

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

28 February 1942

Dear Lady Bird:

I am returning the letter from Melvin Ehlert. You should write him a letter, telling him that I have been on active duty, etc. in the first paragraph, then the rest of the letter should read something like this:

"I know that Lyndon will be more than grateful for your loyalty and interest, but I am sure he would not want anyone to have to petition the President to relieve him from active duty. He wants to do his part, and we are doing our best to carry on in his absence.

Mrs. Ehlert can be very helpful however, and the next time she is in Austin, I wish you would ask her to drop by to see Senator A. J. Wirtz, Littlefield Building, and tell him of her desire to help Lyndon in every way possible".....etc.

Send a copy of your letter along with Melvin's to Senator.

Please talk to Dr. Craig about Lee McWilliams and see if there is isn't something that can be worked out to keep him there for several months more. Tell Lee that John and I both are out of Washington--not together, but just out of Washington.

It makes me very happy that you are now full time in the office. Yes dear, you may discontinue the private phone. I'm glad that you are taking back the apartment, but I do hope that you don't lose Otha Ree. Please tell Frances Poage how sorry I was to hear about her misfortune--I do hope she is better. (P. S. here: Make every person in the office know their postmasters--Shelly is not postmaster at Round Rock, etc.) Send a picture to Robuck. Get the poll tax lists as quickly as possible and send me a suggested form letter to be mimeographed that you would like to send out. Order 6 more lighters, and have the given name of each person you give one to engraved on it. Don't send "U.S. Naval Shipbuilding Program".

Sincerely,

Lyndon