an outstanding reputation so the prima donnas of science will work with him. He has to be a proven administrator because otherwise he'll get lost in the labyrinth of government. He ought to have some experience in the same-of shape of scientific problems as they appear in Washington. He should have the temperament and talent for expert testimony on the Hill. Hornig meets all these qualifications, and I'm not surprised that he's strongly recommended by the Science Advisory Committee as a whole and by previous science advisors like Killian and Kistofosky. Hornig, in fact, is the kind of first rate man in his 40's that you've told me to find more of. Now that's a memo from one of the ones on my staff.

- A I wanted you to know about it before I approved his appointment -- not much I can do about it.
- B He's been over here at the Committee, and I agree with everything your staff said. He's tops. I think he'll make a fine appointment.
- A All right. I had the budget in this morning. They just left here. I told them on this Science Advisor -- I asked old Elmer Staats if he'd talked to you -- he said yes, and I said, how much, he told he didn't want any more than last year. And he said, "well, there's going to be some (sounds like Mohole) and there's going to be some kind of a reactor up here that we got to have -- 10 to 12 million --" And I said, "Well, you don't know how much you want, do you." And he didn't. And I said, "Well you get back in touch with Thomas. I don't want to put a penny more in this budget than he's going to allow, because I want to keep it just as tight as I can." You just have your hearing and your judgement on Science Foundation before I send my budget up there and then if you can keep it anywhere around where it was last year, well let's do it.
- B Let's do it. Let's settle it now, Mr. President. I suggested to him to keep it where it was last year. He said, "Fine," but now somebody out in the middle west -- one of those great universities out there -- wanted a big cyclotron -- cost ~~\$77~~ \$15 or 20 -- 30 million. I said, "Well I don't see anything wrong with that -- just let it come up within the neighborhood allow for one or two little pet things like that, and even at that it would be a lot better than what the original budget was. So there won't be any argument on that. You will be reducing it substantially over what the budget was this year -- put it like that.
- A We give them expenditures this year and let them add another \$20 million.
- B Yeah, that's right.
- A All right.
- B You're in the clear then.

A All right. He's coming back to see you. Now tell him that.

B Thank you. Call me any time.

DECEMBER 5, 1963

11:36 am

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
JACK POTOFSKY

60

A It was good seeing you there yesterday -- and how much I enjoyed being with you, and I hope that you'll be coming in the first time you're down here. Give me a day's notice.

B Mr. President. Thank you very much. It was very nice to see you, and I want to tell you that you're your speech before the council was excellent.

A Well...

B The answer to our real problem is full employment, and it'll do both for civil rights as well as unemployment problems. And I wanted to see you, Mr. President. About some unfinished business, and I thought of coming in about the middle of January when you're finished with your message to the Congress.

A A All right. That's good.

B Is that all right?

A That's good. I'm kind of jealous of you -- my wife likes you better than all these labor leaders put together. If you can't get in on your own, your honorary member can get you in, I'll tell you that.

B Well, frankly, we want to extend to you an invitation for our 50th anniversary which is going to be a big thing in New York City ...the World's Fair.

A You come in -- in the middle and we'll talk about it.

B That's fine.

A Thank you a lot, Jack.

B Thank you very much.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SENATOR CLINT ANDERSON

61

- A Go ahead, partner. Did you call me?
- B No, you called me.
- A No, I made a mistake.
- B Well, let me tell you what I want to say, then.
- A Good.
- B I went down last night to the Trade Council -- I never heard so many enthusiastic comments in my life. I was absolutely amazed at the things the men said, Henry Ford, Crawford Greenwald, Fred Kappel, everyone one of them. Said this was the greatest guy they've ever seen in the White House.
- A Thank you.
- B I just want you to know that you made the greatest hit in the world. I didn't call, you but I was going to call you -- try to get to you.
- B Was a really wonderful reaction. You just can't imagine, Mr. President, how wonderful you were last night.
- A Well, you're mighty wonderful and you make feel good, and I sure do appreciate it.
- B You did a great job with them. They said that your formal speech was all right -- but when you sort of stretched out in the Cabinet Room and just visited with them -- they said that was beyond words.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
SENATOR CLINTON ANDERSON DECEMBER 5, 1963 1:15 p.m.

Senator Anderson: "I went down last night to the Trade Council-- I never heard so many enthusiastic comments in my life. I was absolutely amazed at the things the men said -- Henry Ford, Crawford Greenwald, Fred Kappel, everyone of them..Said this was the greatest guy they've ever seen in the White House....I just want you to know that you made the greatest hit in the world.... Was a really wonderful reaction. You just can't imagine, Mr. President, how wonderful you were last night....They said that your formal speech was all right -- but when you sort of stretched out in the Cabinet Room and just visited with them -- they said that was beyond words."

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
ROBERT ANDERSON

62

A Hello.

B Hello, Mr. President.

A Bob, I'm sorry I didn't get to return your call at 10:50, but I been in meetings and I just got a friend of yours here that's been giving me hell -- sound like that you all belong to the same lodge. Harry Byrd came down and had lunch with me, and he says that he's afraid I'm going to raise this budget \$5 billion like Kennedy did and he wants to cut it down. He said, "I want to get it down to \$100 billion!" and I said, "That's what Bob Anderson said the other day when he came in. But we got one this year \$98.8 and got a billion 8 in retirement, pay raises, military pay and civilian pay, and extra interest on the debt we got a billion 8 of that stuff and they've legislated about \$800 million more that for welfare and education department -- their bills -- about \$400 more for labor and retraining. But I told him this -- that we working at \$103 and we're going to reduce it every way we can, taking up each department, and we're going to cut it down as much as we can, and I told him I'd get he and . . . get you down here first and let you look over it, and see if you could quietly give me any other suggestions, and then before I went home the first of the year for Erhard after Christmas I'd try to get ahold of him and John Williams and have them come in and see about what it was. They're not going to get their tax bill until the middle of the month probably, and he could know what it was before he gets his tax bill out .

B Well, I'm glad two great Americans got together .

A Well, thank you. Here, Bob, you talk to him and then I'll be back on.

B Thank you, my friend. (after a conversation between Anderson and Sen. Harry Byrd.)

A Hello.

B Can I talk to you, Mr. President?

Yes, sir. I got plenty of time. He just left. We had a good meeting. Much obliged to you.

B I've been giving great thought, great consideration to this Alliance for Progress thing.

Mr. Anderson's part of the conversation is very faded and very weak.

Transcribing requires a constant backup -- and much time.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
RALPH DUNGAN

63

- A Hear anything on that Montana picture?
- B No, I haven't. I haven't been able to get in touch with them today.
- A Well, maybe we ought to talk about it before you call him.
- B All right, sir. Fine.
- A Playing with a very temperamental fellow. Get me a page background --
- B On the guy?
- A All about the man and how it came up, . . . and . . .
- B Right. I will.
- A Who did Mansfield talk to? The President?
- B No. ---I'm not certain, Mr. President, whether he did or not. He certainly talked to me directly, and he talked to Larry. And I don't think he ever did talk to the President directly on it.
- A Without going into detail at all with Larry, just ask what the background was.
- B Yes sir.
- A And what he knows about the fellow if anything. And what his ~~fact~~ relationship is with Mansfield.
- B I will.
- A I don't want to quarrel with Mansfield -- all I want him to do . . . I think it would be better if we . . . I'd do anything in the world for him . . . walk up there naked . . . and I'd like for him to tell me though who he is and underwrites.
- B Right.
- A I don't want to get in a fight -- he's peculiar -- we may do that by even asking him anything else.

- B Yes sir.
I'll get a background dope on him.
- A All right.
- B Right.
- A Say, listen...
- B Yes, sir.
- A I asked Bundy to look into this too. But if you can pick up any information on it, do it.
- B O.K., sir.
- A A fellow named Burke Knapp.
- B I know him.
- A What's your evaluation of him?
- B He's a pretty good man. He's rather stolid. He's the number two guy in the world bank.
- A He's vice president of the world bank. He speaks Spanish and Portugese fluently. They tell me he's tough and fair. ... and imaginative/...and Gene Black and George Woods give him a very good mark. He's not a Republican or Democrat... but he'd be a good man for the Alliance for Progress. Would you confirm that or would you....
- B I would say from a competence point of view there is no question. What he lacks is sympatico. He's a cold fish. .. with the Latins. You'd recognize it in 5 minutes if you met him. He's a superbly competent guy in the banking field and he's a good man --- a solid solid man, but he doesn't haveI would say he lacks that quality that the Latins respond to.
- A What would you think about Tom Mann?
- B He's very good. I understand, although I never had any first hand knowledge of this, that he's a little lacking on the administrative side.
- A I've heard that.

B And I would say, also, that the Latins would look on him as a somewhat conservative guy. By the books.

A O.K.

B But...there are a lot worse than Tom. I like Tom. I think Tom's a first rate guy.

A He's got a strike against him because he's from Texas, and I don't want to name anybody from Texas now, but I really want to get somebody good in that job.

B Yes sir.
Well, we'll keep looking.

A O.K.

B Right sir.

DECEMBER 5, 1963

5:26

64

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO JUDGE THORNBERRY

.....

.....

B go to dinner with him, and if I can come down and then meet him later, or would you just rather do it some other time.

A Doesn't make a bit of difference....either way. I'm going to get two or three....I'm going to ask them to take a little swim with me. You can bring him if you want, or you don't need to--whichever you want to. Come the back door and I'll let you in.

B All right, thank you.

A Bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SEN. PROXMIRE

65

A How you doing?

B How are you doing, Mr. President?
I'm very flattered at your calling me, and I deeply appreciate it.

A I was just looking at the Record. I just got back from state department, seeing some of the employees and I thought about the nice statement you made about a little article I wrote back in 1958 that somebody dug up, and I wanted you to know how thoughtful I think it was and how nice it was of you to say the things you did and put in the record.

B Well, bless you. That's just wonderful. I thought it was a great, great statement.

A Well, I didn't think it would ever be resurrected.

B Well my view is that. You know I hate to be called a liberal or a conservative, and you expressed it so beautifully.

A Well, than you. You're mighty nice. I just wanted to say thanks much.

B Well, thank you, Mr. President.

A Come down and see me anytime you got any problems on your mind. I'll look forward to seeing you.

B You bet your life!

A Thank you, Bill.

B Thank you.

A Bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT
TO SPEAKER MCCORMACK

66

a Mr Speaker?

B Oh, yes, Mr. President.

A I just noticed that you had done another thoughtful and generous thing for me -- put a little insertion in the Record and Boston Globe, and I wanted to thank you.

B Oh, you shouldn't have called me...

A I was just looking the Record over, and I ran into it and I thought if you could take the time to do it, I ought to take the time to thank you. I appreciate it very much.

B Well, that's all right. I'm going to put these other two things in the record, too.

A Thank you, my friend.

B I just had Mike Mansfield here and Dirksen and Charlie Halleck, Boggs, and Lou,we discuss it Tuesday, all right?

A Yeah, good? Did you make any progress? What did you decide to do.

B Well, it's still up in the air, you know. What we decided..only one thing we agreed upon...if there's an adjournment that we sholdn't meet on the third -- that's a Friday. Pull the members back on a Friday. Now whether we can go over until the 6 or 7th, that will depend upon when you want to come up to address the Joint Session of the Congress.

A I guess you'd figure on coming back then the....

B Either Monday or Tuesday.

A Come back Sunday and meet Monday the 6th? I guess.

B Well, we'll discuss....I said what about these educationeducation bills? There are some conference reports on .

A What they're trying to do. Charlie and them want to get as far away from the memory of this man as they can, and I think let a

lot of this stuff die, so we won't have much record. I see they're feeding out up there today that the honeymoon's over and because we met with labor and the businessmen who both insisted on coming into see me. I didn't send for them. --They considered that political, so they were adjourning their politics. The honeymoon was over. Said the Republican leaders in the Scripps Howard paper -- this little Washington News. I don't pay any attention on it, but I think they got a strategy on... a slowdown strategy... and I just think the Congress is going to be hurting itself if it doesn't get some stuff out of here before it leaves.

B I agree with you.

A The Ways and Means Committee reported out today, they tell me, the interest equalization tax... and the form presented by the Treasury and they just had a vote or two against it. ...but they're not going to take it up till next year.

B That's what I noticed in the paper.

Well, I just wished they would show that they could pass something. I don't know what it is... but something. And they... Charlie is wanting to go home... fretting around about the 14th... hell, he hasn't been back here. He just got back from his turkey hunt... he brought me a turkey.

B B Well, I think that's out.

A We got to pass the appropriation bill.

B Yes....

A The education, if we can....

B Well, I would insist upon it, Mr. President. One education bill is over there in the Senate. Been accepted by the House. The other one is in conference, and if they agree. If I were you, I would stand put.... just be adamant on the education bills and the appropriation bill... I don't know about the foreign aid because of Otto being away, but you and I got to have a conference with him.

A Yes, he's not going to mark it up till the 12th.

B Well, we got to have a conference with him because.... as a result of that telephone talk the other day, he sharply increased.

A O.K.

B I told you didn't I?

A No. No.

B Well, as a result of that little talk. Remember ? Was very happy he was here. said he went up to \$2 billion 9 -- new money. And he wouldn't stop there, I don't think. I think if you get him down there with that persuasive manner that we can get him about \$3 billion in new money.

A O.K.. I'll do it.

B I'm for the highest amount possible. I'm telling them \$3 billion 5.

A Yes, we'll do that. We'll do that.
You let me know when he gets back. Bye

B Good bye, Mr. President.

DECEMBER 5, 1963

5:41 pm

67

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SENATOR OLIN JOHNSTON

B Yes, sir. How are you, Mr. President?

A Doing fine. Saw a nice little article you put in the record about me today, and I thought I'd thank you for it.

B Well, glad to do it. Glad to do it.

A Mighty nice, and I hope I see you soon.

B Sure.

A Thank you, Olin.
Bye.

DECEMBER 5, 1963

6:06 pm

68

TELEPHONE NOTES
LARRY O'BRIEN TO THE PRESIDENT

A Hllo?

B Mr. President. On this foreign aid markup...they just completed it...they came out with 3.6...but they did retain Yugoslavia and Poland. They cut out the open end, you know where you could have added other countries, which is all right. But Yugoslavia and Poland is in it.

A Good job. You just continue to get homeruns. When you going to....

B No, I'm not hitting them. I'm just reporting where others hit them.

A Well, tell us what we ought to say to them, and let me do it. Whoever you need special attention. Should I thank Fulbright tonight -- I'm having dinner with him.

B Maybe a good idea. Fulbright and Doc~~k~~ Morgan.

A All right. Now they tell me that he wasn't at the meeting with the Secretary of State this morning. Secretary of State asked me how he could get him to come to his meetings and visit with him.

B Fulbright wasn't there?

A No -- Morgan.

B Morgan!

A Said, he just kind of practiced medicine.

B That's right. Doc~~k~~ as you know, is a nice guy -- ^{isn't the} strongest fellow in the world...very cooperative, but not awfully strong. Gets the hell out and as he says, rolls pills. Whenever he can, for additional income. Let me have a chat with him.

A Tell him that when the Secretary of State calls him he should go.

B Yeah, I'll talk to him.

A Thank you, congratulations!

B Not at all, Mr. President

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
CONGRESSMAN MEL PRICE

69

A Mel?

B Hello, Mr. President.

A I saw your nice insertion in the Record about me and I wanted to thank you.

B I mean that -- and much more. I want to help in any way I can, and I think you're off to a tremendous start. I think that you've captured not only the heart of the people, but the support of the people.

A Well, thank you, Mel. You're wonderful, and I'm grateful to you and I appreciate it.

B Well in anyway that I can support your Administration, Mr. President, you know I'll be with you.

A Thank you, Mel.

B Thank you.

DECEMBER 5, 1963

6:40 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT
TO GOVERNOR CONNALLY

70

B Yes, sir.

A Well.....

B How are you?

A Mr. Jackson Valenti just walked in and took his position right here at the door.

B Well, that's good. What the is his position?

A I don't know. Here he is -- I'll let him talk to you.

A Are you doing all right?

B Yes sir. Doing fine.

A Feel good ?

B Feel fine. I'm awfully sore, and my right arm is just going to be a pain for I guess 90 days, but otherwise all right.

A Homer and Walter are here. You want to tell them anything.

B Just give them my regards. Tell I'm just happy to be able to talk to anybody. We came home. We're in Austin.

A Oh, you are. How's Jake getting along.

B I haven't checked it. Everybody thinks he's in real good shape. I haven't talked to him. We got in here about noon.

A Well, I just wanted to tell you I loved you. I didn't have a thing in the world-- was just thinking about you, and I wanted to be sure you were doing all right. And I hadn't called you in two days because they been running me nuts up here.

B Well, I know they have. Looks like to me like he's doing real well.

A See what happened to the market today?

B No.

A All time high in the history of the republic -- 8 1/2 after I met with the businessmen yesterday and...

B I was just going to suggest -- for God's sake -- meet with the businessmen. You been getting a little too much emphasis on meeting with the civil rights boys everyday, and labor and

A I had all the Advisory Council -- 92 -- George Brown, McCollum and all of them for an hour yesterday and took every question they ask. And then took 5 of them home to dinner with me.

B That's good. Today you got a hello of a deal on your breakfast with Charlie Halleck. He was just on, and Byrd for lunch. I think it was excellent.

A I had Dirksen yesterday for breakfast.

B I think you're getting off on a whole of a start. Well,

A Well, stock market hit an all time high in the history of the republic -- up 9 points.

B That's wonderful.

A And so, looks all right.

B Give my love.

A Same to Nellie.

A Watch that Jake thing. Make them vote absentee. Get those heads of your departments -- make Nellie call them up and tell them to go vote absentee.

B We are.

A If something happened there, we'd be disgraced. I don't think it could happen, but -- you know -- it can -- it can happen.

TELEPHONE NOTES
ADLAI STEVENSON TO
THE PRESIDENT

21

B Mr. President?

A Yes sir.

B I don't want to bother you.

A That's all right. Go ahead

B We have to settle this business of whether you come up here to speak at the General Assembly before they go home. I wanted to say that I've talked to Abe Fortas about this. He seems to be very emphatically in favor of it. I talked to the President of the General Assembly -- Venezuelan -- he is of the same mind. Likewise, U Thant, the Secretary General. In the mission here, there's also unanimity about it. Dean Rusk has some misgivings as to whether it's worthwhile or whether you should be away from Washington. Even for a few hours. My own judgement is that it would afford an opportunity that you're not likely to have for some time, to speak naturally without forcing the arrangement before the international community just as they conclude their work here and go home. And that it has a good deal of merit even if nothing new is going to be said. The very fact that you appear here is new in itself. -- Is something new and an opportunity to reaffirm our posture on the that sort of thing, and a the very best possible forum, and also to do some other things that I think would be useful. I am just fearful that if a year or more goes by now before you have an opportunity to appear here that the image and all those words that they use nowadays, may not come through clearly and quickly. So I too am in favor of it. I've worked out a suitable date here -- would be here at 12:00 on December 17, now that's Tuesday. I think the speech should be brief -- about 15 or 20 minutes, and then afterwards you would step out back of the podium and shake hands with all of the delegates just the way President Kennedy did on his two appearances here. Then afterward -- at 1:00 -- if you felt that it was appropriate, you might have a small luncheon at which would be present the Secretary General, the President of the General Assembly, the Vice President and some of the top brass of this mission. And you could get your plane back from New York -- I would think perhaps around 2 or 3 o'clock. Back to Washington. After all of this

q

going around downthere -- last evening Arthur Schlesinger called me and said he'd talked to Mac Bundy -- and Mac Bundy has the impression that I was against it. Which is quite wrong. And he said, perhaps you ought to call him directly. Dean Rusk said that he would speak to you about it and try to get Abe Fortas -- the three of you would have a talk about it. I think Dean is Ambivalent -- he's away. He's not too positive that it's useful. He doesn't see any very negative about it. My view is that it would probably be a good thing to do if it is not too inconvenient or interrupts your present schedule there with the last days of Congress.

A Let me check into it today -- and I'll get back to you tomorrow. Let me get back to you tomorrow. And I assume you'll write the speech that you think would be appropriate.

B Yes, we'll draft one, and the point is -- we ought to get started.

A I hope it's as good -- well go on and get started -- I hope it's as good as one that you sent down the other day, so try to give it a little time, because I don't want to come up there unless I do have a good one.

B You'll have a good one. The major thing you have to worry about what you're sort of projected over the next six months over the whole field of foreign policy. I don't think you should -- if I may say so -- you should do any traveling outside of this country.

A That's what I'm going to try to do.

B Not by any means. And then will come the campaign. And you'll really be out of the you know, you won't have many opportunities.... to do this sort of thing, and there are a lot of people -- you know -- feel that obviously any Vice President is obscured by the President, and it's important for the impact and the feeling of personal involvement be made manifest everywhere and quickly. I think you've already done that extremely well in the Congress, but I don't think it'll hurt a bit if you could re-enforce it a little bit by some such appearance as this. But I don't want to over persuade you.

A Well, I want your judgement and I appreciate very much

your calling me, and I'll get back to you.

B

I'll be down to see you Wednesday morning for breakfast.
Is that still O.K. ?

A

Yes sir.

B

O.K. Fine.

TELEPHONE NOTES
PIERRE SALINGER TO
THE PRESIDENT

72

- B On your 10:00 meeting. I talked to Mac Bundy about it. Suggestion would be that I would just say that you had a meeting on defense planning and on NATO matters with Rusk, McNamara, Rostow, Bill Bundy and Mac Bundy. We leave out Merchant's name so we don't pin point the multilateral force thing.
- A I'd do that, and I'd get as much though, as you can say to them. Just tell him to dig you up some more stuff. That sounds pretty thin. If he can get anything else that he can say we talked about...
- B You talked about the upcoming NATO meeting in Paris.
- A Yes, and I think you could talk about we kind of planned the engagements to have the Joint Chiefs come in during the latter part of the month on the military budget. I don't know.
- B All right.
- A I think you -- you find something, though, of bust substance that he can tell you. Because they're emphasizing the negroes and labor, etc. pretty much.
- B Baltimore Sun gave us a of a line on your -- main line on your speech at the State Department yesterday.
- A Well, I wished they had more circulation here.
- B Yes, I agree.
- A Bye Bye.
- B Right, sir.

DECEMBER 6, 1963

2:40 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
MRS. HERBERT LEHMAN
TO THE PRESIDENT

73

A Hello

B Hello -- yes.

B Mr. President? Edith Lehman.

A My heart goes out to you.

B I'm sorry to call you on the telephone. I know how terribly busy you are -- and I first of all wanted to tell you how much your letter meant and how much your telegram has meant.

A Well, thank you.

B I understand that you're planning to come up for the funeral.

A Yes mam.

B And I only wish Herb could know that. It would have meant a great deal to him. But I'm calling you because I think you're so important to the country that I wonder whether it's wise for you to take that risk.

A Oh no. No, I'm going to be there period.

B You are?

A Yes mam.

B Well, I wish he could know it.

A Well he knows it, he knows it. He's looking down on us, and getting things ready for us. You know when I had my heart attack, he got up and for the first time in the history of the republic, since the senate was organized, he had them stand up and pray for me and I don't believe I'd of made it except for that.

B How nice of you to say that. I guess I can't argue with you.

A No mam.

B I'm just feeling for the country, that's all.

A No mam. I'm going to be there. I just wish that I could assuage your grief and make you stronger, and I know the Good Lord will help you through the trying days that are going to be ahead.

B Thank you very much, Mr. President. I do appreciate it.

A I look forward to seeing you Sunday. I'm going to invite a good many of his friends in Washington to come up with me like Abe Fortas and some of the men up in the Senate Senator Douglas and Senator Clark and some of the better people that he knew.

B Wonderful. That's just wonderful. And I hope as you say, he is looking down at us now.

A Well he is.

B Thank you very much.

A Thank you for calling -- it's very nice.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT FROM
SENATOR STENNIS

72

A Hello.

B Didn't mean for you to stop your conference.

A Go ahead.

B Think I ought to mention to you this cotton bill. You know -- the one the House passed. There's a world of work behind that thing. It's about the only one, I believe, we can pass. And I don't know whether ~~it~~ trying to pass it before we reach yes or not.

B A If they get at it. I don't know why they won't get at it. You try to get those folks up there to go to work, John. People are laughing at them. Barbers are talking about it. I got a haircut, and the barber said, "What in the Gods world has happened to Congress, they're paid on an annual basis, and they took off two weeks for Thanksgiving, and now they want three weeks for Christmas. I just get off one day for each."

B Right. Well, you're getting in behind us and you're getting some results that way.

A I don't know.

B Kind of divided here in the Senate on that bill. You know Humbert Humphrey and Herman Talmadge have in one. They now, and get behind another bill and pass it. You helped out there in the House, maybe you can help us, I think.

A Well, Dick Daly told me that his boys all going to vote against it. I called him and made him change him and that made the difference by itself. They give me hell for having him in the gallery the day I spoke but it was a pretty good payoff. Anyway, I'll do all I can to get a bill, and you try to get something up. Get them to work some, John. Tell them you'll stay there at night if they need to. If they want to go home, tell them you'll stay there and help them. You know we've done a lot of things around here. I never saw a Senate in my life up in December and hadn't passed but six appropriation bills.

B They moving now. You put some ginger in them.

A Well, you get over there and help us.

- B I tell you I been here except when I had down to Mississippi.
- A That's right.
- B I had trouble down there for a while.
- A B They been bouncing around that little Greenville Air Force Base down there -- talking about talking it out.
- A He told me yesterday he was going to take a bunch of ~~lots~~ bases out all over the country save another \$250 million that we didn't need.
- B Well, I'm going to help you save some money some other ways. I can't stand to lose that little one at Greenville -- it's '64, Mr. President.
- A Well, I....
- B We took \$300 million out of military construction bill for you this morning.
- A Good.
- B That's right.
- A O.K.
- B That's right.
- A Thank you, John
- B All right. Call me.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT FROM
SECRETARY WIRTZ

76

.....

A Have some kind of a picture here. We haven't reached any conclusions at all. We don't know how it's going to come out. All we know is compared to Truman's last year, the expenditures are up 36%, the gnp is up 80% and the population is up 21%. And we'll spend a little under \$98 billion this year, and it looks like with all the stuff frozen that we got that we have to start cutting from a base of around \$103. From \$98 to \$103. Now the President told him he'd keep that deficit down under \$9, we trying to leave in it the Appalachian Program and the Poverty Program and the National Science Program and the extra increases in health, education and welfare -- they are \$5.5 billion this year and going \$62.88 next year if we don't cut them -- they're up \$800 million. Labor's up from 492 to 724. And expenditures. Try to get whatever we do cut....

B 492 to 724?

A That's what they got.

B Well, that's a funny comparison. (A That's the budget tentative totals as of today.

B Well, I'll check that. The Manpower Development and training goes up \$100 million; as far as personnel is concerned, I've told them there's to be no increase at all.

A That's right.
What they are doing. This is projected on your getting everything you've asked in training and education and health and all those things for all departments. You see you have to proceed on the assumption in the message that you're going to get what you ask for.

B Right.

A And have the appropriations for them. So that's why you have such a substantial increase. I think it's largely in your manpower retraining....

.....increase.

B Plus the youth employment act.

A Well, it's in there, you see.

B That's right.

A But I didn't want you fellows to get shell shocked that read about \$100 billion budget and say, it's going to take my youth employment, going to take my manpower retraining, going to education -- it's not. We're taking it other places.

B I appreciate your calling. I have been very much concerned as you may or may not have heard -- but decided not to talk with you about it. I talked with Kermit and Dungan, Bob McNamara, and Walter Heller. I think you probably know that in our best guess this is going to mean unemployment come election time and the end of the year over 5%.

A What this -- what do you mean this?

B Well, I mean that as we look ahead right now.

A What do you mean? What kind of a budget?

B Well, I'm assuming from what I've heard -- some place between say 100 plus or minus one.

A Now what does it do with your tax bill?

B I'm assuming the tax bill.

A Well you're not going to get your tax bill and get the 100 and two or three. They.. We've going to have to get close to 100 if we get our tax bill. ...my judgement....they're going to hold this thing until they get a look at our budget and then decide what they do about our tax bill. And they'd like to get it behind civil rights and not get it for us at all.

B I wouldn't presume to enter in on the final decision because I appreciate all the concerns that are there. I've been wondering wheterh I'd fulfilled my obligation to you in making clear the prospects on unemployment. Now of Not of a particular course of it, not of this action, but of not doing other things. And really,

- B I appreciate that there are all kind of factors that ~~go in~~ go into that that decision.
- A Now you see, we're going to have about \$3 billion if we did 100 over what we had this year.
- B No, this is not an argument. I'm not making an argument for a bigger budget. I just thought that I was under an obligation to get through the advice, where some people I think have been giving you soft answers on the unemployment, I see ... I think we're looking down the barrel on over 5% unemployment by the end of next year, and moving on up after that. I think it'll go down, Mr. President, to about 5 and a quarter -- maybe down to 5 -- just about a year from now, and well, will then start on up again. Now this still may very well be the best decision. It would be silly for me to sit here and pretend that I had the grasp of either the political or the broader economic considerations, and I'm not smart enough to have that, but I did want to be sure that that one factor was part of a realistic thinking on it, and I think some people have been telling you that they think it's going to go down to 4% unemployment.
- A Nobody that I know of.
- B What's that.
- A Nobody that I know of.
- B O.K. Well that's good.
- A No, I haven't discussed that with anybody except you, in here. Here's what we've done though. We have tried to keep our defense budget about what it was last year. Nearly everything else is increased. The foreign assistance and economics is going to be a little less, but we're increasing it in our budget, but they're going to cut the out of it. They already told me, they're just not going to do it. And they're not going to let us spend 5 times as much as Russia is in this field. .. just continually. Now the atomic energy we can cut it a little bit because we got bombs running out of our ears, but we're keeping it now because we got a Senator that's up for re-election -- it's a poor reason, but this space thing -- Congress cut itself. So it's going to come down some from what they planned. The State Department was 374 last year and it's 380 this year. The Peace Corps -- 60 last year

DECEMBER 6, 1963

(cont.)

and it's 88 this year. The U.S. Information 155 last year, it's 178 this year. International Financial Institution was 112 last year and we cut that to 77. Export-import banks the same. Agriculture is down because the wheat bill. ...the wheat referendum ...it's down from \$4.1 billion to \$3.3. Commerce is 800 last year, 840 this year. Corps of Engineers (that's public works) -- \$ a billion 82 last year, a billion 124 next year. Health education, 5 billion 5 last year, 6 billion 288 next year. Interior a billion 120 last year, a billion 175 with new starts this year. Justice 325 -- last year, 345 this year. Labor 492, 724. And incidentally, let me give you that labor thing, so when they go to fussing about our not paying any attention to labor -- labor was 98 million under Truman compared to this 724. It's up 638%...which I believe is up the highest percentage of any department except Health Education and Welfare. No education, health and welfare is just up 227.

B I understand. I agree with this. You understand that whatever that figure is for next year...as far as the administration goes, we going to add no people at all period.

A Yeah.

B Just none at all. It's on the unemployment insurance and on the A ...

A Now on the post office -- 528 and 530. Interest on the public debt is up 250 million. Federal Aviation Agency, 770 to 800. That's supersonic, 20 million. General Service 550 to 575, Housing and Home Finance 635, down to 387, that's cause we're selling....

A Hello.

B Hello.

A Hi, Everett, how you doing, my friend?

B Fine Mr. President.

A Good to hear you.

B Well, I'm mighty glad to be able to call you Mr. President.

A Well, you did your part, my friend. You've done everything in the world a human could, and I'll never forget you and that sweet wife of yours. All the times we've ever needed you -- I'm sitting here with Lady Bird right now and she she sends her love.

B Well, bless her soul.

A She just came down to the office to try to get me away. I been staying here....

B Well, I'll tell you one thing I'm going to join with her in helping her get you away from that place, too. Damn your hide. I don't want you to get killed in office just by work.

A I'm not. I'm not.

B It's two ways to die: work yourself to death and let you somebody shoot you. But I don't want anything to happen to you -- by all means. Well, tell Lady Bird hello for both of us. Mr. President, you know about the cotton bill.

A Yes.

B Well, you know a lot about the cotton bill. You helped get it through the House -- and it's just absolutely imperative that this bill get through the Senate and get

through here quick. And I'll tell you why. You've been in this business a long time and know as much about it as anybody in the business -- when it looked like this bill was going to pass, and when it did get through the House, the big buyers just quit buying cotton textiles. They figured well it's going to go down now, which it will if we can get this 8 1/2 cents equalized here, or a good portion of it. Well, J.C. Penny -- now this is confidential -- is the largest buyers of cotton textiles in the United States. Buys more men's underwear, pajamas, everything in socks than any of them. I know his figures. Well, they've just put out an order which I know from one of the biggest -- well the biggest -- supplier of men's underwear that they're going to work on a ten day basis until this is settled. Well, when you put all the mills down to ten days, they just almost stop. Now this can be put through the Senate all right. It's the best bill -- it's the only bill that's been offered that's got the support of everybody -- The ---- I attended every-one of the hearings in the Senate here, and the farmers, the warehousemen, the ginners, the cotton merchants, the seed crushers, the manufacturers have all agreed to this bill. Now that's the first time we've ever had them all to agree to anything. That's your big ones in California and Arizona and Texas and the Carolinas and Mississippi and all of them. They all were here. And they don't have anything against the Talmadge bill -- neither do I, except there's nobody to tell you they can pass that bill. And they can't go back to pass it through the House to save their necks.

A Well, why don't you just get -- try to get your bill out, and what's Ellender going to do about it? Is he going to hold hearings?

B Well, we don't need to hold any hearings. We held the hearings this spring, three or four months ago.

A Well, why doesn't he take a vote on it and try to get it on out?

B Well, he needs some prodding or some help from some where. You know, Ellender is not sold on this bill. He's not sold on any kind of cotton bill. He says it costs too much money. Well, if the figures on it now is \$118 billion the first year and about \$75 the next, and it'll cut export subsidy down

well, it'll cut it 2 1/2 cents a pound which is a devil of a lot of money. If you'd get ahold of Ellender and three or four people on that committee, we can get that... it ought to be out of here next week.

A I'll check into it the first thing in the morning.

B Will you help us on it?

A Yes, I'll get my boys and get them to look right into it and tell them to do everything they can.

B Put that old charm on him.

A Let me talk to the secretary and see what he says, and then let me talk to my legislative boys and see what they say, and I'll get back in touch with you.

B Allright. Now, is George around anywhere. N

A No, I can transfer you.

B Well, I want a little information.

A Let me transfer you right now.

B Wait, let me ask you one other thing.

A All right.

B Senator Ervin....

A Walter is here in the next office. If you want to talk to him...

B Who?

A Walter Jenkins.

B Oh, yes, I want to speak to Walter.

A All right.

B All right, but let me tell you one thing if you got time. Sam Ervin and I on the first of November recommended

B a young man

WJ ~~XX~~/ Yes sir.

B for a federal judge in North Carolina, and we haven't heard bee from bullfoot about it. Would you sort of look into that thing.

A I sure will. Sure will.

B Eugene Gordon, he's taking the place, we hope, of the federal judge -- that's judge Pryor, that Kennedy turned down and wasat Sanford's direction -- wouldn't appoint him, and when we went home for the recess or adjourned last year, he put Judge Pryor in as recess appointment and of course, he was confirmed when we came back. Now this Judge Pryor, he's pulled out -- give up his federal judgeship and running for governor. Carrys party....running boy down there. And..

A We'll check right into that and get back to you.

B We need to get this boy appointed to get him going.

B A All right.

B Let me speak to Walter.

WJ I'm on the line now, sir. I've just been making notes on what you said t~~o~~/ on Eugene Gordon.

A I think the best thing to do, though, if you don't mind --- why don't you get Bill Whitley to call Larry O'Brien and tell him you want to check and that -- get a report for you on it, and Walter, then you follow up on it and get a copy of the report.

WJ I will, sir.

A Get Bill to call him, too. Because we haven't settled down with Bobby yet -- if we go to inquiring why we may tip our hand. Just let Bill ask Larry O'Brien to get him a report, and you tell Larry that you've had a call on it too, and you want a copy of it when he gets it.

WJ All right, sir.

A Good bye B Thank you so much, Mr. President

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SENATOR RUSSELL

78

- A Dick?
- B Yes sir.
- A How you feeling today?
- B I don't feel very good. How do you feel?
- A Well, I'll be damend. I thought the sun was shining and everything....
- B Well, I can't get out in it. I got..down here at work and got an office full of people, and having....you destroyed me...putting me on this commission.
- A I did. How many times you been destroyed in your life altogether?
- B This is the first time.
- A You told me at least 100 times that you were ruined.
- B No, this is the first time.
They can't understand all you said about Warren, and here you are sitting up there by him.
- A Well, you've said a lot about a lot of folks you sitting by, you know. Everybody we fought in all these ward -- you weee in that first one, you know. We got to save the country though now, it's not a question of what you think of somebody. It's the other thing, and that's why you're such a patriot. I wanted to ask you about the MAP program. Ask you....
- B Foreign aid, military assistance?
- A Military Assistance Program, the MAP program. Why shouldn't that program be authorized by your committee instead of foragn relations.
- B Now, Mr. President, you recall we had that issue up a number of times. The first time they brought out a military program, the two committees considered the whole bill jointly, and next time the armed services committee held hearings on the MAP program and foreign relations on the other. Was just so unsatisfactory that

I decided I'd wash my hands of all of it.

A What I think I'm going to do....

B Foreign Relations take the whole thing over.

A I think that was unsatisfactory. But I don't think...it's not near as unsatisfactory as being short of ammunition in Viet Nam or not having.... Wayne Hays or Doc Morgan or even Frank Lausche passing on other decisions. So I'm going to give serious thought and ask McNamara to come see you about it to proposing this year that we just send the MAP legislation through Armed Services and at least a part of that go in our regular defense budget, that part where we trade our planes and things of that kind.

B We have to authorize now a procurement program, and if it is going to be sent to Armed Forces -- now I do not want it -- because you know I don't feel too kindly toward most of the foreign aid programs though some of it is completely.....

A Well, you know they got to have ammunition in Viet Nam and Korea, doesn't- don't you?

B Yes sir.

A Well, you know we haven't got it there, and we're short now.
B No, I didn't know that.

A Q Well, we are. We got less reserve than we want. And I just think it's just not good business to have...of course, I know that you and Harry Byrd and Bob Byrd...and John Stennis, and a good many of you are not sympathetic with the foreign aid program, but we're in Korea and we're in Viet Nam and we're in a good many of these places, and it's got down to where it's not too much anyway.

B We should get out, but I don't know *w/d* anyway to get out. I tried my best to keep them from going into Laos and Viet Nam...as you.....you're there.....you knew that, of course, last meeting we had under Eisenhower before we went in. Said we'd never get out. Be there 50 years from now.

A Well, anyway, I want you to give serious thought to why we shouldn't just send that for this committee. It's an executive decision, and I think --go tell Fulbright that we just believe....

B Well, you won't offend him. He's anxious.

- A Military equipment, and military matters ought to be in armed services.
- B You wouldn't offend him, he's very anxious to get it in armed services.
- A I think you've been modest and may be a little.....
- B No, I just didn't want to handle it because at the time it was there, we were giving a great deal of assistance to England and to France and to Italy and I just didn't believe we ought to be giving them any, I thought that they had armies and armories, arsenals of a thousand years before America was ever discovered, and they ought to be able to make their own cottages, things of that kind, and here we were shipping small arms and ammunitions by the boat load over to France. It was ridiculous to me, and so that was really one reason. It has been trimmed down now to where it's really is a military program.
- A Well, I'm going to ask him to come talk to you. Now another thing I want to ask you while I got you on the phone...you don't feel like coming down here and going swimming...I wanted you to come down. Well, this is good warm water.
- B Well, I've got this shortwinded business. I can't breathe.
- A Why don't you just come and sit in the warm water. Have a little sherry with me and eat lunch and go on back. I'll have a car pick you up in 15 minutes and you can go on back after your lunch, and we'll get you a good hamburger...you're going to have to eat somewhere anyway, and I want to talk to you about reducing the forces in Korea. You see any reason why you shouldn't do that in about 20 minutes.
- B No, sir.
- A All right the car will be at the side door there, waiting for you.
- B In about 15 - 20 minutes.
- a 20 minutes.
- B All right.
- A O.K.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SENATOR RUSSELL

79

(the president used the speakerphone, causing his conversation to be unclear.)

A talked too much on closing these installations, now you see the problem I have -- but here's what I'm faced with. Now I've got to get nominated, and I've got to get elected. And... going to be tie me up for being a failure that is, anyway, if you whip me over the head, which I expect you will.

But closing, Boston Philadelphia and San Francisco and a good many of these other things, New York -- I imagine Javits and Keating will be denouncing me every other day, -- on the other hand how I can veto.
Now what's your reaction?

B Well, Mr. President, you recall right after President Kennedy came in they closed down 73, I believe it was 73. There was a little ripple of criticism but it was forgotten in 6 months.

A I know it. But I'm looking right in the mouth of the gun. This is January.

B Yes, I can see it. The only thing I can see that would possibly have any political repercussions would be the Navy yards. Those fellows have been on a pension there for 100 years. Several thousand. Each one of them got 10 or 12,000 employees there that don't do much, but get paid pretty well. They can cause you trouble at those navy yards. I don't know. To do the expedient thing, I think perhaps I'd carry the navy yards on over until after the election and let them close the others.

A Uh, uh...but you'd probably close them off if he could make his statement stand up.

B Yes, I think I would. I don't think it would hurt as much as you think it would. If these people have got other jobs. That's where the rub comes -- is the jobs. Now where a city loses two or three or four thousand federal employees, they've had a good chunk taken out of their buying power. But if he can assure you that you people are not going to lose any jobs, I think I would go ahead and close it. But there is of course, a certain sentimentality about these navy yards. That might put them in a slightly different position, but I don't think it'll hurt you bad politically if you closed them all. I think the American people would welcome it. I think it'll get you more votes in the long run than it'll lose you. You know...

you talk about these liberals, if you're bringing the conservatives over now -- talking about 100% value for every dollar spent. You heard it on all sides. People saying that they sure are glad they got a president up there that realizes the value of a dollar. It's meeting with general approval. And while it would cut both ways in some localities, over the nation as a whole, I think it would be applauded, and it would not cause any permanent running wounds or sores if these people get jobs.

A

B

There'll be a terrific furor for a month or two, there was when he closed those first ones. When he came in down there, he closed several. Say I think it's \$73 -- I know it's over 60 something... think it's 73.

A

83, I think.

B

Oh, was it? Well anyhow, there was a great outcry for a few days, but after three weeks I never heard a thing more about it.

A

Well, I think I'm going to approve this MAP and go before your committee and tell him to go and get it straight with you. I'm going to approve the cancellation and tell him to notify and clear it with you. I'm going to tell him to give some thought to the navy yards, these folks, and see how much pressure we get from the Philadelphia, Boston, San Francisco. Not much worried about, it, but it looks like I'm biting off a pretty big chunk in those three places.

B

It does have some potential political danger -- for that reason I said you'd probably gain both ways to close the others and get credit for economy and not lose much for the closing of the stations. But the navy yards have a little deeper impact.

A

Thank you, my friend.

B

DynaSoar is going to cause trouble up here.

A

Why?

B

Well, there's a lot of people that thing that McNamara is closing out everything that the Air Force had, the bomber,

and the ...skybolt and the dynasoar, but I think we have to get him up here before the committee and get him to explain.....

A Scoop Jackson will be the principal hell raiser, won't he?

B Goldwater. And Scoop Jackson.

B Cannon will raise hell. All the air force boys. The Air Force has taken two or three beatings and they are getting pretty sore. I don't know the facts about the dynasoar -- I did disagree with him on the bomber, I thought I knew enough about that to do it, but on the dynasoar, we probably can use that other instrument. I forget the name of it, but there's another satellite that's similar to the dynasoar that can serve the same purpose.

A All right. If I..... would you be willing to come to breakfast on Tuesday morning if I could arrange a briefing like I told you about -- a very brief one, not over 25 minutes.

B I'm at your order, sir.

A All right. D.K. Much obliged.

B You're president of the United States.

A Thank you sir.

B Bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT
TO SECRETARY MCNAMARA

DECEMBER 7, 1963 8LW
5:03 pm

80

(the President used the Speakerphone, making transcription of his party of the conversation difficult)

A You still happy?

B Yep, I'm sure you are.

A I talked to your friend, Senator Russell some time today.

B Yes, sir.

A And, he's pretty high on you, and I think he left higher than he was when he came and I told him you were going to come up and see him about a good many things. Now, on the MAP thing, he's agreed to make a deal with us, that doesn't want it in his committee, doesn't want to have anything to do with it. He is for fortress America, but he is for plenty of ammunition in Viet Nam and everyother place as long as we got these obligations we got to carry them out. He thinks he understands something about them, and if we force them to, he think the really dictates that they be there. He doesn't think that Fulbright wants them in his committee anyway. But he's waiting to see, and I told him you had to have a billion four this year and you're only going to get a billion two, and I said, well if Dick Russell will agree not to cut you a dime on authorization appropriation, I got to get by on my budget and get it as low as you can, and if I could get him to go a billion dollars, would you get him a billicon dollars, and Russell said, he would. Now, I'd liek for you to confirm that and go into some detail. Tell him you don't have an inch or ounce of fat in it -- you really need a billion four, you only get a billion two, we'll make it up the budget the 15th and they try to get it satisfaction from him and then go over and see George Mahon and see if you can't get it from him and Vinson as well and let's try to put in what we're going to get instead of inflated figures that will look bad for the country. But you be sure and satisfy your^t self that you got a deal on before we cut it or get it down to that. But I satisfied myself today, but he frequently misunderstands. And just check it out. The next thing: I'm sending you this memo approved on MAP thing.

B All right, very good.

A Could you write a memo here, and I approve the changes that I'm supposed to sign approved to? On a letter?

B No. All you have to do is just initial that letter: approved.

A Well, what's the thing you signed to me, and you got approved over in the left hand corner.

B That was just a space so you wouldn't have to write anything. Other than your initial, if you approved it.

A All right. Now I'm just approving the letter and it too.

B That's right.

A Got that out of the way. Now on the installation -- my estimation is to do what's right. I'd hate like hell though to make such a statement, I didn't get elected. Because I wouldn't be able to do what's right then. I wouldn't be here. And I'm worried about the Navy yards in Boston, and Philadelphia, and San Francisco. I don't know anything about what Russell says or any one of them % that every one of them ought to be in existence and the whole outfit ought to be abolished. I've gone over this memo pretty well. Looks like to me that they would be the three most controversial. You might expose those three and just tell him that you can't justify them. That you're going to have to make a statement that they're not needed and see where that leaves us and then I think I'd be...if I don't change my mind... I want to reserve that right... I think I'd be inclined to go with you on the whole thing because I think it's right, and I want a memorandum from you, assuring me that every person that complains will be given another job, and that there's not a one of these installations that's required in the national interest.

B I'll certainly get it. Then I'm free to at least discuss the navy yards. The two we recommended out were Philadelphia and San Francisco. W

A What about Boston?

B Well, Boston and New York are next on the list. We didn't recommend either one of those at this time. The Navy is waivering a little as to wheter they'll in effect, support us, and I got so much political heat on ever two navy yards I thought I better save the third and fourth until I can get the navy behind me.

A Well, for Sanfrancisco. What I'm really worried about is Philadelphia.

B O.K. Let's take it off the list.

B

I'm going to have to come forward with another Navy yard proposal -- I can wait until November of next year as a matter of fact. But, the study is not in good shape. I know well we've got too many yards, and we ought to take out Philadelphia, Boston, and New York, but I'm just not in a position to stand up ~~we~~ before Congress and prove that Boston and New York ought to go out now, so we might just as well hold Philadelphia.

A

Why don't
and tell them individually, Ted Kennedy and Saltenstall.
....wind up by letting them pressure us into holding them at
least until the first of the year.

B

Take all of them out of the program in other words

DECEMBER 7, 1963

5:15 pm

81

NOTES ON TELEPHONE CALL
THE PRESIDENT TO
MAMIE BROWN (Spawn Hospital, Corpus Christi, Texas)

Mrs. Brown Hello

The President Mamie, how are.

Mrs. Brown Yes, Lyndon.

The President This is Lyndon Johnson. How are you?

Mrs. Brown I know. How could you take time out to call little old me?

The President Just wanted to tell you I was thinking of you and that I love you.

Mrs. Brown Well, I appreciate both of those. How in the world did you know I was here?

The President Well, I got a note from the McVeys saying that you were here.

Mrs. Brown Well, how sweet. And how sweet of you to take time to call me. Lyndon, we're all pulling for you, we're strong for you and we know you're going to be capable of handling the job.

The President Well ~~the McVeys~~ Mrs. William J. McVey wrote me a little note telling me that you were there, and I just wanted you to know that I was thinking of you and pulling for you and here's...

Mrs. Brown And listen. I've been pretty sick, but I'm going to get well after this call from you.

The President Thank you, my dear. Godd luck to you -- glad to hear from you.

Mrs. Brown And Lyndon -- give my love to Lady Bird and the girls. And I've read everything I can get my hand on about you, and it's all been good.

The President

Well, we'll see you in San Marcos some of these days.

Mrs. Brown

Well, all right. We'll love to see you. We love you too.

Mrs. Brown

Thank you so much, Lyndon

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
COACH PAUL DIETZEL

A Coach, this is Lyndon Johnson.

B Well, Mr. President. I'm very thrilled to hear from you, sir.

A Well, I want to tell your boys were wonderful this afternoon, I was in meeting most of the afternoon, but I did get a chance to see the last few minutes of play on television, and I wanted to call you and tell you how much I enjoyed . . . you produced up there.

B Mr. President. That's very wonderful of you to call, and I'll convey your regards to the team. I know they're --they'll be very thrilled.

A We can't win every time you know, but we ought to be proud of what we do, and I know you're proud of your fellows.

B Well, I was very proud of them sir. I think they were magnificent today. I was very sorry we didn't win, but . . .

A We're proud of you.

B Well thank you very much, sir. It was awfully kind of you to call.

A If you ever come to Washington, give me a call.

B I certainly shall, sir. Thank you so very much.

A Thank you.

A Tell those boys hello for me.

B I'll tell them that, and I know they'll be very thrilled, Mr. President.

A Thank you.

B Thank you, sir.

DECEMBER 7, 1963

5:42 pm

84

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
COACH WAYNE HARDIN

- A Coach. This is Lyndon Johnson. Congratulations.
- B Thank you very much, Mr. President.
- A Your team played a great game. I didn't get to see but a few moments of it, but I thought all of you did well, and it was a mighty fine game.
- B Well, thank yiu very much sir. Just sorry you couldn't be there.
- A Well, I wish I could have. I been in the office most of the afternoon, but I went over to the house for lunch -- sneaked in an extra 10 or 15 minutes to watch it a few minutes - and I really enjoyed it, and I hope you'll tell your boys how proud we are of them.
- B Well, I certainly will, sir. Certainly appreciate your calling.
- A If you get down this way, come down to see me.
- B Thank you very much, sir.
- A You know, I've got a daughter that's kind of a Navy girl.
- B Yes sir. That's what I understand.
- A Good bye.
- B Thank you very much, sir.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Secretary Freeman, 12/7/63

According to the President's Daily Diary, the call took place at 6:35 p.m.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 7, 1963

6:52 pm

85

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT
TO SECRETARY FREEMAN

- b What to report to you if you have a minute about my conference with Senator Ellender.
- A You betcha, Orville. Go ahead, I'm sorry I missed you last night, and I've had a hectic day with press conferences and everything today.
- B Real good.
- A Thank you.
- B Real good. Have you seen the memorandum that I gave to Bill?
- A No, no. I haven't. Bill who? Bill Moyers.
- B Yes
- A No.
- B There's a detailed memoranda on this.
- A Wait just a minute...wait just a second.
- A Go ahead. I was just seeing my wife on television here in the office.
- B Oh, that's more important than listening to me....should I call you back.
- A No. No. No.
- B It comes down to this. We had, I think, a very useful....
- A Go out there and see what Bill Moyer did with that memorandum from Secretary Freeman.....
Go ahead....
- B I spend about an hour and a half with him, brought him the numbers, the detailed figures in connection with the cotton proposal, urged

very strongly on him the Talmadge bill; for the first time he began to indicate some interest in it -- by the same token on the wheat thing he recognizes now that we're going to have to do something about cotton.

A Does he admit that we can't pass the Cooley bill?

B He's against the Cooley bill.

A I know it, but they all tell me that we can pass it.

B I think we'll have a much better chance of passing the Talmadge bill, and it's better and they don't want to pass the Cooley bill.

A Well, there's a lot of them that do want to pass it, aren't they?

B As this memo said, when I called you the other day, I knew there were going to be some pressure in connection with....

A Yeah, they are pressuring me. Now, wouldn't be easier to pass the Cooley bill....if we could pass it, wouldn't it be easier to get it than to get the Talmadge bill, and go back and not take it in conference?

B No. I don't think so. I don't think so. I think we've got to ... tough on the Talmadge bill...I think we can cut...pass the Talmadge bill through the Senate and then we can pass it through the House. In the House everyone said that we're for the Talmadge bill but we think we can't pass it, and therefore....

A Wait just a second...I got Goldwater denouncing me. No, that's all right. He's being abused...

B The Talmadge bill...the Cooley bill is no answer to our problem. We're going to continue to accumulate surpluses under it, it's going to cost more.

A Well, why are we for it?

B Well, we were for it simply because we had to get something passed in the House first. And we could never have got the Talmadge bill ...

A Well, they tell me that every damn fellow in the country has quit buying right now and not going to buy another thing...that J. C. Penney

cut off yesterday because they think they're going to get reimbursed 8 cents or whatever the Cooley bill provides, and all the mills have got a hell of a thing on this shape because they're delaying now and they're going to wait and see what happens to the bill.

B Well, they've been delayed and waiting to see what's going to happen ..to the bill now for a year, and this has been oen of our problems...so there's nothing new about this.

A Not saying anything new, but is it a fact?

B A They said that J. C. Penney called them up yesterday, and said now we'll buy no more now until the Senate passes, because it looks like we're goig to get a reduced price.

B I don't know whether that's a fact or not because no one to my knowledge called the department or me and said this, but they've been saying this, ~~tb~~ and in part they've been doing this, and they got their inventory down anyhow...this is just a pure pressure play. But this Cooley bill is something that does not solve our problems, and the Talmadge bill is something that will. And I think that if you took a firm stand on it, and I told Ellender that this was very strongly oppositioned, has been consistently administration position, we supported both bills and everybody says the Talmadge bill is vastly....

A We got to come in Monday and talk about it, because I don't want see the Cooley bill in the House and some other bill in the Senate. That's the shape I'm in....I'm in a helluva of a shape if we're against the Cooley bill...if we can't pass the Cooley bill, that's something else. But I thought we were for the bill, or I wouldn't have been for it in the House.

B We've consistently

A I thought that Kennedy was for it...wasn't he?

B He was for the Cooley bill in the House and for the Talmadge bill in the Senate.

A I haven't gone that for, because I don't know. I hate to put the House out on that kind of a limb, passing one bill, and then change my mind when they get over to the other place.

B Well, you're not really changing your mind, Mr. President. This has been a consistent position, and this is the reason I call.....

- A Not consistent with me, because I haven't had any. I mean I've just been for the Cooley bill up to now...right?
- B Right.
- A So, I haven't been consistent. I don't want to be inconsistent. If I change from the Cooley bill, looks like I have some problems. Let's go over this Monday.
- B Well, I'm not going to be in town Monday.
- A All right. When you going to be back?
- B I'll be back Wednesday morning. All...
- A All right. We'll have to go over it Wednesday morning, then. But if we're going to get something passed, we're going to have to get on it.
- B Well, I....
- B A Where you going?
- B I'm going to be in Oklahoma, then out the GTA, Farmers Union, Oklahoma, GTA in Minneapolis on Tuesday afternoon and back in Tuesday night.
- A If you all not taking that whole government out to Minneapolis, aren't you....?
- B Rusk is going to be there that week, yes.
- A Rusk and Humphrey and you...how in the hell do you expect me to run the show with you all gone?
- chuckle
- A I'll see you Wednesday.
- B Let me say this again. Please -- that's why I wanted to reach you right away. Read this memorandum.
- A All right. I'll read it.
- B And watch this. Because this really is important.

A But, I'm still for the Cobley bill. I haven't abandoned it yet, so you got to give me more than you have up to now to get me to get off....when I start with a guy I stay with him. And I didn't know a thing about it, I just assumed that you and Kennedy knew what you were doing, but I didn't think you're going to ride him half the way and then quit him.

B Well, Cooley and all of these people are

A They're not. I'm just getting wires...Cooley cotton bill now before Committee ...early early table action as passed by the House ...President's strong support is of paramount concern... all legitimate cotton producers....delegation unanimously opposes Talmadge bill....which is believed to be legislative descendant of the hated Brannon plan would disrupt the entire cottonindustry on all levels....our producers and processors cannot disregard the importance of President's support of cotton Cooley bill in the House, but even more indebted to the President for his continuing support to this only workable piece of cotton legislation Congress this year....we appreciate your bringing this to the President's attention at the earliest possible moment...that's what one of our boys in the South sends us.

B They're going to be ...and as this memo says, that's why I tried to reach you the day before, because I knew precisely this was what was going to happen... These fellows smell a lot of dollars...but we're just going to go from bad to worse.. or we're going to get ridiculed on this program. This Cooley business is subsidy on top of subsidy on top of subsidy... and this is the only way we can get something out of that damn fool House. Now if we can pass a bill that will work that means something in the Senate....

A What do Cooley and Poage and them say about this?

B You could ask them....Poage is your good friend. Ask Poage which is better, Mr. President. The Cooley bill or the Talmadge bill. And he'll tell you the Talmadge bill.

A O.K. Well! I'll talk to you Wednesday.

DECEMBER 7, 1963 7:35 pm

86

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
someone at UPI

B Oh, golly. Did they say Adenauer.

A Yeah, and you got 26 and 27th.

B We've corrected the dates on our wire.
Mr. President, you said, the 28th and 29th. The announcement
was the 27 and 28, I think. Is that changed now?

A It's 28th and 29th, yeah.

B I see.

A There's nobody here, but that's my memory. I'm pretty sure it is.

B O.K. We did it correct it the 27th.

A Running too close. See, he couldn't get hereafter Christmas on
the 26th.

B We corrected it to 27th and 28th.

A May be the 27th.

B Because that's what was announced before.

A I believe it's the 28th and 29th though. I think when they got
around ---to it---by the time it took them to get over here, etc.

B Well, we'll change it to that.

A I'd make it the 28th and 29th, and I'd make it Erhard.

B Well, I'm sure that was caught. Our city wire doesn't reflect the
greatest achievements.

A O.K. Godbye.

B Thank you, sir.

DECEMBER 9, 1963

9:55 am

87

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
GOV. LAWRENCE

A Dave?

B Hello.

A Lyndon Johnson.

B Yes. Sir.

A Dave, we got some problems I want to talk to you about. First, we're going to have to close Boston, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco navy yards. Secretary of defense says he's studied all of them and he cannot honestly spend one federal dollar on any of them. The stuff is running out of our ears, and he'll give everybody that works at them at job, but we cannot talk about savings and just run navy yards for the benefit of politicians ...that we just got to cut them out, and he's got a big one in Texas...army depot at Fort Worth and a big one in Arkansas....and a big one in Georgia....and he's got a list of installations he says ought to be closed out. ~~It~~ I put him over the weekend..Saturday..I talked to John McCormack. He said he'll///it'll humiliate him, but he'll have to go along... he can't ask them to spend money that's not justified. Talked to the Brooklyn boys, they don't like it, but they don't know what else they can do. I haven't talked to Bill Green. I thought I better talk to you. And I'm calling Pat Brown now. I think I ought to touch base before it happens. But they save about \$125 million...says he'll offer every employee a job doing something else..but that he just can't justify one dollar in his conscience for these that are not needed.

B Yeah.
Well, we have to go along.

A That's what I say. Now I thought what ...should I do. Call Bill Green?

B Yeah, I'd call Bill Green.

A I heard a little disturbing thing yesterday. I wonder how much clipping is going on down here....but Alsop tells one

of my men that one of the insiders tells him that Johnson couldn't possibly carry Pennsylvania.

B Well, they don't know what he's talking about...

A Yeah, I don't believe Bill Green said that, do you?

B No.

A You want to find out if he did?

B Alsop said he said it?

A Alsopsayswait a minute...did Alsop say that Bill Green told him that? (to someone else in the office)

No, a very reliable source --one of the boys from the old days here was telling him...there's been a little feeling going on...that's what I wanted to talk to you about the other day...among some of the boys around here, all of whom I want to stay on...kept...that Johnson wouldn't run quite as well as maybe Bobby or somebody else... and I think that we ought...one of the stories yesterday in Evans' column...did you see it?

B No I haven't.

A Well, he was kind of a social lion...and he says that Dick Daly and that Bill Green and Gov. Lawrence and some of the rest of them are not quite as enthused ...enthusiastic about Johnson as they might be...and therefore they might have to think otherwise. Now I think you ought to talk to Dick Daly and talk to three or four of them....and then you ought to tell Mr. Evans and the rest of them that by God we're in better shape than we've ever been. We're not in worse shape. The Jews have been for me before they were anybody else. I'm the leader in the civil rights thing withall the negroes and every one of them has said so when they come out of here. Labor unions were throwing their hats through the cabinet room the other day when I finished with them, and Meany and Reuther and all of them said so. And we got a better chance in the South than we've ever had before, so what are we...we're not going to let a few columnistscreate an image here...

B That's right. Don't let them...that god-damned Alsop came up to me in the primaries four years ago...and I bawled him out in Sam Rayburn's office about two weeks later..everything was

strictly off the record, now this is off the record...just for background...then the son of a bitch came down here and wrote a column that I said that I was for Symington...I mean he's dishonest. And the other fellow is a snob. My secretary just passed me a note here...Miss G Tyler called, that's Bill Green's secretary...Bill Green is in grave condition, operated on last night...my gosh...when he was in New York we were there for the Pennsylvania society dinner...I didn't see him, but he left before the dinner started..said he was sick.

B A Where is he?

B Well, he'll be in Philadelphia, I guess.

A Do you have any idea, what hospital.

B No, I'll find out and I'll let you know.

A Let me know so I can call up...and talk to whoever...who should I talk to?

B Miss Tyler is his secretary here. She knows everything about him.

A Well, I mean...who should I express my sympathy to?

B Well, Mrs. Green, yes.

A Is she in Philadelphia. Does she live there?
She doesn't come down here to Washington.

B No, no. She commutes back and forth.

A Well I'll get on it. On these other things..I just want to turn this kind of thing over to you Dave...Mr. Rayburn is not here, and you're the wisest man I got around me...

B Well, I appreciate it.

A You just check that and then you call in some of these folks and start leading to them what good shape we're in instead of what bad shape we're in.

B Well, that's true. I would be telling them the truth. I'm going to Chicago Wednesday to speak and I'll phone Daly...make sure I see him.

A Thank you.

B Yeah.

December 9, 1963
10:01 a.m.

88

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SPEAKER
McCORMACK (f)

LBJ I understand Bill Green was ^{operated on} / last night....serious condition..
SMc Bill Green?
LBJ Yes
SMc I didn't know about that.
LBJ Well, that's just what I heard. ~~My God~~
SMc My God....where was he operated in Philadelphia?
LBJ I guess so..I don't know..I just heard that and I thought I'd call you and see what you knew about it and I'm mighty sorry to hear it.
SMc I didn't know a thing about it, Mr. President. When I get up to the Capitol, I'll inquire..
LBJ All right ..do that and give me a ring and see what you know about it.
SMc Fine..Thanks Mr. President

Note:

Bill Green could be
PHIL Green...not able to distinguish.

} Is
Bill Green

December 9, 1963

10:03 a.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND MISS TYLER
(CONGRESSMAN GREEN'S OFFICE)

Miss Tyler: Mr. President?

LBJ Someone told me my friend was operated on last night?

MT Yes..he is in very grave condition, Mr. President..he had an infection in the gall bladder and pancreas and complications and peritonitis..and he's very, very ill in Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia.

LBJ Well, I'll declared. Please tell him how grieved I am..and I was going to call him this morning..because we're going to have to close up Boston and Philadelphia, Los Angeles and San Francisco Navy Yards...Secretary of Defense says they just cannot be operated and I was waiting until I could talk to John McCormack and Bill and some of the boys and I called this morning and they told me that he had been operated on and I couldn't talk to thim and I just am terribly sorry..now, what was that hospital's name?

MT It is Graduate...G-r-a-d-u-a-t-e...Graduate Hospital..University of Pennsylvania..

LBJ All right..do you know the number of the hospital up there?

MT The room is 404.

LBJ 404..is that where he is?

MT Yes sir. Mrs. Green is staying at the Barclay Hotel..she's taken a room so she can be close by.

LBJ Do you know the number of the hospital?

MT No...but I can get it for you...

LBJ All right...I'll hold on a minute...

MTX You tell those staff people that I've reviewed every way in the world I can and the Secretary of Defense says that he has talked to the _____ and the Joint Chiefs and that they've got to take one in Texas...the Arm Depot at Fort Worth..and says that he cannot justify spending a dollar on these things and that he'll give everybody a job that's presently employed at some other installation..they may have to move..

MT I see

LBJ But they cannot run them because they're wasting \$125 million a year and I would have been on the phone with Bill this morning if ^{he} was here. ..I had made the decision since Saturday but....

MT I'll tell our staff..

LBJ You tell them and tell them to help us as much they can and well ^{try to} give everybody that wants to..a job some other place.

MT All right..sir and here's the number for the Graduate hospitalKingsley 6-4500...

LBJ Thank you so much and keep me informed of his condition.I'm going to send him flowers and I'm going to call Mrs. Green.

MT All right thank you.

LBJ Thank you...he's one of my dearest friends -so take care of him for r

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Larry O'Brien, 12/9/63, 10:05 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

LBJ: "...I talk to Gene Keel and Johnny Rooney, yesterday, and conditioned them...."

LO: "Yes we have one fellow..Lee O'Brien..congressman from upstate New York...."

The archives staff heard:

LBJ: "...I talk to Gene Keogh and Johnny Rooney, yesterday, and conditioned them....""

LO: "Yes we have one fellow..Leo O'Brien..congressman from upstate New York...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 9, 1963
10:05 a.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND LARRY O'BRIEN
(f)

LO Just thought I'd let you know that Congressman Bill Green was operated on late last night..and as we get it..in serious condition..

LBJ Yes. I'm calling Mrs. Green now and I'm sending flowers..and I talked to his Secretary..and expressed my deep regret and I told them about closing the Navy Yard and I think I ought to tell you this...there is about \$125 million at these installations...going to have to be closed...beginning with the Fort Worth Army Depot..and an Air Base at my old college town..San Marcos, Texas..Fort Worth Army Depot will cost us \$ 2 or 3,000 jobs..and we hoped we could put it off but McNamara said all this money is wasted..he can't justify a dollar of it..it begins at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas...talked to both Senators there..and it goes to the four Navy Yards...Boston, New York, San Francisco and Philadelphia...

LO This includes the Depot at Schnectady, New York and the one out at Ohio, too..I guess...doesn't it?

LBJ I think so

LBJ There's a list of them down here if you want to see them...and we've got to confirm it because we can't justify telling McNamara he's got to run something that's not worth a dollar.

LO Yes.

LBJ And we just have no choice..we'd like to keep them...he says he's going to try to give everybody else a job at some other installation and he guaranteed he can ..and he guarantees us he's not justify spending one dime on any of these installations but we just have to hunker up and take it..takes two out of Nevada and a big Air Base near Reno...it takes San Francisco Navy Yard ..it takes Brooklyn...it takes..I talked to Gene Keel and Johnny Rooney, yesterday, and conditioned them...I talked to Fulbright yesterday and conditioned him on ..I talked to McClellan this morning and he wants to talk to me Friday morning but we'll have to act ~~KK~~ today in my judgment..so you'd better get McNamara's people to give you a list of them ...not talk to them..but just be familiar so when they raise hell you'll know the story....

LO Yes..we have one fellow..Lee O'Brien..Congressman from upstate New York who with Sam Stratton came to see me on the Schnectady thing...and Mannie Cellar contacted me about a week ago..Vance had a meeting with the New York delegation and they pleaded for delay in the thing and I don't think that we got any report back to them...Now Lee O'Brien had the letter..think it came in Saturday..that's enroute to you asking for a chance to meet with you...I think that before the announcement part..the easiest thing that would be ..probably a call from you to Lee O'Brien ..keep away from Mannie and the rest of them because it doesn't directly affect them. Leo, of

course...is from Schnectady...and I think that he knows in his mind that the ballgame is over but I think he's fighting a good fight any Congressman would..but he is totally alert to it...and had all kinds of reports on it when he came in to see me some three or four weeks ago.

LBJ
LO

You think I ought to have McNamara talk to those people...or I ought to? Well, I think McNamara should talk to Leo O'Brien ...and I'd close it out as that on Schnectady..because, hell...

LBJ
LO

I'm afraid the more I talk to..the more involved I'll get... No..but you see has talked to them and I've talked to them and I think we could have Bob talk to them..and you'll have to be firm with them and close it out but I don't want the guy..to say..Christ..I was after O'brien to talk to the President about this some weeks ago before it was done. ..and I never had the chance...so I think McNamara could close it out for you, too..

LBJ
LO

Thank you my friend.
OK

December 9, 1963
10:12 a.m.

91

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. BILL GREEN (t)

LBJ Hello?

Mrs G Hello...

LBJ Mrs. Green...this is Lyndon Johnson..

Mrs G Oh..Mr. President..I'm so happy to hear from you..

LBJ I'm terribly distressed about my friend, Bill. Now how is he doing?

Mrs G Well...they have him in what they call "around the clock" care...I don't even have him in a private room with nursing service yet...because they want to keep him where he is...he's really had a serious time of it..and this is something ..I think...that has been coming on him..and I think the sudden shock of two weeks ago...was a little bit hard for him to take..it was hard for all of us..but I think it is definitely attributable to that..

LBJ Oh..my goodness.

Mrs G And..I think that he has..you know..feels that you're just terrific..I'm sure you know that..

LBJ Yes. I do..He's been my friend for many years.

Mrs G Phil has always ...I hate to call you so personally..but you know we feel that way toward you and I know that Phil is in your corner and I know that you're in his..

LBJ I surely am...and you tell him I'm praying for him...I've already said a prayer..and my flowers are on the way and please give him a hug when you can and keep me informed on how he is getting along.

Mrs G I'll do that Mr. President. I'll call your office and let you know if there's any change but just keep up the prayers..that's the important thing..

LBJ Thank you mam..

Mrs G Thank you..

LBJ Bye

Mrs G Bye..Bye

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Cong. Hale Boggs, 12/9/63, 10:32 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

B: "...Yesterday the guy who was in the runoff -- a hater named of Keefan..."

The archives staff heard:

B: "...Yesterday the guy who was in the runoff -- a hater name of McKeithen...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 9, 1963
10:32 a.m.

92

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND CONG. HALE BOGGS
(f)

- B You got a second.? I want to talk to you....
- A I got a bunch of people in here, and I got Joint Chiefs of Staff sitting in the next room...20 minutes behind...but shoot right quick. I'm talking in front of a group of folks though.
- B The Louisiana primary was Saturday.
- A Yeah, I saw that.
- B Morrison is 140,000 votes ahead.
- A Yeah.
- B Gillis Long was eliminated.
Yesterday the guy who was in the runoff -- a hater named of Keefan...got on the television...said the issue was going to be federal intervention...and said he was making no commitments to support President Johnson.
- A I saw that.
- B Now Russell has already indicated...Russell Long..that he's going to issue a statement for Morrison. Now Morrison will win this race with just a little push or two...what I'm trying to suggest is that a word from you to Russell....and that statement be issued today. And it would be very helpful.
- A Let me see. Russell...I told him to talk to me when he got back. I don't want to confirm what they say, that I'm initiating playing in primaries, because I sure don't want to do it.
- B I understand.
- A But if he talks to me, well I'll bear in mind what you said. Be awfully careful about your quoting me on anything...and I'll see....I think I have a feel of the general picture, and I'll handle it as wisely as I know how.
- B Right. O.K., Mr. President. Thank you.

TELEPHONE NOTES
LARRY O'BRIEN
TO THE PRESIDENT

93

A Hope it's good news.

B Yeah. Has Powell talked to you.

A No, he hasn't. But I want to talk to you first, anyway.

B Well, they've okayed this basic formula with just slight revisions because in a couple of instances states would get more money than they would under the old one..so they're going to get the revisions straightened away this afternoon...the meeting generally went very good..they've agreed to extend NDEA for one year...compacted areas for two years, excluding the District of Columbia...they've worked out a combined work study and Presidential school program that Javits had in mind.. four year basis...they're going to meet at 11:00 again in the morning to hopefully wrap it up, but I would say it looks awfully good...well keep our fingers crossed, but the basic formula was accepted with some slight revisions...they're going to work on language this afternoon...and the committee staff to have it ready for the morning..so I would say that all in all it's an optimistic report..

B A Thank you, Larry.

B O.K. Mr. President.

DECEMBER 9, 1963

12:35 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT
FROM ADAM CLAYTON POWELL

94

A Well, good. Adam. Tell me what happened.

B Well, I got a lady friend..and gave her 10% of the funds for a home economics program...which means the girls will be automatically included...and on the base of that...

A Good...you got it all wrapped up?

B All wrapped up. Tomorrow morning, we'll have perfecting language and finally the report.

A Well, now don't you let them get out of there until you get it all up now....

B It's all finished. Now the only thing is, Mr. President. We in the House dispose not to bring it up until the Senate has brought up the higher education bill which this... Lister Hill...opposes. Senator Morse said publicly before the conferees that he would ...bring it up first.. that means that you have got to....

A Did you walk...you talk to Larry about it and tell Larry to touch that base...and I want to congratulate you... I knew you could pull it out if you just stay at it...now you stay here and get that thing wrapped up tomorrow and you let me know what happens after your meeting tomorrow.

B Righto. And if you get Sen. Mansfield to bring up higher education now, as soon as we sign the report....

A You tell Larry that so he can touch base while he's up there. Get right back to him and then I'll follow through on it too.

B All right.

A Thank you.

B I'd like to see you personally when you have a chance.

A

Well, we'll do it. Let's get these things fixed up...
and give me a ring.

B B

Righto. Thank you. Bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
GOVERNOR BROWN OF CALIF.

95

-
- A runthings in California.
Just wanted you to know that I never heard of it until I saw it in the paper, and I'm kind of a Brown man myself.
- B Well, don't you concern yourself.
- A I'm not.
- Bq I'm a Johnson man from here to the end with you. You'll find it out between now and next. . . well, you'll find it out all the time. . .
- A Well, there are a lot of them going to try to divide us but they'll never do it, and I saw the Los Angeles paper that somebody out there mailed me. . . one of my boys. . . and said that this mayor was indicating that he was awfully close to Johnson, etc. and then I understood that they said that Pauley was awfully close to Johnson. . . and he was going to be running the campaign. . . well I'm talking to the man that's going to run the campaign.
- B Well thank you very much for those reassurances, and I tell you, they're unnecessary. I like them very much.
- A I know that.
- B One of these days, I want to. . . I'd like to. . .
- A We'll sit down the first time you get a chance to come east when we get unsettled here. we'll be over this hump in another few days. Or you can come up and we'll go into everything. I've got to tell you some bad news though.
- B What's that?
- A We're goig to have to close up our Navy Yards.
- B Which one?

A San Francisco.

B You are..

A Yep. And Philadelphia, and Boston and New York. The Secretary of Defense says he'll give all these people another job..there won't be any emp- unemployment. They'll have to go some other place, but some other defense establishment. But he cannot justify spending a dollar in these installations. So, he's got one at Fort Worth, Texas, he's got to close..an army depot. He's got one in McClellan's district he's got to close. Four or five in New York, he's got to close. So he brought them in and said I'll give you two assurances last Friday. One is that everybody that's employed will be given another job..number two you'll save \$125 million...number three nobody can defense keeping them going under these circumstances. So I told him to hold up over ...the weekend..and I tried to talk to John McCormack and the Brooklyn boys and the others, and they all...

B Judge Shelly?

A No, I haven't.

B The reason I ask..I have a call from him on the other phone..he probably is calling me about it...the new mayor, you know.

A Y^ou've got two out there, really, haven't you? Haven't you got one at Mare Island ?

B Got one at Mare Island and one at San Francisco?

A Now, what he says is...pat...it's just like making too many bombs...just got more than we can have any use, for...this is just pouring \$125 million of tax payers money down the drain...that oughtn't to go down it, and I'm not in a position, when the Joint Chiefs and Secretary of Defense tell me something like this to debate with them...I know it's not good from a political standpoint...on the other hand, if I turned them down,

it'd be worse from a political standpoint...

B Well, let me tell you this. I understand it exactly I'll tell you what I think we do have to do though. There were so many things that we really do need, can't keep a boondoggle going.

A That's exactly right. That's right. What we've got to do, Pat, we've got to take this money..that we save on things like that and put them in our missiles and put them in our space, and put them in our widow women and education and things like that. And the only way we can do it is cut down the things that we're not using, and they take that money and put in the things of unfilled need.

B Well, you take for example in California -- and Arizona and Nevada, you have this great water project -- this regional water program of the Secretary Udall. And ~~were~~ we're talking about...I mean the money you're closing down...this would go into an investment for the future..where there would be money coming out of it. But rather than take your time over the telephone, I had a call from Dick Berlin and he told me he wanted me to meet your friend, Ed Weisl...is that his name?

A Eddie Weisl.

B Eddie Weisl. I'll be back there around the 7th of January, I'd like to drop in and see you...wonderful...about the relationship of the states to the federal government and some of the places where we can go...but you cannot and political or otherwise...you cannot sustain these yards that are no longer...

B A Outlived their usefulness. It's just like making 22 targets in the day of the missile, you know.

B But, I..let me...I'd like to get a little feel on this thing so I can kind of soften the blow..this will be a real blow to San Francisco..of course..but of course, that naval yard is out there in a place that has fabulous real estate value, and it can be redeveloped in some way. Now they told us about the nitia -- when they closed that up-- the ammunition depot, and we were able to move in and really make the property more valuable. We can do the same thing in San Francisco.

B / A

.....
.....

The main thing I want to tell you is that there's nobody going to be ahead of Brown in California period!

B

Thank you very much.
You'll never regret, I promise you.

A

Give your wife my love.

B

See you later.

A

Some time I'm going to tell my kin folks to see me, and you bring her with you.

B

Thank you, I will.

A

Bye.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, Speaker McCormack to the President,
12/9/63, 1:10 p. m.

According to the President's Daily Diary and the identification slip with the dictabelt, the conversation took place at 1:15 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 2, the transcript reads:

A: "O.K., John. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You tell Christina and Adam Clayton and any of the rest of them how pleased I am...."

The archives staff heard:

A: "O.K., John. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You tell **Green** and Adam Clayton and any of the rest of them how pleased I am...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

TELEPHONE NOTES
SPEAKER MCCORMACK
TO THE PRESIDENT

96

find out

- A John, I didn't/that was correct about Bill Green.
I talked to his wife.
- B I know you did. I talked with the doctor. He told me
how you had talked with Mrs. Green. He says he's
quite ill and it's touch and go.
- A Oh. God. I send him some flowers.
Now tell me, how did your petition go?
- B Last I heard about ten minutes there were 101 signatures
on there....and it's good to have that goal....get as
many as we can.
- A How many are you going to get? 150?
- B Well I don't know about today..150...I'd doubt that...
Now and tomorrow we might.
- A I'd sure get as many as I could as son as I could.
- B John Young is signing it.
- A That's wonderful. ¶ They told me there would be 5 or 6
from Texa...that makes me mighty happy...they're
getting better. Under your leadership..that just shows
that we can even improve Texas.
- B By the way, I'm going to put John Young in Homer
Thornberry's place.
- A Yeah, that's wonderful. He's the man that ought to be
there.
- B I wouldn't go out of Texas...you know that.
- A I know that. I knew that.
- B You know that...but Brooks wasn't interested and Jim
Wright wasn't interested.

A That's right.

B I just simply took the position that Texas I wasn't going to go out of...while no state's entitled to an inherent right, it would be an insult to a state with 21 delegation.... and I then took them in seniority as to the men who I thought would be right. And if John Young wasn't interested, I had to land on Henry Gonzalez.

A You might tell Adam Clayton Powerll and Mrs. Green both that I got a report this morning on how they handled that conference, and I sure am pleased that they're working out that education bill, because we could have a good record on education and...I think they made real progress this morning.

B Wonderful. And I'm happy...they're going to bring up the higher education in the Senate first, you understand.

A I hope they do..they told me that that's what they wanted to get done. I haven't talked to Senators, but the House told me that they wanted to get them to do that, and I hope they do.

B They told me that they agreed that they'd bring up...

A I think Mundt's agreed. I think he agreed. And I believe they will. Anyway, you tell them that I called you, and complimented them and made you feel mighty good.

B Fine. Your're together with John Young, aren't you?

A Oh, you betcha.

A Say, Bernie Baruch is here. Wouldn't you like to say a word to him.

B I'd love to.

conversation between Baruch
and Speaker

A O.K.. John. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You tell Christina and Adam Clayton and any of the rest of them how pleased I am. We just got to pass

some of these things. Now a Republican newspaperman gave me yesterday what they're putting out about the Senate and the House and what we've passed as of this time of the year, compared to Eisenhower's thing... and I think Halleck and Dirksen and some of them must be kind of planting that. They brought me one of the Bellows ...there gave me a little chart that shows in 1955 that they'd passed every appropriation bill by July 29, even though he had an opposition Congress. That in 1963 they'd only passed 6 appropriation bills, and still had seven more to go. That in the Senate in 1955, they'd met in session 105 days, this year they been in session 175 days, so they've been in session 70 days more...but we passed 880 laws..public and private in 1955 -- and only passed 300 in 1963. 390 public laws compared to 190. Now they're putting out that stuff and they want to hold us up, and I would find every/darn thing I could that's possible to squeeze out of that committee in the morning and afternoon between now and the 20th, and try to bring them up and pass them..because.

B Well, by God, nobody has been working harder than...

A I know you have, I know you have.
I'm just saying that you've made great progress now this morning, you'll get two good education bills...

B I understood that the Senate is going to bring the higher one..

B A I haven't had that understanding. I don't know. But they tell me that Morse told them that..so I can't get..

B That's what they told me.

A So I can't give any more assurance of Senate than I can give with the house, as you know... I can't tell you what you take up first..although I can do is express the hope.

B As far as I'm concerned, I don't give a damn, but Powell and them feel that they might be a squeeze where they won't even get the higher education.

- A I told him..I told Powell, and I told Mrs. Green to tell Larry to talk to them and Lister doesn't want to bring them up, and Morse does, so they'll have to settled it over there, and we hope that....
- B Then the vocational..the impact of school area..bill that so many are interested in.
- A That's right. Well, we made some progress, now if we can just go over the committee list and ask the chairman...Wilbur Mills reported this foreign investment bill the other day.
- B They told me..I since made a report to theto you, you haven't got it through Larry O'Brien's office, but the Treasury told him that they'd be satisfied if he got the bill out before Christmas to bring it up in January.
- A They are...and that's the trouble with them. They're so damned satisfied down here that we're going to have a terrible record if we don't quit doing that. What we ought to do is get everything passed as quickly as we can..and you help me.
- B Well, I'm doing that. What about Passman? When will we see Passman?
- A Any time you want to. Whenever he's ready. You just tell me when you want him to come down. We'll both see him.
- B Fine, Mr. President.
- A But I...he's not going to touch his bill until the 12th, and that's going to make it way over until next year.. and that's something that oughtn't to happen.
- B But it's important for us to try to get the bill to come out as fast as possible.
- A It is...and it's important to us to try to get it as quick as possible.
- B What I'd suggest is this. When we go down, we go in the back door.

- A That's good.
- B And might be preferably towards the night time.
- A That's good. That's good. You just write the ticket.
If you ever saw a fellow cooperate... I'm a cooperator.
- B And you know where I am.
- A I sure do. But let's get this stuff moving. Let's get them
where they can say we're passing something.
- B We've got the foreign aid authorization bill up now.
- A That's good.
- B On conference report.
- A Well, you tell them when they get through with that..
you tell your newspapermen up there that you've moving,
that you're rolling, that you're getting stuff passed..
you passed the foreign aid authorization today,
you get your education out tomorrow. Give them a
sense of moving. If you don't these Republicans...
they're all playing politics now.. and they want to leave
the impression that there's no use of doing anything...
we better go on home.... Goldwater gave out a big
interview while he was on active duty on the Air Force.
- B They're doing it because of for you.
- A chuckle... Good bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
AMBASSADOR TOM MANN

97

-
- A Yes. Tom, when you coming up here.
- B Coming up tomrrow. Think I'll get there about 4:30 or 5:00.
Coming up to testify on the Chamizal.
- A I may want you to stay up here.
- B Well, I ~~knod~~ kind of hope not, but I'd like to talk with you
about it in any case. If you decide to go ahead on that.
- A You know what I'm thinking about.
- B Well, I'm guessing...yes, I've got a good guess.
- A You know what I've thought about having one man...
entire operation...kind of an Undersecretary...
- B Well, fine.
I'll be at your service as always.
I'll talk about.
- A Well, I want you to do more than talk about it.
I want somebody to do something about it. We've been
talking enough.
- B All right.
- A So you be thinking about...
- B I'll be thinking about...shall I get in touch with your
office.
- A First thing you do...you call Walter Jenkins as soon as
you hit town, because we've got...I want you to kind of
lay it out the way you'd like to see it done.
- B All right. I'll be in touch with Walter as soon as I get
there.
- A Now you going to bring me any message about when we

going to have that visit?

B I think that the climate is favorable..but I think they're going to wait, and they're thinking about the time and the place...there's nothing definite yet.

A O.K. If it's convenient we could do it in Los Angeles next spring, next February, or we could do it to Washington any time they like.

B They're also thinking about El Paso...as a possibility. Border needle.

Ab/ B I don't know what your thought is.

I had hadn't...

B From their standpoint here they would like Chemizal... built around the Chemizal...and I really don't know enough about what your thoughts are to...I haven't said anything much....

A Well, I think I'd tell them I'd like to come to the ranch or come here...come to Camp Davis with me for a weekend...or we'll give consideration to El Paso..don't know whether that will stir this thing up..think we got to see how this goes..this treaty....well...

B I thought maybe you'd like to wait yourself until the end of this week...for that reason.

A Well, I'm very anxious though to talk over some real important things with you...so you give it a lot of thought ahead of time...we'll see where we'd fit in the Alliance and the OAS and some of the related things underneath where we could have one central direction..and one man in charge.

B All right. Well, fine, I'll be thinking about it, and I'll call Walter tomorrow.

A How well do you know Bunker?

B Well, I used to know him fairiy well. Elsworth Bunker?
Used to know him. .when he was Ambassador to the
Argentines.

A Well, they're talking about him kind of the OAS, so I'll
talk to you about it tomorrow, but you give a good daal
of thought to that.

B I'll do it.

A All right.
I don't want any 'Nos"

B You never got a "no" from me.

A O. K.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President from Larry O'Brien, 12/9/63

According to the President's Daily Diary and the identification slip with the dictabelt, the conversation took place at 3:35 p.m.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 9 1963

98

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT FROM
LARRY O'BRIEN

- A Larry, how's that petition going?
- B I haven't heard anything on it yet. We'll have a count on it later this afternoon. S
- A Somebody told me a while ago..I think the Speaker..that they had 100. Watch it...
- B They ought to do much better than that.
- A See who hadn't going in, but they....try to get them to go in. I know there's a big bunch from our State that's going to be derelict, and you better talk to Walter and talk to Jim Wright, and John Young and Henry Gonzalez...
- B I think Al will march through...
- A Al Thomas... Jim Wright, Jack Brooks won't be here today, but he ought to come tomorrow. That damned Purcell..you ought to contact them all...tell them you want as many of them on there the first day as you can get from our state.
- B Yeah, I'll check that out. He says over 100 so far. That's not as good as it should be.
- A No. It's not..you talk to Walter about the folks from our state and let him check them...
- B All right..
- A I'm meeting with group here now that's very interested in it and I wanted to give them a little report..so you let me know as soon as you can.
- B I will.
- A Bye.
- B O.K.

DECEMBER 9, 1963

3:56 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
LARRY O'BRIEN TO
THE PRESIDENT

99

B 125 as of the moment.

A Thank you, my friend, thank you.

B And the only Texan so far that we've been able to locate is Gonzalez...got some calls out to some of the others right now.

A Have you talked to Walter.

B Yeah, trying to get him now.

A I'll talk to him, and I'll put him busy on it.
Any Republicans?

B We honestly don't know at this point. All we have is the raw figure, and I have to check specifically on Democrats by state, you know...

A Thank you, Larry. Let's do that..and then check in with me later in the day, will you?

B You bet I will.

A All right.
I think you did a good job. Powell called me about 15 minutes after you did this morning, and then let me see...somebody else called me.....the Speaker called me....he wants to be sure this college bill is taken up in the Senate first.

B Well, that's something ...

A agreed to do that, didn't he?

B He agreed to take it up back to back, now I'm not too sure he said first, but that Mansfield had cowed them both ...but that's something I think we ought to resolve at the leadership breakfast in the morning...I'll have it on the agenda for you, Mr. President.

- A Maybe you ought to talk to Mansfield today, and tell him how important it is too.
- B Yeah, because we got to knock those two off this week ..we can have them down here for signature for you.
- A I want to talk to Joe Clark...for him to come in some day this week...you want to tell him to give you the day he wants to come in..
- B O.K.
- A And tell him I want to work with him, and...
- B I drove Joe Clark home last night. We had a pretty good chat. He was in a good mood.
- A That's good. O.K. You just tell him I want to see him anytime this week that suits him...and anybody else you think I ought to see..don't be bashful.
- B All right, Mr. President.
- A I appreciate your telling me to call those folks this morning...
- B Well. listen it was damn good. You did a good job with them, honestly.
- A I'm available to you 24 hours a day...so don't hesitate. Let's use all the resources we got.
- B O.K. Fine. Thanks, Mr. President.

December 9, 1963
5:15 p.m.

100

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSMAN JIM ROOSEVELT (t)

LBJ Hello?
JR: Hello..
LBJ Jim....
JR Yes...
LBJ Lyndon Johnson...
JR Mr. President, how are you?
LBJ I'm just doing fine...I didn't have anything to talk to you about...I just wanted to say hello to you and thank you for your friendship ...you were gone the other day...when I got to see some of your folks..and I missed you and I wanted you to know it and I hope you'll come over to see me here sometime when we get kind of caught up..
JR Well, I certainly appreciate your calling and you know anytime that this country-boy from Tennessee can do a thing...why you just say the word..
LBJ Well, you've always done it, Jim..and retail clerks are a mighty fine outfit and I know why..one of the reasons is who I'm talking to and I just want to thank you and tell you I'll be seeing you soon...give me a ring next week..so we can get together..
JR O.K. Thanks a million..

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Larry O'Brien, 12/9/63, 4:05 p.m.

According to the order of the conversations appearing on the dictabelt, the O'Brien conversation took place after the Jim Roosevelt conversation (transcript #100). The order of conversations on the dictabelt is as follows: Jim Roosevelt (transcript #100), McGeorge Bundy (transcribed as part of the Murrow conversation, transcript # 102), Larry O'Brien (transcript #101), unidentified man (not transcribed), and Edward R. Murrow (transcript #102). Although the transcripts show the Roosevelt conversation at 5:15 p.m. and the O'Brien conversation at 4:05 p.m., this cannot be correct.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 9, 1963

4:05 p.m.

101

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND LARRY O'BRIEN
(f)

LO Mr. President?

LBJ Yeah...

LO They've entered four more Texans within that 125 and that's where we are and we will keep after Wright...and did you say Jack Brooks was coming back tomorrow..

LBJ He's to be back tonight and Joe Kilgore ought to sign it and you ought to tell Joe this is something that really means something to us on the first day

LO O.Ky-doke...

LBJ And Bob Poague

LO Righto...

LBJ And tell Bob that you worked like a dog to get his cotton bill through..now and all you want is a hearing..and that is all I want and he can vote against the damned bill but give us a hearing...it is not discharge of the legislative committee...it's the discharge of a procedural committee and there is a hell of a lot of difference in the two and tell him that this is the question supporting me..

LO Very good..

LBJ Don't get rough, though..with him..you can't threaten him but you know how to handle him....he's almost like Morse...he has to be handled with kid gloves..but if you can't do it then I am going to finally talk to him because there are four more that ought to be on there...

LO Yes..Kilgore..Poage..Wright..and....

LBJ Brooks..

LO Brooks.yes...

LBJ And I'd put in a call to Brooks' office and tell them you're very anxious to talk to him to tell him that these other four ought to be on there and tell him what you really ought to have is the majority of the delegation..ought to have Walter Rogers..now he's not with us but..ought to have him..you ought to have Mahon.

LO Right..Oky-doke...

LBJ Right.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Edward R. Murrow (f), 12/9/63, 5:16 p.m.

The first part of the conversation is not between the President and Edward R. Murrow, but between the President and McGeorge Bundy. At the beginning, the President is talking to Bundy; the call is interrupted for the President to talk to Larry O'Brien (the transcript is document #101); a brief conversation with an unidentified man (not transcribed) follows the O'Brien conversation; the conversation with Murrow begins with "...an hour or two a day...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 9, 1963

5:16 p.m.

102

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND EDWARD R. MURROW (f)

LBJ
.....what about General Shultz ? Think he'd be any good?

EM He's too mild...money-wise...

LBJ Is that right?

EM He's all right...and quiet and medal of honor..but he's not a...not a...

-----interruption...talked to Larry O'Brien...-----

EMan hour or two a day..and I apologize for wheezing at you..but if
you have exactly two minutes..I would like to raise with you a penny-ante
question...

LBJ All right

EM The Senate restored 7.5 of the cut made by the House..in our Budget..they
also laid down a specific instruction that there must be drastic reductions
in our program in Western Europe..

LBJ Yes.

EM The key to the whole operation is obviously now John Rooney..if you were
disposed to call him or have O'Brien or Moyers...I think it would help the
situation greatly, sir.

LBJ All right, I'll check in on it right away..what is your total amount in the bill
now?

EM \$138.5

LBJ Well I see where they've got you spending 6455 and they want to kick you up nex
year to 170..is that right?

EM That is right..yes sir.

LBJ What is going to be entered next year over what we've got this year..

EM This is primarily for expansion in Africa and Latin America..

LBJ Africa and Latin America...O.K...who runs your show in Latin America..who
is your top man here?

EM Hewsen Ryan..

LBJ Is he one you brought in?

EM Yes sir..

LBJ Is he a good one?

EM He is first rate.

LBJ They're talking about putting in a _____ over the equator and broadcasting
programs...what do you know about that?

EM I am not filled in on that, sir.

LBJ That is something that we might want to give a little thought to..I've talked to
some of the people about it and I'll be back in touch with you..I've got Tom Ma
coming in from Mexico tomorrow..and I'm gonna be talking to him about the

Latin American picture and I may have him talk to Ryan..about what we can do that we're not doing and maybe that'll help us with our appropriation too and I'll get ahold of Larry right now..

EM They are old friends and colleagues... Tom and Ryan.. I should add one thing Mr. President and that is that Romney will obviously say that I am a prime S. O. B. ...because after he cut 15 out of the Budget... I made a speech in Atlanta in which I was critical of the House... but that is a minor detail..

LBJ All right...now...he cut 15 out..what did the Senate do...put 7-1/2 back?

EM That is correct, sir..

LBJ And you want them to hold at 7-1/2#.....

EM Yes sir.

LBJ Thank you

EM Thank you sir.

LBJ Bye

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Kermit Gordon (t), 12/9/63, 5:45 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 2, the transcript reads:

KG: "We were just about over the hump on the agency hearing...they've got a lot of legislative problems..I'm in Ted's office right now..going over the ATW legislative program.."

The archives staff heard:

KG: "We were just about over the hump on the agency hearing...they've got a lot of legislative problems..I'm in Ted's office right now..going over the HEW legislative program.."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

/Dec. 9, 1963
5:45 p.m.

103

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND KERMIT GORDON (t)

LBJyou and Macy the other day on putting a ceiling on these employees in that letter we're supposed to get out?

KG I've got a draft statement for you Mr. President. .that I was going to bring in today. .and they postponed the meeting. I'll be ready with it tomorrow. .I can give it to you. .I'll give you a copy of it. .tonight. . .

LBJ No. . .but generally what does it do. . .put a ceiling on it. . .

KG It doesn't give a number. .I've got the figures to show you on where we think we're coming out on '65 employment and it looks like we can ask for a budget number. . .that is a number of employees the end of fiscal year '65. .which is less than we ask for in the '64 or the '63 budget. . .

LBJ Can you then ask the departments to give you a figure lower than that. . .that they can get by and establish ceiling. .

KG Now. .we've got an increase . . .we show an increase from the present estimate of the end of '64. . .and the end of '65. . .about 20,000 which is historically a low number. . .where we are going to propose to you on the idea of a letter. . . was in effect a statement to the Cabinet members and agency heads which would not use numbers but would say that we have tried to hold the Federal employees through the Budget process. .at the absolute minimum. . .and you lay down three rules. .in fact. . .to govern all increases in employment. . .one rule is new legislation. . .another is increase in work loads and another is any increase in program. .the denial of which would cost ^{serious} injury to the national interest. . they've got this written as a draft statement to the Cabinet.

LBJ Can they get out of that. .isn't that so general that they could say that everything is in the national interest. .

KG Well, you see, we control. .they can't do anymore than we let them do, Mr. President. . .because we control employment through the budget. .in the budget allocations that we give them and we give them a budget letter. . .we say that this provides for not more than so many employees in your agency at the end of Fiscal 65. .so we can control them on numbers through the Budget process.

LBJ We'll talk over that in the morning. . .

KG All right. . .I've got the exact numbers. .and I can show you where you stand. .

LBJ So when we go up we're going to be able to say that we're asking for less employees in 1965 than we did in 1964. . .

KG In 1964 budget or in the 1963 budget. .

LBJ So this is going to be the lowest number of employees since 1962. .

KG Since 1962 budget. .that's right. .now. .as I say the actual. . .that 64 is coming way below the budget number so that we'll be looking for an increase of something like 20,000 from the actual 64 number to the Budget 65 number. .when you

compare the three budgets... Budget 65, Budget 64 .. Budget 63... this will be the lowest of the three..

LBJ Well now is McNamara's 25,000 taken into account there?

KG Well... he's only... actually 10,000, Mr. President, it is 25,000 below the Budget but 10,000 below our present estimate of the 64 employment.. that that is taking into account.

LBJ How are you coming on your Budget hearings?

KG We were just about over the hump on the agency hearing... they've got a lot of legislative problems.. I'm in Ted's office right now.. going over the ATW legislative program..

LBJ Ted Reardon..

KG Ted Sorenson..

LBJ OK... I'll let you go..

KG Very good... thank you.

December 9, 1963
5:50 pm

104

ELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND ABE FORTAS (t)

BJ Abe?

F Yes sir.

BJ I've got an urgent memorandum saying we've got to immediately appoint a Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service..and they first suggested Dave Watts of New York..

F David Watts...how do you spell his last name?

BJ W-a-t-t-s...he's a Dewey, Ballantyne firm and Kennedy turned him down because he was too close to Dewey.. then they came up in mid-November..Dungan gave him the name of Wolvin Patten of Seattle..so they want to go through with Patten's nomination..now..I'd like to get this job to some real outstanding able lawyer that has a good background..that is highly respected by the Bar and would be our friend..

F Yes sir.

LBJ And you give it a little thought right quick..

F I will...yes sir..

LBJ Do you think of anybody off-hand..

F No. sir...I don't...but I'll try to get you a name by in the morning..

LBJ All right.. be thinking about it..what about Carol...

F She wouldn't take it..

LBJ That's the trouble with you all..you get so damned rich that you don't know what to do..

F Well..you know..the job was downgraded ..under this crazy guy Coleman Andrews..it used to be a big job..and it has been downgraded in terms of prestige and what-not...but I think we can find somebody..hope so.. Oveta Hobby is out here now..she's going to have a little family supper with us..

LBJ Well, why don't you bring her by to have a drink with me before you go out..

F Well, we're just eating here..

LBJ Are you eating now?

F No sir..we're having a drink...

LBJ Are you at home?

F Yes sir..

LBJ Well, I'll be damned..I wish I had a job where I could leave at 6 oclock ...I haven't even started to clear my desk yet...

F First time I've done it in about six months...I did it to oblige Oveta..

LBJ Well..you just tell her that I was going to call her ..and have a drink with her myself..I told her earlier in the day...and that just shows you how you get ahead of me...

F That's right..she's awful pretty..

LBJ All right..well tell her that I'm mighty sorry..

LBJ Know anything else?

AF No..I got ahold of those things drafted and we're discussing them tomorrow morning..if you know what I mean..

LBJ Yes..you are going to wait till Malahoff smokes you out..I know that...

AF They were drafted and delivered first thing this morning..

LBJ well..why haven't we got the letter back and signed them...

AF Well, because we've got some problems that we want to talk about..

LBJ All right..O.K..

AF Thank you sir..

105

December 9, 1963
5:55 p.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND McGEORGE BUNDY
(f)

MB David Ness..who is the choice of the department and of Lodge...for this job of Deputy Chief of Mission..in Saigon..is here in town..he's about to go to London and be sent on out there unless you'd like to see him.. I thought you might want to see the man who'll be the Chief of Staff..or you'd rather just let him go about his business..

LBJ Yes. I'd like to see him...now..is this one of the men that we recommended ?

MB No...but we've ~~mentioned~~ mentioned him in our recommendations and in the context and the circumstances...with Harriman, Rusk and Lodge united on this man ..who does have an excellent record..but slightly less experienced..I think the consensus is..we'd better go ahead with what they want to do..and his record does check out as a top-notch officer...he's just a little more junior. He also has military experience in Burma in the war.. Artillery Battery Commander..and I think that will help him...but I cannot tell you that he has the seniority ..or that he has the proven visibility to me personally that the other fellows have..but I can tell you that he is what Rusk, Harriman and Lodge all three want to do..I think it is hard to go against that.

LBJ Well, it is not hard for me to go against it although I'd like to look at him but I've never thought any one of the three were very astute in picking personnel...Rusk may be..

MB Well..I think Harriman is the best of the three...at picking people..

LBJ Harriman's whole viewpoint out there is a little bit different than mine..but..

MB Let me get him over and talk to him myself..bring him upstairs..

LBJ All right..

MB Right sir..when would it best for you?

LBJ Tomorrow sometime..

MB All right sir..it will be tomorrow morning then..I'll just tell him to stand by ..you'll come and shake his hand and see..

LBJ Now has he already been selected...

MB No...the selection is entirely subject to your judgment..it is a recommendation to you because of your personal concern in the matter..the question is really how far you want to get into that..

LBJ Where did he come from..was he a bum-mate of Lodge's in Burma?

MB No sir..he was not. He was a...he's been the Deputy Chief of Mission in Morocco and before that had a varied career..his time in Burma was in the second World War..don't think Lodge was there then?

LBJ Well..Lodge was in the second World War?

MB Yes...but in Europe, Mr. President..I think. I don't think he was Lodge's nomination..he was a nomination to Lodge by the Department.

LBJ O.K. Right.

MB Yes sir.

December 9, 1963

6:15 p

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND WILLIAM S. WHITE
(t)

LBJ Bill?

WW Yes sir.

LBJ I haven't had time to read this story about this fellow Jenkins..but they tell me he's so fussed up that he's gone home with a headache..

WW Really?

LBJ Yeah..

WW I hope he hasn't..

LBJ Well, what about you and June coming down and eating supper with us.

WW Well, we'd love it, Mr. President.

LBJ You want to come in your own car or do you want me to send one?

WW Well..I guess it...what would you suggest...I don't know..it might be difficult to get in..that's all..

LBJ You can come in the Southeast Gate...next to E.O.B...and we'll have the Secret Service/ there waiting on you..and then you can ~~drive~~ go home when you want to...if not I'll send a White House car after you..

WW We'll drive...Mr. President..now is that..

LBJ That's the gate next to the old State Department building..that back gate back ~~there~~ there

WW It is back ...towards the River?

LBJ Yes...

WW Not on Penn Avenue?

LBJ No..No..No...next ~~to~~ to the old Executive Office Building...in back of the House..the Southeast Gate.

WW All right sir...when do you want us to come?

LBJ I'm going swimming ..after awhile..next 15 or 20 or 30 minutes..if you want to go swimming in a good warm pool and get some wonderful exercise..feel good.. you can come go with us..June can talk to Lady Bird..if you don't..we'll eat about 7:30 or 7:40 and you can come anytime between then..

WW Well..now...we'll come right away then.

LBJ Come..as soon as you can..

WW All right

December 9, 1963

6:30 p.m.

107

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND MR. WILLIAM
PETNECKY (t)

LBJ Bill?

WP Yes sir..

LBJ We're going to be home maybe a day or two after Christmas...and I want to be thinking about what we might do...I don't want this in the paper..and I don't want you to say I called you..but I want to be thinking what we might do in the way of getting a little group to come down to the ranch or maybe flying up to Fredericksburg..if you had a good indoor's place...put them on a program..not over 20 minutes..15 or 20 minutes...a little German songs..or German music...or something of that kind..that might give Fredericksburg a chance to participate in Erhardt's visit..Now he doesn't need this..he gets to see the best in the world..and the best in Germany..and ours may not be able to compete with it..but I thought it would be a kind of a gesture to Fredericksburg..now do you have any indoor place up there that you could do this..well..

WP Yes..we could possibly handle up to 300 people..would that be sufficient?

LBJ Well...I'd just..it would be your local people..yeah...

see he won't have over 10-15 in his party..I thought we might something kind of like we had for Adenauer..except that I wouldn't want it as long as that fellow who talked too long..you know..

WP Yes...certainly..I agree with you..

LBJ So..we'll just have to keep it down to not over 15 minutes..maybe 18 minutes..

WP All right..

LBJ I don't know that he'd go to Fredericksburg...I haven't talked to him but I thought I'd tell the State Department people and let's see where would you meet up there..in a school house..or where?

WP Yes...we could meet at the school house...we could even seat more people than I just thought of because they bleacher seats..

LBJ Well...but that's outside isn't it?

WP No...it would be inside...see it was built for basketball purposes...

KBJ All right..sort of gymnasium, huh?

WP Yes sir..

LBJ And how many could you seat there?

WP I think we could seat...safely 1,000 to 1200 people..by using the risers..
LBJ Now what do you think..what kind of an outfit would you put on? You think about it and write me an airmail letter the next day or two and try to give me an outline of 15 to 18 minutes that you might put on..and I think we ought to invite Representatives from New Braunfels and Seguin...and from Comfort and from Burnie, and other people to designate small groups to send up to receive him. I would do something...the very best you can put on..that you'll be vrey proud of.

WP All right. Very fine.

LBJ You be thinking about it, and write me, and don't let's consider this any commitment, but let's work on it, and see..because he's the most powerful man now in Europe...and we want to really...we're mighty proud that we're going to bring him down to the ranch...w

WP We;we very proud of you doing it.

LBJ I'm going to keep on until I get some of those fellowd down there to vote for me.

WP Well, I'm sure they will.

LBJ All right. O.K.

WP The thing that...tremendously..you know it was an old old story and something very regrettable over the years...but I believe they have come to this answer.

LBJ O.K. Well, I'll see you, and you write me a two or three page letter outline, and just keep this out of the newspapers, because everything I do gets in, and let's don't say anything about it, until we firmit up.

WP All right. Mighty fine.

LBJ Thank you, Bill.

WP You're surely welcome.

Glad you called.

LBJ Bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
CARL ALBERT

- A How you feeling?
- B Pretty good. Rough trip back.
- A Why? Bad weather?
- B Yeah, weather. And they made us stay all night in Nashville... got a late start out of there.
- A If I were majority leader, I'll be damend if I wouldn't get a airplane route to Oklahoma...you're worse than Albert Thomas...you can't get in and out of Houston, and you can't get in and out of Oklahoma.
- B You are so right.
- A Well, why don't you do something about it? Why don't you call up Allen Boyd....I'll tell Allen Boyd that if he doesn't do something to Oklahoma and if he doesn't do something at Houston, damned if we're not going to abolish his outfit.
- B That's right.
- A How many names you got on the petition?
- B 130.
- A Well, that ain't many.
- B No, we got several more we can get, but we can't begin to get them by Christmas.
- A Hand me that list over there...on the petition ..that folks said they'd get signed up. It looks pretty good...the talk must be better than the action. I had a fellow call me today...claimed that they had 170 that would sign it.
- B Well, they'll have to have Republicans...they're going to have to get more Republicans...they've put the squeeze on them over there...
- A How many Republicans we got?

- B I don't know. Lou's here...How many Republicans?
He hasn't had any. I think about 15 or 20 -- maximum 20...
- A Ask Lou is he'd come down here and go swimming with me
some night in a hot pool..that's what he needs to do.
- B That's right.
- A Now here's what they tell me...I don't want you to repeat
this, but they say they got 171 that are certain....they
got 21 that are possible...
- B I think that's about right. That's close to what I say...
I'd say that we have 140 certain Democrats...25 possible..
be 165...and I would think you'd have that many more for
Republicans....from the Republican side...
- A Now when's he going to start his hearings....
- B Says he'll start them right after the first of the year.
At least that's what he's indicated.
- A Who did he tell that to?
- B Well, we have had four or five members come...he hasn't
told it to the Speaker or me yet.
- A Don't you think you all ought to get a commitment out of him?
- B Sure do. Certainly do.
- B B He says members have been jumping him all over the place.
And threatening to sign the petition....you know.
And they'll sign it after the first of the year...if he drags..
there's no doubt about that..we'll get it signed up.
I think. I think we can get 218 members if he drags too
long, because the members think that he ought to go. The
overwhelming majority of the ~~may~~ members, I think. think
he ought to hold heargins..if they're going to do it before
Christmas.
- A Carl, the big problem that I've got and it's a real big one..
is that I've got to try to get this thing and my tax bill worked
out where I don't get this one..up to baiting up over there...

..before I get my tax bill up and get it passed. So we've got to...

B So why should we hurry then?

A Well, we've just got to... If we could get it up and get it over, well, then that might help us for civil rights, but we got to look at it pretty carefully, and pretty cautiously, and not draw any conclusions...

B Absolutely, but if you put it over there right when the tax bill is going...

A Well, tax bill... Bob Kerr took eight days marking up a tax bill and passing it, so they ought to do that the first week.

B Yes. You think they'll pass it the first week in January?

A No. I don't... I think it'll be lucky to get out by the 20th... that would be my guess. But I'm guessing... we'll find out in the morning. I think you ought to... that's why I called you... I think you ought to say, now fellows when you all going to get this tax bill out? And we can put a lot of heat on here, and get this up, but ain't goin' to do it if it gets over there, and be filibustered four months... by that time the tax bill will be dead... they'll be wanting to go home. Now can you all clean out this education this week.

B Well, they've signed the...

A In the morning, the conference report... If you don't schedule this week, I'm afraid a bunch of them will be gone next week...

B We can do it. The Speaker doesn't want to schedule the vocational bill till the Senate passes the higher education...

A Well, they're going to try to take up both of them. Let's see if we can't get them to take them both up... let's don't go to fighting each now... we've got it pretty well done. And try to get him to schedule them this week.. so that you can...

B Well, he scheduled... we're already passed the house... education bill.. conference..

A I know that.

B All you have to do is get Mike to schedule both of them...
and then we'll take the other ✓ one...it's no problem..

A All right.

B No problem at all. If he'll take the ~~highest~~ higher education
bill....then I'll see you tomorrow.

A O.K.

B O.K. Sir. Thank you.

December 10, 1963

11:55 a. m.

110

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE
PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY RUSK (f)

DR Mr. President?

LBJ Yes...

DR I'm going out to Minneapolis this afternoon and make a speech with Hubert Humphrey. I just wondered if you had a chance to have a word with this man... Ness?

LBJ Who is he?

DR Possible Saigon?

LBJ No.. I've told them to bring him in but I haven't seen him. I'm still with the Budget and I want..

DR Oh.. I see... well..

LBJ Is he the best man you got?

DR We believe he is the best man for this job.. I've interviewed a number of people including Anchetz (?) .. and we brought him home from Europe to have a good look at him..

LBJ I told them to bring him in today before you left.. I want to see him and if you personally think he is the best man for the job.. we'll go it... Amb. Tom Mans^{in m} is coming in today and he'll do what we want him to do.. I think. I want to sit down though.. and write... as you suggested yesterday.. his ideas of what authority he needs and what kind of set-up it ought to be...

DR Right... right. I think if we build a new job here.. that he ought to take part in building it..

LBJ Now.. what about Bolivia?

DR We haven't... I haven't gotten anything in the last three or four hours on it.. b there hasn't been any break in the situation yet.. they're still being held.. and they're still being cared for but I think it is coming to a head here in the next day or so..

LBJ What about the story in the morning paper that these generals out there are fussing among themselves.. and they can't have a government by committee in Viet Nam?

DR Well... there's some truth to that... unfortunately... and we've sent Lodge 20 rockets to get on with that job... because that's his big job... is getting these generals to working together.. but we'll be getting.. I think, during the month of December...

LBJ He's got to decide .. either he's got to interview the press about Eisenhower's suggestion... which Ike said he didn't make.. he's too busy on that, I imagine ... to take care of Viet Nam very much..

DR Well.. I think if I'm asked for a comment on that in Minneapolis.. I'll just say I don't know anything about it...

LBJ Laughter.... OK... we're fighting a war out there now... we don't want to get into one here at home.

DR That's fine.

LBJ Thank you, Rusk.

DR Goodbye

December 10, 1963

12:15 p

111

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND SECRETARY DEAN RUSK (t)

LBJ Mr. Secretary?

DR Yes sir...

LBJ I'm using the State Department to hammer down these commissions over here ... now they come in and say... well you're just off your rocker.. the State Department is asking for increase in employees themselves... they say that this year you had 25, 311 .. next year you're asking 25, 784. ~~XI~~ .. I thought you' want to... that's up over 400..

DR Well... I've already given instructions to Mr. Crockett...

LBJ Well I talked to Bill Crockett the other day and he.. we didn't need any.. said we've got all we need... the Budget says that isn't right...

DR Well.. those were earlier figures.. before.. I had my talk with you and I told Crockett to get them down... but now there's one figure that we.. really do have to go// into.. that is some additional commercial attaches in this joint... State Commerce expansion of exports problem.. but that I think complies with one of the standards that I suggested to you..

LBJ Tell him our goal is just try to stay the last year.. if we can.. that they're going to talk to him about it.. you talk to him too.. cause he told me yesterday we didn't need any...

DR Well.. I'd asked the Director of the Budget to hold up those figures..

LBJ He told me that... he told me that.. but I wanted you to have the exact figure 25, 784 is what they're carrying now and I sent it back to them.. and told them to try to get it to 25, 311... doing the same thing with information service and the others.

DR All right.. sir.. we'll do our best.. thank you.

LBJ Bye

December 10, 1963

12:45 p

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SENATOR MANSFIELD (f)

MM
 you know there's no possibility of enacting the so-called
Cooley bill..... //

LBJ Well, I don't know..but if you say that...

MM Because of its additional cost...I've been told by Mr. Freeman that he'd like to use that as a vehicle to bring some kind of cotton legislation out and he mentioned the Talmadge bill...now...we heard very little testimony on the Talmadge bill and to be frank and candid with you..I don't believe there's a ghost of a chance to get the Talmadge bill out as he presented it..

LBJ Let me give you kind of briefly..what the Budget..just left here..and we're trying to make it up...and if we don't get something in..why we won't have anything in the Budget for any bill..here's what they say and this is confidential to you, my friehd...

We strongly urge your support of the Talmadge bill in preferenes to the Cooley bill. The basic provision of the two bills are ... Cooley price supports 31-3/4 per pound would be reduced to 29-3/4half a cent reduction meets the next two years..additional payment of 2-1/2¢ be made to growers on the first 15 bales...payment be made to handlers in order to lower the effective price through domestic mills. Such payments would have to be sufficient to ^{move the} ~~move the~~ inequity in the current price system ..if at the last minuted the Jones amndnemdnet should be removed then the Senate payments would have to be increased 6¢ per pound..acrage allotment would have to be set at the minimum of 16.2...budgetary costs fiscal 1965 would be an additional \$60 billion with the Jones amendment...\$130 million without the Jones amendment..Talmadge Bill...prices to be supported at world market...roughly 23-1/2¢....there would be no imitations on production..payments to be made to producers on their pro-rated share of domestic consumption within a 16...\$2 million acre allotment..on the first fifteen bales of production, payments to be sufficient to bring the price of cotton betwen 32 and 36. On the second fifteen...it would yield the equivalent of 30 and 34..on the remainder of domestic production..payments would bring an equivalent ot 28-32...budgetary costs in fiscal 65 would be \$43 million over and above the current program.

Advantages of the Talmadge bill...as a result...of one price of cotton it would remove the current inequity faced by domestic mills without the necessity of complicated arrangements for payments to handlers and without acreage contol...it would return the production distribution to cotton growers to market system with sybstantial income protection for growers. X two) ~~and~~ it would distribute the income advantages to the government cotton program more heavily toward small producers.

65% of cotton producers growing less than 15 bales would be better under the Talmadge bill as would the 18% who work between 15 and 30 bales. The very large and efficient California producer would ultimately benefit ...even the removal of acreage restriction. As cotton yields per acre rise in the future..the Cooley bill would ultimately result in larger surpluses ..higher budgetary cost. The Department of Agriculture has calculated the Cooley bill to be 20 million more expensive than the Talmadge bill in '65 and '66 and \$50 million more expensive in fiscal '67. So the only alternative for higher budgetary cost would be extremely unpopular legislation reducing the minimum acreage. If the Jones amendment is moved in order to assure the world price of cotton...the Cobley bill cost would even be higher...signed Kermit Gordon, Director.

MM Well...Lyndon..I'm familiar with what you read there and I had a meeting...

LBJ I just wanted you to know what they'd sent to me.

MM Yes...I understand that..but the so-called Talmadge bill has been before my Committee for 25 years...that's a two-price system..you know..that's what it is..and we've never been able to get it out ..there's so much opposition to it and if you were to read the record as presented on today's program offered why...there''is no by any group. They are just fighting one against the other

LBJ Can you get some kind of unanimity under your leadership...

MM Impossible...of course...to do anything this year..and depending on whats done with the tax bill..the civil rights bill early next year..why...it will depend on when you can get aI told the Press that and that's just about it...because unless you can sandwich the cotton bill in between or before any of these bills...why I don't see any possibility..of any cotton bill until after you get through with the civil rights bill and the tax bill.

LBJ Ummmmhmmmm..well that's sad news...what would be your vote on the Talmadge bill...

MM Now?

LBJ Yes..in the committee..

MM Oh...I imagine that there might be six or seven votes for it...out of 17..

LBJ Let's see....

MM All of the Republicans would be against it..now of course if you can work in the wheat bill in that...if you can work in something to please the corn people...why you might be able to lbg-roll a bill through but I don't suppose that anybody wants to do that...now..I made this suggestion to the Secretary of Agriculture sometime ago...about five or six months ago before the Cobley bill was considered..that what he is anxious to do and I don't blame him is to make it possible for the small ...to get fairly high price and that's about 32 to 32-1/2 cents a pound. Now if we could have a modified form of the Talmadge Bill...only those producing up to 10 acres would get the 32-1/2 cents because that takes in about 47 percent of the cotton growers and let the other gradually decrease under the present law because it sticks to 65 percent of parity, you know..

LBJ Why don't you do this....why don't you sit down with Talmadge and suggest it to him and see what you all can work out...and then maybe both of you come

down here quietly off-the-record and talk to me in the next day or two and let me see what you all decide...

MM Talmadge and I can get together...but you can't get this program through with these other people who don't want direct...

LBJ Well...see what you think you have to do..if you were President and what you'd try to do...and you and Talmadge come down here ...

MM Lyndon...I'll do anything on earth to help you...

LBJ Well..you just figure out...we've got two great jobs...we've got to get that foreign aid passed if we can..and then..we..I want you to give me your ideas on this...

MM I'm engaged in that now...

LBJ I know it...well you did a good job on the...

MM I'm going to a conference on civil rights at 2:00 oclock and I hope to get that out of the way...then you've got states justice to get out of the way.. agriculture..we're stuck on that..

LBJ Well..tell them to go on and get that stuff out of the way..

MM I'm Chairman of the conference though..on public works....

LBJ Are you the ^{only} fellow ~~yp~~ there that works..

MM Hell...I'd venture to say that come Monday.....they're going to take flight.

LBJ Well..I know what you do and I'm not going to let Henry Wallace come to town because I know what you do to him but I want you to let them handle some of these other bills and you handle/ some of these other things for me...you try to get with Talmadge add figure out when you all can come down here two or three days from now and tell me what you think might be possible ...number two...see if you can't get my foreign aid bill out because I've problem after problem ...Rusk is going to NATO..we've got ten new governments out of fifteen NATO...ten of them are new ones...they're looking to see what our new government is going to do..trying to figure out..and see if we can't get that on out..you're the only one that can do it..you can have hearing to parallel other hearings..when they get through in the House...m ake them come over and testify with you add then you and Talmadge come down and see me sometime during the week.

MM I'll be glad to do what I can, Lyndon..but as I said.. about foreign aid we have to sidestep that tomorrow because of these conferemes that we're having and particularly the public works..I'm No. 2 man with McClellan over there...

LBJ You give your proxy to John and you go on and handle foreign aid for me... that state justices doesn't have much ~~100 million~~ money in it..and this foreign ai ...you know about it better than anybody else..

MM What I'd like to do with you when I come back is to give you some good information..

LBJ I'm ready for it..

MM And your predecessors have gotten some people to administer these program in the field..

LBJ I agree with that..I agree with that..

MM But I'll come back and talk to you and give it to you from the horses mouth..

LBJ All right..all right..just go on and get a bill before we go home..if we can.

MM I'm not going to object to it..but I just doubt that you can..

LBJ Well you just do as much as you can and you'll do..you can do anything

you want to..and when you're downtown..why don't you come down sometime along about the latter part of the week and give something to chew on over Christmas..try to figure out what we'll do..

MM Well I'll give you a good turkey bone..

O.K...Mr. President

LBJ Thank you Mike.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Secretary
McNamara (t), 12/10/63, 3:14 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives
staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

LBJ: "Have you checked with about how they're
quoting him?"

The archives staff heard:

LBJ: "Have you checked with Webb about how they're
quoting him?"

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 10, 1963

3:14 p. m.

113

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY
McNAMARA (t)

SMc

SMc:said I'd let you know when I'd release the Dinosaur cancellation ~~of~~ ^{to} the press...I did so at noon time ...in a meeting with the Press here at the Pentagon..that's all taken care of.

LBJ That's good..now...did you have any trouble?

SMc There were 50 or so press people present but no trouble.

LBJ Have you checked with _____ about how they're quoting him?

SMc I sure did and he says he was misquoted but he isn't going to say anything like that again..that's certain. I dictated a note..as you suggested..of this conversation and I sent a copy to your Secretary...furthermore we'll be ready to go the press on Thursday with the base closing and tomorrow after we make further contact...and we finish our studies here, I'll call you and tell you the final position.

LBJ All right..now..you be sure and get in that sentence that says ..if you close these two...he won't open his mouth.

SMc Oh...I certainly did.I said he offered a deal..

LBJ O.K...now...let me ask you this..this five minutes that you gave this morning..I want you to give that to the Cabinet tomorrow..

SMc All right sir..be happy to.

LBJ Thank you

SMc You're welcomed.

December 10, 1963

3:30 p. m.

114

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND LARRY O'BRIEN (

LO'B

.....had sent it...on education..

LBJ Oh...wonderful. Congratulations to you... you think you haven't done a good job..

LOB No...listen.. you gave them the pep talk this morning and I'll let you know wh. the vote is but I'm sure we're in damned good shape.

LBJ Thank you Larry..thank you.

LOB O.K. Mr. President

December 10, 1963
3:45

115

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT/SEN. MIKE MANSFIELD
(f)

MM Mr. President. This is Mike Mansfield.
LBJ Yes sir
MM Joe Clark has an appointment with you at 4 o'clock.
LBJ Right
MM We're going to vote at 4 o'clock on this higher education bill.. could he get
out at a quarter to five..
LBJ Yes sir...I've got Adlai Stevenson at 5 but I'll slow them down a little bit
and he can come just as soon as he votes and we'll work him either before or
afterward.
MM OK...as soon as he votes..he'll ~~just~~ go down there..
LBJ That'll be good...tell him to come right on.
MM Thank you
LBJ Right.

December 10, 1963
3:46p

116

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND LOU DESCHLER (t)

LBJ How are you doing?

LD Well..all right..how are you doing?

LBJ You still gaining weight?

LD Oh...no..I'm just trying to get over losing some pounds...

LBJ You gonna come and go swimming with me some of these days?

LD One of these days after I get this cold out of the way..

LBJ I'm going to get you down here and let this doctor get ahold of you and get you well..cause I've got to get you to help me pass some legislation..

LD O.K. Is your doctor Travell still there?

LBJ Yeah...

LD Well..good..I gotta call her..

LBJ All right..I'll make her call you. Now listen Lou..I thought if you weren't going home too early today..if you get the Speaker and Homer and Carl and Charlie Halleck over there ...I'd like to come down and make a little presentation.

LD Good...what time?

LBJ ~~OMG~~I'd say 6:30....does that suit you.

LD All right...6:30.

LBJ I'd keep it quiet..I'd tell them you've got to see them at 6:30 and let me con in...I'm going to have a little fun..

LD O.K.

LBJ Bye

December 10, 1963

4:30 p. m.

117

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND SENATOR SMITH
(t)

LBJ Margaret?

MCS Mr. President..how are you?

LBJ Well, I'm fine..thank you..

MCS You're kind to call

LBJ I just wanted to call you and tell you I loved you..I didn't have anything to talk to you about except I missed seeing you there on that front row..

MCS Well..come on up and see us..

LBJ Well..I wish I could..but they won't let me get over there and they've got a big rock wall around me here and I'm going to have to get you to crawl under it..

MCS Laughter..I'll read everything about you...cause I don't let anything get by me

LBJ Well..you get ready there because I want you to come down and visit me sometime as soon as I get this rock off my head ...

MCS Well...let me tell you..that you've done an amazing job..where those of us who have sat on the front row are proud and pleased over you and ^{Mrs.} Lyndon Johnson.. I can't tell you what we think about you..

LBJ Well..you're my sweet girl and a mighty big patriot and you know what we think of you and I had one minute and I wanted to spend it telling you so.

MCS Wish you were here...we've been having a struggle with Mr. Cannon on the public works conference..

LBJ Well...laughter...he...I bet he doesn't get off with anything from you..

MCS Well..we're tryin g to see if we can't win him over...

How are you?

Lbj I'm just feeling wonderful and I'm going to invite you to come down just the first moment I get..I really do miss you..I just miss having a talk with you..you know I feel like ...nearly every night when I go home...I want to get a trustee to turn my liabilities over to...laughter...

MCS Now..you behave yourself...because that is of utmost importance at the moment...you're doing a wonderful job..want you to keep on doing it..

LBJ I'm going to do the best I can..I'm just going to do what I think is best everyday and I appreciate talking to you and I'll see you soon.

MCS You've got an awful lot of friends on the Hill..

LBJ Thank you...dear..

MCS And they're just waiting to help.

And thanks a lot for calling..Remind me to Mrs. Johnson.

LBJ Sure will...Bye

MCS Bye

Chrono File

Dec. 1963

[3 of 3]

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
#141 transcript	Telephone Notes, The President to Senator Smathers	12/12/63 3:20	C
#143 transcript	Conversation between the President and Senator Spessard Holland SANITIZED 9/20/93	12/20/63 9:50 a.m.	C
#147 transcript	Telephone Notes, The President and Mrs. John Kennedy (t)	12/21/63 6:55 p.m.	C
#153 transcript	Telephone Notes, The President to Mrs. Kennedy	12/23/63 7:18 p.m.	C
#153a transcript	President Johnson's Notes on Conversation with Mrs. Kennedy	12/23/63 7:18 p.m.	C
#154 transcript	Telephone Notes, The President and Mrs. Kennedy (t) [draft of transcript #153]	12/23/63 7:18 p.m.	C
#156 transcript	Conversation with Unidentified Person	12/27/63 9:45 p.m.	C

FILE LOCATION

Tapes and Transcripts of Conversations and Meetings
"December 1963, Chron File" [3 of 3]

9/17/93

RESTRICTION CODES

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December 10, 1963

4:40 p. m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND LARRY O'BRIEN (f)

LO 27 to adopt the report..

LBJ That's wonderful...that's wonderful...

LO Pierre was talking about...perhaps the Morse-Green bill?

LBJ Yes...yes...that's right...that suits me.
That's good...does that give you any conflicts with anybody else?

LO I don't think so..any conflicts with this Morse-Green that you can think of?

LX I gather...Morse didn't talk to me but he talk to someone indicating that he'd like to have a reference but ...

LBJ All right..we can do that at the signing...we ought to get Ted...or somebody to give us a statement...you going to be there?

LO I've got to talk to...

LBJ See that they get a good statement on it...let me look at it before he puts it out but get it right quick...now when's the vocational bill going to come out.. u

LO Well..I'll check that right now..
We've got to be a little careful over in the damned House because none of those House Republicans conferrees signed that...conference reports and all...
so I told the boys here to really get a good look at that...make sure we don't stub our toes somewhere here..but at least this is another hurdle overwith..

LBJ Albert said that he wanted the President to know that Passman was going to see him..and discuss foreign aid..I understand he's going to see him tonight...he said he's going to tell him about last year first) 3.9 appropriated... second) that only 3 or 4 were obligated leaving \$500 million unobligated...that's what he says about this year.....appropriated 2-1/2... Mr. Passman thinks it should be 2.7...the President asking him to go 2.8...a total of 3-1/2...that's what he's prepared to make.. 146 names on the discharge petition as of now..tell him to call me if he needs me..I don't need to talk to him unless he needs me..

LO I better get Ralph Dungan to give us a little run-down on these figures because frankly this guy...took our shirts...

LBJ Let me send this..you^{send}/somebody to Marie ..and take this memo and get him to answer it for me..I don't know when he's coming but..OK.

LO All right

December 10, 1963

4:46 p

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND SENATOR MIKE MANSFIELD (t)

LBJ Mike?

MM Yes sir.

LBJon that vote and the way you handled it...real wonderful..and I think we're moving...I wish you'd tell me who you think I might say "thank you" to..if I needed to.

MM Well..I think...it is Wayne and Joe Clark...and Jennings Randolph..they did a grand job and at your suggestion..we got it through today because I didn't think we could bring it up till later this week.

LBJ You did a wonderful job and we're rowing now and if we could just..they tell me now none of the Republican conferees signed that vocational-education thing and we're going to have to count pretty carefully over there and we hope we can get that one..but we're rolling and it is good and I sure do want to salute you and I'll see Joe in a minute...and I will call Wayne and congratulate him on the Morse Green bill.
You just tell him I called you and congratulated you and I'll get a call in to him right now..

MM Bye.. Mr. President.

LBJ Thank you Mike.

MM Thank you

December 10, 1963

4:55 p

123

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND LARRY O'BRIEN (f)

LO
.....probably a little later..I just thought I'd mention it to you.. Mike called
Morse and Mrs. Green...

LBJ I tried to get Morse and he's on the way to the airport..called Mike and thanke
him and I thought I'd..

LO Mrs. Green and Adam would be two good ones..

LBJ I'm trying to get Adam and can't reach him...do you have trouble reaching
him too ?

LO Yes...but they'll get the word to him..

LBJ I called ...should I get Randolph too , Mansfield said I ought to call
Randolph.

LO No, I'd hold on that, because I think if you can handle Morse and Adam
and Mrs. Green, that will cover us and that will get them in a good
mood for the vocational education fight.

LBJ Thank you.

LO O.K.

TELEPHONE NOTES
GEORGE REEDY TO
THE PRESIDENT

B On Page A7500, an article . . . that's an article by Clark Mollenhoff, but
p most of you, it you can skip. What's important is the middle column on
page A7500 where it says "pays premium." Down below that, what
Mollenhoff says in effect is that the LBJ Company paid these premiums
on your life insurance policy. And the Internal Revenue Service spokes-
men have explained that life insurance premiums are deductible from
s taxable income only if the insured person is a key man who had made
such a substantial contribution to the business success that the insurance
would be regarded as ordinary and necessary business expenses. Now the
New York Times has called me about that. . . they said they had been
talking to Don Reynolds and Don said I would have a statement. And I
told them I knew absolutely nothing about it, and nothing about Don
Reynolds. I've talked to . . . what they're getting at of course, is that. .
since these premiums were paid and since they think that they were
deducted from taxes, that therefore you are a key executive of the com-
pany and you've been intending all these years that you were not. Now I
have talked to Abe about it, Abe's advice is to refer the New York Times
to Leonard Marks. And have Leonard Marks simply say that he has
checked with Mr. J. C. Kellam and that these premiums were paid by
the company after taxes and were not deducted as a business expense.

A As their protection.

B Right.

A That's correct. But it was done because of the necessity for their
protection, you see.

B Yes.

A In case of death.

B Right.

A Yeah, I think that's good.

B O.K., sir, I'll get right on it then.

A O.K.

B You bet, sir.

TELEPHONE NOTES
CONG. ADAM CLAYTON POWELL
TO THE PRESIDENT

122

- B ...
Tuesday to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands...having trouble down there with intacted aid...you know lots of different things on the committee.. and we were wondering if possible...to sign these before we leave.
- A Well, I don't know when I'll get them. When are you going to pass the vocational/
- B I can do it Thursday at 12:00.
- A Well, how long...if you can get it down here and get it ready..I'll sure try to work it out.
- B Monday or Tuesday, either one.
- A Next Monday or Tuesday?
- B Yes sir, if you will, if you can.
- A Well, we'll just check it in. I'll tell Larry to watch it, and you tell him to, so..
- B All right, I'll call him up.
Thank you sir.
- A O.K.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
KERMIT GORDON

DECEMBER 10, 1963 5:12

123

-
- A We're talking about the urban renewal and housing and what the year looks like for that...
- B Mr. President, we'vewe haven't yet had our review of the HHFA budget...we've got that tomorrow. There is you know, ,the big thing in HHFA of the legislative question, the nature of the new legislative proposals on housing that are to be made next year, you know there has to be a legislative package because a good deal of legislation expires next year.
- A Has to be a legislative bill next year?
- B That's right..there has to be and what they are prposing is, I gather, although I haven't been over it in detail, is an omnibus housing bill which extends their going programs and adds to it a number of new programs.
- A Which extends their going programs and adds to it a number of new programs.
- B That's correct.
- B This is a proposal. We have not yet... we got it scheduled for tomorrow, Mr. President..
- A O.K. would you give me a report on it when you get your teeth into it...
- B I will indeed.
Very good.
- A O.K. He's of the opinion that we need a good housing bill, next year, and some urban renewal and some public housing.
- B I agree with them and I certainly hope we can find a place in the budget for it, Mr. President.
- A O.K. Thatlyou very much.
- B Very good.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Sen. Wayne Morse,
12/10/63, 5:15

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

A: "It shows that if you're persistent enough, you'll get the job done, and you're going to have the best education bill in the history of the republic."

The archives staff heard:

A: "It shows that if you're persistent enough, you'll get the job done, and you're going to have the best education year in the history of the republic."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 10, 1963

5:15

THE NOTES
PRESIDENT TO
SEN. WAYNE MORSE

124

-
- A Wayne?
- B Mr. President.
- A They tell me you did a marvelous job on the Morse-Green bill and we just wanted to salute you.
- B Why, you're wonderful. Thank you. I co-sponsored that for the first time in 1947.
- A Well, I'll be darned.
- B 1947. You're wonderful, Mr. President...you helped me.
- A It shows that if you're persistent enough, you'll get the job done, and you're going to have the best education bill in the history of the republic.
- B You helped me very very much, and I appreciate.
- A Well, I love you, and I want to give you the first pen we have down here, so get ready and we'll sign it....
- B Thank you. I'm going to Boston now, , , be back in the morning.
- A O.K., Wayne.
- B Thank you very much, Mr. President.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SEN. RANDOLPH

DECEMBER 10, 1963

5:22

125

-
- A I want to congratulate you on that education bill. You all did a good job, and I wanted to thank you.
- B Well, you're very gracious, and I'm very grateful. (A) Well, thank you, my friend, I appreciate it.
- B I shall stand with you at every turn of the road, when I can.
- A I know it.
- B You know that.
- A I do.
- A Bye.
- B Bye.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
MRS. -BUKK
MRS. BILL GREEN

DECEMBER 10, 1963

5:24

126

-
- A How's my man doing today?
- B Well, he's doing very well, and fighting and battling.
- A They can't keep a good man down.
- B That's right. And he's really doing a yeoman's job.
- A Well tell him the last thing I did last night before I got in that bed with my little green pajamas was to say a prayer for him.
- B I'll tell him that. He'll get a real kick out of that. You're really sweet to say it.
- A Tell him I'm pulling for him.
- B Good. And I'm so thrilled to hear from you.
- A Did he get my flowers?
- B Yes. And they are simply lovely.
- A Well, that's good.
- B They really are.
- A Good. Now you let me know if anything turns.
- B Well thank you.
- A If I don't hear from you, I'm going to know he's doing all right.
- B Fine.
- A Good bye
- B Thank you very much.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SECRETARY MCNAMARA

DECEMBER 10, 1963 5:45 pm

127

A Camp Polk is not on that list of installations, is it?

B No, it isn't.

A Thank you, bye.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President from Carl Albert, 12/10/63,
5:46 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

B: "...if Cannon won't go. Both are trying to hold out...."

The archives staff heard:

B: "...if Cannon won't go. Fogarty's trying to hold out...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT FROM
CARL ALBERT

123

-
- B Yes, sir. Mr. President?
- A Yeah.
- B On this \$45 million accelerated public works, we're having trouble with our conferees. Cannon is holding out on it and Krwan is sort of..doesn't want to cross Cannon, and I can't do anything to Cannon...or with Kirwan if Cannon won't go. Both are trying to hold out. If you could get somebody or if you could call Cannon or get somebody to...
- A God, I got...I never got one inch with him all of my life.
- B Well, I never did either to be very frank with you.
- A Mr. Rayburn never did.
- B If you could call Hill and Pastore and Holland and Ellender and Magnuson they're the Democrats on the Senate side, and Rusty Young and Mrs. Smith on the Republican side. You think you can get somebody to get them to hold out...if we could get part of this, half of this it would be a lot of help, as I understand it.
- A Well, I'll talk to Larry, Carl. Why don't you talk to him, let me give you him...
- B I had a call in for Larry, he's out...
- A He's in a meeting now with all the legislative assistants. I'll talk to him, and I'll see you a little later, and I'll talk to you about it.
- B O.K.
- A Bye.

DECEMBER 10, 1963 5:50 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT
FROM SPEAKER MCCORMACK

129

- B Yes, Mr. President?
I have Otto Passman with me. And I know how busy you've been...
to the side: Come in Carl. Carl has just come in here... Carl Albert..
and any suggestions?
- A John, what would you think...ask him if it would suit him to meet...
I could meet this afternoon, although they got two meetings that I'm
supposed to attend right now, and another one at 7:00, and I wanted to
see you a little bit, but would 5:15 tomorrow suit you all right?
- B 5:15 tomorrow.
- A Yeah, would that suit you better?
- B 5:15 tomorrow, Otto?
- B Fine, we'll be down there at 5:15.
We'll go in the front gate.
- A Good.
- B Otto says he just wants to be given sufficient time to go into it.
- A O.K. All right. We'll do it. 5:15.
- B All right, Mr. President.
- A Fine.

December 10, 1963
6:00 p. m.

TELEPHONE CALL BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
LOU DESCHLER (t)

LD Hello, Mr. President.

LBJ I've got a 7 o'clock meeting down here.. can I come now?

LD Well...I told them at 6:15 ... Mr. President.

LBJ All right.. then I can be there about 6:15... that'd be good.

LD O.K.. I'll call them.

LBJ Bye

December 11, 1963
10:40 a.m.

131

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND DR. JERRY WEISNER (f)

B This is Jerry. Would it be all right for me to ask here in this press briefing this afternoon to say that you had repeated President Kennedy's invitation to Hornig to replace me because there had been a great deal of speculation on it.

A Sure, sure, sure. I don't know that we need to be too definite when that's going to be do we?

B No. In fact I think you and I need to talk about it at some precise time.

A All right, good. Tell him that I had seen him yesterday. Were you all off the record yesterday?

Yes.

A Yes, yes. Tell him that. Then tell him that I would give him something more substance than that too. I would start off with that and I would say that whatever time we spent. We spent a half hour together and reviewed whatever we it was we reviewed and we talked about some of this work and gave the scientists some new functions and plan on developing further and asked you to stay a little while to get the transition period and he is going to replace you and all this kind of stuff, etc.

B Good.

A Okay.

B Good. Goodbye.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President and Senator Muskie (t),
12/11/63, 10:45 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 3, the transcript reads:

LBJ (contd): "...interested in him as sending him as a deputy to the ECD, that is the body set up to coordinate all of our AID programs and"

On page 5, the transcript reads:

A: "Yes, I think so. I think so. I don't want to get involved with him any more than I have...."

The archives staff heard:

On page 3:

LBJ (contd): "...interested in him as sending him as a deputy to the (inaudible)CD, that is the development systems committee set up to coordinate all of our AID programs and"

On page 5, the transcript reads:

A: "Yes, I think so. I think so. I don't want to get involved with him any more than I am...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 11, 1963

10:45 a.m.

132

TELEPHONE NOTES

THE PRESIDENT AND SENATOR MUSKIE (t)

A Hi.

B Hello, Mr. President.

A Ed, how are you doing?

B Fine.

A Somebody told me that you did a mighty good job on television. I saw you and I got a telephone call about that time and didn't get to listen to it but one of the girls said that you said you were really exaggerating about us and very generous and I appreciate it.

B Thank you. It was honest.

A ~~xxxxxxx~~ Well thank you.

B Then I might add incidentally because I am sure you are interested in intelligence you can get from any part of the country. The last two trips I have made to Maine since Dallas, the reaction to your performance and the way you have taken over has been very reassuring to me and I think ought to be a source of satisfaction to you. They like the way you have done the job.

A I have done the best and call them as we see them and hope that the communications is good and that they can understand what we are doing and they have been mighty wonderful people, the people have.

B Well, they have been because of you. Mr. President I know you are busy and I hate ~~to~~ like the devil to bother you but I wanted to call you about the _____? thing in Panama. Ralph Duncan called me yesterday about it and said you were thinking of appointment of your own man to that post and I understand that President Kennedy hadn't set the papers up on Frank's nomination and I wanted to say just two or three things about it and obviously from my judgement this is an appointment that is highly personal to the President, any Ambassadorial appointment, and I wouldn't want to suggest if I had any different idea about it. With Frank, in the first place, we had looked upon this appointment as a way of establishing a public identify for him that could be useful to us back here in Maine. If you want

The President & Senator Muskie (cont.) December 11, 1963 - 10:45 a.m.

to bring him back and get him active politically again, in fact I think he should have come back last year. On top of this if he had he would have been elected. In any case we he is sort of hidden in AID. This isn't a spot that is very _____ to public view. Secondly, since President Kennedy had indicated publicly that he was going to appoint Frank if Frank were not now appointed this would have adverse political implications for him and I think for me. It would be difficult to explain why this change was made especially since it has been made clear you wanted to continue and as a matter of fact I think you said you did not want resignations from our ambassadors abroad at the present time. It would be a difficult thing to explain and I am sure that whatever you have in mind you have it in mind for good reasons. I am not questioning that, but I just feel that I ought to make these points to you so that you might weigh them in your final judgement.

Ed, I will. Fine. I've got this problem.. We are going to try to be highly selective and pretty strong career and we are hopeful to get a million dollar man for twenty thousand job in all of these embassies and these particularly delicate areas. And this is one of the most delicate at the moment. There are a good many things they say that might have worked out with the President. And of course I don't know anything about them. I know that there was some of his people and maybe the President had given some thought to/the fact down there. I told

Frank

I told them I ~~want~~ want to help any way I can to give him any identification he needs. On the other hand I am going to have to make a good many changes. The reason I didn't ask for resignations just didn't want to have the Foreign Service quit and have to start over the next morning. But that doesn't mean that I am not going to try to put in some people that I really believe are trained & equipped to handle these things. I have grave doubts about Frank in Panama. Because I have problems there and this kind of ~~things~~ same problems he'd have at AID. I told them to try to find something that would be would give him a good position, at the same time would'nt put him in a delicate erupting spot where even another Bolivia situation. And it's not a service to him. It's not a service to me and I don't think it's a service to the country. They came up with a suggestion and I said now I really have no obligation to Frank. I have a good many obligations of other

folks because of the thirty years I have spent as you can understand. It's kind of like you have a different obligation to the people of Maine than what I do. And my first appointee I ought to get somebody that is either top-right career or that's really out carrying out my person instructions. Now, we thought that we would consider if it was a matter of importance to him and to you and to the others interested in him as sending him as a deputy to the ECD, that is the body set up to coordinate all of our AID programs and he's got an AID background, not an ambassadorial background. of the 11 industrialized countries. The position carries a Ministerial rank; the incumbent sits in on most of the meetings ~~sits~~ as U.S. representative DAC and in this position he is responsible for presenting the position of the United States on such matters as developmental activities which he has the background for and in what the other industrialized countries are doing and what we can do to lower the terms of development assistance extended to other countries and to ~~also~~ coordinate the activities of these other countries with those of the United States. Now if we give him this appointment he would serve under the direct supervision of Ambassador John _____ who is our Ambassador to _____. In most respects the position of U.S. representative is of less importance than that as Chairman of the DAC. It is a position that is now occupied by an American, Willard Thorpe who is an old State Department man who is responsible for the overall operation of the DAC. And similar, while the DAC position is the very useful one from the point of view of our AIRD programs and its coordination with those of other AID countries, it is one that we think he could fit into. Now Dean Rusk has written a memorandum recommending him but I have not acted on it. When it came to my desk I had a staff meeting and they were going over these and I said now cut back all of these rush things you have brought in here and let's ~~explore~~ explore them and see what Frank's DAC position is and ~~what~~ where this would be. I believe it's Paris. And I want to see Coffin's qualifications. Now Rusk came back with a memorandum saying that he was born in Maine in 1919, he was a graduate of Harvard Law School, he served as officer in the Army; he served in the 85th and 86th Congress; he had a House Foreign Affairs background; he was a Democratic Candidate for Governor in 1960; and he was appointed to the Development & Loan Fund and then he was appointed to his present position as Deputy Director of the International Development 1961. Now Rusk does not level and say this is what it ought to be, but he

The President & Senator Muskie (cont.) December 11, 1963-10:45 a.m.

J just says a biographical sketch of him is enclosed and carries you may want to wish to consider appointing Frank Coffin as one of the two deputies of our ambassadors. The responsibility have to do with development assistance. It just says I may want to consider it. Now I want to consider it if is something you want done. I wouldn't normally do it. I would put in somebody that would have these general qualifications that I knew about. Do you see my point?

B Yes.

A I have just got to be frank with you and that is the only way I do it. I know I saw yesterday where I was told that you and I couldn't make an agreement I had penalized you on committees I never had done that in my life, but they got an idea I have and I don't want to be in that position. I want to help and I want to work with you and I haven't had a damned thing to do with positions in three years up there with committee assignments. I have stayed completely away from them. I have never even recommended a man to Mansfield and I got credit for everything ever happening ~~and~~ the whole time and after I was gone (laugh)

B Incidentally on that point Mr. President, I was very distressed that Jack Anderson should have pulled this out of the woodwork

A I was too and

B Now my own attitude on assignment to Committees has been this Of course I was disappointed that I couldn't get on Foreign relations committee but I have always attributed this to seniority. It seems the people wanted it and they are entitled to it and they got it and frankly I got one committee I asked for and wished I didn't have it now. That is Banking and Currency, and the two committees I didn't ask for and I am pleased with. I have never been unhappy.

A Well, you will get one and it will be a problem. But none of us -- I spent 10 years in the Senate/~~as the~~ Appropriations, and I was Minority Leader and wanting Majority Leader and I couldn't get it and finally got on it and then by gosh I got kicked out _____ Vice President. It will hit you but I have no prejudices and nothing but the warmest friendship and gratitude to you and the greatest admiration for you and I think you have done a very unique and unusual problem that needs my attention than somebody that comes here from Maine that has got to have all the help he can get and got to be something.

The President & Senator Muskie (cont.) December 11, 1963-10:45 a.m.

unusal. So that's my feeling toward him. Now I would appoint Frank Coffin for one reason and I'm talking to him.

B Are you going to talk to him?

A No I am talking to you.

B h

A I would appoint him for one reason. And the reason I would appoint him to this ABCD thing is because you want him appointed. Otherwise I would say that I have no real obligation to him. As a matter of fact he has told me a time or two that I didn't know what I was talking about.

B That seems out of character. But am I free to talk to him Mr. President?

A Yes, I think so. I think so. I don't want to get involved with him any more than I have. I think you ought to tell him that here is the situation we find ourselves in. When a new Administration comes in everybody resigns you have to start from the first, the man is responsible for it; he can't carry on everything and I have asked the Cabinet to stay on; I have asked the ambassadors to stay on; although a good many of them have submitted their resignations. I've got one I have just finished reading here from John B. Martin a minute ago., I have another one Tom Mann, I've got him coming in trying to give him another reassignment, but in the West Hemisphere I have got some very acute, highly specialized and very difficult problems and I am not going to name him as Ambassador to Panama or Bolivia or Mexico City or etc. I've just got that problem and I don't feel like I could do it. My conscience tells me that; my judgement. The Secretary of State has recommended him as one of the ones to work with our ambassador with ministerial rank at AECI and that I generally outlined it and I would be glad to Mr. Thorpe as one of the top men. I think he is a former Under Sec. of State and I believe it's in Paris and I will have the Secretary brief him before he leaves to go to Paris this week end. And you talk to Ralph Dungan then and after it is over with and I don't know what it pays. All I know is that this is a memo I got on my desk December 4. And it says action required. And if you want me to appoint him to it I will do it. If you don't want me to I will just give it to somebody that I have been real intimate with and I

guarantee you my friend I've got a list of them a mile long wanting to help.

B Well, I thank you for your frankness Mr. President. I certainly can't quarrel with you or deny 8666

A I know, you have been a good executive and you know the problems I have and my connections with Maine are you. I want to do anything you want me to do. ~~I can't do this.~~ I want to do this. I will do this if you want it done. And you just tell Ralph Dungan what you want done and to the extent we can we will do it.

B Thank you Mr. President.

A Goodbye.

132a

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
SENATOR MUSKIE

DECEMBER 11, 1963 10:45 a.m

Senator Muskie: "...The last two trips I have made to ~~Dart~~ Maine since Dallas the reaction to your performance and the way you have taken over has been very reassuring to me and I think ought to be a source of satisfaction to you. They like the way you have done the job..."

The President and Senator Muskie then discussed an appointment for Frank Coffin. The President said that he would consider it if it were important to Senator Muskie.

TELEPHONE NOTES
SENATOR HAYDEN
TO THE PRESIDENT

133

- A Carl?
- B Hello, Lyndon?
- A Yes.
- B I sent you a letter down about Naval ...instalation at Litzfield, Arizona. I had this up with the Department and they promised me before they'd take any action, they'd give me a chance to talk about it..to the Secretary. They came in here today and told me they were going to do it.
- A I'm going to make an appointment for you to talke to the Secretary right now, Carl. He says he can't justify spending a dollar at any one of these 35 installations. And he took one in my state right at the top that employed 2, 000 people..and I'll ask him to call you right away.
- B Well, if you would, I'd...there isn't any sense to it, and if I had a chance to look it over and talk with him -- he didn't keep his promise to me.
- A Now, who promised this to you?
- B Secretary of Defense.
- A All right...he didn't close any yet. But what did he promise you?
- B He promised me that we would sit down and talk it over before he took any action.
- A All right...
- B Some people in here today telling me they're going to do it in two or three days.
- A Well, they're going to, but he hasn't taken any action yet. But that's what he's trying to tell you now. That's why he had them in there. You want to sit down with him, and take him, call him and he'll see right this afternoon.
- B Well, I can talk to him.
- A Yeah, I'll have him call you right back.
- B All right. Call me back.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SECRETARY MCNAMARA

DECEMBER 11, 1963

2:38 pm

137

B Yes, Mr. President.

A Carl Hayden says you promised him to sit down and talk to him before you closed Arizona, and he wants to do it, and I said, well he hasn't closed it yet. And he said, "Well, he didn't tell me the truth." And I said, "What did he tell you?" Said, "He told me he'd come and sit down and talk to me."

B When was I alleged to have talked to him?

A I don't know.

B I haven't talked to him once in three years.

A I said, "Who told you." He said, "Secretary of Defense." I said, "He'll call you immediately."

B I will be over there immediately, but I...

A I would just call him and ask him when you did that and say, now I wonder if you got it mixed up with somebody else, and if you haven't... just go tell him you haven't closed him yet, but you have these recommendations and you got to do it, and tell him why, say I'm starting with the president, and starting with my own state of California, and I'm having to do it all across the board.

Now, number 2-- when are we going to announced?...when you are going to be ready to announced how we're going to handle MAP next year?

B Oh, I think....

A I've got that memo that you wrote hemfor me. Do you want me to send that back to you.

B No sir, you don't have to. I took your verbal approval the other day and I sent the letters to....

A Will you coordinate with Salinger and see whenever you want to do it, and how you do it?

B I think it'll be some time, Mr. President, because I think Russell and the others will want to work on it. I can't imagine when I talked to... I've never been in Hayden's office.

A Well, just.....

B I'll get on it right away.

A Anyway, maybe somebody else did. See if Gilpatric did, but get ahold of him and explain it to him.

B I'll do it right away.

A O.K.

B Very good. Bye

DECEMBER 11, 1963

3:36 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
RALPH DUNGAN

125

-
- B Yes sir, Mr. President.
- A Tom Mann is here and I want him to talk to you about this memo that...
- B Goodwin sent you?
- A I want him to prepare for me, and I want him to give me his ideas, after he talks to you and Rusk, on how this thing ought to be set up over there.
- B Yes sir.
- A Then I want him to talk to Rusk at 6:00, he's got to testify tomorrow. And I want him to get me a memo showing how he thinks he ought to be done and try to get Rusk to clear it... before Rusk gets away to go to Paris... I want to clear it with Morse and Fulbright... to see if they'll give me legislation. Who do we talk to on the House side?
- B Doc Morgan.
- A Morgan or Cellar?
- B Well, you'll have to talk ~~on the House side?~~ to both... but I think Morgan would be the more important. I mean has to be talked to... and should be involved..... very easy, that will be no strain.
- a Got any problems with any of them?
- B No. You'll have problems with Morse, I think, although I don't know. You know, I hesitate to predict.
- A I talked to him the other night, and I don't remember whether I mentioned Tom Mann or not, but ..
- B I think he'd feel very right that way. I don't think you'd have any problem on that. He's just so unpredictable, that's the problem...
- A I'll send Tom right up to see you.
- B All right, sir.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President and Abe Fortas (t), 12/11/63,
5:00 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

B: "...Why wouldn't it be a good idea to set up a similar group for appointments to _____ and involves 52 people in total. You know on all the regular commissions...."

The archives staff heard:

B: "...Why wouldn't it be a good idea to set up a similar group for appointments to heads of regulatory and involves 52 people in total. You know on all the regulatory commissions...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 11, 1966
5:00 p.m.

136

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND ABE FORTAS (t)

A Abe, I've got just a minute. I'm running 35 minutes behind and I've got John McCormack waiting and Jerry Ford that I'm trying to get to put some money in the foreign aid bill.

B You know when judges are appointed to the Federal Bench their names are sent to a Bar Association Committee. Now in view of our last publicity you know what I mean. Why wouldn't it be a good idea to set up a similar group for appointments to _____ and involves 52 people in total. You know on all the regular ~~zzzzzz~~ commissions. You see what I mean sir?

current

A Yep.

B

A Well let's try to wait until tomorrow or the next day. Is there anything urgent I need to do before I see these folks?

B No sir. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

A Well, hell let's do it then.

B Oh no sir. But I think it ought to be done right away.

A Yeah, well draw up what you think ought to be done and let me see it tonight and I'll study it. There is no vacancy on there anyway. He's submitted his resignation though we didn't accept any of them. And there is no vacancy and none will occur on this one. for six months.

B I ~~wasn't~~ wasn't thinking about that one. I was thinking about ---

A Well, can it wait until tomorrow. That's all I'm saying. See, I've got two problems here.

B Sure.

A I've got a Republican Congressman who is mad as hell because he's been waiting 35 minutes and a speaker who is mad as hell because he's been waiting an hour and 35 minutes & I'm keeping him waiting 5 minutes more. Now if it can wait, please let it wait until tonight at 11:00, 12:00 or in the morning until 8:00 or any other time and give me a memo on it. I will get right on it & I think

December 11, 1963
5:00 p.m.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND ABE FORTAS (t) - cont.

A (cont) it's a good idea. I haven't/^{thought}~~talked~~ about it but it appeals to me.

B Boody-bye Sir.

DECEMBER 11, 1963
5:05 p.m.

137

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY RUSK (f)

B Mr. President, on two points. On the Bolivian matter there appears to be some kind of confusion in the Bolivian government whether ~~asked~~ asking or not, the Foreign Minister has told us has sent given us a note saying they are not asking us for anything but we are studying the shopping list and they probably will if the Bolivian government clarifies that they want us to send them some ammunition and tear gas and things of that sort but Ed Martin is working with Dungan over there and we will try to keep you informed.

A All right.

B Secondly, AP tells me us that in conversations with some of their people you are looking for a retired military man to go to Pakistan. We have urged ~~that~~ them not to run the story and they have told us that they would not but I thought you might know that those fellows are not very reliable sometimes.

A Uh, huh.

B They claim there was a conversation with about three of those fellows and this came up during then. I think it would be damaging if such a story were run so I asked them not to run the story.

A Yes.

B OK Sir?

A Yes.

December 12, -
9:20 a.m.

138

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY RUSK (t)

B This is Dean Rusk, Mr. President.

A Mr. Secretary. I don't think we ought to have this 11:00 meeting. I am not ready to make a decision on that or even to go into it. At this moment I would rather wait until I have had a little more time to look at this situation & get a little better view from out there myself. Maybe until Max Taylor gets back here.

B All right sir.

A and we don't know what the MAT is going to - what we are going to get out of it. I wrestled for over an hour last night with Passman and just to dash in and rush like Bowles indicated to try and give away money before you get it, it looks to me it is pretty imprudent and I want to suggest that you all go on to your meeting and Max Taylor is right there & try to find out something about India's plans. I'd like to find out what their plans are before I tell them mine and I don't want to rope them and try to throw them down and give them the money anyway. And I read this memo and it looks like to me we are trying to get in the rush act.

B I will be glad to cancel the meeting. I was not going to be there myself because I will be before Senate Appropriates Committee.

A Well Secretary McNamara has got to be before Dick Russell and they are murdering us all over town and we are out here trying to get a reluctant hesitant India to take some money that we don't have. So I think it doesn't make sense to me.

B Well, I will put the brakes on that. We are coming to that later.

A Just tell them you are going to hold off until you get the reports and then we can -----

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President and Kermit Gordon (t),
12/12/63, 9:40 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 4, the transcript reads:

B (contd): "What happened to our gimmick on our _____
the states?"

On page 4, the transcript reads:

A: "...But we've got to watch the appropriations because although in the past the editorial writers look at expenditures"

B: "Uh, huh. Okay now. On his figures he says that the 64 estimates for 7 billion 466 are down now to 4 billion 947, approximately 1 1/2 billion. When NOA is concerned there will be a 220 million increase but this is _____ by the need to reinstate the capital...."

The archives staff heard:

B (contd): "What happened to our gimmick on our grants to the states?"

A: "...But we've got to watch the appropriations because although in the press and the editorial writers look at expenditures"

B: "Uh, huh. Okay now. On his figures he says that the 64 estimates for 7 billion 466 are down now to 5 billion 947, approximately 1 1/2 billion. When NOA is concerned there will be a 220 million increase but this is occasioned by the need to reinstate the capital...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 12, 1963

9:40 a.m.

139

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND KERMIT GORDON (t)

A Kermit?

B Well, Mr. President.

A Well, Orville Freeman has got a memo here. He got plenty of time to write memos I got four from him yesterday. He says, Mr. President your comments about the number of employees and increases in the Department of Agriculture concern me deeply. My concern does not represent personal sensitivity. Ha, ha, ha. The Secretary of Agriculture and the Department have been a convenient punching bag. Therefore I am taking the liberty of setting down a few simple facts. As it stands now, (now get out your sheet so you can see what he is talking about) we will have cut expenditures in agriculture budget from the 1964 estimate (now the 64 estimate, that don't amount to a damned thing. What we are talking about are the 64 expenditures. Isn't that right?

B Well, Mr. President, one thing that you have to bear in mind on the Agriculture budget is that it has two big pieces. One is the estimate of expenditures by the CCC. This is a pure estimate -- nobody knows what CCC is going to do and of course is a budget year and you don't know what the weather is going to be like and what the crops are going to be like and these estimates are notoriously poor. The part of the agriculture budget that you can really focus on is the measure of how tight their program is is the part of the budget other than CCC expenditures. It is roughly half and half. I think actually CCC expenditures come to about $3\frac{1}{2}$ billion and the rest comes to about $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3. But the important thing to look at from the management point of view and personnel point of view, is expenditures other than CCC.

A Now he says he has got 5,000 committeemen coming in and he has got some part time people in forestry and all that causes. Now what I would like for you to do is to take this letter. And not be unjust.

B I try not to be, Mr. President.

A I know it. But be just as close to being unjust as you can. Let's don't be unfair or unjust with him but just say yes you have given me seven reasons why you can't keep this thing down, but nevertheless you are going to keep it down and answer any of them he's got but if you can't just get me a letter that will get ~~me~~ away from writing memos which take up time ^{him} his time & my time and cost us extra money and see if he can't do some saving.

December 12, 1963

9:40 a.m.

TELEPHONE NOTES

THE PRESIDENT AND HERBERT GOLDMAN (H) (cont.)

B Will you send that to me Mr. President?

A He says we must have some pesticide research. We must have meat and poultry inspection, demands more plants and more animals, more chickens and more people. That old argument I hear every day.

B Well, Mr. President I think he's picked two pretty good examples there. I know about both of them and I think he is right on both of them. The real question in Agriculture is whether they've got to continue all of their old and I think semi-obsolete programs at the present level while they add new ones. I am on his side on pesticides and meat and poultry inspection. I think he's got a good ~~case~~ case. But I don't think he got's a good case for a lot of old programs

Well why don't you get him some help in those fields if he's got a good case.

B In pesticides and poultry inspection? We have, Mr. President.

A Well, what can we do about about them. ~~W~~

B What's that Mr. President?

A What's he raising hell, about then?

B That's only a small part of that increase, Mr. President.

A We're giving it to him though.

B Oh yes.

A Then way is he ~~asking~~ quarreling with me about it then?

B Well he is quarreling about the criticism that the Ag Personnel increase in 65 is one of the largest of any agencies. He is mighty sensitive about it.

A He is not asking for more. He is just saying that we want you to ~~brag~~ brag on us.

B What he is saying is that the 4,000 additional jobs that he is asking for he really needs. Actually he came into the budget bureau with a number much larger than that. As I remember he had one program he wanted to expand. Real estate loans through the Farmers Home Administration would have added 1500 jobs

December 12, 1963
9:40 a.m.

Page 3

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND KERMIT GORON (t) (cont.)

RIGHT there.

A Well he says he got cut 9500.

B He did. He got cut very deeply.

A He says he's got 3500 increase over last year still in the budget.

B In fact, I think it was about 3800. That's right, Mr. President.

A That's using the year in employment.

B That's right.

A Take this from my standpoint. I can write him a letter but I think it's better for you to prepare a judicious letter, but a pretty strong one.

B For your signature, Mr. President.

A For my signature. And say Thank you for your memo. I have got a good many of them this week and have enjoyed reading them. But that is one of the problems we've got. We've got too many memos. And then let's cut down on some of these employees. I know the difference between adding 3500 and subtracting 3500. He is setting a bad example even if it is forest service, part time employees or Farmers Home Committee. He ought to figure out some way where it doesn't look that way. And just write him a memo and let's give him a job to go back and ~~work~~ work a little harder.

B

B

Very good, Mr. President. May I say as I told you last night I got out first thing by messenger to every agency & department head a memorandum asking for submission by close of business Friday offering further reductions in expenditures and personnel for 1965 over and beyond the reductions which we gave him in the BB estimates. And as I say I am doing this at your direction and that you personally will review the submission of every

December 12, 1963
9:45 a.m.

Page 4

TELEPHONE NOTES

THE PRESIDENT AND KERMIT GORDON (t) cont)

agency.

A All right, and did you give that to the press.

B I told Pierre about it yesterday. He said he had too much news then and he was going to give it out this morning.

A Well, you just check him and see that ~~it~~ he does. That that is given out to them.

B Yes sir.

A What happened to our gimmick on our _____ the states?

B I think we are going to be able to do that Mr. President. We are still working on the technical details. We are going to need some changes in legislation and going to get a lot of kickbacks from the states and universities, but I think we can do it and I think there is something like to 3 to 4 hundred million in it now. That's our present estimate.

A Now ~~xxxxxx~~ is anybody going up on you. Or is your estimate holding pretty firm that you gave me the other day. November 30.

B The expenditures number?

A Yean.

B I think, Mr. President, that we can come out somewhere in the range of 99 to 100. Exactly where I do not know and we can do some trimming at the last minute, but I am fairly confident we can keep it in that range.

A Trim every minute that we can. Now is that what they measure you by or do they measure you by appropriations.

B The first thing they look at and the press pays attention to Mr. President, is expenditures. This is ~~xx~~ a symbolic thing. But the people in Congress, and particularly the people in Appropriations Committees and the specialists pay just as much attention to appropriations. Now in appropriations too. I think we are going to have a pretty good story. Now you remember last year, the budget asked for almost one hundred and eight billion in appropriations. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 1079. Our present number is somewhere in the range of 105 to 106. So upon appropriations we will request I am certain will be below the request last year. What we are going to get this year in appropriations is something like 102. After the Congress has cut the budget. There will be an in-

December 12, 1963

9:40 a.m.

Page 5

TELEPHONE NOTES

THE PRESIDENT AND KERRIT GORDON (t) cont.

crease which is a very small one in relations to past increases in appropriations of something like 2 to 3½ billion. I think that is a pretty good story too. But we've got to watch the appropriations because although in the past the editorial writers look at expenditures and the appropriations committees look at appropriations.

- A Uh, huh. Okay now. On his figures he says that the 64 estimates for 7 billion 466 are down now to 4 billion 947, approximately 1½ billion. When NOA is concerned there will be a 220 million increase but this is _____ by the need to reinstate the capital when the CCC figures they have spent it.
- B Yes. Well, I will give you the numbers out of that Mr. President. As I say, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ if you look at the whole agriculture number it means practically nothing. YOU've got to separate estimated CCC expenditures over which you have no control. If there is a bumper cotton crop, you spend a lot of money; if there isn't you don't spend so much. And these estimates are very unreliable and that's about half the agriculture budget. Now if you look at how agriculture is doing its job and running its programs, what you've got to look at is the part of that number which is other than CCC expenditures and I will be glad to give those figures.
- A All right. It looks like here that you've got three billion three forty six for agriculture CCC and other expenditures 2573 which makes about 5947 that he is talking about.
- B That's right. And that two five for other expenditures Mr. President represents a very very heavy cut that we made in the Budget Bureau ~~assss~~ and that the agriculture department appealed very virorougly.
- A The thing that worries me is that he's up 4 or 5 thousand employees and ~~xxxxxx~~ _____ think our agriculture and our farm program should be considerably modified. And I think that when they look at the figures as to how we have held every little commission and won't even let them gain two, yet agriculture jumps up four or five thousand and they've defeated the heat referendum & everything else I think they are going to ask why. So let's write him a memo & you bring it over to me to sign when you come over today & I will get this letter over to you immediately.
- B Very good, thank you Mr. President.

December 12, 1968

5:25

From: Conrad Hilton to President Johnson

B the responsibilities and just wanted you to know that any time or anything I can do to be of assistance just give me a call like you used to.

A All right I will be glad to.

B And I hear fine things in general about the press, talk and everything else and that you are doing fine.

A Well now that is wonderful. I appreciate it.

B That's good. So good luck to you and I just wanted to send you this little message this time and want to wish you and the family a happy Xmas.

A Thank you so much Conrad, appreciate it.

B Goodbye.

142

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONRAD HILTON

DECEMBER 12, 1963 5:25 p.m.

Conrad Hilton: "...Just wanted you to know that any time or anything I can do to be of assistance just give me a call like you used to...I hear fine things in general about the press, talk and everything else that you are doing fine...."

The President told Senator Holland that a secretary would get on the phone and take the following notes:

- SH Lyndon. I want to mention four things. First two items for the budget in the field of public works that I think are very important . . . they're not only important to our state, but I think they're important to you, and to what I'm thinking about for next year . . . and I know you are too. I think that the Cross-State Barge Canal ought to have the full amount of what the Engineers can spend in fiscal 1965. And I think that would create a tremendous amount of good will, all across the part of the state that's affected, and much of it in other parts.
- LBJ Now where is that. Is that in Helen Ellender's committee, or what?
- SH That's in . . . it's to come before Ellender's committee . . . we just made the first million dollar appropriation to start construction. The President . . . the late President . . . put that in the budget this year . . . as an amendment . .
- LBJ It's already in the budget that's coming up?
- SH It's already in the bill that will reach you any day -- a million dollars to start construction . . .
- LBJ Now what you're talking about then is what's in the budget next year for it.
- SH I'm talking about '65 budget and I have no idea what's in it, but I'm just saying that the full amount that the engineers can use, and I have no idea what that is . . . is what ought to be in to make the maximum good will.
- LBJ All right. Now you know what I've got on the budget problem on the expenditures . . . with Byrd . . . I'm sending back . . . I sent back 40 agencies yesterday . . . told them to get under what they had last year .
- SH That's all right. And I'm just telling you now these things that I think are of great importance from the standpoint of statewide good will in our state . .
- LBJ Now which do you think would be the best for me . . . come in with a budget . . . low budget . . . or . . .

- SH I don't think you ought to increase the amount of the budget overall for this next year. I'm just stating an item...
- LBJ I've got to increase it about \$3 billion because I've got the military pay you voted and retirement pay and the civilian pay and the extra interest on the public debt and all those things. I don't have any choice...it has to be increased, but what I'm trying to do is hold the Corps of Engineers and the rest of them to what they had last year.
- SH All I can say is that a \$1 million appropriation for the Cross State Barge Canal in view of the fact that they'll be in the middle of construction would not at all meet the need...and there's a matter of your handling the overall budget as something that I'm perfectly willing to be silent on. I'm just trying to tell you two items which I think are of very great importance.
- LBJ O.K. Go ahead.
- SH Second is the four rivers advance planning. \$250,000. The President gave a letter to our delegation...President Kennedy...stating that that would be in the budget for 1965. It effects vitally 15 counties on the west side of the peninsula including Tampa, my own county and others...
- LBJ You want to send me a copy of that letter so I can give it to the budget and be sure that we check on it before they close it...they're going to close it Tuesday.
- SH I'll do that..I'll get it over today.
- LBJ Get it over today. O.K. What's next?
- SH The third thing is on the poll tax amendment. We like two states...our state has taken a very great interest in it...
- LBJ Yeah, I know that.
- SH We approved it 105 to 3...
- LBJ Yeah, I know that, and we tried to get ours to approve it, and we just got slapped in the face...because some of the liberals got out in front and said it if it was passed, why they would defeat Connally with him.

SH Well, the thing that I'm trying to say now is that I think a little pushing.. there's going to be three sessions in January.. Wyoming, South Dakota and Arizona..

LBJ I'll help you anyway I can on that one, now what's next?

SH The fourth thing is with reference to Cape Canaveral...and I don't know what you can do...but there's a great deal of pleasure in our state about the naming of the missile base, and it's exactly opposite with reference to the change of the place name...

LBJ Well, the board has already done that as I told you the other night after we talked to the Governor..the board met and changed it, so there's not much...

SH I'm just going to make a suggestion...and it may or may not be practical.

LBJ All right.

SH

REDACTED

LBJ

SH .as far as the place name..only.. not the missile base...to leave that unchanged, I think it would...

LBJ It's already been changed, the board has met, voted on it, . . .

SH Well, let's forget it then.

LBJ And she asked that it be done, Spessard.

SH Well, all right. Now those are the four things, Lyndon.

LBJ I'm going to get to work on these, but for God's sake get me an agriculture appropriation bill down here. They're just laughing at me because we're supposed to be great leaders and unified, and we got a peanut laboratory in one state and a Mississippi Congressman in the other and Georgia and Mississippi can't get along...and we've .. January to December and we haven't even got the appropriation bills passed. The Republicans don't care..they're kind of glad, but you see if you can't go in there and get Jamie Whitney and Dick Russell and lock that door and come out with some

king of agreement like I've seen you do before.

SH Jamie... I'm not deeply concerned about it one way or the other..but the proposal that Jamie made yesterday..

LBJ Well, I am, and I want you to....

SH ..asks for all the things that he was fighting for....and against all the things that Dick is fighting for...and Dick didn't want it..and I'm goigg to stand by, Dick and you would too.

LBJ I sure would, but why don't you go over and talk to John McCormack this moning and tell him that and explain it and get them in there and try to figure out some way to...

SH I'd love to do it, Lyndon, but I think I've got another chore for you thatis" more important. I'm on this conference committee on the foreign aid thing and...they've asked that I be there without fail because I'm the only southerner that's friendly to the thing and that's supported it on the floor yesterday.

~~SH~~
LBJ Well, for God's sake, don't let them put any language in there -- insult Russia. She doesn't want any credit but she wants to be insulted by a new President and that's all we need to do is to have Otto Passman go to telling Russia that she's going to be discriminated against and she can't be treated like anybody else.

SH Well, what about your amount...suppose we can't get the full amount..what can you....

LBJ Otto Passman told me..and this is in strictest confidence.. that he would go in the conference if you'd get 4 to go with him up to 3.2 plus 209....he said he'd wanted to rule it in the House and show that he'd run over us and whipped us good, but in the conference if he could four to go with him, he'd go up to 3.2 plus the carryover of 209.

SH All right. That'll be fine.

LBJ Now, he won't do that, but that's what he told us.

SH Well, if he'll do that, there'll be no trouble.

LBJ Well, what we got to do...is we got \$103 billion budget, and

we're talking about \$3 billion here, and it's all of our foreign policy..it's the only thing we got...they all got public works and everything in this country, but this is the only checkbook I've got for \$113 nations, and it's the only...

SH As far as I'm concerned, I went all out for it on the floor yesterday...did you have a chance to read the record?

LBJ I know it. Johnny Pastore told me you did.

SH O.K.

LBJ O.K.

SH Thank you.

LBJ Bye.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
SENATOR SPESSARD HOLLAND DECEMBER 20, 1963 9:50 a.m.

Senator Holland told the President that he wanted to talk about four things: (1) That the Cross State Barge Canal should have the full amount of what the Engineers could spend in fiscal 1965. (2) The four rivers advance planning should have \$250,000. (3) Need two more states on the poll tax amendment. (4) "There's a great deal of pleasure in our State about the naming of the missile base and it's exactly the opposite with reference to the change of the place name."

On the first two, the President said he would like into them and see what could be done; on the third he said his own State had turned it down but "I'll help you any way I can on that one." On the fourth, the President said that the board had already made the change, that it was at Mrs. Kennedy's request that it was done.

The President then asked the Senator for his help in getting an agriculture appropriations bill and a foreign aid bill out.

December 20, 1963

3:35 p.m.

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND J. EDGAR HOOVER (f)

B But he is a great pianist and I would see no reason why he couldn't be used for entertainment purposes.

A Let me ask you this.

B Yes

A I was talking to the Majority Leader just now and a girl came in on the line and said I want to tell you this is an open line. She said I am with the Health, Education and Welfare Department. So I called the White House operator and told her to please clear up the lines. So she did and I started talking again and the lady came in and said Mr. President I want you to know that this line is still open and I am trying to get a call to the telephone office and I am hearing the President and all the Senate talking.

B Well that is an amazing situation.

A I think you ought to look at it.

B I will

A I think you ought to look at it and interview them all on the White House Board and everybody else and tell them these lines are tapped and they ought to know it.

B I will do this right away. There ought to be top security there.

A There ought to be. I can't have a little girl over in HEW listening to us.

B And you don't know what other branch of the government may be listening in.

A I have no idea and as far as I know the Russian Embassy may be.

B It could be. I will check on the matter right away.

A And let me a report.

B I'll see that you have that.

A Thank you.

146

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
J. EDGAR HOOVER DECEMBER 20, 1963 3:25

The President told Mr. Hoover that while he was talking to the Majority Leader a girl from HEW came on the line and told him she could hear his conversation. The President had the White House operator check the line and the same thing happened again. The President asked Mr. Hoover to have the lines checked and get him a report.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Conversation between the President and Director
Bell, 12/20/63, 7:13 p.m.

The end of the dictabelt is not transcribed.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

December 20, 1963

7:13pm

145

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR BELL

LBJ Go Ahead.

DB We would propose that at the end of the language in the House Bill the following phrase be ^{added} ~~substituted~~: this is alternative #1...I have another one to give:

Unless the President shall determine that such guarantee or participation in the extension of credit is in the national interest and so reports to the Congress along with a statement of the basis for the determination.

That is alternative #1. And that would just be added to the language that is in the House Bill that starts "None of the funds provided herein shall be used by the Export-Import Bank and so on."

The Humphrey alternative which we would prefer but which may be not possible to get would change the start of the paragraph so that instead of saying "None of the funds provided herein shall be used..." ..it would say "Funds provided herein may be used by the Export-Import bank and would read on exactly the same way and at the end of the paragraph the phrase would go "when the President shall determine that such guarantee or participation and so on..." just as I read a minute ago.. so that that would be a positive statement .. Congress would say -- funds provided herein may be used when the President determines that it is in the national interest. The negative way of putting it which would be a lot simpler to get, I suspect, is say that "none of the funds provided herein shall be used unless the President shall determine that such....

LBJ There are no funds provided therein...are there?

DB Well, this is a very complicated legal argument, Mr. President, I've listened to it for an hour or so today. Apparently the issue turns on whether the phrase "Funds provided herein" covers the limitations which are provided right above .. limitations on the Export-Import Bank's use of its borrowing authority and earnings and so on. Now the Parliamentarian of the House, Mr. Deschler and the staff of the House Appropriation's Committee swear and be damned that those limitations are in fact the provision of funds. The Export-Import Bank couldn't spend its money unless those limitations were in this bill and therefore this is a provision of funds. Our lawyers, Justice, State, AID, Ex-Im Bank.. all say."No, Export-Import Bank's funds are available.. they were provided by another act and this is simply a limitation of how much you can spend. As far as I can see, the GAO would be the controlling judgment on this and we haven't heard from them yet... so I'm not quite sure where we come out legally... we might end up with a provision written in here

which our lawyers would say is null and void...has no effect because there aren't any funds provided in this act. Then the GAO might say, "we differ" and then...

LBJ Can't you get them to act?

Can't you get the Comptroller General to tell you what he'd do?

DB Normally, he ~~would~~ will not tell you ahead of time. .without a lot of study and this is such a tricky case that I'm sure he wouldn't give us any...you know. he'd say give me a week and I'll give you an answer.

LBJ O.K. Now let me see if I can write down as much of it as I can.. what you'd prefer is funds ...read that to me...

DB "Funds provided herein may be used by the Export-Import Bank..now, Mr. President...it says "to either guarantee the payment of any obligation hereafter incurred by any Communist country (as defined in Section so and so.. Section 620F of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961) or any agency or national thereof, ~~through other means~~ or in any other way to participate in the extension of credit to any such country, agency or national in connection with the purchase of any product by such country, agency, or national."
That's the end of the language...

146

December 20, 1963
7:15pm

MESSAGE

TELEPHONE DICTATED BY CONGRESSMAN CARL ALBERT (to Yolanda)

CA This is the language that Senator Humphrey brought over this afternoon. . . modified to limiting the matter to guaranteeing payments and is as follows:

"Funds provided herein may be used by the Export-Import Bank to guarantee the payment of any obligation hereafter incurred by any Communist country or any agency or national thereof, in connection with the purchase of any product by such country, agency or national, when the President determines that such guarantee would be in the national interest and reports such determination to the Foreign Affairs and Appropriation Committee of the House of Representatives and Foreign Relations and Appropriations Committee of the Senate. Reports made pursuant to this sub-section shall be published in the Federal Register within 7 days of submission to the Committees and shall contain a statement by the President of the reasons for such determination."

Now that's the end of the quotation. The form we used in the Act of August 1, ~~XXXX~~ 1962 in connection with the Yugoslav assistance matter which I told the President I thought was a better form. . . reads as follows insofar as is pertinent. #

"No assistance shall be furnished under this act, as amended to any Communist country. This restriction may not be waived pursuant to any authority contained in this Act unless the President finds and promptly reports to the Congress that 1) such assistance is vital to the security of the United States . . . ended."

That's the only part and that could be rewritten to conform to the problem here. . . to say "No funds provided herein may be used by the Export-Import bank to guarantee the payment of any obligation hereafter incurred by any Communist country or any agency or national thereof in connection with the purchase of any product by such country, agency or national, unless the President determines that such guarantee would be in the national interest and reports such determination to the Foreign Affairs and Appropriations Committees of the House of ~~XX~~ Representatives and Foreign Relations and Appropriations Committees of the Senate.

That's the end of that and it seems to me that this is better than

stating an affirmative policy of making guarantees to Communists. It looks to me like the policy should be that we wouldn't but that in certain cases, we might.

#

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
EDDIE SENZ

148

A Mr. Senze...

B Yes sir.

A This is Lyndon Johnson..

B Mr. Johnson...yes sir...

A Can I talk to you now without getting it in the paper and getting it advertised?

B Oh, surely...

A If not, I want to talk to somebody else.. but I hope I can, but I don't want it in any of these columns now, and I don't want it to get out... Roosevelt said that one of the most valuable men he had in his vicinity destroyed his usefulness because he had to advertised it.

B Mr. Johnson, I give you my solemn word as a gentleman...

A All right.. now I'm a poor man, and I don't make much money, but I got a wife and a couple of daughters, and 4 or 5 people that run around with me, and I like the way you make them look, now how much...

B .. I'm most flattered.. I promise you.. take my word for it that this is in ~~conference~~ confidence...

A Well, this is your country, and I want to see what you want to do about it... now how can you come down here and make them look better?

B When do you want me to come?

A That depends first on how much it'll cost me...

B It won't cost you anything to worry about, sir...

A I just have to live off a paycheck, , and I'm in debt. but I want

- A to see if you can't come. . I don't know whether the planes are flying this morning. . but if you can't come. . come and stay until 5 or 6 o'clock this evening. . if you can't do that. . I'll have to wait until next year. . .
- B No, I believe we can arrange that. . I think we can manage this. . I have a very important appointment, but this I'd be very happy to cancel, and I will come by myself. .
- A Now, all right. . bring whoever you need, and we'll pay their transportation but we can't pay you much else. .
- B Don't you ever worry about that. . Mr. Johnson, you know I was telling Mrs. Carpenter and I meant it on my solemn word to you as a gentleman, I told her this week last week I called, and I felt a little concerned, because I knew that just things didn't work right to me, and I was a little worried about this, and I called Mrs. Carpenter to tell her this, and I also explained to her that I . . . under no circumstances. . would I ever. . . I'm sure that you will at least acknowledge one thing. . I have a sense of dignity. . I've done nothing heretofore in the way of violated your confidence in men, and I don't intend to at this particular time. . . but I called her sincerely, to make this suggestion. . . an offer. . .
- A Well, we'll work it out someway. . in a proper time, in an appropriate way, in a dignified way where people will know it, but I. . . I want you to get down here, and not give her too much of this makeup, but give her enough to do it, and Lucy. . and I got two or three friends, then you'll have to see what we'll have to buy in the way of a dryer or something here. . . so that when you do come, maybe once every month, you can do it, and we'll work it out all right. . .
- B I'm sure of it, sir, and I'm not even concerned about this, , but I'm going to try to get a plane out this morning. . .
- A You just come right on, and call Mrs. Roberts in my office and tell her what time you'll arrive, and I'll have a White House car meeting you.
- B You bet, sir. . Mrs. Robinson, should I call?
- A Mrs. Roberts -- r-o-b-e-r-t-s, Juanita Roberts, NA 8-1414. . .
- B Just one moment, sir, and I'll get a pencil. . . I'm sorry, sir. . just one second. . .
- That's NA 8
- A 1414. .

B And ask for Mrs. Roberts...
All right sir...
I'll call when I get in, sir.

A k You come as soon as you can.. there's a shuttle every hour.....
They're landing here now, and I think they will be.. I had a bunch of
friends come in...

B Well, I'll come in... I'll leave as fast as I can.

A Okay.

B Right sir.

A Now bring all your stuff with you.

B You bet I will.

A And you better bring some packages for them...

B All right, I'll do that too.

A And I'll have a hundred dollar bill, and I'll pay your transportation,
but I can't pay you like we normally do.

B Mr. Johnson, don't even worry about that.

A Thank you...

B Thank you, goodbye, sir.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Secretary Gilpatric,
12/23/63, 11:45 a.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracy in the transcript:

On page 4, the transcript reads:

B: "Well, the Big Life type exercise...I think that's probably the best money we do spend...if we don't have usable forces, we shouldn't have them at all..I'd rather cut some forces out..that putout the proof that we can't use what we have...if they are'nt..."

B: "Well, that covers four major divisions lifts..one to the Far East, one the Middle East..one to Pakistan-Iran area...and a Big Life too."

B: "We had two.
Double it..so..but I think, Mr. President, if we"

The archives staff heard:

B: "Well, the Big Lift type exercise...I think that's probably the best money we do spend...if we don't have usable forces, we shouldn't have them at all..I'd rather cut some forces out **than cutout** the proof that we can't use what we have...if they are'nt..."

B: "Well, that covers four major divisions lifts..one to the Far East, one the Middle East..one to Pakistan-Iran area...and a Big Lift too."

B: "We only had two, we double it..so..but I think, Mr. President, if we"

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 23, 1963

11:45 am

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SECRETARY GILPATRIC

149

A We got a big blowup on our aides. . they're all hurt because they haven't been notified personally. . and they got Senators/ Sparkman calling early this morning. . . this is an awful Christmas present. . . and all that kind of stuff. . now I think the best thing to do. . I tried to check McNamara. . he told me he had it all worked out and all taken care of. . but I guess he's. . the poor man just didn't have the time to personally suck up to them. . and I think the best thing to do, is for you to ask each one of the Chief of their services to go to them and say that they're already making a study of the number of people in the White House, and there's a 1,074. Tell them not to tell the aides that. . but I've got an aide named Colonel Jackson. . and I've got one named General Clifton, and I've got one named Captain Shepard. . . McHugh. . air staff. . now we really think we need one aide instead of 4. . . we told them that the day we came in. . and we told the Secretary. . we looked upon him as a civilian head. . we didn't think that we had to go around th each individual. . I just can't talk to 1,074.

B No.

A We thoughtthe Secretary had explained it. . that they'd all have good assignments. . I particularly asked that we keep the senior man which is Clifton.

B Bob did talk to the Service Secretaries, Mr. President, late Saturday afternoon, after we had lunch following this meeting with you. But they all. . once the word got down. . they began calling up their friends.

A Well, that doesn't have any weight on me at all. . not the slightest effect, except for me to want. them to have a poor command instead of a good command. And tell the Admiral that. . and tell the Generals that. . if they're little men like that that believe they can pressure their commander in chief on what his strategy ought to be in war or what his decision ought to be in peace. . . they don't know the commander-in-chief. .

B They got a lot to learn.

A And say. . that we especially asked they be given a good command. But we especially asked there not be four. . now how do we avoid four. . . the only way I know to avoid four is take the senior one. . and I've been around here a lot. . in three years. . and I never noticed they paid one

damn bit of attention to me before. .

- B chuckles.. that's right.
Well, Admiral McDonald is coming in here in a few minutes...
- A Well, you tell him that I want him to get that young man to straighten out his backbone right quick.. and if he's going to lobby about what kind of assignment he's got, etc.. or if McHugh is either.. and see that the Chief of Staff of Air Force gets ahold of him..
- B I will.
- A They already starting their little tune on the Chief of Staff of the Air Force.. I don't want any of that either.. they're lobbying for extra terms.. and I've been the subject of lobbies that are professionals, that are paid for that purpose, 32 years...
- B You recognize them when you see them...
- A I sure do.. and just tell both of them that...
- B All right.
- A Just tell them that we got to watch it now.. because this man thinks more of the military than any president they've had since Roosevelt...
- B That's right... done more for them over the years.
- A And.. I mean, I respect them... I've had the Joint Chiefs of Staff in more than they've been in this year... in the meetings I've been in..
- B That's right.
- A Tell them that...
- /// A But the best way in the world for them to do it is for the Navy to start lobbying for its carrier.. and the Air Force to start putting out its problem about how many more missiles they need...
Because when I see that, I know it didn't come from me.. I don't want to make my decisions on prejudice, but sometimes a fellow can't make them otherwise, if you just get so damn mad.. and just tell them they better watch that.. tell them I saw two stories this morning... one on the nuclear carrier, and one on the missiles, and I haven't come to any conclusion on missiles.. I don't know whether I'm going to give you 50 more minutes or 100 more, or cut some you got... but I want to let them talk to me

man to man, not through Rowland Evans or some of these little pipskueaks. Now just tell them that. . . tell them I called you and I gave you a good going over. . . you just make it appear that I just chewed you up. . .

B All right.

A And if you ever had any doubt about the confidence I got in you, why you just remove it. . . I told Stu Symington that the other day. . . that there's nobody for whom I have more respect, or I think has taken more rap and caught more hell for doing his duty and for doing what other people wanted done than you have. . . so you just bear in mind. . . if you got a brother. . . haven't got one stronger than I am for you. . . so don't forget that.

B Mr. President, as long as I'm here, I'm going to do just that. . .

A Everybody knows that. . . everybody always has known it. . . and you're hear to sacrifice, and we appreciate it, and you're going away with glorious colors, and I spent half of my waking hours courting McClellan and some of the rest of them. . .

B I know you have. . .

A On his projects, and everything else. I've had him in here, and I've never mentioned you, the subject, but I'm trying to put a little money in the bank. . .

B Well, I certainly appreciate. . . .

A I'm going to write a check on it, and you notice they've slowed down considerably. . .

B That's right. . . I think we've seen the end. . .

A Well, I don't know, but I hope so. . . but I think it's cruel and inhuman, but you tell them that I was cruel and inhuman with you, that I blamed you for this story on the aircraft carrier, I blamed you for this story on the missiles, and I blamed you for the hell raising about these aids, that we had disagreement and that I told Secretary of Defense before he went to Viet Nam that I do not want to start the New Year with 40 military people around me. . . that they get in my way. . . they all want to come in. They all want me to sign letters that I can't sign. . . and I want this situation roomcleared up. . . I don't need all those people running around down there.

B Yeah. . . I know. . . too much. . .

- A And I'm just not going to do it, and I'm not going to do it with communications... secret service setup... I cleaned them from 32 to 8... my own outfit, when I was Vice President... now President, it's a different thing, in light of what happened... but I'm going to save money here... now what about this \$150 million that you all are spending on exercises?
- B Well, the Big Life type exercise... I think that's probably the best money we do spend... if we don't have usable forces, we shouldn't have them at all... I'd rather cut some forces out... that put out the proof that we can't use what we have... if they aren't...
- A Well, why don't you do it with 100... looks like to me that's an awful big amount... be spending moving around... how many... take you 150 million dollars to move a division over there...
- B Well, that covers four major division lifts... one to the Far East, one to the Middle East... one to Pakistan-Iran area... and a Big Life too.
- A How many did you have this year...
- B We had two.
Double it... so... but I think, Mr. President, if we have to take 150 million, I'll take it somewhere else...
- A Well, why don't you take out 50 million and make it 3 instead of 2 and economize?
- B Well, we could do that..
- A All right,, that's what I'd do... I don't want to ruin McNamara, but that's what I'd do...
- B All right.
- A Okay...
- B All right, Mr. President...

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
SECRETARY GILPATRIC DECEMBER 23, 1963 11:45

President Johnson told Secretary Gilpatric that he wanted to cut his military aides from four to one and since General Clifton was the senior man he wanted to keep him.

The President also asked Secretary Gilpatric to see that the different forces quit lobbying him for their programs through news columnists.

DECEMBER 23, 1963

11/18/63
1:10 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SENATOR MANSFIELD

150

-
- B Yes, Mr. President.
- A We thought we might leave tonight... if this thing gets along in the House..
- B Yes sir..
- A And we would like to invite you and all the elected officials of the Senate.. that's Skeeter, and Secretary of the Majority or Minority.. Sergeant at Arms.. anybody else that might be elected, plus all the Senators to come by and have a cup of coffee if they choose to... we don't want it to be an obligation.. we don't want them .. to deter them from leaving... we're going to invite all the House and all the Senate.. at 5:00...
- B You ~~know~~ know where I'm talking from...
- A No... where are you?
- B Florida...
- A Well, I'll be damned... you didn't clear this with me, Mike.
- B Huh?
- A You didn't clear leaving with me... I'm going to call your father and tell him you've been a bad boy... I thought that was one of the most wonderful letters I ever read .. I wrote him and sent you a copy of it...
- B Beautiful...
- A It was a beautiful letter... I see why you're such a good man now...
- B And listen... we heard that speech that you gave at the candlelight... that was really a magnificent speech last night...
- A Well, you're mighty nice to say so... but .. I was the first one that called you a saint.. now Dirksen say's saying you're a saint...
- B chuckle...

- A Tell him, by god.. he ought to write his own stuff.. I'm not his ghost writer...
- B I'll tell him that...
- A Now, if you're in Florida, who's acting... Humphrey?
- B Humphrey...
- A Well, he's gone home.. he told me last night he wished me a merry christmas...
- B I'm wishing you a happy christmas too... and a happy new year.. and I want you to get to Texas soon as you can....
- A Well, what do you going get a quorum here tomorrow?
- B Tomorrow... we can't get it tomorrow...
- A Well, you mean that we can't get this bill to the...
- B If they finish that today, or tomorrow... the best we can do would be Friday... and my suggestion would be Monday to make sure you give it enough time... because Morse is going to call for a live quorum.. he's going to call for a vote on passage...
- A Well, now Mike, we oughtn't to make the House come all over the country and not let the Senate vote... we thought that they said the Senate could be here tomorrow...
- B No... it was a pro forma meeting tomorrow.. and it was so announced.. the possibility of coming back Friday... but if they did this... we could be in a better position on Monday, I'm sure, Mr. President... to get it.
- A Well, now you ought to check that... I sure didn't know that...
- B Yeah.. that was true, and it was stated in the record... Because we didn't know what they were going to do... we could get no information.. and no ideas as to what their plans would be, and they were getting pretty ragged over in the Senate... we had to do something otherwise we would have had a revolt on our hands over there...
- A Don't reckon I could talk Morse out of this?
- B No sir.

A I'm going to try to.

A

B Well... then you better try and talk Jack Miller out of it, too. Because Miller said that he was going to ask for the yeas and nays. On it... then morse said he was going to do it later... Morse has announced it publicly...

A Godalmighty... there's no use in the House coming back here and doing all this...

B Oh yes... if they can pass it... then we can pass it in a couple of days... because we're going to have some talk on it, and Morse is going to make a big speech... but the roadblock has been the House, Mr. President... and we've just been waiting and holding our tails together...

A Okay... well, who'll be acting... Smathers will be gone... Humphrey's gone... and you're gone... who do I talk to in the Senate...

B Pastore...

A All right. Reckon...

B ...head the bill, anyway...

A All right... reckon he's here...

B He's in Rhode Island, but he wouldn't be hard to get back...

A No, no... he won't come back for something like this and I don't want him to come back... who would you put in charge... of just inviting whoever is in town... what about Frank Valeo... is he here?

B He's there... and he can do it and get them around.

A Okay... much obliged.
Merry Christmas to you.

B Merry Thank you, Mr. President... many of them.

~~Z~~ ^A ...garbled... don't you know you're supposed to notify the President when you're leaving...

B Yeah... but it wasn't a sine die...

A I don't give a damn what it is... I don't know what sine die means anyway.

B Okay... boss...

A Goodbye... Merry Christmas...

DECEMBER 23, 1963 1:20 pm

TELEPHONE NOTES
COMMISSIONER HUTCHISON
TO THE PRESIDENT

151

- h We got a report out... say around the first of February on this parcel post rates matters... would that be adequate to your budget?
- A It's a month late... but it ought to be... when does our budget go up? 18th... January 21... I want it the night of the 20th...
- B We will do our very best...
- A Tell them somebody to work over there at Christmas time.
- B Well we'll do it. We've had a lot of interest in this in the parcel post and mail order association and from the American Retail Federation... they filed a lot of petitions which we had to get out of the way and then we have to investigate and analyze the cost of the Postmaster General has submitted and he didn't submit his justification, I think, until September third... we will see if we can't hit that...
- # A Don't involve me... I don't want to even know I talked about... that's why I called you... but you damn sure get it done... if you can... if you can't, you tell me who can...
- B Absolutely... I'll do it, Mr. President...
- A All right... my budget goes up the morning of January 21... so I'd like to have so I can announce it... you all have it ready January 20.
- B January 20... we'll do our very best...
- A All right...

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Cong. Albert Thomas,
12/23/63, 1:30 p.m.

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

A: "...he needs it in the supplemental to be sure he can get it by 1970..."

A: "...because we got to go to the moon and beat the russians in 70...."

The archives staff heard:

A: "...he needs it in the supplemental to be sure he can get it by 1970..."

A: "...because we got to go to the moon and beat the Russians in 70...."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
CONG. ALBERT THOMAS

152

- A Well, you've been the best soldier I've had. . and I'm just damn glad I made you run for re-election, but I've got the toughest one now that you ever heard of. . .
- B Tell me. . .
- A Jim Webb has got \$149 million . .
- B Yeah. .
- A The question is whether we put it in the supplemental. . or whether we put it in next year. . he's got to stay on schedule. . he needs it in the supplemental to be sure he can get it by 1980. . if he puts it in the regular budget that hurt me too. . because it runs by budget up. . \$149 million. . .
- B We'll do whatever you want done. . or else go down trying. . .
- A I want to go down trying on the supplemental. . and I want you to start trading out for it. . now. . whatever you need to do. . but we want to pass it, because we got to go to the moon and beat the russians in 1980. . and in order to do it we got to get \$149 million supplemental. .
- A B We'll go to work, Mr. Speaker. . .
- A All right. . now you're going home with me. . aren't you?
- B If. . it's convenient for you. . . we don't want to impose on you. .
- A Oh no. . it's not convenient. . . it's necessary.
- B We'll go with you. . .
- A I sent for Thomas, Brooks and Valenti when I took the oath, and I plan to stay with you when we go to the graveyard together. . .
- B You're a gentleman and a scholar, and we're with you. . .
- A Now listen. . you're going to have to get your people to come up there and see me at the ranch. . .

B Well, we're tend to that... and they going to be tickled to death to do it...

A Just tell them what you want to tell them...

B Well, we'll do it...
Thank you...

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
CONGRESSMAN ALBERT THOMAS DECEMBER 23, 1963 1:30

The President: "...You've been the best soldier I've had and I'm just damn glad I made you run for re-election, but I've got the toughest one now that you ever heard of....Jim Webb has got \$149 million...The question is whether we put it in the supplemental or whether we put it in next year; he's got to stay on schedule; he needs it in the supplemental to be sure he can get it by 1970 -- if he puts it in the regular budget that hurts me, too, because it runs my budget up \$149 million....I want to go down trying on the supplemental -- and I want you to start trading out for it...but we want to pass it, because we got to go to the moon and beat the Russians in 1970 and in order to do it we got to get the \$149 million supplemental."

Thomas agreed to go to work for it.

Date: September 20, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to the First Lady, 12/23/63

The identification slip on the dictabelt shows that the call took place at 7:35 p.m.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 23, 1963

8:35 p. m.

~~DECEMBER 23, 1963~~

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
THE FIRST LADY

155

-
- A Darling?
- B Yes Dear?
- A We need to go by Bill Green's funeral. If we leave here about 9:30 or 10:00 we can go by Philadelphia and we need all the bosses to see us there, and see that he was a good friend of mine. And then go on to Texas? Do you have any objection?
- B No, and I can go dear.
- A Is he working on your hair?
- B Yes, I was under the dryer, just this minute.
- A All right, will he work on Lucy's hair too.?
- B On Lucy's and on Marie's.
- A Is Marie over there?
- B Marie is over here.
- A And Yolanda?
- B No, not Yolanda? And he's going to hopefully to. well, I don't know what we can do about Juanita (A) Has she been told?
- B He said that he combed her hair, and said that he liked the way that she was doing it. And that's about the best that he can do it.
- A All right. Tell him to get to Marie, and when he gets to Yolanda tell him to cut off a bale, by the time we see her Christmas.
- B Yolanda? Do you want me to get her down here tonight? (A) She's over here now, working like hell with Walter, Jack, and I.
- B All right. Tell her to come over here at her earliest convenience
- Do you want to tell her, or should I?

- A Tell her to come over there when he gets through with you, Lucy, and Marie, and what time would that be?
- B I would say an hour and a half.
- A O. K. That's good. That's about time that I'll finish here.
- B All right darling. And I'm eating on a tray. Do you want them to send you some supper on a tray? Or what?
- Aq No, just save me some stuff other in the kitchen. Just tell them to wait in the kitchen and wait until I get there.
- B All right. And are you going to bring anybody with you?
- A Jack Valenti is all I know.
- B All right, probably 2 people for dinner at a very indefinite hour--
- A just call central service, and they'll set it up.
- B O. K. love, all right darling. Bye.

#

Date: September 19, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Harry Provence, 12/25/63

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 2, the transcript reads:

B: "Well I'm glad Bob had on his fisherman's hat this time, he doesn't have it on all the time.

A: "No."

B: Be glad to help with him through tougher skin, because you know him better than I do ..."

A: Well, I'd better wish that you would talk to him about that -- he's home about that (identification or vacation?)..."

B: I am going to talk to him about some other things too. I intend to.

A: It's a symboy, and it doesn't amount to a thing.

On page 3, the transcript reads:

B: They're going to hear a lot about Lyndon Johnson COMES up and I'll a little bit pleased.

The archives staff heard:

Page 2:

B: "Well I'm glad Bob had on his **statesman's** hat this time, he doesn't wear it all the time.

A: No.

B: Be glad to help with him ... we can, but you know him better than I do ..."

A: Well, I'd wish you would talk to him, when he's home, about that **petition.**"

B: I intend to. I am going to talk to him about some other things too.

A: It's a **symbol**, and it doesn't amount to a thing."

Page 3:

B: No matter how you write about Lyndon Johnson it comes out looking good. Hope it will please you.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 25, 1963

157

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
HARRY PROVENCE

- A Harry?
- B Yes sir, Mr. President?
- A I was just thinking of you, and thought that I'd just say Hello, before I went into my Christmas tree, and had my dinner.
- B Well, I'm awfully glad to hear from you. just had my dinner.
- A You're already finished, huh?
- B Yes sir.
- A Well, you fat folks got to eat first.
- B Yeah...
- A Slender guys have to take care of themselves, you know. I'm just sitting here with old Buford Ellington, my friend from Tennessee, and we're getting ready to run that train through the South again.
- B Good, good. That was one of the last ones.
- A How are you doing?
- B I have no complaints. I hear everything good about you. You've really converted a lot of folks.
- A Well, much obliged.
- B People that haven't voted Democrat in 30 years, are going to vote for you.
- A Well, they'll be off for reservation next month, I imagine that they'll be taking me.
- B Well, you've got to herd them back.

- A You sure did, and Bob went along with me, mighty good in this fight, I lost Brother Doody over at the Nacodoches-Lufkin country, and Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Houston-Harte's congressman.
- B Well, I'm glad Bob had on his fisherman's hat this time, he doesn't have it on all the time.
- A No. ~~On~~
- B Be glad to help with him through tougher skin, because you know him better than I do...
- A Well, I'd better wish that you would talk to him about that -- he's home about that (identification or vacation?)...
- B I am going to talk to him about some other things too. I intend to.
- A It's a symboy, and it doesn't amount to a thing. They're going to have a hearing, and they're going to report it out in 2 or 3 weeks. But I've got a problem with all the African countries. I've got a problem with all the Northern states. ... and it they think that in my own crowd, won't go, why.... what I want to do is to get a majority, and the only way to get a majority is to get Bob and George Mahon.
- B Yeah.. I talked to it with him about it once, and I who I don't who he is pledging to , but he intends to think... he thinks that it'll be a double-cross on his part..... and I don't know, but I don't.... well, I'll tell him.
- A I s Holland doing all right?
- B Yes sir. Driving under the tree.... How are you feeling?
- A Your boys were nice to me in Austin, yesterday. .. when I came hom..... I feel fine Harry, and I couldn't feel better.... mighty happy, just....doing the best that I can, r r working awful hard.
- B You're doing that, all right.... I haven't had a chance to talk to you, since all this has happened, but I went and finished that book, that I was taking to you about.

A Good.

B They're going to hear a lot about Lyndon Johnson COMES up and I'll a little bit pleased.

A Thank you , my friend, and I'm a little and I know it will.

B I'll send you a copy when it comes out.

A Do. When will it be out?

B In March.

A Good.

B Is Bill White working on his?

A Yeah, heah. yeah.

B I'm sure that it'll good.

A I don't know. He hasn't talked to me about it.

B Well, he knows you as well as I do, and says some things better than I do.... good things.

A Thank you, my friend, thank yo. I just wanted to wish you a Merry Christmas, Harry.

B Well, thank you, and I appreciate your call.

A Thank you. Bye.

DECEMBER 25, 1962

158

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SCOTTY RISTON

A Hello?

B Hello?

A Scotty?

B Mr. President, I hope that you had a happy Christmas, did you?

A I had a wonderful Christmas, Scotty, just couldn't have been better.

B That's fine.

A We had just about 75 degree temperature, had 43 of my kinfolk in, we talked about our days as young... as youths....laughter) well, we had a lot of cornbread dressin, and that indigestion (laughter),,,, had good turkey, and then went out in the boat this afternoon, and a little motorboat, and got a little sunshine on me, and got my 2 daughters here, and my wife, and my good friend Buford Ellington from Tennessee is gonna hunt with me in the morning, and I just called you to tell you that I was thinking of you and was hoping that you had a Merry Christmas, and appreciated your friendship, and want your advise and counsel in the days ahead, because , god - a - mighty I 've got so much to do, I don't know how I'll every do it..... Friends that will speak with Canada, and the main reason that I called is that Lady Bird wanted to thank you for your column that appeared, I don't when it appeared in the New York Times -- today... the San Antonio Express.....

I've got a friend that thinks you work for him instead of the New York Times -- Houston Harte, runs the San Antonio Express... it's the local paper out here. We get it out here in the morning and wished that you could be down here with us in this good weather.

B I wanted to come down, as a matter of fact, but I've got to go West, and I just might come through there on my way bac, .

- A If you do, I want be here the 4, 5, 6 -- it is just 15 minutes from Austin, by helicopter, and come out and have a meal with me.
- B (Blur)
- A You ought to go see her, Scotty, -- you're going to be mighty lonely some day when she's gone. My Christmas is..... uh, very lonely since I don't have my Momma..... but if you do please let us know and come have a meal with us. Here's Lady Bird that wants to talk with you..... before we run up a pphone bill.... she is the ~~w~~ one that wanted to call.
- C Mr. ^eRiston? What I really don't understand is how you know so much about it, without really having lived it?
- B (Blur)
- C (laughter) We're only one ahead of you.
- B (Blur)
- C Well, we had our 29th, and I must say ... if I had wished for 2 virtues, it would be elasticity and compassion. .. because it (laughter) takes both..... and I.....(laughter)
- B Blur
- C It's a (something) to be a word of ill-repute.
- B Blur
- C Yes, one runs along from the point of where the water has been turned up..... one hopes to.
- B Well, that's true, well, god bless you....
- C (laughing.... well, thank you, we need it, and we value it, and let me say somethng.... sometime I would like to show you, quietly and serenly, if possible, the wonderful country, which has made our life, and which is made, well, and Lyndon, whatever he is, but ---- because it is the Lord's one blessest pieces of Real Estate.

- B Well, I am sure it is, and I'm sure it means a lot to you, Mrs. Johnson.....
- C And I mean that, sometime maybe you and your wife and your family will come down and see us, and now Lyndon wants to say a word.....
- A Scotty... I want to tell you something real good that's come out of all this, to me... and that's the great comfort and strength that I ~~xx~~ got from Bill Frobright... he.....
- B He's a wonderful man....
- A I've been in with him a dozen times, and whether it's recognizing the Dominican Republic or Honduras or what it was, or the Foreign Bill, he's just been marvelous... and I don't know how we would have made it without him.
- B He's been a good loyal soldier.
- A He's done a good job..... Merry Christmas.
- B Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.
- A Thank you.

DECEMBER 25, 1963

159

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
BILL STEVENS

A Hello?

B Hello.

A Bill?

B Yeah... how are you?

A I'm sitting here talking to a girlfriend of yours named Lady Bird, and we're just thinking of you and wanted to wish you a Merry Christmas

B Well, I --- we want to do the same for you, sir.

A Well.....

B We're just real pleased that you're around.....

A Well, we're..... uh..... we just had a wonderful Christmas Day and it was 75 out here, and uh..... you just almost horse race season.....

B Almost horse race season?

A Almost ... yeah... horse weathes...

B What's wrong.... have you got those colts there just to make you some more money? (laughter) (Blur..... can't come out real well.....)

A We went around and saw the deer with him... y

B You did , huh?

A We saw about 50.

B You didn't shoot at any does did you?

A No, but I saw a bunch of them through my sight. I had to see if they had horns on them.... we saw some, but they were small buck -- and didn't shoot at them..... kinda careful at what kind of deer to shoot since we invited Jack Valenti up here, and he ran off with my secretary.

B (laughter) Are the Valenti's up there?

A No, no he's in Houston.

B Oh, he went to spend his Christmas in Houston -- he's been a great help to me; he wakes me up at 6:30 every morning and goes to midnight every night.

B That's what he told me -- said he didn't have to worry about his sleep....

A (laughter)

B Said that any time that he wanted -- that I wanted to talk to him, day or night, that he'd be up....

A I hope that you give your sweet wife our love and a Merry Christmas... and a Happy New Year.

B I certainly will. And what I understand... I'm coming up there Friday...

A Is it Friday?

B Yeah... they called me and said, get things lined up, and I talked to John, and he said that he could get me down. I got..... (somebody else coming)....?

A Well, I'd be mighty happy to see you. He told me when we came down on the plane that he wanted to come up sometime and, any-time that suits you all, Bill, suits me....

B All right...

A All right then I'll see you Friday... if I'd seen.... known that I'd saved that.... this phone call, this money.....

here's Lady Bird that ~~am~~ wants to say hidy....

C It, too, just wanted to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas..
and I'm looking forward to seeing you.

B Lady Bird, isn't that nice of you.

B Well, it's nice to have you back in Texas again.

C It's good, good to be home.

B I bet that sun really feels fine, doesn't it?

C fine.... the sun is bright, and the countryside is beautiful.....

B Did you go swimming today?

C No.

B Well, we've been swimming.

C You, don't mean it.

B uh , hih, we're just pushing our luck.... (laughter)

C Well, we've done everything else that we love.... and it's
good to be back. Adn we'll see you Friday.....

B Fine.

C Bye.

DECEMBER 25, 1963

160

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
SECRETARY MCNAMARA

A Bob?

B Merry Christmas, Mr. President.

A You're one of the nicest things about this Christmas, as far as I'm concerned, and I just wanted to call and tell you and Marge that we were thinking of you, and..... we hope that you have a wonderful New Year, and you've made our year mighty comforting to know that you're around.

B Well, I can't tell you how grateful I am for your thoughtfulness in calling. Marge, if you were by the phone, would very much like to add her greetings and mine to both you and Lady Bird.

A Well, we've talked all day and had a delightful day. The weather's 75, and the sun's shining bright, and had all the family around us that meant so much to us, and there's nobody in the government that means more than you, and I just wanted to say that to you. Here's Lady Bird, Bob.

B Hello?

C Mr. Secretary?

B Oh, aren't you nice to call, Lady Bird. I can't tell you how grateful we are.

C Anybody like you who would take time to say a word to me, and not to Lyndon, I wouldn't be surprised you talking to him, but to me the other day..... You don't know how impressed I was.

B Well, you don't know how much we are both thinking of you, and how delighted to think that you are down at the ranch.

C We are.

B I hope that he has a restful day, and I bet it's just about a day between

now and when Erhard arrives.

C Serenity is my goal, and contemplation is my greatest desire, and, and..... next to that.... well, you all(laughter) are the big staph that we lean on, so we hope that you too get stretngh and happiness and a good time with all the kinfolks ad we will see you in January.

B Thank you so much, Lady Bird.

C Just a second....

B And holdisay greetings to you both.

C Give our love to Marge.

B I will, By, by.

A Bob. ? Bob? Hello, Bob?

DECEMBER 25, 1963

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
WALTER LIPPMAN

161

-
- A Walter?
- B Yes sir?
- A Merry Christmas to you.
- B Thank you, Mr. President. And same to you.
- A Do you know what my wife said when the girl said that she had my call through to Mr. Lippman. She said that I was talking to the head man himself.
- B ~~Ex~~ Oh.
- A I hope that you had a good day.
- B We had a good day. We went with the grandchildren.
- A Well, we were with our ~~grandchildren~~ family, and beautiful sunshine, and we didn't do anything but sleep late, and spend time with our loved ones, and before I went to bed, I ~~thought~~ thought that I would call some of my special friends, and tell them how much they meant to me, and tell them what a wonderful New Year I hope that you have.
- B Thank you, very much.
- A I hope you give my very best to Mrs. Lippman
- B All right, and give my best to Mrs. Johnson.
- A She's right here, and wants to say a word to you, and tell Mrs. Lippman hello for me, and I'll see you when I get back.
- B O. K.
- A Thank you, and here's Lady Bird.

C Mr. Lippman?

B Ms. Johnson, how are you?

C Oh, I'm fine. We really..... well, the best thing that I can wish for my New Year would be the sort of time and serenity to read some of the wonderful things that you write, and some of the good books, ... that I would..... end up..... well ... know more about the world. I hope that you and your wife have a wonderful time, and we're looking forward to seeing you in January.

B Well, thank you so much.. Mrs. Lippman would like to say Hello to you....

D Merry Christmas to you....

C Hello..... Merry Christmas to you... you know your parties are always the most fun of anybody's, because there are so many people that I rush from one to another to talk to them, because they are the most sparkling people in town.

D Well..... I'm sorry that we won't be able to have you any more.

C Well, what makes you think not?

D Wel...

C Because we're off your list?

D (laughter)

C Laughter.

D No.....

C Well, we've had a very fine one.... and Lyndon's just interjected a remark, he says if you don't invite him, he's going by himself.
(laughter)

D No.... well, I thank you for calling up.... Merry Christmas

C Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and good night.

D Goodnight.

DECEMBER 25, 1963

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
AL FRIENDLY

162

A AI?

B Merry Christmas, Mr. President.

A I wanted to tell you that I was thinking of you, and thank you very much for everything that you've done, and helped us the last few days, and what a wonderful Christmas we had today.... how thankful we are for the few friends that we have, like you.....

B That's very nice of you, Mr. President.

A We had 75 degree weather, went out and watched the deer playing, we didn't have any troubles, and we're getting ready to go in and sleep a full 12 hours.

B That sounds pretty good.....(blur)

A Well, I think that... maybe it was a good paper... Charlie did what he did... cause it put...

B Well, I sort of think....

A That's right... that's right... they're going to break loose, and be pretty.... but I think that we're going to be ready for it.... we've got such a short time, and we're going to fight it out... Here's Lady Bird and she wants to say Hidy...

B Thank you sir, and Merry Christmas..... Mrs. Johnson?

C Mr. Friendly? The only..... my only self-indulgence for the New Year is my idea to sit down to a bridge game.... (laughter)

B I sure remember those days... my wife and Mrs. Graham are playing bridge right now... find yourself some time and indulge yourself.

C Lucky, lucky souls..... anyhow.... Happy New Year, and we hope that you have a happy day like we have..... just a second, I think that my husband wants to say one more word.

- A Al, you have any ideas on how to save the Union?
- B I just feel pretty good about it.
- A I mean about mine on the 8th. If you do, pass them in.
- B How long you got, before you go?
- A Oh, about the 27th or 28th before we start to putting it together.
- B Oh, gosh, I haven't got any ideas now.....
- A If you do, we're going to try to have pretty general things, because we've got so much program up there, that they haven't digested yet, like the tax bill, and like Civil Rights
- B Yeah....
- A and Medical Care, and things like that, and we know of nothing but peace is more important. We're not going to take this one, everything from the reclamation project in Nevada to the American Indian in New Mexico... we're just not going to do that. We're just going to speak pretty lofty general principles.... but any ideas that you have, I'd sure like to have them.....
- B Who should I call... Walter?
- A Yeah.... just call Walter Jenkins... there's a courier down every-day. Thank you.... get..... bye.

#

DECEMBER 25, 1963

163

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
AMON CARTER, JR.

- A Hello?
- B Yes sir?
- A Amon?
- B Yes sir, Mr. President.
- A Hope that you had a good Christmas.
- B Well, we're completely worn out. Hear that you had a good one.
- A Had a delightful one. Only thing would have made it better if your daddy had been here.
- B Yes sir.
- A Yeah, I sure do miss him, and I just wanted to call you, and tell how proud I am of your friendship and how much it means to me, and I hope that you have a wonderful New Year, and anyway that we can contribute to it, we want to do it.
- B Well, we certainly appreciate it. We I wrots you how many... you'd be surprised at the amount of people around here that are on your side now. you've probably heard that everywhere.
- A Well.....
- B Wel've got people around here that have not been too happy and now they're all for you..... I could name 10 of them real quick.
- A Well, thank you...
- B They're realy happy at the way you're running things.
- A Well, thank you, and I hope that you and your family have a real ... wonderful New Year, and keep them beefed up in that Star

Telegram, and make them send you some copies from Washington cause I'm... when those press conferences, nothing pleases me more than for somebody to speak up and say I'm a Star Telegram, I want to know so and so...

B Yes sir...

A So, make them do it... I want that Star Telegram to be back in there where it was when I went to Washington 30 years ago... gosh, old man Gannon said, Whenever I got anything I give it to the Star Telegram (laughter).....

B We're doing the work on that right now..... is Johnny Jones coming to the ranch Sunday?

A Yeah... no, he's coming Friday I think...

B Friday..... you're having the barbecue.....(A) he may be coming Sunday, too, I don't know

B Well, I have a little problem Sunday, and I don't know if anyone else is coming from Ft. Worth..... I don't know anybody else, or anything else like that....

A I don't know, but I'd be glad for them to come..... Bird, do you know anyone that is coming from Ft. Worth Sunday or Friday, besides Amon..... I'll have somebody call you if anyone else is coming.

B Is Walter up in Washington?

A Yeah... heah.... yah.....

B Good, I wanted to call him in the morning about something.

A Yeah. he's in Washington, just working his head off, and doing fine. And I think that we're doing pretty good...

B Well I do too. Everybody's pulling for you. You're taking good care of yourself....

A Yeah... couldn't feel better.

- B Well, where have you got that Remington painting? The one painting that you got left -- at the White House or where?
- A No, it's at E. O. B., but Mrs. Johnson is figuring on coming down here, and raiding all the Southwestern and putting them in the, uh.... Fish Room, or the Cabinet Room,... the Fish Room, right off the Cabinet, where all the guests come... and sit, waiting to see the President.,.... and she's had Mrs. Lasker up from New York, and some of her art group the other day, and she..... she'd figuring on trying to turn the little southwestern or western atmosphere, instead of all the boats.. They've got all the boats from Cape Cod around, and Hyannisport, and we're trying to, we're trying to make our own.... here's Bird wanting to say Howdy to you.
- B All right, thank you.
- C Amon?
- B Hi.
- C If you don't mind me talking business on Christmas Day?
- B Well, we're all ready....
- C (laughter)
- B We're just as exhausted as you are.
- C Actually, when I went into that office, you may or may not know the circumstances, uh.... because of the absence of President Kennedy for 3 or 4 days, everything had been taken out ... the walls had been painted, so we walked into a perfectly ... well, ... his interior office, his very own office, was bare, and I would just like to have more... of .. a Western look there, than a naval look....
- B Well, we'll see what we can do to help....
- C and one of my very good friends, Mary Lasker, who is quite an art authority, has... uh..... is already investigating... what is available for loan from Metropolitan and other places..... un....

but I told her that I was going to ask you if it would possible for you to send me any photographs of, huh. . . . Remingtons or Russells, if it would be possible to loan on a temporary basis. and that I would also return the one that you have sent , which is an Indian picture. uh, fir this reason. . . . uh, the upper of the White House (hall), is if you will remember, the family living quarters ?

B Yes maam.

@ There is a solid line, I guess 20, Indian picutres, -- all Katlandz. . .

B Uh, huh, so you've got a lot of Indians ?

C Yes sir. . . . we've got 20 Indians, and 20 is enough. But I thought cowboys or stagecoaches or uh.

B You let me do some checking. Our museum director is up in New York right now, but I'll find out what is available, and uh. . . .

C If I could have some photographs of what you might not mind too much. . . putting on loan. . temporarily or for Lynda's office or the Fish Room. and you realize that it might be but for 11 months.

B Uh huh. . Well, I hope that you're be there longer. than that. . .

C But at any rate, we would return, this one, the lne that you so kindly lent us. . . and that we've enjoyed so much. insured, and all fixed up. We're searching around. . . . and we would like to take a look at yours, and come to some decision if we can.

B All right, I'll get you some pictures up there. . . . How is the. . . . Is the President taking care of himself ?

C Not at all. . . .

B That's probably the reason. . .

C Jus t working about 20 hours a day, but he's doing just marvelous I never saw him look better, and I think that he's enjoying it, and he's in fine shape. . . .

- B Well, I just wanted to check.... That's wonderful.... Well, I hope that you all had a Merry Christmas.... I had an invitation for the barbecue coming up Sunday, and the President said that he would have somebody call me tomorrow, if anyone else from Ft. Worth.....
- C Uh, huh... uh, huh....
- B ... is invited.... But I've got a problem Sunday morning, and I was thinking that if somebody else is going down, they might be flying down, and that would save us about a 5 hour drive....
- C Uh huh... now, uh...
- B Could somebody let me know tomorrow..... well, let's leave it this way, Mrs. Johnson, if I don't hear from anybody there tomorrow, I'll assume that no one else from Ft. Worth is coming.
- C All right. And he wants to say one more word to you....
- B All right.. And I'll get you the pictures...
- C Thank you...
- A Amon?
- B Yes sir?
- A Thanks to you and thanks to Ruth, for everything, now I just want to leave one thought, and I don't want you to ever repeat it to a human being, but, uh... I'm going to get this budget down, and a lot of things are going by the wayside, and a lot of consolidation is going to take effect, and a lot of things are going to hurt people, like that Army depot the other day, and we still got a lot of things there, like your... Carswell, and your Trinity, and things that you want.... Now you just tell your crowd over a t Star Telegram that you want to be damn sure that you've got as competent a man and as thorough as a man and as attentive as a man as the New York Times got in those press conferences, because you want the President's home state represented by really intelligence.
- B Uh, huh... well, now, we had a meeting, last week, Jim Chambers

and Johnny Jones, we're going to try repairing Bascomb which is going to pretty hard, you told me some things about him once before, we're going to let our old man run the thing, and Jim Chambers has got Mr. Holligswirth over there, and oh, incidentally, Scotty Riston is a real admirer of yours now.

A Well, he's a nice fellow, and...

B He's got some mighty nice things to say in front of Mr. John Gordon and some of them....

A Well, that's good, but what I want you to do, I want Texas to have the best, the best, most competent writers, and most inquisitive, and most curious, and to be on the trips, and to know what the hell's happening, cause if they don't, well, they just ought to do it.

B Uh, huh, where is Charlie Boatner, now is he/////

A Charlie's over at the National Park Service as a Public Relations but, what you ought to do is just get the best damn fellow for the Star Telegram, and it's, it's whether you spend a hundred dollars a week or more, you'll never remember a year from now. But the next few years... the town of yours will mean a lot, and I'd have a man there, when he speaks up, he doesn't say I'm Bascomb... but I represent the Star Telegram and I want to know what's going on in Cyprus today, and whether that is likely to involve us or not, and whether or not we have to evacuate, where it just doesn't show oil and cattle. And that'll have its effect on other things, because they're going to be putting a lot of strategic air command bases, together, and they're going to phase out a lot of stuff with the missiles coming in, and they're..... there's just going to be a complete overhaul. And if I were you, I'd just get the best damn person that I could get, and have him representing me, because you have to, and you can go out and promote a special addition, and get Sears-Roebuck and them to buy a few more pages of ads, but I'd get me a good man to cover that White House...

B All right sir, I will...

A Cause I guarantee you, I'll play ball with him, and I wouldn't be there, if it hadn't been for the Carters, so you just get a good man that I

can talk to with confidence, whose on the ball.

- B All right sir, we're running this Jim Chambers.... he talked to you, I know, about this congressional section of yours, and we're going to run it here, and in Ft. Worth, and I think that Johnny Jones is going to run it..
- A Good, good. He told me that he was putting out some.... I don't know what it is I don't know whether it's any good.
- B It's a magazine, on just, uh, no advertising or anything, just a complete pictorial history, of the whole family and of your life. They're going to run it..... about 800,000 of them...
- A Oh, wonderful... Well, Amon , give Ruth my love, and..... give J. Ed my love, and you count on me for anything that I can do.
- B And I told Mrs. Johnson, that if I didn't hear from her, that nobody from Ft. Worth was coming, but if somebody else is coming from Ft. Worth, I'd like to know.
- A Thank you, my friend.
- B Thank you, and take care of yourself.
- A Bye.
- B Bye.

DECEMBER 25, 1963

164

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
JOHNNY JONES

- A Hi, Johny,
- B Oh, Mr. President, how are You?
- A I'm doing ~~just~~ fine, and I just wanted to wish you a Merry Christmas fellow..
- B That's mighty sweet of you to call me.
- A Well, I was just thinking of you and hope that everything goes well with you, and that you have a good New Year, and I.... uh, wish everything of the best to you.... I had a wonderful Christmas myself, and I'm mighty grateful for friends like you...
- B That 's mighty fine.... One of these days we're going to put a magazine out, you know about that , don't you? And you'll have a complimentary copy.....
- A That's wonderful.... Tell em that George Reedy or Hoarce Busby or any of my boys can help them, and go over any form and get the accuracy out of it, that they'll be mighty willing to do it, and any way that I can help you, why just let me know.
- B O. K. , Mr. President.
- A We've got a lot of work , Mr.-President, to do with that old town of Dallas, and me and you got a short steak, but we'll do our best.
- B Well, we're going to think it over, and will go right along with the nexg term...
- A Thank you, my friend.
- B O. K.
- A Bye.

Date: September 16, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President and First Lady to Gould
Lincoln, 12/25/63

The identification slip with the dictabelt and the transcript are dated December 26. However, the President's Daily Diary and the White House Telephone Operators Logs do not show a call to Gould Lincoln on the 26th. They each show a call to Gould Lincoln the evening of December 25. It is unclear which day the call took place.

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

DECEMBER 26, 1963

165

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY TO
GOULD LINCOLN

- A why don't you and your buddies come on over, and we'll have ya'll over for lunch or something?
- B That'd be wonderful.
- A You just don't know, how much we appreciate it. Here's LadyBird; she wants to say a word, Gould.
- B Uh, Mr. President, before you get off, just a word....
- A Yes sir.
- B I'm certainly glad that you made those people come back and vote.
- A (laughter)
- B That's what they need.
- A Well, they had to, they had to. You see, Gould, here's what they were doing.
- B Yeah?
- A The old Communist world was watching to see any sign of weakness or compromising or running on the part of the President, and here the fellows come out, and that amendment said, no funds contained herein can be used. -- well there were no funds in that bill for the export-import. So it was pure hypocrisy, but if I would let it go unchallenged, they would have said, well, he's a weak sister, he hasn't got any steel, in his spine, and we don't need to pay any attention to him, he's a pushover...
- B Yeah....
- A So, I just thought that I had to go to bat on it, and I hated like the

devil to ask people that had run off to come on back, but I didn't think that I had.....

B They shouldn't have run off.....

A I didn't think that I had any choice.... I just thought that I had to stand up and be a man or a mouse.

B Well, I'm delighted that you did it.

A Well, thank you Gould, here's Lady Bird that wants to say thank you.

C Mr. Lincoln?

B Yes, Mrs. Johnson?

A A happy , happy, Christmas and a New Year to you, and yours,...

B Thank you, very mucy... Mr.s. Johnson, and I certainly wish you a ~~Happy New Year~~... happiest Kind of a New Year.

C Well, you are one, who has made it so many times during the year. And I just wanted to say that yours is the column that I always pick up without flinching first. Because even if it has something in it that that... doesn't/// quite approve of something that we do, I know that you are going to take a measured view.....

B Well, thank you very much. The best of everything to you.

C Well, the same to you.... and we'll see you after we get back.

B Thank you and good to hear from you all.

Date: September 19, 1993

Processing Note

Re: Telephone Notes, The President to Arthur Krock, 12/26/63

While working on preservation of the dictabelts, the archives staff observed the following inaccuracies in the transcript:

On page 1, the transcript reads:

A: " ... I have been rooting on my briefing papers for Erhard."

The archives staff heard:

A: " ... I have been reading on my briefing papers for Erhardt."

Claudia Anderson
Archivist

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TO
ARTHUR KRCK

December 26, 1964

A Arthur.....

B Hello, Mr. President, how are you?

A Merry Christmas. I tried to get you until midnight last night. I just wanted to.....

B It must have been delayed in some way.

A Well, I had calls coming in here and I didn't get to finish them all but I wanted to thank you for all you have done for me and tell you I was thinking of you on Christmas Night.

B That's certainly kind of you but I wish you would take better care of yourself.

A I'm taking good care of myself. I couldn't feel better -- I went out early this morning and just like a young man like you I killed myself a good deer and walked four or five miles and came back in and took a good nap this afternoon and tonight I have been rooting on my briefing papers for Erhard.

B You don't get any sleep.

A Oh, yes, I sleep four hours every night.

B That's not enough.

A Well, I've been doing it all my life.

B Have you?

A Yeah.

B Well, I wish you would just pipe down a little bit.

A I had a nice nap this afternoon.

B You did?

A Yeah.....

B And your health is good?

A Couldn't be better, Arthur.

B You are happy there.....

A Yeah, I am, and I wish you were here with me.

B Well, I wish I were.

A Well, when we get back next week we'll get together and.....

B Alright, I am looking forward to that.

A You get me some good ideas, give me some suggestions.

B I am looking forward to that, Sir.

A Okay, I will call you when I get back.

B Thank you, Sir.

A Bye.

gw

TELEPHONE NOTES
THE PRESIDENT TC
HARLAN FENTRESS

December 26, 1964

167

A Harlan.....

B Good evening, Sir.

A Happy New Year

B Happy New Year to you.

A I just wanted to tell you that I love you and thank you for everything. I tried to get you last night but I got tied up on the switchboard and didn't do it. Lady Bird made me go on to bed because she thought I had talked too much

B (Laughter) Oh, no use arguing with her, is it?

A Not a bit. Did you get your deer?

B Yes Sir.

A I got a dandy today.

B That's what I hear.

A Yeah.....I got a good one.

B Well, that's good. I know you've got to do that every Christmas.

A I had a lot of fun. I took Buford Ellington out with me and he got one, too.

B Well, that's good.

A I didn't want anything except to tell you that I love you.

B You are a great guy and I appreciate your doing so.

A Give my love to your wife.

B I certainly will.

A I hope you have all the good things you deserve and if I can do anything, let me know.

B Thank you very much and I wish the same for you.

A Thank you, Harlan.

B Thank you for calling.

A Bye, Partner.

B Bye.

gw