

Dorothy -----

The President came in alone. Sat without making phone calls or seeing anyone for a long time (10:40 to 11:06) --- writing at his signing table.

He buzzed me to come in twice --- asking "when was I sworn in? --- and again "when did I become leader" --

The attached is what he wrote. He apparently talked with Mrs J about his thinking --- perhaps Sen. Russell also. He mentioned it in recorded conversations w WJ and GER on this date.

mjdr

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~~Thirty~~ ~~And~~ months ~~and~~ ago I was selected

to be the Democratic V.P. Because I felt
I could best serve my Country and my
party I left the M.C. of the Senate ~~for~~ ^{to} ~~see~~
the V.P. post believing I could help unify
the country and thus better serve it.
In the time given me I did my best.

On that fateful Nov day last year I
accepted the responsibilities of the
Pres. asking God's guidance ^{help of all good} to the people.

For 9 months I've carried on as effectively
as I could

Our Country

~~The Nation~~ faces grave dangers. These dangers
must be met faced & met by a united
people under a leader they do not doubt.

~~With~~ After 3 1/2 years in political ^{life} most
men acquire enemies - as ships accumulate
barnacles. The times require leadership
about which there is no doubt and
a voice that men of all parties, sections and

Color Can follow - I have learned
after trying Very hard that I
am not that Voice or that leader.

Therefore I shall carry forward with
your help until the new President
is sworn in next January and
then go ^{back} home as I've wanted ~~to~~ to
since the day I took this job. ☒

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

Personal.

LPS-
Aug. 1964

DeRite