

George:
Please initial
your MD

Berlin

August 9, 1961

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Roosa:

Your letter of August 2 has been read with interest. No one is more seriously opposed to war than I am, although I am willing to fight to be able to live and worship in freedom.

It is a misunderstanding to believe that your Government favors nuclear war or any war, just as it would be a misunderstanding to believe that peace can come from weakness in the face of atheist power. It is our policy to be strong and to deter blackmail, while putting forth our best efforts to obtain mutual disarmament.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. William V. Roosa
1861 Stanton Street
Decatur, Georgia

LBJ/ECW/nj

INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER

671 BECKWITH STREET, S. W.
ATLANTA 14, GEORGIA

1861 Stanton Street
Decatur, Georgia
August 2, 1961



The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the United States
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

We are appalled at the apparent willingness of Congress to resort to nuclear war on the Berlin issue. Last night's radio reported that probably we are already committed to such a policy as a last resort.

Do not our leaders realize:

1. NUCLEAR WAR CANNOT "DEFEND" BERLIN.

It can annihilate city and people, and slaughter countless millions all over the earth.

It can abolish democracy, and cause the degeneracy of the human race. But it cannot protect anyone.

Its adoption would be a surrender to global suicide.

2. THREATS, COUNTER-THREATS, AND THE MAD ARMAMENT RACE INFLAME EMOTIONS AND INTENSIFY CONFLICTS, MAKING ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE A CALM, REASONABLE SOLUTION OF BASIC ISSUES.

The history of our century confirms this.

3. IN OUR NUCLEAR AGE, NO NATION OR GROUP OF NATIONS HAS THE MORAL RIGHT TO ENDANGER THE SURVIVAL OR WELL-BEING OF ALL HUMANITY, EVEN IN THE NAME OF "NATIONAL INTEREST".

All mankind faces the common threat of possible extinction. All have the right to share in the momentous decisions to be made.

4. THERE IS A CONSTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO NUCLEAR WAR - IT IS AN APPEAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WHILE THERE IS YET TIME.

The U.N. is our greatest strength. Why not use it NOW.

We are pleading for a creative statesmanship that is alert to the realities of our nuclear age.

Most respectfully and sincerely yours,

William V. Roosa
Beatrice Roosa

William V and Beatrice Roosa

*Yes, we voted +
exerted all our power
for you. Would we do
so again?
Mr. R.*



FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

get file

P.O. Box 551
Giddings, Texas
Aug. 10, 1961

Vice President Johnson
Washington DC

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I received your kind letter and I realize what a dreadful mistake I've made criticising Mr. Kennedy in a time of great troubles. Please extend to him my sincerest apologies as I wrote the letters in a moment of anger and impulse.

I only hope Mr. Kennedy will be kind enough, and forgiving enough, to accept my humblest apology. God forgive me if I have committed sin against my country.

Tell Mr. Kennedy I am behind him in everything that he does from now on.

God bless you and Mr. Kennedy,
Raymond Spitzberger



Berlin

COPY

August 4, 1961

My dear Friend:

I am deeply touched by your evaluation of my character and I certainly hope that I can always merit your kind and generous words. Certainly I try to live up to the attributes that you ascribe to me.

However, I feel that there has been some mis-judgment of President Kennedy in the current situation. A President, because of the unusual position that he occupies, must face up to the unpleasant facts of life and that is what President Kennedy is doing now.

The peace of the world is being upset and not by actions of America's own choosing. There is now peace in Berlin. It may not be a satisfactory peace in every sense of the word, but at least people are not fighting and dying and the people of Berlin have one of the most precious of all freedoms -- freedom of choice. The Communists are determined to upset that peace and they will certainly do so unless the heart of America is strong and fortitude becomes our national watchword. A nation can express strength and fortitude only through its President and President Kennedy, who loves peace as it can be loved only by a man who has known the horrors of war, must be the vehicle of that expression.

The President now needs our prayers because our hopes for peace and for freedom rest necessarily upon his strength and his leadership.

Sincerely yours,



Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Raymond Spitzenberger
P.O. Box 551
Giddings, Texas

LBJ GER gw

P.O. Box 551
Hiddings, Texas
August 1, 1961

Lyndon B. Johnson
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

Franklin Roosevelt once told this story:
"Way back in the hills of Upstate New York,
where a lot of poor tenant farmers live, there
was a wise old man whom everybody came to
with their troubles. One day a woman came
to him with a sad story. She and her husband
and four children lived in a one-room cabin
and she said it was simply unbearable. The
old man asked her if she had any chickens on
the farm. When she said she had, he advised her to
put the chickens in her house. The next day she came
back and said that things were even worse -- much
worse. Then the old man asked if she owned any cows,
and when she said she had two of them, he said: 'Put
those cows in your house.' She did and the next day
she came back and said the place was getting to be
a horror. So the old man said to her: 'You got a
horse?' She said she did. 'Put the horse into your
house.' The woman did that, too, and the following
day said it was just too much -- it was awful.
Then the old man said to her, 'Well, my dear,
now take the horse and those cows and those
chickens and get them all out of there -- and then
come back and tell me how things are.' And the next
day the woman came back and said: 'Thank you oh,
thank you so much, you can't imagine how
comfortable we are at last.'"

This little story that FDR told illustrates perfectly Mr. Kennedy's policy since he has been in office. I'm sure Mr. Kennedy has figured this out himself, although it sounds like the strategy of the Democrats. "Things are going to get worse before they get better" is a dangerous policy to pursue, especially if you deliberately create the things that cause it to get worse, - such as this mass scare about Berlin. The behavior of the American government (Mr. Kennedy) has made the United States look like warmongers and idiots. In fact, the other day, I heard a little boy say, "Mama, what's the difference between Capitalism and Nazism?" The mother hesitated, then replied, "Not much, not much."

Mr. Kennedy should not try to use FDR theories, as they worked for FDR, but cannot work for JFK. Mr. Roosevelt was warm and kind and gentle; Mr. Kennedy is cold and harsh and impersonal. Mr. Roosevelt could fool the people; Mr. Kennedy cannot. I have talked to many Texans who are afraid that Mr. Kennedy will become a dictator. We beg you, our favorite son, not to let this happen.

Mr. Johnson, you are kind and gentle and loving as was Mr. Roosevelt. We voted for Mr. Kennedy because we wanted you. People all over the world are beginning to love you because you are a common man, understanding and kind. Mr. Kennedy is hated by the world for being an aristocratic warmonger. I think of him as a Nazi. So please talk to him and make him pursue a policy that will give America a greater status in the eyes of peace-loving Europeans and Asians.

We Texans are very very proud of our Lyndon, but we are equally disgusted with JFK. After Kennedy's last address to the public over TV, one woman wept out of fear. Kennedy frightened her by his cold, mechanical, demi-goddish attitude. Try to make JFK smoke the pipe of peace and we will all pray for peace or he will be fighting a war with the world alone.

Tell Mr. Kennedy that he cannot fool the American public; he can't use child psychology on us; he can't use us as pawns in his delightful political chess game. If a hick from a small Texas town like myself can see through his phoniness, then surely so can the whole world.

He's got the whole world in his hands, but he's got cold and wicked hands. Give him some of your warmth, some of your peace-loving characteristics and maybe the world will not be destroyed for a few more years.

Please help us.

Most respectfully yours,
Raymond Spitzenberger



COPY

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

August 10, 1961

Dear Mr. Michalak:

Thank you for giving me the benefit of
your thinking on the situation in Berlin and Poland.

"A man's judgment is no better than his information" and I am always glad to have the views of
my fellow citizens on the problems with which
our Nation is faced.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Edward M. Michalek
3414 West Poe Street
Milwaukee 15, Wisconsin

LBJ:WDT

3414 W. Poe St.
Milwaukee 15 Wisc.
August 1, 1961

Dear Mr Vice President -

Due rightful thought should be given for our nation to take the initiative in negotiations over Berlin. I do not feel we should send our youth again to fight over Berlin because this is adequate room for negotiation.

Both German and Russian imperialism are responsible for the communist take over in central Europe. Germany with its massacre of the educated in its concentration camps created a perfect vacuum for communist imperialism to take over.

Are we ourselves going to partake in changing the borders of Poland and Czechoslovakia. This will destroy all hopes in the heart of these people. The Oder-Neisse line is and should rightfully be declared the border of Poland. We as allies with Germany should encourage the Germans to resume peaceful relations and cultural exchange with Poland so that eventually the hatred built up in centuries of aggression can be changed into good will. Let us demilitarize Germany and force the Russians to remove their troops from Central European countries in return.

Please Mr. Vice President use your excellent abilities and thought to help justice in this case. Very truly yours
Edward M. Michalak



COPY

August 10, 1961

My dear Friend:

Thank you for your warm note of
commendation. I am always pleased to know
when my fellow Texans feel that our country
is in good hands.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Johnny Klemme, Jr.
515 South Ohio, #9
Mercedes, Texas

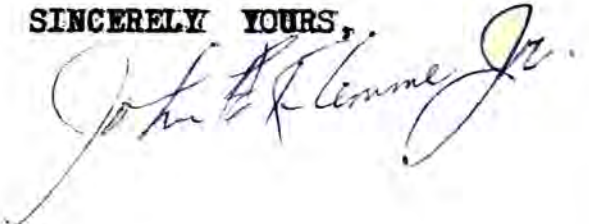
LBJ:WDT

Dear Mr. Johnson,

My name is Johnny Klemme. Recently I read about Mr. Kennedy's plan on the Berlin Crisis. I am sure we will win.

You are both handling it very well. The country is in good hands.

SINCERELY YOURS,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Johnny Klemme". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Johnny Klemme

515 S. Ohio #9

Mercedes,, Texas



FOREIGN RELATIONS

7

15-651 Burlin Canon Drive
Los Gatos,
California.
July 31, 1961

Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson,
Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

On July 25, 1961, President Kennedy stated that in regard to the freedom of West Berlin, the United States must keep its word even to the risk of War. But how about the United States keeping its contract with a portion of the retired Military personnel now on the "inferior" retired list, i.e., those drawing less pay for same service.

I urgently request you support
5401 for pay equalization.

Very respectfully,

FRANK M. S. JOHNSON
FRANK M. S. JOHNSON
Col. USA (Ret)
0-55-66



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

IS = International Letter Telegram

1961 AUG 18 11:41 AM

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

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HON LYNDEN JOHNSON

5/13

VICE PRES UNITED STATES WASHDC

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

Recd

DEAR LYNDEN WILL THE YACKY YACK IS NOW GOING ON IN WASHINGTON.
ITS ABOUT TIME SOMEBODY CAME TO THE FRONT RUSSIA TODAY COULD
BURY THE UNITED STATES. I AM AN INTELLIGENT MAN I THINK I CAN
SEE THIRTY YEARS HENCE KHRUSHCHEV IS THE TOP MAN TODAY DONT DISCOUNT
HIM. IF YOU NEED ADVICE OR HELP CHECK PLATO. GOD HELP YOU ALL
P.S. THERE IS NOTHING NEW UNDER SUN. JOHN KENNEDY CERTAINLY
ASKED FOR THIS ONE. HE HAS MY PRAYERS. DO YOU FINE GENTLEMAN
KNOW HOW FAR OUT IN LEFT FIELD YOU ALL ARE
JOHN F FITZGERALD BOSTON.



E- 79101

Berlin

COPY

August 10, 1961

My dear Friend:

It was thoughtful of you to take the time to write me such a warm and generous letter. I am glad to have your endorsement of the Administration's stand on the Berlin issue.

I am glad to have the benefit of your thinking on the problem of communism. The views of my fellow Texans are always appreciated and are of much value to me.

As long as I have the privilege of serving you in public office I shall strive to merit your continued confidence and support.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. W. S. Beasley
205 Magnusson
Palacios, Texas

LBJ:WDT

W. S. Beasley
205 Magnusson
Palacios, Texas

Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Vice President,

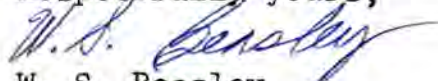
Please consider this note as an endorsement of the Administration's stand on the Berlin issue. I am proud that you have been one of the firmist leaders on this problem. Right now we need every true statesman to stand up and take this same stand. The American people seem to be waki ng up to the fact that freedom in the United States is not only inherited but must be protected with the type of insurance that Americans can furnish in times like these.

I have three suggestions that I would like to make concerning the problem of communism. They are as follows:

1. Lets do something about the communists in the United States immediately. This would show the free world that we are not about to tolerate such treasonable groups in our country.
2. Lets do something about Castro. He is a sore spot in the Americas. If we are going to get tough, we should start with the bearded S.o.B. off our coast.
3. Lets go all out to impress the countries in the communist bloc with the fact that war will be very costly for them.

Mr. Vice President, please don't step away from your position. Texas is behind you, the United States is behind you, and the entire free world is behind you. May future historians look back upon these times and say that Texas produced a J. C. Calhoun, a Daniel Webster, and a Henry Clay all in one man----Lyndon B. Johnson. God bless you.

Respectfully yours,


W. S. Beasley



Berlin

June 21, 1961

Dear Mr. Fitch:

There is absolutely no reason to believe that a speech made on the floor of the Senate represents Administration policy. Senators at all times are free to speak their own minds, but in the field of foreign affairs, only the President -- or those specifically designated by the President -- can speak for the United States.

It has become popular in recent years to assume that every statement made by a Washington official is a "trial balloon." This is not always so and I am confident that the Administration will follow in Berlin a policy in keeping with the traditions of America.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Honorable Donald C. Fitch, Jr.
28th Floor Republic National Bank Building
Dallas 1, Texas

LBJ GER gw

ED R. CRISSEY
1511 BRYAN STREET
DALLAS 1, TEXAS

JUNE 16, 1961

THE HONORABLE LYNDON B. JOHNSON
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

DEAR VICE-PRESIDENT JOHNSON:

I NOTE THAT SENATOR MIKE MANSFIELD HAS MADE THE KICKOFF IN WHAT MIGHT WELL BE A CAMPAIGN FOR THE SURRENDER OF BERLIN TO THE SOVIETS. WHETHER OR NOT SENATOR MANSFIELD'S "SUGGESTION" FOR INTERNATIONALIZING BERLIN IS MEANT TO START CONDITIONING US FOR A SURRENDER THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED UPON OR IS MERELY A PUBLIC REACTION FEELER IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS DATE. IN MY OPINION THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF BERLIN IS ANOTHER STEP ALONG THE ROAD TO THE EVENTUAL SURRENDER OF WASHINGTON TO THE SOVIETS. I, FOR ONE, CANNOT BUY THIS IDEA OF INTERNATIONALIZING BERLIN, AND I THINK IT IS HIGH TIME THAT WE MAKE IT KNOWN THAT WE INTEND TO SEE ALL OF GERMANY REUNITED UNDER A GOVERNMENT FAVORABLE TO THE WESTERN NATIONS, AND THEN THAT WE INTEND TO SEE THE SATELLITE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE FREED AS WELL AS ALL OTHER COUNTRIES UNDER SOVIET DOMINATION.

ONLY IN TAKING SUCH A POSITIVE APPROACH CAN THE CONSISTENT SUCCESSES OF THE SOVIETS BE COMPLETELY REVERSED. UNLESS WE DO THIS, WE ARE GOING TO FIND OURSELVES WITH OUR BACKS AGAINST THE WALL FIGHTING FOR OUR VERY SURVIVAL AS A FREE NATION. UNLESS WE DO THIS, IT IS QUITE APPARENT THAT OUR EVENTUAL SURRENDER WILL BE THE RESULT OF EITHER COMPLETELY NAIVE OR INTENTIONAL PLANNING BY THOSE VERY LEADERS WHO HAVE PLEDGED TO DELIVER US AND THE FREE WORLD FROM THE ENCROACHMENT OF WORLD-WIDE COMMUNISM.

A STRONG POSITIVE APPROACH COULD POSSIBLY LEAD TO WAR, BUT I SERIOUSLY DOUBT IT. EVERYTIME WE HAVE CALLED THE SOVIET'S BLUFF, THEY HAVE BACKED DOWN -- WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH COMMUNIST STRATEGY. EVEN IF SUCH AN APPROACH LED TO WAR, THIS WOULD BE PREFERABLE AS IN THAT EVENT IT WOULD BE APPARENT THAT OUR ONLY EVENTUAL ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO SUBMIT TO THE GRADUAL SOVIET STRANGULATION OF OUR WAY OF LIFE. WE CANNOT EXIST LONG IF WE CONTINUE TO APPEASE THE FORCES OF EVIL, AND IT IS NOT WORTH EXISTING IF WE MUST SURRENDER OUR PROUD HERITAGE AND MORAL PRINCIPLES IN ORDER TO DO SO. THE SOVIET'S CONSTANT THREAT OF WAR IS A FAR MORE EFFECTIVE METHOD OF BLACKMAIL THAN CASTRO'S TRACTORS -- HOW MANY NATIONS AND HOW MANY LIVES HAVE WE ALREADY SACRIFICED BECAUSE OF OUR FEAR? HOW MANY MORE WILL WE CONTINUE TO SACRIFICE UNTIL WE EITHER STRENGTHEN OUR BACKBONES OR LOSE THEM ALTOGETHER?

IN THE IMMORTAL WORDS OF PATRICK HENRY -- "GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH"!

YOURS MOST SINCERELY,

Ed R. Crissey
ED R. CRISSEY

ERCMB



Berlin

COPY

August 2, 1961

Dear Mr. Kinney:

It is good to know that you and your associates are firmly behind the stands being taken by the Administration on the Berlin situation. I, too, believe that our citizens are willing to make all necessary sacrifices in the interest of our National Security.

I am glad to have the benefit of your thinking on matters connected with our domestic and Foreign Aid programs and shall certainly give them consideration .

As never before, I realize the great need for Divine Guidance and I hope that we will continue to have your prayers.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Robert D. Kinney
2721 Binyon Street
Fort Worth 15, Texas

LBJ:WDT

Fort Worth, Texas
July 27, 1961

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson,
Vice-President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

My family, close friends and business associates are solidly behind the President and his Administration in the firm stand being taken on the Berlin situation.

Also, we would certainly favor a much firmer stand on the Cuba situation, and endorse a program to stop "International Piracy".

It is our opinion that our citizenship is ready and willing to make any and all necessary sacrifices in the interest of our National Defense and National Security.

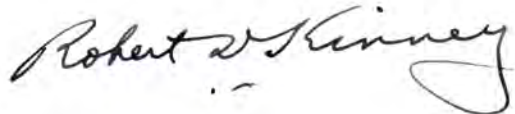
However, it is strongly urged that expensive domestic programs should be greatly reduced and that all Administration programs which have nothing to do with Defense and Security should be eliminated until this crisis is ended in order that the financial structure of our Government shall not be weakened.

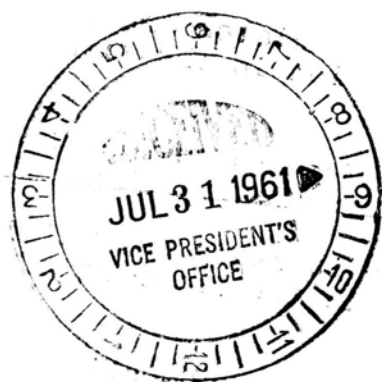
We also feel that the Congress should have absolute control and full responsibility for all expenditures in connection with our Foreign Aid Program; that this program should be gradually diminished and limited; that the President should not have the "blank-check" authority to spend on foreign aid.

We believe most people are alertly aware of the very critical time facing our Nation and that they appreciate the tremendous efforts which are being made by our Government Officials on all levels in meeting their high responsibilities. Many Christian people are praying that those of you having this responsibility will daily seek and receive Divine Guidance in making decisions which will be pleasing in His Sight.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Robert D. Kinney,
2721 Binyon St.,
Fort Worth 15, Texas.





COPY

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

July 31, 1961

Dear Arthur:

Your letter was very welcome and I am certainly glad to know your thinking about the important problems of our times. Like you, I believe the American people have the strength and the courage to stand up to the enemy and I know the American people also have leadership in the White House that is not rash or hot-headed but is dedicated to the proposition of freedom,

I'm glad you enjoyed the visit at the ranch and, like me, are impressed with President Ayub Khan. I hope we can get together soon for a good visit.

Sincerely yours,


Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Arthur Temple, Jr.
Southern Pine Lumber Company
Diboll, Texas

LBJ GER gw



ARTHUR TEMPLE, JR.
PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

Dear Arthur:

July 28, 1961

Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

I appreciate being invited to your ranch recently and want you to know that I enjoyed it immensely. I was particularly pleased to be with so many old friends and, particularly to run into Colonel Bill Jackson.

I was impressed with the intelligence and earnestness of President Ayub Khan. He is quite a man. I cannot help but feel that he was impressed with the genuine friendliness of the group.

The main purpose of my letter is to report that I feel that the people of the nation are firmly behind the efforts of our government to stand firm in Berlin and are even clamoring for decisive action as regards Cuba. Although none of us want war, it is my opinion that the people are convinced that a ready willingness to risk war is preferable to continued humiliation.

I may be wrong, but I have the feeling that our leadership is looking to the people for this sort of attitude before taking each step. I may be presumptuous, but if you are wondering about the attitude of the people I believe they are equally as determined as our leadership in Washington.



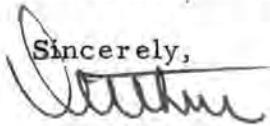
Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson

Page 2

July 28, 1961

I think you individually have done more to restore our prestige in Latin America and the Far East than any other individual in government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Arthur Temple", written over a horizontal line.

Arthur Temple

AT:lw



United States Senate

Washington, D. C., August 2, 1961

Respectfully referred to

The White House
Washington 25, D.C.

Letter from:

Capt. Roy J. Fellers
P.O. Box 470
Warner Robins Air Force Base
Ga

for your information.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Vice President

U.S.S.
XXXX

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-45102-2

Berlin

COPY

August 2, 1961

Dear Roy:

The delegate's badge to the 1948 convention which you mailed to me brought back vivid memories of a hot summer and a hard but fruitful campaign.

I know that it is a treasured memento of yours and therefore I am returning it to you.

As you requested I am passing on to the President your letter concerning action about the Berlin situation.

Best wishes for your continued service as a fighting citizen and as an active participant in Democratic affairs.

Sincerely,


Lyndon B. Johnson

Capt Roy J. Fellers
P.O. Box 470
Warner Robins Air Force Base
Ga

LBJ:CBK:0

Enc: Delegate's badge

Referred to White House, Washington 25, D.C.


IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

July 25, 1961

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE
PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE NA-
TION, DELIVERED AT 10:00 P.M.
(E.D.T.), JULY 25, 1961 FROM THE
WHITE HOUSE

Good evening:

Seven weeks ago tonight I returned from Europe to report to you on my meeting with Soviet Premier Khrushchev and others. His grim warnings about the future of the world, the aide-memoire he presented me on Berlin, the subsequent speeches and threats which he and his agents have launched, and the increase in the Soviet Military Budget he announced, have all prompted a series of decisions by this Administration and consultations within the Atlantic Community. In Berlin, as you recall, he intends to bring to an end, through a stroke of his pen, first our legal rights to be in West Berlin -- and secondly our ability to make good on our commitment to the two million free people of that city. That we cannot permit.

We are clear about what must be done -- and we intend to do it. I want to talk frankly with you tonight about the first steps we shall take. These actions will require sacrifice on the part of many citizens. More will be required in the future. They will require, for all of us, courage and perseverance for many years to come. But if we and our allies act out of the strength and unity of our purpose -- with calm determination and steady nerves -- using restraint in our words as well as our weapons -- I am hopeful that both peace and freedom will be sustained.

The immediate threat to free men is in West Berlin. But that isolated outpost is not an isolated problem. The threat is world-wide. Our effort must be equally wide and strong, and not be obsessed by a single manufactured crisis. We face a challenge in Berlin, but there is also, for example, a challenge in Southeast Asia, where the borders are less guarded, the enemy harder to find, and the danger of communism often less apparent to the local population. We face a challenge in our own hemisphere, and wherever else the freedom of human beings is at stake.

Let me remind you that the fortunes of war and diplomacy left the free people of West Berlin 110 miles behind the Iron Curtain. We are there as a result of our victory over Nazi Germany -- and our basic rights deriving from that victory include both our presence in Berlin and the enjoyment of access across East Germany. These rights have been repeatedly confirmed and recognized in special agreements with the Soviet Union. Berlin is not a part of East Germany, but a separate territory under the control of the allied powers. Thus our rights there are clear and firmly rooted. But in addition to those rights is our commitment to sustain -- and defend, if need be -- the opportunity for more than two million people to determine their own future and choose their own way of life.

II.

Thus, our presence in West Berlin, and our access thereto, cannot be ended by any act of the Soviet Government. The NATO shield was long ago extended to cover West Berlin -- and we have given our word that an attack in that city will be regarded as an attack upon us all.

MORE

For West Berlin -- lying exposed 110 miles inside of East Germany, surrounded by Soviet troops and close to Soviet supply lines, has many roles. It is more than a showcase of liberty, a symbol, an isle of freedom in a Communist sea. It is even more than a link with the Free World, a beacon of hope behind the Iron Curtain, an escape hatch for refugees.

West Berlin is all of that. But above all it has now become -- as never before -- the great testing place of Western courage and will, a focal point where our solemn commitments and Soviet ambitions now meet in basic confrontation.

It would be a mistake for others to look upon Berlin, because of its location, as a tempting target. The United States is there; the United Kingdom and France are there; the pledge of NATO is there -- and the people of Berlin are there. It is as secure as the rest of us -- for we cannot separate its safety from our own.

I hear it said that West Berlin is militarily untenable. So was Bastogne. So, in fact, was Stalingrad. Any dangerous spot is tenable if brave men will make it so.

We do not want to fight -- but we have fought before. And others in earlier times have made the same dangerous mistake of assuming that the West was too selfish and too soft and too divided to resist invasions of freedom in other lands. Those who threaten to unleash the forces of war on a dispute over West Berlin should recall the words of the ancient philosopher: "A man who causes fear cannot be free from fear."

We cannot and will not permit the Communists to drive us out of Berlin, either gradually or by force. For the fulfillment of our pledge to that city is essential to the morale and the security of Western Germany, to the unity of Western Europe, and to the faith of the whole Free World. Soviet strategy has long been aimed, not merely at Berlin, but at dividing and neutralizing all of Europe, forcing us back to our own shores. We must meet our oft-stated pledge to the free peoples of West Berlin -- and maintain our rights and their safety, even in the face of force -- in order to maintain the confidence of other free peoples in our word and our resolve. The strength of the alliance on which our security depends is dependent in turn on our willingness to meet these commitments.

III.

So long as the Communists insist that they are preparing to end unilaterally our rights in West Berlin and our commitments to its people, we must be prepared to defend those rights and commitments. We will at all times be ready to talk, if talk will help. But we must also be ready to resist with force, if force is used. Either alone would fail. Together, they can serve the cause of peace and freedom.

The new preparations that we shall make to defend the peace are part of the long-term build-up in our strength which has been underway since January. They are based on our needs to meet a world-wide threat, on a basis which stretches far beyond the present Berlin crisis. Our primary purpose is neither propaganda nor provocation -- but preparation.

A first need is to hasten progress toward the military goals which the North Atlantic allies have set for themselves. In Europe today nothing less will suffice. We will put even greater resources into fulfilling those goals, and look to our allies to do the same.

The supplementary defense build-ups that I asked from the Congress in March and May have already started us moving toward these and our other defense

goals. They included an increase in the size of the Marine Corps, improved readiness of our reserves, expansion of our air and sea lift, and stepped-up procurement of needed weapons, ammunition, and other items. To insure a continuing invulnerable capacity to deter or destroy any aggressor, they provided for the strengthening of our missile power and for putting 50% of our B-52 and B-47 bombers on a ground alert which would send them on their way within 15 minutes of warning.

These measures must be speeded up, and still others must now be taken. We must have sea and airlift capable of moving our forces quickly and in large numbers to any part of the world.

But even more importantly, we need the capability of placing in any critical area at the appropriate time a force, which, combined with that of our allies, is large enough to make clear our determination and ability to defend our rights at all costs -- and to meet all levels of aggressor pressure with whatever levels of force are required. We intend to have a wider choice than humiliation or all-out nuclear action.

While it is unwise either to call up or to send abroad excessive numbers of these troops before they are needed, let me make it clear that I intend to ^{as time goes on} take whatever steps are necessary to make certain that such forces can be deployed at the appropriate time without lessening our ability to meet other military needs.

Thus, in the days and months ahead, I shall not hesitate to ask for additional measures from the Congress, or exercise any of the executive powers I possess to meet this threat to peace. Everything essential to the security of freedom will be done; and if that should require more men, taxes, controls or other new powers, I shall not hesitate to request them. The measures proposed today will be constantly studied, and altered as necessary. But while we will not let panic shape our policy, neither will we permit timidity to direct our program.

MORE

Accordingly, I am now taking the following steps:

- (1) I am tomorrow requesting of the Congress for the current fiscal year an additional \$3, 247, 000, 000 of appropriations for the military forces.
- (2) To fill out our present Army Divisions, and to make more men available for prompt deployment, I am requesting an increase in the Army's total authorized strength from 875, 000 to approximately 1 million men.
- (3) I am requesting an increase of 29, 000 and 63, 000 men respectively in the active duty strength of the Navy and Air Force.
- (4) To fulfill these manpower needs, I am ordering that our draft calls be doubled and tripled in the coming months; I am asking the Congress for authority to order to active duty certain ready reserve units and individual reservists, and to extend tours of duty; and, under that authority, I am planning to order to active duty a number of air transport squadrons and Air National Guard tactical air squadrons, to give us the airlift capacity and protection we may need. Other reserve forces will be called up if needed.
- (5) Many ships and planes once headed for retirement are to be retained or reactivated, increasing our tactical airpower and our sea lift, airlift, and anti-submarine warfare capability. In addition, our strategic air power will be increased by delaying the deactivation of B-47 bombers.
- (6) Finally, some \$1.8 billion -- about half of the total sum -- is needed for the procurement of non-nuclear weapons, ammunition and equipment.

The details on all these requests will be presented to the Congress beginning tomorrow. Subsequent steps will be taken to suit subsequent needs. Comparable efforts for the common defense are being discussed with our NATO allies. For their commitment and interest are as precise as our own.

But let me add that I am well aware of the fact that many American families will bear the burden of these requests. Studies or careers will be interrupted; husbands and sons will be called away; incomes will be reduced. But these are burdens which must be borne if freedom is to be defended -- Americans have willingly borne them before -- and they will not flinch from the task now.

IV

We have another sober responsibility. To recognize the possibilities of nuclear war in the missile age, without our citizens knowing what they should do and where they should go if bombs begin to fall, would be a failure of responsibility. In May, I pledged a new start on Civil Defense. Last week, I assigned, on the recommendation of my Civil Defense director, basic responsibility in this program to the Secretary of Defense, to make certain it is administered and coordinated with our continental defense efforts at the highest civilian level. Tomorrow, I am requesting of the Congress new funds for the following immediate objectives: to identify and mark space in existing structures -- public and private -- that could be used for fall-out shelters in case of attack; to stock those shelters with food, water, first-aid kits, tools, sanitation facilities and other minimum essentials for survival; to increase their capacity; to improve our aid-raid warning and fall-out detection systems, including a new household warning system now under development; and to take other measures that will be effective at an early date to save millions of lives if needed. In addition, new Federal buildings will include space suitable for fall-out shelters, as well as normal use.

MORE

In the event of an attack, the lives of those families which are not hit in a nuclear blast and fire can still be saved -- if they can be warned to take shelter and if that shelter is available. We owe that kind of insurance to our families -- and to our country. In contrast to our friends in Europe, the need for this kind of protection is new to our shores. But the time to start is now. In the coming months, I hope to let every citizen know what steps he can take without delay to protect his family in case of attack. I know you would not want to do less.

V.

The addition of \$207 million in Civil Defense appropriations brings our total new defense budget requests to \$3.454 billion, and a total of \$47.5 billion for the year. This is an increase in the defense budget of \$6 billion since January, and has resulted in official estimates of a budget deficit of over \$5 billion. The Secretary of the Treasury and other economic advisers assure me, however, that our economy has the capacity to bear this new request.

We are recovering strongly from last winter's recession. The increase in this last quarter of our total national output was greater than that for any post-war period of initial recovery. And yet, wholesale prices are actually lower than they were during the recession, and consumer prices are only 1/4 of 1% higher than they were last October. In fact, this last quarter was the first in eight years in which our production has increased without an increase in the overall-price index. And for the first time since the fall of 1959, our gold position has improved and the dollar is more respected abroad. These gains, it should be stressed, are being accomplished with Budget deficits far smaller than those of the 1958 recession.

This improved business outlook means improved revenues; and I intend to submit to the Congress in January a budget for the next fiscal year which will be strictly in balance. Nevertheless, should an increase in taxes be needed to achieve that balance in view of these or subsequent defense rises, those increased taxes will be requested.

Meanwhile, to help make certain that the current deficit is held to a safe level, we must keep down all expenditures not thoroughly justified in budget requests. The luxury of our current post-office deficit must be ended. Costs in military procurement will be closely scrutinized -- and in this effort I welcome the cooperation of the Congress. The tax loopholes I have specified -- on expense accounts, overseas income, dividends, interest, cooperatives and others -- must be closed.

I realize that no public revenue measure is welcomed by everyone. But I am certain that every American wants to pay his fair share, and not leave the burden of defending freedom entirely on those who bear arms. For we have mortgaged our very future on this defense -- and we cannot fail to meet the payments.

VI

But I must emphasize again that the choice is not merely between resistance and retreat, between atomic holocaust and surrender. Our peace-time military posture is traditionally defensive; but our diplomatic posture need not be. Our response to the Berlin crisis will not be merely military or negative. It will be more than merely standing firm. For we do not intend to leave it to others to choose and monopolize the forum and framework of discussion. We do not intend to abandon our duty to mankind to seek a peaceful solution.

As signers of the UN charter, we shall always be prepared to discuss international problems with any and all nations that are willing to talk --

MORE

and listen -- with reason. If they have requests -- not demands -- we shall hear them. If they seek genuine understanding -- not concessions of our rights -- we shall meet with them. We have previously indicated our readiness to remove any actual irritants in West Berlin -- but the freedom of that city is not negotiable. We cannot negotiate with those who say "what's mine is mine, what's yours is negotiable." But we are willing to consider any arrangement or treaty in Germany consistent with the maintenance of peace and freedom, and with the legitimate security interests of all nations.

We recognize the Soviet Union's historical concerns about their security in Central and Eastern Europe, after a series of ravaging invasions -- and we believe arrangements can be worked out which will help to meet those concerns, and make it possible for both security and freedom to exist in this troubled area.

For it is not the freedom of West Berlin which is "abnormal" in Germany today, but the entire situation in that divided country. If any one doubts the legality of our rights in Berlin, we are ready to have it submitted to adjudication. If anyone doubts the extent to which our presence is desired by the people of West Berlin, compared to East German feelings about their regime, we are ready to have that question submitted to a free vote in Berlin, and, if possible, among all the German people. And let us hear at that time from the 2 1/2 million refugees who have fled the Communist regime in East Germany -- voting for Western-type freedom with their feet.

The world is not deceived by the Communist attempt to label Berlin a hot-bed of war. There is peace in Berlin today. The source of world trouble and tension today is Moscow, not Berlin. And if war begins, it will have begun in Moscow, not Berlin.

For the choice of peace or war is largely theirs, not ours. It is the Soviets who have stirred up this crisis. It is they who are trying to force a change. It is they who have opposed free elections. It is they who have rejected an all-German treaty, and the rulings of international law. And as Americans know from our history on the old frontier, gun battles are caused by outlaws, and not by officers of the peace.

In short, while we are ready to defend our interests, we shall also be ready to search for peace -- in quiet exploratory talks -- in formal or informal meetings. We do not want military considerations to dominate the thinking of either East or West. And Mr. Khrushchev may find that his invitation to other nations to join in a meaningless treaty may lead to their inviting him to join in the community of peaceful men, in abandoning the use of force, and in respecting the sanctity of agreements.

VII

While all of these efforts go on, we must not be diverted from our total responsibilities, from other dangers, other tasks. If new threats in Berlin or elsewhere should cause us to weaken our new program of ^{assistance} to the ^{develop-}ing nations who are also under heavy pressure -- or to halt our efforts for ^{realistic} disarmament -- or to disrupt or slow down our economy -- or to neglect the education of our children -- then those threats will surely be the most successful and least costly maneuver in Communist history. For we can afford all these efforts, and more -- but we cannot afford not to meet this challenge.

And the challenge is not to us alone. It is a challenge to every nation which has asserted its sovereignty in the name of liberty. It is a challenge to all who want a world of free choice. It is a special challenge to the Atlantic Community -- the heartland of human freedom.

MORE

We in the West must move together in building military strength. We must consult one another more closely than ever before. We must design together our proposals for peace, and labor together as they are pressed at the conference table. And together we must share the burdens and the risks of this effort.

The Atlantic Community, as we know it, has been built in response to challenge: the challenge of European chaos in 1947; the challenge of the Berlin blockade in 1948, the challenge of Communist aggression in Korea in 1950. Now, standing strong and prosperous, after a decade of unprecedented progress, the Atlantic Community will not forget either its history or the principles which give it meaning.

The solemn vow we each gave to West Berlin in time of peace will not be broken in time of danger. If we do not meet our commitments to Berlin, where will we later stand? If we are not true to our word there, all that we have achieved will mean nothing. And if there is one path above all others to war, it is the path of weakness and disunity. History, I am confident, will record not only that the spirit of freedom was saved in Berlin, but that in its hour of peril that spirit was infused with new honor and new conviction, by a creative alliance for peace.

Today, the endangered frontier of freedom runs through divided Berlin. We want it to remain a frontier of peace. This is the hope of every citizen of the Atlantic Community; every citizen of Eastern Europe; and, I am confident, every citizen of the Soviet Union. For I cannot believe that the Russian peoples -- who bravely suffered enormous losses in the Second World War -- would now wish to see the peace upset once more in Germany. The Soviet government alone can convert Berlin's frontier of peace into a pretext for war.

The steps I have indicated tonight are aimed at avoiding that war. To sum it all up: we seek peace -- but we shall not surrender. That is the central meaning of this crisis -- and the meaning of your government's policy.

With your help, and the help of all free men, this crisis can be surmounted. Freedom can prevail -- and the peace can long endure.

Goodnight,

#####

July 17, 1961

Mary Margaret:

As you know, everyone is looking for something constructive to do on the Berlin problem. I believe that LBJ might want to either bring the attached up at an NSC meeting or discuss it personally with the President.

If put into effect, the attached program would certainly have tremendous impact on the public and might give second thoughts to Soviet Ambassador Menshikov as to the Administration's intent.


Stan

Berlin

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

July 17, 1961

Subject: BERLINAssumptions:

1. The present exchange of diplomatic notes on the Berlin Situation can be expected to continue. However the chances of such exchanges resolving the problem are almost nil.
2. At some point it is likely that a summit or near-summit meeting on Berlin will be necessary. Depending on our posture at that point we shall either:
 - a. be able to make the Soviet Union back down considerably;
 - b. be forced into making concessions to the Soviet Union that will haunt us for years to come; or
 - c. embark on a war which can only end by being nuclear.

Discussion:

In the light of the foregoing assumptions, it seems to me that the crucial element we must concern ourselves with in the intervening months is our posture -- both domestically and internationally.

The most important move which we can make immediately that will establish our posture of firmness and provide us with a chance for survival no matter what happens is in the field of Civil Defense.

Positive and dramatic action on our part now in Civil Defense will:

1. Make it clear to the Soviet Union and our allies that we mean what we say on Berlin;
2. Alert our people to the real and present danger and get them going on the road to survival.

Proposal :

It is proposed that the President take the following steps to implement an integrated crash program of Civil Defense:

1. Call an emergency meeting of the Governors of all states to push forward a Civil Defense Plan. Preceding the meeting the President should apprise Congressional leaders of his plans.

2. At the meeting the President would announce that he is declaring a State of Emergency and will use his Contingency funds to supplement State Civil Defense Funds. He will also announce at this meeting details of the Civil Defense program he will present to Congress.

3. The President would inform the Governors that starting with this meeting and for an indefinite period, he and the Vice-President will not be in Washington, D.C. at the same time. Either he or the Vice-President will be in one of our secret operational centers. In addition, one member of the Joint Chiefs will always be stationed at an operational center and each cabinet officer or his deputy will also be in an operational center.

4. The President will request the press, as an emergency measure, to refrain from commenting if top officials are not in Washington. It is likely that some of the press will not comply. But if the public is apprised of violations this will result in a favorable reaction to the administration and heighten the sense of public urgency and interest.

5. Each governor should be asked to institute this same type of program for each state.

6. Our Allies should be urged to undertake similar programs.

7. After the present AID legislation gets through Congress, consideration might be given to suspending all foreign aid operations (except for material in


the pipeline) for a period of six months. This is the kind of action which would convince even the neutralists -- not to mention the Soviet Union -- that we mean business.

All of the above are strong measures. They are, however, capable of implementation in a reasonably short time.

They are much more relevant to "a solution" of the Berlin problem than such things as calling up the reserves, contingency plans for airlifts, etc.

They would provide us with real strength in a bargaining table confrontation with the Soviet Union.

Should we find that in fact the Soviet Union is willing to start a nuclear war over Berlin, the measures suggested might insure our national survival.



Stanley I. Grand

Berlin

COPY

July 31, 1961

Dear Mr. Rude:

Thank you for your letter endorsing the President's stand in these critical times, and you may be sure he has my full support. I certainly do appreciate your thoughtfulness in letting me know of your patriotic concern for our nation's welfare and your courageous willingness to do whatever must be done to back up our efforts to negotiate from strength.

It is always helpful to me to have the benefit of your views and comments, and I hope you will continue to share your thinking with me on the important issues facing us in the days ahead.

Kindest regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Raymond Rude, President
Rosenberg Chamber of Commerce
212 Turicchi Building
Rosenberg, Texas

LBJ:RFS:br

ROSENBERG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & AGRICULTURE

Serving the Rosenberg-Richmond Area

212 TURICCHI BUILDING
ROSENBERG, TEXAS
NORTHFIELD 2-2839

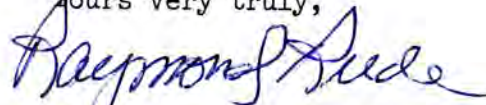
July 26, 1961

Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson
Washington, D.C.

Dear Vice President Johnson:

We are in full agreement with President Kennedy's proposals for meeting the world wide Communist challenge, and urge your full support. As proved at the Alamo, Texans are willing to make any sacrifice in order to preserve our precious freedom.

Yours very truly,



Raymond Rude, President
Rosenberg Chamber of Commerce

RR:bp



FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

7

July 28, 1961

Del Mar, California

Vice President, Lyndon Johnson,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Vice President Johnson,

This is a copy of a letter that I am sending
President John F. Kennedy, concerning my reaction
to his recent speech to the American people.

Respectfully Yours,

W. H. Ellis

Box 174

Del Mar, California

July 27, 1961
Del Mar, California

John F. Kennedy, President
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. President,

Actions speak louder than words. In your speech to the American people you asked them to sacrifice in various ways to meet the threat of communism. You ask billions of the taxpayers money for defense. These are words; but, by your actions, you and your administration, have helped communism. These actions include: heavy foreign aid; technical assistance; and subsidized agricultural products to communist bloc countries; moral support to communists throughout the world; discontinuance of censorship on communist propaganda mailed to this country; a soft attitude toward communists in the U. S.; lack of support for the Cuban Invasion; and tractor blackmail by Castro. I believe actions not words.

I ask you, Mr. President, how you can honestly expect this nation to get behind you in a defense build up, when this country has been and is continually aiding the communists.

Respectfully Yours,

W. H. Ellis
Box 174
Del Mar, California



Berlin

COPY

August 1, 1961

Dear Miss Kapitulik:

Thank you very much for giving me your reaction to President Kennedy's address to the Nation.

You may be assured that I will do all in my power to see that our country is prepared for any emergency which we may face.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Miss Anastasia Kapitulik
Box 489
North Grovernorale, Connecticut

LBJ:WDT

Box 489
North Grosvenordale
Connecticut
July 27, 1961

The Vice President
The United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Vice President:

I am writing you in regards to President Kennedy's address to the public which was made Tuesday, August 25th.

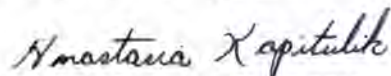
Upon his conclusion he presented five steps to the public and asked for the support of the American people to carry out his proposals. I am one voice and one vote but my letter to you is not only representing my personal feelings but that of others in and around the vicinity of North Grosvenordale.

It is my opinion that our military force is not up to par. It was left to "sleep" by the past administration. Today we have a man interested in building up this force. As much as I would like to have sons, brothers, fathers, husbands home, if, and they are, needed to give us this extra "boost", then I am 100% in favor of bringing and speeding up the draft, reserves and active duty forces, and whatever else is needed to accomplish this task.

I hope that you, as the Vice President of the United States, and your influence with the Senators, will give President Kennedy your support.

May I close asking you to let me know your comments in regards to this? Thank You.

Very truly yours,



Anastasia Kapitulik

P.S. On today's news it was learned that Congress passed the bill for a larger expenditure on military force. I hope this aid and support continues for all forth coming proposals.



COPY

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

August 4, 1961

Dear Mrs. Munroe:

Thank you for your note and for the column which you enclosed regarding the attitude of British citizens and newspapers toward the Berlin situation. I had not seen this column and am glad you gave me an opportunity to read the summary of opinions.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mrs. Frances E. Munroe
520 Cowper Street
Palo Alto, California

LBJ:WDT

Hello Vice President Johnson,
I thought this article would interest you.
I hope Kennedy can put pressure on
England to help us, but of course
they aren't too well off either. Of course
everybody stands back of him on
Berlin, but I still don't like his
stand on Cuba and Outer Mongolia.
Trouble is, he's surrounded with

too many inexperienced Italian
egg heads" - newsweek says
brother Bob, calls all the shots
well, maybe that's not too bad,
as he seems very bright. Things
would have been different, had
you won. US should cut Cuba
entirely off from Russia.
Frances E. Menzies

In Britain, Please Define Your Crisis

By TOM A. CULLEN
Newspaper Enterprise Association

LONDON—While he is beefing up America's preparedness for a showdown on Berlin, President Kennedy had better take another quick look at Britain.

What the President sees may shock him, for Britain is in anything but fighting trim. Her military stance is sloppy. Government thinking on the Berlin crisis is even more slack.

Only a prompt meeting between President Kennedy and Prime Minister Macmillan could put things right, in the opinion of Americans who have studied the Berlin problem and of Britons who put the Atlantic alliance first.

Both sets of observers are alarmed by the complacency they find here. True, Macmillan has made all the right gestures. He has fired off notes protesting Khrushchev's threatening attitude towards Berlin. "We are right behind you," he has told President Kennedy, in effect. But are the British people behind Macmillan?

The Disturbing Factors

Three factors disturb observers:

- First, there is public apathy. Mention "crisis" to the average Briton and he will look puzzled.

"What crisis?" he will ask, "Do you mean the financial crisis? The flight of gold, the threat to the pound sterling?"

"Or do you mean Kuwait? Or perhaps you are talking about Britain joining the common market."

Berlin would figure far down on his list of critical issues.

According to the latest public opinion poll conducted by the Daily Mail, less than half of the population is willing to fight over Berlin; the comparable American figure is 71 per cent.

Forty-eight per cent. of the British consider that to make

a deal over Berlin is less dangerous than to maintain Western rights at the risk of war. Only 38 per cent. think that appeasement is the more dangerous course.

No Plans in the Works

There has been no talk here of calling up the reserves, no mention of contingency plans. If any Briton is building an air raid shelter the news has yet to leak out. The possibility of an armed clash over Berlin seems as remote to the average man as planting a Union Jack on the moon. As for nuclear war, this is plainly unthinkable.

Instead the British are concerned with domestic problems. The bloom of affluence has begun to wear off.

- Secondly, there is a general desire to negotiate over Berlin but no agreement as to which issues are negotiable.

A majority of the British press favors *de facto* recognition of the Communist East German regime in return for free access to Berlin by NATO nations. There is no longer any talk here of a reunified Germany, or of self-determination and free elections for the East German people.

On the other hand, there is growing support for the so-called "Reves Plan," devised by Emery Reves, author of "The Anatomy of Peace." This calls for a corridor 25 miles wide uniting West Berlin with West Germany and under Allied control. In return for such a corridor, Reves would be willing to give diplomatic recognition to East Germany.

Macmillan Gets Blame

Western observers blame Prime Minister Macmillan for the present confusion of thought over the Berlin problem.

- Lastly, responsible British newspapers are seizing the occasion to pick fresh quarrels with America.

The Daily Mail questions President Kennedy's leadership. "The high hopes which entered the White House with Mr. Kennedy have not so far been realized," declares a Mail editorial, which goes on to speak of Kennedy's vision as "tarnished."

The Observer finds "something alarmingly childish in the behavior of Russia and the United States."

Even The Times warns, "In spite of all discussions there is not necessarily unanimity on the steps ahead."

Inez Robb is on vacation and her

COPY

~~GENERAL FILE (A-7)~~
FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

July 27, 1961

Dear Mr. Ross:

Thank you for your telegram and your kind expression of confidence. It is always helpful to me to have your views on the important issues facing us, especially in these critical times, and I hope you will continue to share them with me.

Kindest regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

**Mr. W. D. Ross
3062 Clydedale
Dallas, Texas**

LBJ:RFS:br

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

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1961 JUL 26 AM 3 00

SA008 SA009 NSA708 DB648 D LLC500 NL PD DALLAS TEX 25

HON LYNDON B JOHNSON, VICE PRES U S

WASHDC

JUST LISTENED TO OUR PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. DISAPPOINTING. PLEASE
STEP IN WITH YOUR EXPERIENCE AND GIVE US THE COMPLETE PICTURE.

A FORTY YEAR OLD DEMOCRAT BORN IN FANNIN COUNTY TEXAS

W D ROSS.

3062 Clydedale



B- 6696

Berlin

COPY

July 28, 1961

Dear Mr. Hurmence:

Thank you for your letter endorsing the President's stand in these critical times, and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in letting me have the benefit of your helpful views and comments. I hope you will continue to share your thinking with me on the important issues facing us in the days ahead.

Kindest regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. R. C. Hurmence
4502 44th Street
Lubbock, Texas

LBJ:RFS:br

July 26, 1961

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Vice President:

I heartily endorse the firm stand taken by our President in his speech to the Nation last night provided he is prepared to back his words with actions if action becomes necessary. Our position, however, is materially weakened if we permit the Cuban Government to committ the outright confiscation of our property from American Soil.

How will anyone in the world believe what we say in Berlin if we let this airplane incident go without definitive action? I fought in World War II to protect my country and I stand ready to do so again if it is necessary to get that plane back to American Soil!

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. C. Hurmence".

R. C. Hurmence
4502 44th Street
Lubbock, Texas



*Berlin***COPY**

July 25, 1961

Dear Mr. Jones:

Like you, I am completely and absolutely convinced that we should take a firm stand on Berlin. I know the President is of the same persuasion and I am enclosing for your perusal a copy of remarks I made before the Texas Bar Association on this subject.

You might also be interested in knowing that during my trip to Asia, I carried to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek the assurances of President Kennedy that the United States would oppose the admission of Communist China into the United Nations.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Ben W. Jones
President, Navarro Junior College
Corsicana, Texas

LBJ GER gw

Navarro Junior College

Corsicana, Texas

July 18, 1961

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President
United States of America
U. S. Capitol Building
Washington, D. C.

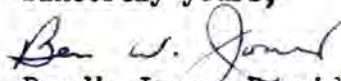
Dear Vice President Johnson:

For sometime I have been quite concerned by the state of various world affairs. I am deeply interested in the United States of America, regaining a position of importance, a position whereby we take the leadership for democracy and freedom vs. Soviet or Chinese dictatorship.

Therefore it is my firm belief that we should take a firm stand relative to the Berlin crisis, even to the extent of calling up of the National Guard and various Reserve groups. Further, we should protect our interests in Cuba and other Latin-American countries. It is time for America to stand up to Communism, even if we have to go to war to get the job done.

I would also like to go on record as opposing any attempts to take Red China into the United Nations. I believe that the people of America are ready to stand up to be counted, even at the risk of a fight.

Sincerely yours,


Ben W. Jones, President

COPY

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

July 28, 1961

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your telegram. It is always helpful to me to have the benefit of your views, especially in these critical times, and you may be sure that the President's proposals will receive my full support. I hope you will continue to share your thinking with me on the important issues facing us in the days ahead.

Kindest regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. & Mrs. Haskell H Hall
1240 Gilpin
Dallas, Texas

LBJ:RFS:br

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This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

SF-1201 (4-60)

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

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VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B JOHNSON

1961 JUL 26 PM 11 55

WASHDC

HONORABLE SIR: IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO HEAR THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT ADDRESS I CONCUR WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH EVERY EXTRA EFFORT THAT HAS BEEN PROPOSED AS FAR AS OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE IS CONCERNED ALSO I URGE YOU TO USE YOUR INFLUENCE IN TAKING THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE ACTION TO CORRECT THE CUBAN SITUATION EVEN TO ARMED INTERVENTION IN SUPPORT OF OUR FOREIGN POLICIES. RESPECTFULLY
MR AND MRS HASKELL H HALL 1240 GILPIN.

On file



B- 7281

Berlin

COPY

July 26, 1961

My dear Friend:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your telegram to President Kennedy. I am sure he was pleased and encouraged to learn of your support at this critical time, and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in letting me see the message.

Kindest regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Norman J. Dietel, Publisher
Radio Post
Fredericksburg, Texas

LBJ:RFS:br

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

AF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

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VICE PRES LYNDON JOHNSON

WASHDC

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO JOHN F KENNEDY QUOTE YOUR ADDRESS
WAS MAGNIFICENT COURAGEOUS AND DESERVES THE PLAUDITS OF ALL
AMERICANS AND ALL PEOPLE OF THE FREE WORLD. WE ARE PROUD OF
YOU. BEST WISHES AND GOD BLESS YOU

NORMAN J DIETEL PUBLISHER RADIO POST.



A- 18313

Berlin

COPY

July 28, 1961

Dear Friend:

Thank you for your telegram. It is always helpful to me to have your views and suggestions, especially in these critical days, and I certainly do appreciate your thoughtfulness in sharing them with me.

Kindest regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. J. D. Brawner, III
Gulf Building
Midland, Texas
Gulf
LBJ:RFS:br

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

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1961 JUL 25 PM 5 09

33

VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON

EXECUTIVE OFFICE BLDG WASHDC

MR KENNEDY'S FORTHCOMING PROPOSAL TO RELY ON MAN AND BAOYNETS IS A FATAL BLUNDER WHICH ILL WEAKEN OUR PRODUCTIVE STRENGTH AND THEREBY HELP TO LOSE THE WAR WE ARE IN. CAN YOU SUGGEST TO HIM THE LACK OF PRACTICAL SENCE IN HIS PROPOSAL? WE CAN NEVER WIN THE WAR AGAINST THE HORDES OF COMMUNISM. WITH MERE MAN POWER. GET BACK TO THE ONLY DEFENSE WE HAVE, BOMBS, MISSLES, DEFENSE PRODUCTION AND HUSBANDED ECONOMIC STRENGTH WITHIN THAT IS NOT DISSIPATED AS THE ENEMY WOULD HAVE US DISSIPATE IT

J D BRAWNER 3RD.

A- 73425



Berlin

July 18, 1961

Dear Joel:

I certainly enjoyed receiving your letter and I'm glad to have your thinking on the vital questions of our times. This is an era of American history when we badly need thoughtful Americans like you trying to reason their way through the complex, and usually terrifying, issues that confront us.

Your points are well taken. I'll keep them in mind, and I certainly hope you will continue to write me.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Honorable Joel W. Westbrook
National Bank of Commerce Building
San Antonio 5, Texas

LBJ GER gw

G. W. TRUEHEART
W. B. McMILLAN
WM. H. RUSSELL
JOEL WESTBROOK

LAW OFFICES OF
TRUEHEART, McMILLAN, RUSSELL & WESTBROOK
NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE BUILDING
SAN ANTONIO 5, TEXAS

June 29, 1961

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the
United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

Last night a friend of mine who is the Time Magazine correspondent in this area came out to the house and "took my pulse," so to speak, as he has on other occasions.

The principal question which Time is exploring appears to be whether or not, and how, the President can get the country behind him in the Cold War, and specifically with reference to the Berlin Question.

It seems to me that we should face up to the possibility that, aside from some shocking overt act on the part of the Communists - some modern day Pearl Harbor - the President is going to have to lead this country and the Free World without unified support. Indeed, I should think that a good case can be made for the proposition that the shaping of decisions to achieve a high degree of unification may very well fatally weaken our policies.

I remarked to the Time Magazine correspondent that apparently a lot of people have forgotten that Abraham Lincoln most certainly did not have a unified North behind him, and that this was one of the principal measures of his greatness of leadership, that he was leading a divided nation.

I told him that I thought if the President acted boldly and rationally that he would have the most effective part of the Country, and of our allies, behind him. In any event, I think we had better find out right soon whether or not this is so. If it isn't, then the time has come to decide who is going to be Commisar of What.

Furthermore, I believe that this bold and rational action should involve bringing affirmative pressure on the Communists, possibly - indeed preferably - somewhere else besides Berlin.

I think that we are going to have to let our own people and the world know that we consider that the Chinese Communists are wrong in thinking that, just because they will have perhaps more live bodies left over after a nuclear war, this means the triumph of Communism.

I think that we should openly assert our belief that our smaller numbers in survival would have the quality to offset the Communist numbers, and could rebuild our society with Free World values.

I also feel that it is highly important that the President take the opportunity to demonstrate that he has what I call "institutional courage", as compared to the unquestioned "personal courage" which he possesses.

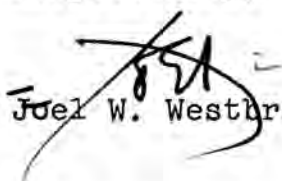
"Institutional courage" is a different thing from "personal courage" and involves the ability to commit to great hazard - perhaps the ultimate risk - a whole lot of people, not just yourself - a division of troops, a nation, or a civilization.

I think we have to recognize that Laos and Cuba have caused many to question whether or not the President has this "institutional courage", and I think it is essential that he demonstrate it in order to carry the leadership of the Free World.

I am enormously proud of the strength that you are providing for us, and the judgment and inspiration.

I hope I see you in Fort Worth.

Respectfully,


Joel W. Westbrook

JWW:sd



Berlin

COPY

July 25, 1961

Dear Miss Dean:

Thank you for letting me have your views
on the Berlin situation.

In line with your thoughts, the enclosed copy
of an address I gave before the Texas State Bar
Association Convention may be of interest to
you.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Miss Linda Catherine Dean
246 Allen Hall
Baylor University
Waco, Texas

LBJ:WDT

246 ALLEN HALL
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
WACO TEXAS
JULY 20, 1961

VICE-PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. JOHNSON:

PLEASE DO WHAT YOU CAN
TO KEEP US FROM BACKING DOWN
ON BERLIN. WE HAVE MADE AN
ASS OF OURSELVES ON EVERY
FRONT BECAUSE OF OUR IGNORANCE
AND/OR COWARDICE (CUBA, LAOS, KOREA)
AND WE MUST NOT AGAIN. THIS IS
PROBABLY OUR LAST CHANCE. WE
MUST NOT COMPROMISE AT ALL
FROM THE STAND WHICH WE HAVE
DEFINED. IT IS TIME FOR ACTION.

SINCERELY YOURS,

LINDA CATHERINE DEAN



Germany

COPY

July 28, 1961

Dear Dr. Schrag:

My father always told me that "A man's judgment is no better than his information." Therefore I am always pleased to have the views of my fellow countrymen.

Thank you for giving me the benefit of your thinking on the present German situation.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Dr. J. O. Schrag
220 Grand Building
McPherson, Kansas

LBJ:WDT

J. O. SCHRAG, D. D. S.
220 GRAND BLDG. PHONE 2160
McPHERSON, KANSAS

7-26-61

Vice Pres Johnson

Dear Sir;

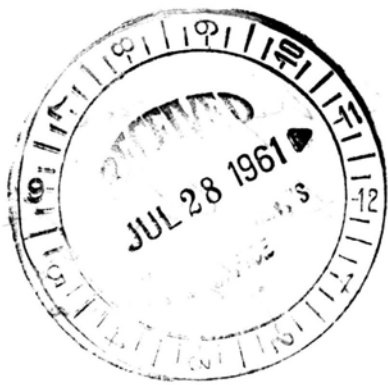
Last night's speech by our
President may well be the first
note in our National funeral
procession.

Russian won't scare!

Why not begin a Peace offensive
short Germany unity by free elections
under U.N. supervision - let's take
the Peace offensive.

Washington wake up before you
slow up - This war we won't win!

Sincerely
J. O. Schrag



FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

July 11, 1961

Dear Mr. Davis:

Thank you for your card setting forth
your views on the Berlin situation.

Perhaps you will be interested in a copy
of the address which I gave in Honolulu which
touches on the same subject.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Austin C. Davis, Jr.
3861 N. E. 23rd Avenue
Lighthouse Point
Pompano Beach, Florida

LBJ:WDT

AUSTIN C. DAVIS, JR.
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
3861 N.E. 23rd AVE.
LIGHTHOUSE POINT
PORTLAND BEACH, FLA.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D.C.



July 8, 1961

My Dear Mr. Johnson;

I hope that you
will use all of your
influence to maintain
our military forces
in Berlin no matter
what the cost. We
cannot afford to give
up one more yard of
territory any where in
the world to the
communists,

Sincerely,

Austin C. Dain Jr.

FOREIGN RELATIONS:

Berlin

July 9, 1961



Vice President Lyndon Johnson
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

May I add my mite to the thinking about
Berlin?

I would suggest a treaty between East
and West Germany with West Germany policing the
corridor between East and West from Berlin, subject
only to United Nations command. No sacrifice of
our rights in Berlin.

* * * * *

As a last resort, how about purchase
from East Germany of strip of land 25 miles wide
by 100 miles long or whatever it takes to reach
West Germany going west from Berlin? Much
cheaper than war.

Find out what Adenauer thinks.

Best wishes.



(Mrs.) E. Ellis
825 Bethlehem Pike
Colmar, Penna.

Berlin

July 18, 1961

Dear Dr. Blend:

Thank you very much for outlining to me your concept of an approach to the Berlin problem. Certainly you have produced an original idea and I will ~~ask~~ those who are expert in those matters to explore it.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Dr. Max H. Blend
3707 Gaston Avenue
Dallas 10, Texas

LBJ GER gw

State Dept.

get file

MAX H. BLEND, M. D.
3707 GASTON AVENUE
DALLAS 10, TEXAS

June 30, 1961

Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D. C.

Dear sir:

Thank you kindly for your reply of June 24th to my letter written concerning the Berlin crisis and its possible solution. I feel that the present situation requires a degree of "face-saving" for both the East and West. Present circumstances are of such nature as to produce an explosion leading to a general war. I am opposed to appeasement.

At the same time, the United Nations' main office in New York appears at times to be a thorn in the side of our government. The Russians have long advocated its removal to some other locale. Its presence on U. S. soil seems to imply some element of influence by the Western alliance.

Obviously Berlin must be defended by the West. We must continue to have access to and from the city without fear of interference and in addition, there must continue to be an avenue of escape for refugees from behind the "iron curtain".

Accordingly, I propose that the United Nations be moved to Berlin. For all practical purposes, Berlin could be made an international city and thereby neutralize one of the propaganda demands of the Russians. By virtue of the presence of the United Nations, free access to Berlin would be guaranteed not just by the present four occupying nations, but by the entire membership of the United Nations. As I see this proposal, it would be opposed by the Soviet bloc, but with great difficulty. This would in no way prevent future unification of Germany if that becomes desirable.

The spy problems of the United States would be reduced somewhat since it is obvious that the Soviets do not hesitate to use the United Nations as a base for their espionage activities in this country. The recent business with the Czech representative to the U. N. is an example.

MAX H. BLEND, M. D.
3707 GASTON AVENUE
DALLAS 10, TEXAS

-2-

Obviously, since I am only a citizen and not a diplomat, the actual details of such a proposal are beyond me. Certainly, a discussion concerning this idea would give some sort of a breathing spell for both the administration and Mr. Khrushchev and a possible solution to Berlin and Germany may evolve. We certainly cannot back down. We have backed down too often in the past.

Sincerely yours,


Max H. Blend, M. D.

MHB:b



Berlin

June 24, 1961

Dear Dr. Blend:l

Thanks very much for your letter. I am glad to know that you are thinking about the Berlin situation. I wish you would try to reduce your proposal to a memorandum form and send me a copy.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Dr. Max H. Bland
3707 Gaston Avenue
Dallas 16, Texas

LBJ GER gw



Riviera

MOTEL

- 9100 east colfax avenue
- denver, colorado
- phone empire 6-2681



Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson
Senate of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear sir:

I have read in the Denver newspapers
the mounting concern about the Berlin situation.
I am in Denver attending a medical meeting.

There is a very simple solution to the
problem, which would in no way compromise our
position as pertains to Berlin. This plan would
be very difficult for the Russians to refuse
to accept. It also offers them some "face saving"
as well.

Is there someone in Dallas that you know
to whom the plan could be presented for transfer
to you personally? I will be back in Dallas
by June 26th.

Sincerely,
Max H. Blend, M.D.
3704 Gaston Ave
Dallas 14, Texas

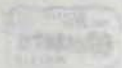


• VISIT OUR BEAUTIFUL NEW POOLSIDE RESTAURANT AND COCKTAIL LOUNGE



Handwritten signature or initials in the top right corner.

MOTEL



VISIT OUR BEAUTIFUL NEW TOWNSIDE RESTAURANT AND COCKTAIL LOUNGE

Berlin

The Church of the Saviour

(EPISCOPAL)

P. O. Box 417 - 519 N. Douty St. - LU 4-7706

HANFORD, CALIFORNIA

July 16, 1961

THE REV. J. J. HANCOCK, Rector

Vice President Lyndon Johnson, and
The National Security Council.

Honorable Sirs:

I am deeply concerned over your inclination to defend West Berlin on grounds of legal rights and obligations under international law. Since there is no supra-national government to establish and enforce international law, international law does not in fact exist (except for international agreements to which the major powers concerned continue to agree, or which are unilaterally enforceable). The U.S. should not recede into the realm of legal fantasy regarding non-existent international law, since to do so is to lose contact with reality; and such would needlessly jeopardize the lives of hundreds of millions of Europeans, to say the least. There are wiser procedures, based upon the reality of international power politics, which will not lose but win the respect of both friend and foe.

The reality upon which a settlement with Russia and E. Germany should be reached has existed for over ten years, although the U.S. has not officially recognized the reality. The reality is that the nation of E. Germany exists in fact. Therefore, W. Berlin,, being ninety miles inside of E. Germany, does in fact, under the present conditions of its sovereignty, violate the territorial sovereignty of E. Germany.

"Wisdom is the better part of valor," and "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." -- I believe that a wise solution would be to establish a New West Berlin in W. Germany, rather than trying to capture both the present W. Berlin and E. Germany.

If you say that we have a moral right to W. Berlin, you should also say that the moral order requires of us that before we claim rights under it we must earn the right to make claims under it by establishing a supra-national government that has the power to enforce international law, and that meanwhile the moral order requires of us that we be realistic, prior to laying claims under the moral order; for these treasures of the Kingdom of God cannot advantageously be taken by violence.

There are other practical considerations:

A Korean type of war in Europe could conclude in a "38th Parallel" being drawn across the English Channel instead of being peacefully drawn across the middle of Europe where, but for W. Berlin, it is now; and a Korean type war would discredit America's humanitarianism and good sense in the eyes of the world. (I do not doubt that Red China's recent agreement to let Russia guarantee the security of N. Korea implies Russia's potential willingness to let Red Chinese volunteers guarantee the security of E. Germany.)

The American public, which in general felt unmoved to rescue (by tractors or by battle) the captured heroic veterans of the abortive Cuban invasion, is not likely to be more enthusiastic about bloodshed on behalf of Hitler's former supporters who stubbornly choose to ~~stay in E. Germany~~ to make of W. Berlin ~~there~~ a chip on Uncle Sam's shoulder.

I am speaking only for myself and, I trust, for God.

With all good wishes,

Respectfully yours,

(The Rev.) *John J. Harcock*



Berlin

July 8, 1961

My dear Friend:

Thank you for taking the time to write me as you did. Your remarks were warm and generous and letters like yours make the long and arduous days worth while.

I am glad that you concur in my statements about Berlin. I believe that it is time that we emphasize to the world where we stand in regard to Communist tyranny.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Joe E. Butler
Box 759
Corsicana, Texas

LBJ:WDT

JOE E. BUTLER

BOX 759

CORSICANA, TEXAS

June 29, 1961

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Vice President:

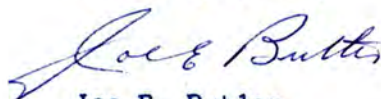
I want to compliment you on the fine job you are doing in the high capacity you occupy in our government at this time.

I have been following very carefully press reports from your various activities, and I want you to know that I heartily concur in your speech in California wherein you made some suggestions to Mr. Khrushchev relative to the Berlin situation. Everyone that I have mentioned this to has been most complimentary of your remarks.

Many of us in Texas feel that we are fortunate to have you serving as Vice President of our nation.

Assuring you of my high regard, I am

Sincerely yours,



Joe E. Butler

JEB:us



Berlin

COPY

July 1, 1961

My dear Friend:

Thank you for your fine letter, and the kind words you chose to send. Encouragement such as yours gives me much needed strength in these trying days.

I have noted your thoughts on the Federal Judgeships and shall keep this in mind as I am consulted about these appointments.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Walton D. Taylor
314 Walker Street
Marlin, Texas

LSJ:CCC:rm

THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

HARTFORD 15, CONNECTICUT

AFFILIATE OF

AETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
THE STANDARD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

June 29, 1961

Hon. Lyndon Johnson
Vice President
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

I wish to compliment you on your statement "Berlin Situation ", and to congratulate you on the good efforts by you in Asia.

You are doubtless aware of the urgent need for appointments of Federal Judges in Texas. The docketts are crowded all judges over worked. One has recently suffered a heart attack due to over work. Request your personal efforts to the end that suitable appointments be made at an early date.


Please do not permit Senator Yarbrough to name these new judges. These men will be appointed for life and it is of first importance that the right type and character of men be appointed to these important positions.

It is now evident that the Democratic party made a serious mistake in failing to nominate you President.

The people of Texas are quite proud of your leadership and will show their appreciation when the occasion permits them to do so.

With regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Walton D. Taylor
314 Walker St.
Marlin, Texas



Berlin1409 MERCANTILE TRUST BUILDING
BALTIMORE 2, MARYLAND

July 7, 1961

get file

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson,
Vice-President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

I appreciate your letter. I did not intend that you should take the trouble to have your staff-- and certainly not have you -- answer it. I just wanted to be sure that, as far as possible, I could add my protest against the surrender of Berlin. I have no confidence that Mr. Kennedy will stand firm.

Did he father Mansfield's contribution? If not, should he not disavow it? If it was done with his approval, isn't it less than frank not to admit it?

I am afraid that the President envisages himself as Franklin Roosevelt did -- as the most important man in the world; and that always leads to a conflict between self aggrandizement and country, and the country always loses! Nothing except Roosevelt's insane desire to be the biggest man in the world, could have prompted such a performance as what went on at Yalta.

I hope nothing happens to you, because I am certainly sick and tired of having every reference to Berlin wind up with the statement: "But, of course, we are ready to negotiate". Nobody wins a war with that attitude! It is much better to let the statement always be: "We are in it and we intend to stay there".

Have you ever tried to analyze the situation in a few words? The status of Berlin was fixed by agreement and expressed in a treaty. Russia now says to us: "Get out". The reply certainly should be "No." The reply that usually is given is "Let's talk about it!" We don't talk about something, except to concede; we are surrendering if I read Kennedy's position correctly, and this generation will go down in history as cowards.

I know what war means: I had four boys in the last war, and three were fliers. One was shot down in Yugoslavia and escaped, and was shot down again a month

-2-

later over Polesti, and was a prisoner for the last four months of the war. The second boy was shot down over Anzio and had the top of his head almost taken off, landing the plane. One boy was shot down over China and killed; the other boy was captain of an artillery company, went to Okinawa on the first day and fought through to the end.

It is a great mistake to think that this country is unwilling to fight; but I think the Kennedy administration is going to surrender.


I don't see how anybody could miss the point that you make in your speech; that it does not make much difference what happens in the East, or in South America, if the Russians take Berlin, because that means the taking of Germany; and that means the collapse of France; and puts all of continental Europe under the control of the Communists, and of course Britain would follow.

Incidentally, don't let Britain pull the wool over our eyes - their primary concern is to see that they get rid of Germany as a competitor, and they will sacrifice anybody to do it. If Germany goes, France goes, and Italy and the Low Countries; and if they go, all Europe goes, and we will stand alone.

Appeasement feeds on itself - let's show a "Profile of Courage", a little more of the stuff suggested by Mansfield, and someone will get a seat next to Chamberlain and we will be thinking of the "Long Parliament."

This nonsense of bragging about what we are going to do in Cuba, and thereby contain Communism, makes me sick! The way to contain Communism is to maintain our position on the continent of Europe.

Very truly yours,


Harry N. Baetjer



1409 MERCANTILE TRUST BUILDING
BALTIMORE 2, MARYLAND

June 29, 1961



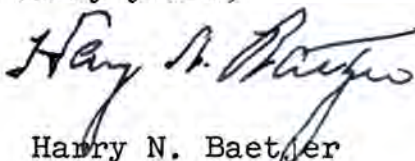
The Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson,
Vice-President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

I wrote to you the other day, about Berlin, with the observation that although you said we ought to stand firm, you adopted what is apparently the position of your Party, and said: "but we are willing to talk".

Apparently everybody now realizes that the country doesn't want to talk, but wants to stand firm. I hope you will use your strength to see that there is no backsliding; that there is no more of this Mansfield business; and no more of this cowardly suggestion that "Of course, we will always talk", which is just what the Russians expected to get, after their talk with Kennedy, and just what I think your party intended to do -- that is, talk and surrender.

Very truly yours,



Harry N. Baetjer



Berlin

June 30, 1961

Dear Mr. Baetjer:

I am enclosing a copy of my remarks in Los Angeles summarizing my position on Berlin. My primary point was that Nikita Khrushchev should not mistake our willingness to discuss legitimate problems with any tendency to back down or to appease aggression.

The United States, in my view, should always be ready to seek legitimate solutions to problems. But that does not indicate any desire on our part to surrender freedom to anyone.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Harry N. Baetjer
1409 Mercantile Trust Building
Baltimore 2, Maryland

LBJ GER gw

1409 MERCANTILE TRUST BUILDING
BALTIMORE 2, MARYLAND

June 26, 1961

The Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson,
Vice-President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

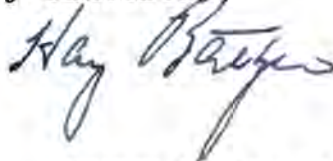
Dear Mr. Vice-President:

Like every American, I think, I was delighted to read your statement in the morning paper; and I mean the first half of it. I wish you had omitted the third from the last paragraph; it isn't necessary for us to apologize all the time. We are Americans, and we ought to be proud of it.

If it is necessary to fight, let's have a war, but don't let us go down in history as brash, talking cowards. Every time you start with this nonsense of: "We are not going to recede, but let's talk", it can be interpreted only as a weakening on our part. Don't forget Munich; don't forget Danzig; and don't forget the Polish Corridor. We would be out of our heads, do to anything but to stand where we are in Berlin. If it means war, let's have war!

There are too damn many Socialists in this country, at any rate, and 90% of them are Communists.

Very sincerely,



Harry N. Baetjer

P.S. Remember Chamberlin and Munich -- don't let it be Johnson and Berlin.



July 11, 1961

My dear Friend:

Thank you for your letter setting out your
views with regard to Berlin.

In connection with your statement, I thought
you might like to see a copy of an address I gave
at the Governors Conference in Honolulu.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Bruce H. Douglass
4412 Lorraine Avenue
Dallas 5, Texas

LBJ:WDT

BRUCE H. DOUGLASS
4412 LORRAINE AVENUE
DALLAS 5, TEXAS

July 5, 1961

Dear Mr. Johnson,

This is just a note to say I'm prepared to fight rather than back off one single inch in Berlin.

I don't want war, but I do want to retain what's left of my pride in my country and my self respect.

If we back down about once more we'll not only be the laughing-stock of the world; we won't be able to live with ourselves either.

Very Truly yours,
Bruce H. Douglass



7

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

June 23, 1961

Dear Sir:

Today the intensification of the cold war endangers the peace of the world more than at any time in the past.

The great regret of the free world is the suffering of the gallant Hungarian nation. The Soviet fight for Berlin.

Solution of these problems to the mutual satisfaction of both sides lies in a trade. The disputants, that is the East and the West, should form an agreement whereby the Western powers occupy Hungary up to the borders which existed in 1942 and in return evacuate Berlin.

I hope that my above plan will win your approval and support.

Most cordially yours,

Leslie F. Chaky
938 So. Orange Grove Ave.
Los Angeles 36, California



June 30, 1961

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Brent:

I agree with you that appeasement is not the course that our country should follow in Berlin and I am confident we will not do so. I am enclosing a copy of remarks I recently made in Honolulu which summarizes my attitude toward the world situation.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. lW. R. Brent
5222 Shadywood Lane
Dallas 9, Texas

LBJ GER gw

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message
unless its deferred char-
acter is indicated by the
proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International
Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

NFA145 NSA362

DC257 D LLT150 LLZ8

BOOK LLZ8 NL PD DALLAS, TEX 27

1961 JUN 27 PM 6 15

VICE PRES LYNDON JOHNSON 5/13

OFC OF VICE PRESIDENT WASHDC

STRONGLY PROTEST ANY APPEASEMENT OR WEAKENING OF OUR COMMITMENTS
IN WEST BERLIN

W R AND AGNES B H BRENT 5222 SHADYWOOD LANE DALLAS 9.

C-101708



FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

July 3, 1961

Dear Mr. Josey:

So you will know exactly my thinking, I am enclosing a copy of the statement ~~that~~ I made in Los Angeles, and also an address I made in Honolulu.

I believe we do have an obligation to the freedom-loving people of Berlin. I think there have always been freedom-loving people in Germany as there have been in every country, but they have not always been on the ascendancy.

At the moment, however, the future of freedom is very much at stake in Berlin and I do not think it would be wisdom on our part to let it go by the boards.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Charles C. Josey
301 Buckingham Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana

LBJ GER gw

301 Buckingham Drive
June 26, 1961

Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson,
The United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice-President,

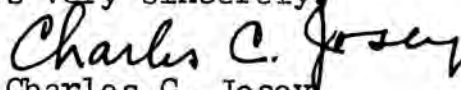
I am disturbed by your statement in Los Angeles to the effect that we have an obligation to the "freedom-loving people of Berlin." When have the people of Berlin or of Germany shown love of freedom. Wouldn't it be necessary to go back the the middle of the last century? Certainly they showed no love of freedom when they aided Franco to crush democracy in Spain. They showed no love of freedom when they howled with delight at the dismemberment of Czecho-Slovakia, or when they crushed Poland, or undertook to deny the Jews even the freedom to live. I consider it mockery and cynicism of the worst order to apply to the people of Germany the fine expression, "freedom-loving."

In your Los Angeles speech you are also quoted as saying, "We do not believe that peace can be advanced by appeasement nor that freedom can be defended by retreat." This sentence sounds well and no doubt provoked vigorous applause. But do you think that peace can be advanced by the threat of war or that freedom can be preserved in nations that are on the brink of war? We must have more friendly attitudes and more trust between nations if we are to remain free.

As I see it the problems between us and Russia must be solved by negotiation or else sooner or later there will be an explosion that may mean the end of man on earth, certainly the end of civilization. An attitude favorable for fruitful negotiation is not created by the implication that negotiation is appeasement.

I hope our leaders and the leaders of other countries will begin to realize that they cannot afford to talk and act as statesmen did before man possessed weapons capable to destroying all life.

Yours very sincerely,


Charles C. Josey



Berlin

June 24, 1961

My dear Friend:

Your warm letter was deeply appreciated. These are trying days and it is heartwarming to know that I have friends like you who understand the difficulties of the situation and have an awareness of the problems.

Nobody, of course, really knows what Premier Khrushchev will do. But I believe it is important that the United States stand firm at Berlin. Berlin is not only a symbol of freedom deep in the heart of the Iron Curtain countries, but it is the one hope left for the people of East Germany, who wish so desperately to be rid of the shackles of communism. We cannot let them down.

Mrs. Johnson joins me in warm regards to you.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. P. IS. Campbell
2504 1/2 Algerian Way
Houston 6, Texas

LBJ GER gw

Reedy

Houston, Texas,
June 20, 1961,
2504½ Algerian Way.

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice Pres U.S.
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

Lots of water has gone over the dam since the hectic Campaign days. Your long and tiresome twenty nine Thousand mile good will trip, President Kennedy's good will trip to Canada where unfortunately he hurt his back again, his talk with DeGaulle, Vienna and home by the way of England. Adlai Stevenson's good will trip to South America, and last but not least Dean Acheson's presence in West Berlin to bolster them up. If I had done half as good in eight years instead of playing golf we wouldn't be in this damn mess.

Many people in all walks of life predict that unless Khrushchev has his own way in the Berlin crisis he will start a Nuclear War, which of course will destroy the world. I don't agree with them in any way shape or form. God.

says through St John the Devine in Revelations how He, God will destroy the world when He is ready to do so. Which has no more comparison with a Nuclear War than The Brazos River compares with The Atlantic Ocean.

Please let me have your thoughts along this line.

Regarding the Senatorial race - it was the worst most assinine blunder in Texas political history. I supported Atty. Gen. Will Wilson, all three dailys supported him with the best Editorials you ever read and he didn't even carry Harris County. If Tower is qualified to be a U.S. Senator then I'm qualified to be a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

My very best wishes to you and yours in the trying days ahead,
With kindest regards to President Kennedy. God bless him.

Sincerely -

O. S. Campbell.



CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

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1961 JUN 22 PM 10 22

NFA212 0B254 LC839

L MBB068 NL PD TDMB LOS ANGELES CALIF 23

VICE PRES LYNDON B JOHNSON 5113

WASHDC

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

IF AMERICA REMAINS FREE WE MUST NOT YIELD ON BERLIN OR ANY
OTHER AREA KRUSHCHEV MUST BE STOPPED NOW THERE MUST BE NO MORE
CUBAS IT IS WRONG TO YIELD TO TH ENEMY WHAT IS MORALLY WRONG
CAN NEVER BE POLITICALLY RIGHT

PAUL COLWELL 1680 SHERWOOD RD SAN MARINO CALIF.



C- 101121

JACKSON, WALKER, WINSTEAD, CANTWELL & MILLER
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS
28TH FLOOR REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
DALLAS 1, TEXAS

JOHN PAUL JACKSON (1902-1960)
A. W. WALKER, JR.
SAM G. WINSTEAD
CONAN CANTWELL
ORRIN MILLER
D. L. CASE
DONALD C. FITCH, JR.
W. B. PATTERSON
BENNETT L. WOOLLEY, JR.
VESTER T. HUGHES, JR.
J. HOWARD LENNON
J. ROBERT NORRIS, JR.
LOUIS R. BICKEL
PAUL L. WRIGHT
JACK PEW, JR.
J. KYLE DUVAL
JOHN L. LANCASTER, III
LARRY L. BEAN

June 20, 1961

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
Vice President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

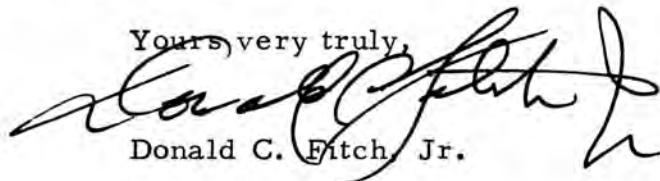
Senator Mansfield's speech in the Senate last Wednesday proposing that we pull out of Berlin and leave it to an "international trusteeship" should shock every citizen of the United States and the entire free world. This Administration "trial balloon" proposes nothing less than a complete surrender of Berlin, the symbol of freedom to all behind the Iron Curtain and of our determination to keep the Free World free.

This would be our third complete surrender to Communist Russia in many months: first Cuba, second Laos, and now Berlin. Are you going to condone--or fight--this new act of cowardice?

When is President Kennedy going to give that strong leadership he promised? That renewed world prestige? It seems that almost everything of importance he has said or promised has turned out the opposite: driving communism out of Cuba, keeping Laos out of communist hands, no summit conferences without assurances of accomplishment, no threats or ultimatums at Vienna.

How long are we to let this scared, confused young man keep making mistakes so that, his apologists say, he can learn by them?

Yours, very truly,



Donald C. Fitch, Jr.

DCF:jh



FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

June 21, 1961

Dear Mr. Fitch:

There is absolutely no reason to believe that a speech made on the floor of the Senate represents Administration policy. Senators at all times are free to speak their own minds, but in the field of foreign affairs, only the President -- or those specifically designated by the President -- can speak for the United States.

It has become popular in recent years to assume that every statement made by a Washington official is a "trial balloon." This is not always so and I am confident that the Administration will follow in Berlin a policy in keeping with the traditions of America.

Sincerely yours,



Lyndon B. Johnson

Honorable Donald C. Fitch, Jr.
28th Floor Republic National Bank Building
Dallas 1, Texas

LBJ GE: gw

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

June 30, 1961

Dear Mr. Snead:

Thank you very much for your letter and I share your concern about Berlin. I recently addressed myself to these questions in an address before the Governors' Conference in Honolulu and I am enclosing a copy for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. W. H. Snead
1029 Elm Street
Dallas, Texas

LBJ GER gw

W. H. SNEAD
1029 ELM STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS

TREASURER
UNITED FIDELITY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

June 27, 1961

The Honorable Lyndon Johnson
Vice-President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

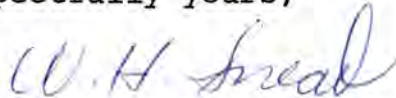
My dear Sir:

The Berlin crisis has been of extreme concern to me, and to a lesser degree the Cuban and Laos conditions. I believe that the Administrations and Congress in general has taken a too timid attitude in dealing with these crises. Russia and its leaders only pay attention to blunt, frank and determined statements.

It is very unfortunate that Mr. Mike Mansfield made the proposition that he did and I believe that the Administration and all members of Congress should let Russia know that we will defend West Berlin at all costs, and will stand for no interference with travel through the corridor. Also, if the situation gets any worse in Cuba I believe that we should use force to alleviate conditions there.

I am very much interested in hearing your views on these matters.

Respectfully yours,



WHS/mh



FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

June 30, 1961

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

In response to your letter I am enclosing a copy of remarks I recently made to the Governors' Conference in Honolulu.

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. A. V. Sorensen
1614 Izard Street
Omaha 2, Nebraska

LBJ GER gw

A. V. SORESENSEN

1614 Izard Street
Omaha 2, Nebraska
June 22, 1961

Hon. Lyndon Johnson
Vice President of the U. S.
Washington, D. C.

What assurance can you give me - - - an average American citizen - - - that my government will not compromise on the BERLIN problem? For me, failure in Berlin means failure throughout the world. This simply must not happen.

This inquiry is prompted by our original stated position in Laos and our subsequent inaction and defeat. To this fiasco can be added Cuba and a long list of other Communist triumphs.

Will you tell me that in Berlin we will stand firm, come what may? Your assurance would be most heartening.

Sincerely,



A. V. SORESENSEN

AVS:sc



COPY

W. Germany

May 11, 1961

Dear Mr. Beck:

Thank you for taking the time to write to me and for giving me the benefit of your views. Obviously, it is with deep conviction that you are opposed to the rearming of West Germany. Every man is entitled to his own thoughts and opinions, and I am sure that it is your firm determination, as with all Americans, that we be kept free from Communist aggression.

President Kennedy has stated the position of this Administration forcefully and in no uncertain terms. He has made it clear to the Soviets that this country will not be cowed or bullied. To this end I support the President to the fullest extent.

These are trying hours, but I am confident that if America stands firm, we will find an effective and honorable solution.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Paul V. Beck
1008 South Houston
Tulsa, Oklahoma

LBJ EMB gw

get file?
PAUL V. BECK
1008 So. Houston
1388 S. 27TH PLACE
TULSA 14, OKLAHOMA
PHONE 72-4303
OFFICE NO. 5, TULSA CO.



COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION
LABOR RELATIONS
BUSINESS
& INDUSTRY
LOCAL BILLS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
April 17, 1961

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson,
Vice President of the United States

Dear Mr. Johnson:

You have not been answering any of my letters since you were in the State of Oklahoma during the campaign last summer. I presume that somebody told you something against me and you believed him.

My reason for writing this letter, which you probably will not answer, is to call to your attention a fear I have. You do not share that fear. You think the German people have completely changed from the time of Adolph Hitler.

I have on my desk a book written by a man in Pasadena California. He writes that in 1975 the Germans will launch a hydrogen bomb attack on industrial areas of the U.S. and a third of our people will be killed. Another third will die of privation.

He may be all wrong. But at least, it is my contention that we are taking a big chance in rearming West Germany in the hope they will fight with us against Russia.

The inclosed clipping from my paper tells of your having Chancellor Adenauer visit you in your home. Why do the Germans want the cold war to continue? 1. They want us to continue to buy their products and they know the cold war is the best way to get us to do it. They also know that as long as we keep our armed forces in Germany and pay them, they will get the benefit of more gold to their economy. We are losing our gold. They are gaining what we lose. We lost \$3.8 billions of gold last year and Germany gained \$3. billions.

If you thought your nation was doing the wrong thing in its foreign policy? If you thought that policy was going to be disastrous to us, what would you do? Would you keep still? As I see the future of West Germany, they have combined with France for the first time in History. That is part of Hitler's program. He wanted France to join with him but they refused. Now they are joined. Along with France and Germany are Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg and Italy. Look at map of Europe with these joined. Some future Napoleon or Kaiser or Hitler can unite these into a political union and later a military union. Will they fight with us? Or will they remain neutral? Or will they fight against us? My guess is that they will remain neutral.

But let us suppose they do fight with us and let us suppose that we win such a war with Germany's help. Then we will have a rearmed united Germany with more power than Hitler ever had to take over Western Europe and it will do us no good. Can't you see that? We gave eastern Europe to Russia to help us whip Hitler. Now we are giving western Europe to Germany to help us whip Russia. Does it make sense?

Paul V. Beck
Very sincerely, Paul V. Beck, 1008 So. Houston, Tulsa

To the Right Honorable Lord N. Gordon Lennox, British Embassy, Washington, D.C.
Sent March 18, 1959.

Supplementary Statement to the booklet, "Peace Without Appeasement"
(This statement could not be included in the booklet for obvious reasons)

This statement concerns the Economic Union of six Nations in Central Europe. If this should become a political and military unit, it will be a third power of great importance to Britain and the United States.

This third power could remain neutral in any war with Russia. If it does, and France has already withdrawn her fleet from NATO, then the United States and Britain on one side and Russia on the other would fight a nuclear war with both being destroyed and then this third power would take over Europe.

Of this group of six Nations, three have remained neutral in past wars,—Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg, and Italy remained neutral in World War I. In both World War I and World War II France and Germany fought on opposite sides. Even in Napoleonic Wars, the Germans helped defeat Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo.

If this third power should fight on our side and we would win, then we would have a rearmed Germany with the help of France to take over Europe with more power than Hitler ever had or the Kaiser either.

Always Britain has had to fight to prevent the Continent of Europe from being united under one Nation. Your position just off the coast of Europe would be very difficult to maintain if one Nation controls the Continent. You depend on entrepôt trade to maintain the British Empire. A Continent united against Great Britain could destroy that Empire.

The Booklet "Peace Without Appeasement" provides for a means of curtailing the power of Germany and France by tying up the coal and iron ore of the Saar and Lorraine under an International Commission backed by a military police to see that a war machine is not built.

It may be necessary to include the Ruhr coal region also in this as the Germans are importing much of their iron ore from Sweden and smelting it in the Ruhr region.

This neutralization of the coal and iron ore region will not hurt the economic union economically but it will prevent it from becoming a military power under some future Hitler, Kaiser or Napoleon.

If we can find this a way to come to an agreement with Russia, we can win the peace. We can demand the withdrawal of Russia from Eastern European Nations which they took over with the withdrawal of our forces from the Continent except for this military police to guard the coal and iron ore areas and supervise their future use.

We must guarantee economic opportunity to Germans and French peoples or this will not be permanent. The Atlantic Charter provides for "equal access to the raw materials and markets of the world to both victors and vanquished alike". This is an ideal never attained and perhaps the word "equal" is too big. "Some" would be a better word.

Paul V. Beck, 1308 E. 27th Place, Tulsa 14, Okla.



Texas Greets Adenauer; His Hopes Bright

AUSTIN, Tex., April 17 (AP)—West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer said today "all Germany will be pleased about the outcome" of his talks with President Kennedy and Vice President Lyndon Johnson.

"I am pleased and satisfied about these meetings because they revealed an agreement on our objectives and unity of views. They are as firm and determined as ever," Adenauer said.

Adenauer reached the Texas capital city this morning after spending the night at the Johnson ranch about 15 miles from Fredericksburg, where a colorful German-English program honored the West German leader Sunday.

Sunday night at the ranch, Johnson presented Adenauer with a Texas-type saddle and spurs. He said he gave them to a man who rides hard and well on his cabinet and who stands shoulder to shoulder with our government."

The vice president in making the gift said 115 years ago a group of German immigrants came up the Pedernales River Valley to settle the area. He said they came as "Chancellor Adenauer comes today, seeking peace."

Adenauer made his remarks while he and his party dined under the giant trees by the Johnson home. He spoke warmly of the "overwhelming hospitality" he has received from the Johnsons and the people in the Fredericksburg area.

Johnson told Adenauer he was going to send him a horse to put under the saddle he had given him and also would give him a registered Hereford.

Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz was the first of the LBJ ranch party to arrive this morning.

After a typical breakfast of eggs, deer sausage, home-cured bacon and homemade bread, Adenauer and Johnson held a morning talk before coming to Austin by helicopter.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

June 21, 1961

My dear Friend:

Thank you for letting me have your views on the statement made by Senator Mansfield concerning Berlin.

I am confident that the Administration will follow in Berlin a policy in keeping with the traditions of America and I am glad you gave me the benefit of your thinking on the subject.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mrs. Lewis Stephens
6903 Lomo Alto
Dallas 5, Texas

LBJ:WDT

6903 Lamo Alto
Dallas 5, Texas

Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

I should like to register my shock and extreme dissatisfaction concerning Sen. Mansfield's statement of June 14 regarding a solution to the Berlin situation. The peril embodied in the adoption of such a proposal is appalling to me and my circle of friends.

I shall do all I can within my sphere of influence to arouse my community to this peril, and would like to ask you to make every effort to stifle talk of giving in to a "free city."

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lewis Stephens



CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

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1961 JUN 22 AM 8 58

LYNDON JOHNSON

5/13

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

SENATE OFFICE BLDG WASHDC

GOVERNMENT COMPLETELY OUT OF TOUCH WITH PEOPLE POLLS PROVE
MAN ON STREET WILL NOT TOLERATE FURTHER COMMUNIST APPEASEMENT
AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT ACCEPT COALITION GOVERNMENT, FREE
CITY OR ANY OTHER APPEASEMENT SCHEMES FOR BERLIN AMERICA SHOULD
BE DRIVING COMMUNISTS OUT OF EAST GERMANY AND EVERYWHERE THEY
THREATEN FREEDOM DO NOT LET BERLIN GO DOWN THE DRAIN STOP RUSSIA
NOW IN BERLIN OR WASHINGTON DC NEXT
L E PETERS.



D- 25958

COPY

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Berlin

June 23, 1961

Dear Mr. Freedman:

Thank you for your letter and the copy
of your letter to the President.

I am always glad to have the ideas,
thoughts and opinions of thinking people.
I was therefore pleased to have the
benefit of your conclusions on world
developments, particularly the Berlin
problem.

Sincerely,

Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. Benjamin Harrison Freedman
960 Park Avenue
New York 28, N. Y.
LBJ:ACP:mjb

BENJAMIN HARRISON FREEDMAN

TELEPHONE
REGENT 7-2126

960 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 28, N. Y.

June
Eighteenth
1961.

Mr. Arthur C. Perry,
United States Senate,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, Dist. of Col.

My dear Mr. Perry,

It was nice to hear your voice again this morning on the long-distance call I made to ask for the home address of Vice-President Johnson. It will be nicer still to again talk with you in person which I hope will be in the not too distant future.

Thanks a million for your suggestion to send this letter to the office instead of to the home of the Vice-President. In my humble opinion it is essential to the survival of this country as well as vital to our security that the Vice-President inform himself on these facts.

Will you be so gracious and kind as to read my letter to him and the enclosed carbon-copy of my letter to the President and then return them to their envelope and seal before delivering the envelope to the Vice-President in person by your hand.

This country and the ideologies it has sponsored since its foundation stands today with one foot in its grave and the other on a banana peel. That is dangerous. One more wrong step and this country may find itself with both feet in its grave. It can happen here as I saw it happen in five countries in Europe that were sitting as smug as we are now sitting. It is tragic but true.

If the Vice-President can see this danger eye-to-eye with the realities which exist today throughout the world this country stands a chance to pull out of its predicament. I am certain that the Vice-President will consider his important enough to review with the President when he knows all the facts. With your help this will be possible.

Our friend in Dallas has a little touch of arthritis. HLH will not stick to his routine. I do all I can to keep him on the straight and narrow path. He always finds a reason to get off his vitamin therapy. He is then glad to get back onto it again but the damage has been done.

Cordially and sincerely,


Ben H. Freedman

BENJAMIN HARRISON FREEDMAN

TELEPHONE
REGENT 7-2128

960 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 28, N. Y.

June
Eighteenth
1961.

The Hon. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson,
Vice-President of the United States,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, Dist. of Col.

My dear Vice-President Johnson,

Through the kindness of Mr. Arthur C. Perry I am able to place this letter to you and the carbon-copy of my letter to President Kennedy in your hands for your personal consideration when you find it convenient and agreeable to leisurely study the facts.

May I also take this opportunity to urge you to assimilate the adverse potential of the facts presented at this time by Mr. Khrushchev's recent expressions on the question of East Germany and Berlin. If you can read between the lines what I read there you will appreciate the urgency of anticipating a Texas tornado in United Nations in September.

This nation must not again be caught asleep at the switch. I entreat you to review what I communicate to you at this time with President Kennedy. In its political sense you are the only crutch on which he can lean today with any sense of security. Too little and too late again may result in the United States being house-broken by the United States over the East Germany situation. You know how dogs are house-broken. But it can happen you must admit.

The only international tension pregnant with the possibility of war with the Soviet Union is the East Germany-West Germany and West Berlin-East Berlin impasse. Therein lies the only possibility of a surrender in effect or in fact by the United States to the Soviet Union.

The **first-hand** sources of information available to me lead me to believe that in September the Soviet Union will throw into the teeth of the United States the unwillingness of the United States to withdraw from its position on East Germany. The Soviet Union will then assert that the course of action pursued by the Soviet Union in the case of East Germany follows the pattern established by the United

The Hon. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson,

- 2 -

June 18th 1961.

States in Palestine. It is an undeniable fact that the pattern pursued by the Soviet Union in East Germany is less in violation of international law and established practice than the pattern pursued by the United States in Palestine.

The Soviet Union has driven home this point throughout the world leaving very little doubt in the minds of our friends as well as our enemies about their views on this question. This situation can be corrected if acted upon promptly and properly. When you get the chance to talk this over with me I believe I can convince you that the United States can extricate itself from its dilemma without loss of face.

The discovery by the United Arab Republic intelligence of the **third** nuclear reactor in process of assembly by the Zionists in occupation of Palestine will accelerate the inevitable in the Middle East. Ask President Kennedy to show you his correspondence with President Nasser on this subject if he has not already done so. This situation has a direct connection with the Soviet Union's policy and program in East Germany.

There are many factors involved in this development which can materially influence the outcome in the favor of the United States if acted upon intelligently and with discretion. They are too numerous and too complex to include in a letter. I trust that you will therefore extend to me a few moments of your time to orient your thinking with realities in this matter.

You will recall I congratulated you upon your good fortune in escaping the plane accident which befell your private plane. I reminded you that you should never allow to escape your mind that you were only one heart-beat from becoming the most important person in the world. President Kennedy's mishap must show you how fickle fortune can be. You no longer belong to yourself. You belong to the future history of mankind. You can soon be the man who determines the future course of history. Who can tell?

Please observe the greatest margin of safety no matter what you do. If I do not see you before you leave for your visit to Honolulu I look forward to seeing you upon your safe return to Washington. Our mutual friend in Dallas is making every effort to keep the country on an even keel until you get back. I do all I can to implement his constructive aims in that field. If we can keep him true to his vitamin therapy he will be in the fight for a long time to come. I bring you his best wishes.

Most respectfully and very sincerely,


Ben H. Freedman

CLASSIFIED: TOP SECRET:
Only for the eyes of:

June
Seventeenth
1961.

The Hon. Mr. John F. Kennedy,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, Dist. of Col.

My dear President Kennedy,

This morning I telegraphed you
to Middleburg as follows:

CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET URGENT. CRITICAL NEGATIVE
DEVELOPMENT OPERATION OFF-THE-HOOK. WATCH YOUR
TUESDAY MAIL. SPEEDY RECOVERY. REGARDS.

You are most respectfully urged
to give top priority to the contents of this letter. If you
will grant me the privilege of a meeting in person with you
facts otherwise not available to you vitally affecting the
security of the United States will be submitted for your
further consideration of how to get the United States off-
the-hook on which it now finds itself through no fault of
yours. A small fraction of an hour of your time is all I ask.

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I outlined to you when we met in 1946 for the first time in
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It is a fortunate fact that you
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The most pressing problem today

is the West Germany-East Germany and the West Berlin-East Berlin situations. A solution of that problem must be found that will be both consistent and compatible with the traditions of the United States as you have indicated you understand them so well.

In the event that you submit to the pressure brought upon your predecessors the United States will soon find that this pressure precipitated a shooting-war with the Soviet Union. The normal expectancy of the consequences of a shooting-war with the Soviet Union are too macabre to require explanation to you of all persons. The omission of that war from future history will testify to your superlative skill as a statesman more than any act of commission performed by you as President of the United States.

You must be prepared to cut the Corian knot if necessary. The hour is too late for pussy-footing. You must do or we must die. You sign the death warrant of the United States if you concede to pressure subtly inimical to the best interests of the country of which you are President and Commander-in-Chief. With the back of the United States to the wall you can ill afford to make concessions to pressure groups of questionable loyalty.

You will I feel certain display the boldest determination of which you are capable to resist the pressure put upon you by the un-American, non-American and anti-American group responsible for the creation of the Soviet Union in 1917 and for unleashing communism upon an unsuspecting and unprepared world by the creation of the Soviet Union. The files of the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice can supply you with all the information you require to satisfy your curiosity on this question if you so desire.

In talking back to Mr. Khrushchev the United States cannot talk out of both sides of its mouth. Double-talk will will get the United States no place fast. The United States cannot expect to carry water on both shoulders without courting a calamity. You are placed in that position by pressure successfully exerted on your predecessors in the office you now hold. What is the answer? The answer is perfectly simple and simply perfect.

The United States cannot very logically tell Mr. Khrushchev that the Soviet Union cannot do vis-a-vis East Germany what the United States did vis-a-vis the Zionist occupation of Palestine. That is exactly the position of the United States. That puts Mr. Khrushchev in the driver's seat in dealing with the status of a divided Germany. Mr. Khrushchev knows he has the United States where they cannot open their mouth. The United States is hog-tied by the pattern established in the Palestine situation.

Mr. Khrushchev recognized the government in East Germany. The United States refuses to recognize that government.

The position of the United States is very unsound and illogical. In view of United States recognition of the Zionist occupation of Palestine the position of the Soviet Union vis-a-vis East Germany is both sound and logical.

The existing government in East Germany is the outcome of outside interference in the domestic affairs of the East German population. The existing government in Zionist-occupied Palestine is likewise the outcome of outside interference in the domestic affairs of the Palestine population. Neither the government in East Germany nor the government in Zionist-occupied Palestine are the outcome of the free choice of the population at the time these two governments were introduced into those two areas. In neither case did they represent the free will of the indigenous population.

The United States established the pattern followed by the Soviet Union in establishing the East German government. The chickens have come home to roost. The pot cannot call the kettle black. The United States under pressure by Zionists in the United States became accessories before the fact and accessories after the fact in the conspiracy to establish a Zionist sovereign state in Palestine by hook or crook regardless of the rights of the indigenous population.

The United States was privy to the program of the Zionists to establish a Zionist sovereign state in a part of Palestine. The monetary, the military and the moral support of the United States are responsible for the existence of the Zionist sovereign state in eighty-percent of the territory of Palestine. This support by the United States was responsible for driving into exile with only the clothes on their backs one-million three-hundred and fifty thousand Christian and Moslem Palestine Arabs.

The Zionists in occupation of Palestine now possess the properties of these one-million six-hundred and fifty thousand Christian and Palestine Arabs valued at between two-billion and twelve billion dollars without payment for them to their lawful owners. The Zionists in occupied Palestine are uninvited, unwelcome and unwanted aliens transplanted from eastern Europe into Palestine behind a shield of one-hundred thousand British troops stationed in Palestine to facilitate their illegal immigration into Palestine.

The east Germans in occupation of East Germany are the indigenous population which has inhabited that area for at least two-thousand years without interruption. If permitted they might choose a different form of government under which they desired to live. The indigenous one-million three-hundred and fifty thousand Christian and Moslem Palestine Arabs were not allowed to choose the

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form of government under which they desired to live although Great Britain was installed in Palestine in 1920 for the purpose of establishing a government by the free will of the indigenous population at that time. In 1920 the Christian and Moslem Palestine Arabs outnumbered the Zionist partisans by more than ten to one.

The United States has earned the contempt of the African and Asian eighty-percent of the world's total population for the part the United States played in the inhumanitarian international crime responsible for the rape of Palestine. It is now the height of hypocrisy for the United States to tell the Soviet Union that they cannot do in East Germany what the United States did a thousand times worse in Palestine. Mr. Khrushchev will tar us with our own brush and then heist us with our own petard.

There is an answer to this problem. You can take a horse to water but you cannot make the horse drink. If you want the answer to this problem I can give it to you in a very few moments of your time AND I CAN GUARANTEE SUCCESS. You will have to take the initiative. I have bruised my knuckles knocking at doors to see you for the same purpose. It reminds me of my many attempts to talk to President Truman. Mr. Mitt Connally and Mr. Dave Niles succeeded in keeping me from talking to President Truman. He could have rescued the United States from a fate it hardly deserves. It is now up to you to pull this hot chestnut out of the fire.

Since discovering rather recently that the Zionists in occupation of Palestine were working on the assembly of their third nuclear reactor the Arab states have called a meeting to form a joint military command. If you do not follow that phase of the Middle East situation closely you may wake up some morning and find a cable under your door from the Zionists in occupation of Palestine asking you to keep your promise to use United States armed forces to fight in Palestine to help them hold onto their stolen loot. Please never tell me that I did not tell you so in time.

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Most respectfully and very sincerely,

Ben H. Freedman

CLASSIFIED: TOP SECRET:
Only for the eyes of:

June
Seventeenth
1961.

The Hon. Mr. John F. Kennedy,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, Dist. of Col.

My dear President Kennedy,

This morning I telegraphed you
to Middleburg as follows:

CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET URGENT. CRITICAL NEGATIVE
DEVELOPMENT OPERATION OFF-THE-HOOK. WATCH YOUR
TUESDAY MAIL. SPEEDY RECOVERY. REGARDS.

You are most respectfully urged
to give top priority to the contents of this letter. If you
will grant me the privilege of a meeting in person with you
facts otherwise not available to you vitally affecting the
security of the United States will be submitted for your
further consideration of how to get the United States off-
the-hook on which it now finds itself through no fault of
yours. A small fraction of an hour of your time is all I ask.

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Most respectfully and very sincerely,

Ben H. Freedman

4805 Newport Avenue
Washington 16, D.C.
August 21, 1961

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

Your Berlin trip was a ten-strike — for the country and the West, but, also, for you. I believe that two most important things were gained for you, which I hope will be exploited and solidified:

1. You have been "established" in the European realm of activity, rather than relegated to the second-class diplomatic theatres.
2. You have been elevated to a personal participation role — one which the country and the world can see — in the mainstream events of the period.

There is no comparison between the impact of two days in Germany and two weeks around the world. Timing and the events matter, of course. But there is more profundity than chance alone. The North Atlantic world remains the summit, for our time, and activity relating to it does vastly more for "images" than anything done in or with relation to other sections. Likewise, it is beneficial to your public position when your role is narrowly purposeful and pointed, related to the main focus of national attention — and not diffused or prolonged.

I hope this approach can be maintained, avoiding good will missions prior to the Berlin showdown — especially missions to Latin America, other than a possible direct, there-and-back Mexico City trip to see Lopez Mateos. The next "big" mission for you, logically, would be a trip — with no advance announcement — to Russia, or to meet some Russian, to set up Berlin negotiations (but not to negotiate). After that — or even after this — you can tour the US on an inspection-type trip assured of warm receptions everywhere.

I am about in place here now, as you know, and would like to talk with you anytime it is convenient, as I have hoped to do for some time.

Sincerely,

