

## 1949 Chronology

Johnsons in Washington. [On 12/31/48 there was a meeting of Democratic senators in Washington]

### January

- 1/3 Congress convenes. **LBJ (Lyndon Johnson)** is sworn in as Texas' junior senator, with **CTJ (Lady Bird Johnson)** and Lynda seated in the galleries.
- A petition protesting LBJ's election is filed with the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration by backers of Coke Stevenson.
- Senators Tom Connally and Francis Myers (D-Pa.) issue statements expressing support for LBJ and refuting the charges made against him.
- LBJ issues a statement to the press and radio regarding the protests over his seating: "This seems to be a purely political fight. I regret very much the embarrassment that has been caused the people of Texas by the effort of my defeated opponent to find some aid or comfort here in the Senate." LBJ reiterates his offer to resign his seat and "submit my candidacy to the people of Texas once more" if any lawful tribunal finds that I received the nomination as the result of any fraud by anybody."
- LBJ also attends a gathering in Speaker Rayburn's office with President Truman, Stuart Symington, Tom Clark, et al.
- 1/5 LBJ is appointed to the Armed Services Committee and the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee in the Senate.
- President Truman delivers his State of the Union Message to Congress, recommends "an eight-point anti-inflation program, public housing, Universal Military Training, repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, an increase in the minimum wage--from 40¢ to 50¢ an hour, and compulsory national health insurance for persons of all ages.
- That evening at 10 p.m. LBJ speaks on a nationwide CBS broadcast, introducing him and eight other new senators, about Truman's foreign policy.
- 1/6 Speaker Rayburn's 67th birthday. President Truman pays a surprise visit to the Capitol to attend a luncheon honoring Rayburn.
- That afternoon CTJ and Lynda host a birthday party for the Speaker, with thirty-one children in attendance.

1/7 Truman announces the resignation of Secretary of State George Marshall due to poor health. He appoints Dean Acheson as Marshall's successor. Truman also accepts Robert Lovett's resignation as under secretary of state, and replaces him with James Webb.

1/7–1/12 In Three Rivers, Texas, an Anglo funeral director refuses to hold services for Felix Longoria, a Mexican-American soldier killed in the Philippines in 1945 and buried in a temporary military cemetery.

Sarah Morino, the sister of Longoria's widow, contacts Dr. Hector Garcia, organizer of the GI Forum (a group of returned veterans working to improve conditions in Mexican-American communities). Dr. Garcia contacts reporters from the *Corpus Christi Caller* and cables Texas senators, congressmen, military officials, Drew Pearson and Walter Winchell regarding this discrimination. The next day *The New York Times* carries a front-page article by William S. White detailing the story. The controversy raises serious problems in delicate negotiations with Mexican officials regarding immigration of Mexican labor, as well as angering the Mexican press. R.E. Smith, chairman of the Texas Good Neighbor Commission, terms the attitude of the Three Rivers funeral director "shameful."

After receiving confirmation of the incident from Robert Jackson, LBJ cables Dr. Garcia expressing his regret and informing him that he had made arrangements to have Longoria buried in Arlington National Cemetery if that is acceptable to Mrs. Longoria. LBJ's offer is received just as the first planned protest meeting is about to begin, and is quickly accepted by Mrs. Longoria. Truman and Mexican-Americans praise LBJ's quick action. The citizens of Three Rivers are angered by LBJ's action, however, because they wanted an opportunity to redeem themselves. They accuse LBJ of staging a "publicity stunt." The funeral director himself issues a statement regretting his error and offers to handle the entire service in Three Rivers, but Mrs. Longoria refuses to accept his offer. Officials in Three Rivers then put pressure on Longoria's father to sign a statement repudiating Mrs. Longoria's actions. He refuses. They publish the statement over his name, angering the family even further. The controversy continues for several months.

LBJ is negotiating with WAA Board of Review for transfer of the Austin Magnesium Plant to the University of Texas at Austin.

1/13 Chinese Communists shell Peking.

The Senate Committee on Rules and Administration continues to investigate the 1948 senatorial election in Texas.

- 1/17 Truman sends message to Congress requesting enactment of legislation giving the President permanent reorganization powers. The House votes to remove Rep. John Rankin and F. Edward Hebert from the Un-American Activities Committee because of their activity in the States Rights Democratic Party in the 1948 election.
- 1/18 Dean Acheson's appointment as secretary of state is confirmed by the Senate.  
  
LBJ and CTJ attend the Truman-Barkley dinner at the Mayflower Hotel as guests of Bob Clark.
- 1/19 LBJ and CTJ attend electoral dinner as of Bob Clark.
- 1/20 Inauguration Day; Truman and Barkley are sworn into office. A Texas State Society reception is scheduled. Dean Acheson is sworn into office. LBJ and CTJ attend inaugural ball later that evening.
- 1/21 LBJ is scheduled to attend Democratic Women's meeting in the Labor Auditorium. Other inaugural activities include a reception honoring President and Mrs. Truman and their daughter Margaret at the Wardman Park Towers given by Secretary and Mrs. Snyder, and a reception for the Democratic National Committee hosted by Senator McGrath.  
  
To facilitate peace negotiations, Chiang Kai-shek, in Nanking, announces his retirement as president of China.
- 1/22 Forty-day siege of Peking ends.
- 1/25 The state of Israel holds its first general election, and the Socialist Labor Party, headed by Daniel Ben Gurion, wins the heaviest vote.
- 1/27 The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that for the third successive month the retail price index has dropped.
- 1/30 In an interview with INS correspondent Kingsbury Smith, Stalin declares that he has "no objections" to meeting with President Truman "at a mutually acceptable place" to discuss a joint declaration that neither the U.S. nor the U.S.S.R. has any intention of resorting to war with each other.
- 1/31 The Supreme Court refuses to hear Coke Stevenson's appeal from a lower court decision. This ruling ends Stevenson's last legal recourse in the disputed 1948 senatorial election.

## February

Early Feb.

A controversy in Texas centers on whether Wright Morrow will be replaced by Byron Skelton as Texas' Democratic national committeeman. Skelton had been elected as national committeeman at the September 1948 Democratic State Convention in Fort Worth, because Wright Morrow had advocated a referendum to decide whether Truman-Barkley or Thurmond-Wright should be classified as Democrats on the general election ballot. Morrow has not been replaced because he did raise money later for the Democratic national campaign.

2/2

The Senate Committee on Armed Services attends briefing at the Pentagon and luncheon meeting with Secretary Forrestal.

Stalin, answering an inquiry from Kingsbury Smith, tells him that his doctors object to his making any long journey, and suggests that Truman meet him in Moscow, Leningrad, Poland or Czechoslovakia.

2/3

Replying to Stalin's offer to meet him, Truman declares he would welcome Stalin to the White House, but would not enter into any negotiations with the U.S.S.R. bilaterally, or jointly with other powers, outside of the U.N.

The trial of Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty opens in Budapest. Mindszenty is charged with treason, espionage and black market activities, and admits he is "guilty in principle."

2/5

Democratic caucus meets to discuss amending the cloture rule.

LBJ attends Radio Correspondents Association Annual Dinner honoring the President.

A death sentence by hanging is asked by the state prosecutor for Cardinal Mindszenty. Cardinal Spellman in the U.S. denounces the proceedings as a "mock trial."

2/7

In response to President Truman's request for permanent reorganization powers, the House passes the Reorganization Act. The Act gives the President reorganization authority up until 4-1-53, and provides for one-chamber rejection of reorganization plans instead of two, through the adoption of a resolution of disapproval by a majority of either House within sixty days of submission of the reorganization plan.

2/8

Cardinal Mindszenty is found guilty and condemned to life imprisonment.

- 2/9 John Connally writes Jake Pickle about the Senate office: "We are working like dogs, the mail is terrifically heavy and the visitors make Room 231 look like Grand Central Station. Really there have been over 500 people through the office since January 1st. It has reached the point where you can't even get to your own desk, much less do any work. God, it has been awful. Maybe it will simmer down though, and we can start trying to get some effective work done."
- 2/10 Stuart Long writes LBJ, reporting on the Austin political scene. Jim Nash is reportedly getting up a ticket to run for the city council which includes Bill Drake as a candidate for mayor. Mayor Tom Miller is threatening to run again.
- 2/11 Eisenhower is named by Truman as head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and principal consultant to Secretary of Defense Forrestal.
- 2/12 Pope Pius XII excommunicates all persons taking part in the prosecution and conviction of Cardinal Mindszenty.
- 2/13 Gene Autry makes two appearances at the Arena in Washington. LBJ attends with thirteen others, including eight children. Rayburn also attends.
- 2/14 The U.S. Supreme Court grants Texas' request for oral arguments in support of the brief objecting to the application of the U.S. Attorney General to sue Texas for the tidelands.
- 2/16 Felix Longoria is buried in Arlington Cemetery with full military honors. LBJ, CTJ and General Harry Vaughan (Truman's military aide) attend the services.
- LBJ, Wright Patman and Rayburn speak on the "Texas State Forum of the Air" regarding congressional response to domestic issues. LBJ says that the Hoover Commission's first reports and recommendations on improving government services without increasing costs "have just come up to Capitol Hill. During the next few weeks, fifteen different reports on various parts of the government will come to your senators and congressmen from that Commission."
- 2/17 Texas State Representative J.F. Grey, whose district includes Three Rivers, demands a full-scale investigation of the Longoria affair and calls for abolishing the Good Neighbor Commission. A five-member investigative committee is appointed in the Texas House; members include Frank Oltorf and Byron Tinsley.
- 2/17 Armed Services Committee is scheduled to hear testimony by Mon C. Wallgren, Truman's candidate for chairman of the National Security Resources Board.
- Truman asks Congress for an appropriation of \$5.4 million for repairs to the White House.

A committee of Central Texas Democrats meets in Waco and issues an appeal to President Truman and Governor Beauford Jester for help in removing Wright Morrow as the Democratic National Committeeman from Texas.

2/18      Reportedly two anti-Johnson meetings are held in San Antonio. Their purpose is to perfect an anti-Johnson organization which is to function immediately and in future years.

2/21      Senator Wirtz arrives in Washington for a visit and stays until 2/25.

Fulton Lewis, Jr., in his broadcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System, presents nineteen questions to listeners concerning labor legislation. LBJ receives a large number of responses to these questions in his Senate office.

2/23      Bill Deason writes John Connally: "As of today, it looks like the City Council race in Austin is going to become red hot .... All I want to do is to stay as far away as possible from the situation, but with Stuart [Long] on the air (now twice daily) and Emma running, it will be pretty difficult to do so. Regardless of how we handle it, antagonists of Emma will impute her candidacy to the station." Rumors are circulating that the businessmen have dropped Mayor Tom Miller and will bring out a ticket composed of Taylor Glass, Will Johnson, Ed St. John, Bert Maloney and Stuart McCorkle.

The Texas Democratic Executive Committee authorizes a three-member subcommittee to appear before the National Democratic Committee and ask that Wright Morrow be expelled from office and Byron Skelton be seated as committeeman from Texas. The committee also adopts resolutions calling upon the Texas legislature to carry out the state Democratic Party platform and abolish the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting, establish a voter registration system and a secret ballot, and repeal all anti-labor laws on the present statute books.

2/24      Mon Wallgren testifies before the Armed Services Committee.

Truman speaks at the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner in Washington. CTJ and LBJ attend.

2/25      LBJ writes Paul Bolton regarding the optimistic report he had received from Dr. Jim Cain at Mayo Clinic about Bolton's daughter, Beverly. Beverly is staying with the Cains after an operation and during radiation treatment for thyroid cancer. LBJ had referred the Boltons to Dr. Cain and the Clinic in late January-early February. On February 16, 1949, Paul Bolton had written LBJ: "Many times during the past several weeks Dolly has said how grateful she is that you

intervened when we were pretty much up in the air and got us to Mayo's with Beverly."

After months of heated public debate, the Senate Banking and Currency Committee reports the housing bill. Groups in favor of the bill include the AFL-CIO, all national veterans' organizations, the ADA, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, church and welfare groups, and women's organizations. They support more housing to prevent overcrowding, increased crime, juvenile delinquency, and "to keep the economy in high gear." Groups opposing the housing bill include national business and trade groups involved in producing, financing or dealing in housing. Their opposition is based on arguments that the bill is socialistic, bureaucratic, and involved local problems rather than national problems.

2/26 LBJ's desk diary notes that the Texas State Society is "honoring us" at the Shoreham.

LBJ writes his mother: "The children have been sick with high fever and colds but are better now. Bird suffers a great deal with her sinus trouble and can hardly breath [sic]. I am having kidney stone pains again, although not as acute as last summer. Thompson, who took care of me at Rochester, is out of the country and not due to return until March 20. I am trying to wait until he gets back but may have to go to another doctor. Every day nearly some group in Texas asks me to come down to address a meeting, but I have had to decline all of them since I cannot tell in advance when I can get away from here, and when I am able to leave I Washington I want to go to the Mayo Clinic. . . . We enjoyed Sam Houston's visit. I think he looks mighty well and seems to enjoy his new work. Lynda loves him as much as ever and was thrilled by each visit with him." (Sam Houston is working in Dallas.)

2/28 John Connally writes Hugh Patterson: "Your nice letter of the 25th came in this morning, along with about 999 others, so for the moment at least this is going to be a rather brief reply because I am seriously saying that we got a little over 1000 letters today. I have moved my family to Washington where we are now ensconced in Apt. 78-F, 3895 Rodman Street, and if the damn mail doesn't quit being so heavy I assume I will be here from now until I die, because I can't even go home at night, and so I am satisfied I will never be able to quit."

The Hoover Commission issues its first report.

In an attempt to clear the way for civil rights legislation Senator Lucas, backed by the Truman Administration, introduces a motion to liberalize the cloture rule.

## March

- 3/1 Reception at the National Press Club for new members of Congress.
- After a meeting in Senator McClellan's office, Southern Democrats stage a filibuster against an amendment to strengthen the cloture rule.
- 3/2 LBJ writes Sam Low requesting that he or Roy Hofheinz obtain copies of the indictments brought in Galveston County concerning alleged fraud in the second primary.
- LBJ writes a constituent: "We are as busy as I have ever been in my life. The mail pours in and keeps us working twelve hours a day, six days a week, just to keep up. Texans sure do love to travel, and they all seem to travel to or through Washington with a problem. But I am enjoying it and guess I wouldn't like anything that moved along in a quiet ordinary way. . . ."
- 3/3 At a meeting of the Armed Services Committee on the Wallgren nomination, Forrestal is scheduled to discuss setting up the office of the under secretary of defense.
- James Forrestal resigns as secretary of defense. Truman appoints Louis Johnson to replace him.
- 3/4 Jim Kilday notifies LBJ that he does not want to be considered for chairman of the FCC.
- 3/5 Constitutional Democrats meet in Senator McClellan's office [re: filibuster?].
- 3/7 LBJ writes Ed Clark: "Certainly hope you will take such time as is necessary to look after our interests in the Longoria matter." He also asks: "If you have a chance to see our friend Abe Lincoln, Jr., soon, I hope you will get him to re-wire (even if I have to pay for the wire) all the county clerks and get the complete vote in each county for president and Senate in the general election. I believe that this will show that I got the largest majority of any one of the thirty-two senators who took the oath this year. It will also reduce the lead Mr. Truman now has over me. It will be essential that we have this information to present to Chairman Myers."
- 3/9 LBJ gives his maiden speech in the Senate, "Unlimited Debate: The Defense of Reason." CTJ and Mary Rather are in attendance in the gallery.
- Thirty-three senators--seventeen Democrats and sixteen Republicans--led by Senator Lucas, sign a petition to invoke cloture against the continuing filibuster by southern senators against the anti-filibuster amendment.



The Armed Services Committee in the Senate meets to consider the nomination of Louis Johnson to be secretary of defense.

Sam Low sends LBJ certified copies of the thirteen indictments returned in Galveston County in connection with illegal voting, along with the disposition of each case. LBJ writes him on 3-11-49 requesting that he get a rundown on the people who were indicted regarding their motives.

3/10 Vice President Barkley rules in the Senate that the southerners' filibuster on the anti-filibuster is subject to cloture invoked by the Lucas petition.

3/11 Southern senators meet in Senator Byrd's office.

Senator Russell appeals Vice President Barkley's ruling that cloture could be invoked by the Lucas petition to take up the anti-filibuster rules change. A coalition of twenty-three Republicans and twenty-three Democrats vote, 46 to 41, to reject Barkley's ruling and sustain Russell's appeal. The southern filibuster continues.

The Senate Finance Committee reports out the House bill extending the President's authority to negotiate trade agreements for three years.

LBJ writes George Brown: "If you and I can ever get over our kidney stones and ulcers, we might be able to do something for our country yet. I have been waiting until Doctor Thompson got back to Mayo's so that I might go out to see him, because I am satisfied that I am developing a new one. It has kept me pretty upset for the last couple of months. The doctor here told me that my blood count was 20,500 day before yesterday, so it is obvious that there is a rather aggravated infection somewhere."

Alvin Wirtz writes LBJ sending him a memorandum covering Wirtz' ideas for legislation which would "affect an acceptable, workable and effective compromise of the Tidelands issue." He suggests that 37.5 per cent of mineral bonuses, rentals and royalties within the traditional state boundaries go to the federal government, and outside traditional boundaries that 62.5 per cent go to the federal government.

LBJ then sends the memo to Tom [Clark?] requesting that someone analyze the suggestion and give him a reaction to it as soon as possible.

Judge Joseph C. Hutcheson, chief judge of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, appeals to the subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee for the creation of a third federal judgeship for the Southern Judicial District in Texas.

3/12 Jimmie Allred writes LBJ regarding possible appointees if an additional judgeship is created in Texas. Senator Connally is reluctant to have his son Ben appointed if he would be sent to the southern end of the district. Mrs. Connally fears that Senator Connally will be criticized if Ben is appointed.

LBJ writes a constituent: "As you may know, we are having some little difficulty now in the Senate concerning unlimited debate. It may be that we will settle the issue in the next day or two; however until it is settled it looks like it is going to be around-the-clock operation for us."

3/14 Meeting in Senator Byrd's office of Constitutional Democrats.

Stuart Long writes Walter Jenkins about the Austin City Council race. Mayor Tom Miller has withdrawn from the race.

3/15 Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee is scheduled to meet in executive session, with members of the Civil Aviation Board testifying regarding the regulation of non-scheduled air carriers.

Constitutional Democrats meet at the Capitol.

Sam Low writes LBJ advising him that indictments in Galveston County have little significance for the 1948 Senate race. They primarily deal with local contests.

3/16 Charles Francis writes LBJ about the conference he and Alvin Wirtz had yesterday to discuss the nature of report that should be made by the Senate subcommittee investigating the senatorial election. Francis sends LBJ a draft of what they think would be the proper approach for the committee.

The Armed Services Committee continues hearings on the Louis Johnson nomination.

3/17 The Armed Services Committee is scheduled to consider several bills: (1) S.1741, which authorizes the establishment of a joint long-range proving ground for guided missiles; (2) H.R. 2546, which authorizes the secretary of the air force to establish landbased air warning and control installations for national security.

The Senate passes the compromise cloture rule, 62-23 at 11:15 p.m. As finally enacted, the compromise, backed by conservative Republicans and southern Democrats, required the votes of two-thirds of the entire Senate membership to invoke cloture (instead of two-thirds of those present and voting), but allowed cloture to operate on any pending business or motion with the exception of a motion to change the Senate rules themselves.

3/18 LBJ enters Bethesda-Naval Hospital for a checkup because of the pains he has been having, a flare-up of his kidney stone problem.

Senator Connally introduces a bill jointly sponsored by LBJ, Clinton Anderson and Dennis Chavez, asking congressional approval of the Pecos River Compact. The bill is one of the final steps in efforts to solve the problems of water distribution along the Pecos River, which originates in New Mexico and flows into Texas. Texas had bitterly fought improvements on the Pecos in New Mexico because arrangements had not been worked out with Texas for an equitable distribution of water further down the river. After working for several years to draw up a contract, an agreement was reached last year and has been approved by both Texas and New Mexico legislatures.

Replying to a letter from Travis Bryan suggesting that the Air Force Academy be established in Bryan, Texas, LBJ writes him that he has been firmly committed to the establishment of an air academy at San Antonio for several years.

3/21 Major General Roger Ramey replies to LBJ's inquiry regarding the reduction-in-force notices sent to nineteen civilian employees at Bergstrom Air Force Base. Ramey writes that the reduction came about because of a change in the type of aircraft to be used and maintained at Bergstrom.

In a talk before the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Truman charges that the real estate lobby has become "the real enemy of the people," referring to their opposition to pending rent control legislation.

3/23 LBJ writes Sam Houston Johnson: "We have been through a very trying spell here with committee meetings and sessions on the floor, and having gotten behind with other legislation, it doesn't appear that we are going to have much let-up for some time to come."

LBJ is discharged from Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Churchill arrives in the U.S., is a guest of Truman's at Blair House.

3/24 Hearings begin before the Senate Armed Services Committee on the military unification bill and continue for several weeks. Former Defense Secretary Forrestal, former Secretary of War Patterson and Secretaries Royal and Symington endorse the proposed changes. Ex-President Hoover and Ferdinand Eberstadt, who was head of the Hoover Commission's Task Force on the national Military Establishment, objected to making the chairman of the joint chiefs the "principal military adviser" to the President, as proposed in the draft bill.

LBJ writes his mother regarding his recent hospital stay: "After staying there five days and taking numerous examinations and X-rays, they came up with nothing except that I had a high blood count, the cause of which they had not been able to locate. I still have the pain too. . . . I still think I will go to Mayo Clinic but do not know just when."

3/25 A banquet is held in Austin honoring Sam Rayburn; 1600 attend.

Sam Low writes LBJ regarding tentative plans for a barbecue at San Jacinto Battlegrounds on a date to be selected by Speaker Rayburn and Vice President Barkley. "There will be the problem of attendance by Negroes at this open-air meeting and I have no objection to this, provided their tables are set somewhat apart. There are a few folks down here who might take the occasion to make a display of a non-segregated gathering, which might lead to some misunderstanding and criticism."

Peking is chosen as the capital of Communist China by Mao Tse-tung.

3/26 Sam Low sends LBJ a copy of a letter he wrote Sam Rayburn regarding the Wright Morrow controversy. Low writes that he would prefer Morrow remain as national committeeman, rather than have him be appointed ambassador to a Latin American country, as has been proposed. LBJ replies on 3/31, advising Low not to be bothered about Morrow, that he doesn't think their cause will be helped by opposing Morrow getting another assignment.

3/28 LBJ writes Sam Low regarding misrepresentation of his views on civil rights contained in Carter Wesley's *Informer*: "Sam, I know you have Wesley's confidence and I am writing this letter to set forth my views on the whole question, hoping that you will talk with him at your earliest convenience along the lines suggested here. . . . We want to accomplish the same ends, but my ideas on how to reach those goals is vastly different. . . . I think my position is somewhat like that of President Roosevelt. He always stated his purposes in the field of civil rights, but he never sought to achieve this part of his program by compulsion and force."

Col. Louis A. Johnson is sworn in as secretary of defense. LBJ attends a stag dinner that evening in his honor.

3/29 Both houses of Congress approve a bill extending rent control for fifteen months. Truman calls the bill "a crushing defeat for the real estate lobby."

3/30 Closed meeting of the Texas delegation.

**April**

- 4/2 LBJ writes his mother: "Lady Bird is taking Lynda to the circus this afternoon. She has had Easter vacation this week from school, but goes back next week."
- LBJ writes County Judge Lewis Porter that he and nine other senators are sponsoring legislation to provide loans to existing rural telephone companies to improve and expand their service, or to nonprofit cooperatives in areas which do not have telephones. The letter is published in a Texas weekly.
- 4/4 The North Atlantic Pact is signed by twelve nations in the State Department auditorium, with Truman present. Foreign ministers stress the defensive nature of the act and deny Soviet charges that it is directed against Russia.
- 4/5 Senate Armed Services Committee meets to discuss guided missiles.
- 4/7 At a meeting of Agriculture Committees of both houses, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan proposes a plan designed to reduce production of storable commodities already or potentially in surplus and encourage production of perishable commodities, thereby bringing down the price for consumers. The plan also tries to protect small farmers. It provides for relatively high levels of price supports, but only on the first \$25,700 of production. It also extends protection to livestock, vegetables, fruits and dairy products. The method of supporting perishables would consist of direct cash payments to farmers, rather than price support loans and purchases.
- The five-member committee of Texas legislators appointed to investigate the Longoria affair issues its report. The committee report exonerates the Three Rivers undertaker, because he later apologized and agreed to hold the funeral. Frank Oltorf files a minority report, however, saying that the undertaker had relented only after adverse publicity. Byron Tinsley later asks that his name be removed from the majority report.
- 4/8 The United States, Britain and France announce agreement for the merger of three western occupation zones and the establishment of the German republican government for the combined territory.
- 4/9 CTJ attends the 81st Club luncheon and embassy tour.
- 4/11 The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee holds aviation hearings which continue throughout the month.
- LBJ writes C. P. Little: "I would like very much to take a few days off, but it is easier said than done. There isn't even a convenient time for me to go to Mayo

Clinic without missing important votes. I am going to do so just as soon as there is the slightest lull here.”

LBJ and Homer Thornberry write Secretary Symington regarding complaints from civilian employees at Bergstrom, charging that they were being “arbitrarily dismissed, unjustly downgraded, and otherwise mistreated.”

4/12 Truman visits the Senate on the fourth anniversary of his taking office as president. Occupying his old seat, Truman asks the Senate to ratify the NATO pact.

4/13 Charles Francis writes LBJ opposing Leland Olds’ reappointment to the FPC, urges LBJ to make Truman aware through Tom Clark of the adverse testimony presented in Olds’ previous confirmation hearings. “I am convinced that if this record is put before the President and if you, Tom Connally and Speaker Rayburn and Tom Clark will renew your obligations, the President will surely not make this appointment.”

4/14 Both houses of Congress pass foreign aid bill authorizing \$5.43 billion (\$150 million less than that asked for by Truman) for European recovery for a 15-month period ending on 6/30/50.

Senators Taft, Smith and Donnell introduce a national health program calling for federal aid to states instead of the compulsory health insurance program proposed by Truman. Their program provides for fifty-fifty matching federal grants to states to improve medical care for the needy.

The Nuremberg war crimes trials end.

Sam Low writes LBJ sending him a proposed draft from Low to Carter Wesley depending LBJ’s recent participation in the filibuster against amending the cloture rule. “It must be remembered that if our junior senator is to have sufficient influence among his colleagues to gain support for legislation that will benefit the ordinary citizens of our country, he must be in a position to demand the votes of some of the southern senators, who took the lead in the fight against the proposed change in Senate rules, and it may be that his brief participation in the speech-making was designed to keep himself in the good graces of some of the so-called conservatives on the Democratic side of the aisle.”

LBJ writes Low on 4/18/49 that he has no objections to the letter as such, but prefers that he wait until he sees Wesley in person to discuss the matter along the lines of LBJ’s previous letter to Low (3/28/49).

- 4/15 After Dean Acheson expresses opposition to Senator McCarran's proposal to grant a \$1.5 billion loan to Nationalist China, Senator Bridges calls for a congressional investigation of the State Department position on China.
- 4/16 LBJ accompanies Carl Vinson, Symington and Hoyt Vandenberg on an inspection tour of Warner Robins Air Base in Georgia.
- 4/17 Communist China gives Nanking Nationalist Government three days to surrender unconditionally. They still refuse on 4/19/49.
- 4/18 After 780 years of British rule, the Republic of Ireland becomes an independent state. Prime Minister John A. Costello expresses the hope that the six counties of Northern Ireland would be united with the Republic soon.
- 4/20 The U.S. Civil Service Commission writes LBJ reporting on its investigation of complaints of civilian personnel at Bergstrom Air Force Base.
- Defense Secretary Johnson issues directives immediately ending racial segregation in the armed services in accordance with Truman's 7/26/48 proclamation.
- 4/21 Senate passes the housing bill.
- Chinese Communists, throwing one million men into the offensive, cross the Yangtze River at six points. U.S. and other foreign nationals are advised to leave Nanking.
- 4/22 Sterling Strong, son of Bess Beaman, died early this morning of heart disease.
- WAA Administrator approves transfer of Austin Magnesium Plant to the University of Texas. The transfer gives U.T. 393.5 acres, twenty-six permanent buildings, and other improvements valued at about \$5 million. C.R. Granberry, assistant to the president of UT, later writes LBJ on 4/28/49: "I want to tell you, as I have all along, how deeply grateful we all are, personally and officially, to you for furnishing the prime motive force in the University's acquisition of the Austin Magnesium Plant . . . . The property will mean much to the University, of course, but will also mean much in the development of Austin."
- Truman submits his program for compulsory health insurance to Congress. The \$6 billion-\$7 billion bill would be paid by a 3% payroll tax, split between employer and employee.
- 4/23 Construction of a 65,000-ton super carrier is halted by Defense Secretary Johnson. Secretary of the Navy John L. Sullivan resigns in protest on 4/26/49.

Chinese Communists occupy Nanking without resistance, attack Shanghai.

4/25 An executive session of the Armed Services Committee is scheduled to consider amendments to the National Security Act regarding military unification.

4/26 CTJ attends Senate Ladies luncheon for Mrs. Truman.

A State Department communiqué confirms Moscow reports that following a series of meetings between Phillip Jessup and Jacob Malik, U.S. and Soviet delegates to the U.N., the way appears open to end Russia's 10-month blockade of Western occupation zone of Berlin.

4/27 Breakfast for Mrs. Truman.

Chiang Kai-shek flies to Shanghai, urges the Chinese to resist Communists.

4/28 The Armed Services Committee meets to mark up S.1269, the military unification amendment.

Donald Cook sends John Connally drafts of material for LBJ to present to the Senate Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections for their investigation of the 1948 senatorial race in Texas.

## May

5/1 CTJ attends Congressional Club reception for Mr. Rayburn.

5/7 Dinner at the Tom Clarks for the President and Mrs. Truman.

5/8 After eight months of drafting, the German Parliamentary Council in Bonn adopts a draft constitution for the Federal Republic of Germany.

5/9 Rollin Fountain, civilian personnel officer at Bergstrom Air Force Base, writes LBJ regarding the situation of civilian employee complaints and the Air Force investigation of these complaints. "As a result of these investigations, substantially all irregularities and/or abuses have been corrected, or are in the process of being corrected."

Tidelands hearing in Supreme Court.

5/10 Dorris and Diane [Powell?] arriving in Washington.



5/12 CTJ goes to New York. LBJ later writes Toots Shor on 6/21/49, "First I want to thank you for the trouble you went to in getting all those theater tickets for Mrs. Johnson when she was in New York not long ago." (9 tickets).

C.R. Smith testifies at aviation hearings.

In executive session, the Armed Services Committee reports out the military unification bill, giving the secretary of defense full "authority, direction, and control" over the services, but barring him from making changes in the combatant functions assigned to the services.

5/13 328-day land blockade of western sections of Berlin ends; the airlift continues until a sizeable stockpile of food and fuel is accumulated.

5/14 CTJ returns from New York.

In May, LBJ's office receives a large amount of constituent mail concerning the awarding of an atomic energy fellowship to a foreign-born communist at the University of North Carolina. This issue leads to hearings on the whole operation of the Atomic Energy Commission in the joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy in June.

5/16 The Senate passes the Reorganization Act by voice vote.

5/17 Truman withdraws the nomination of Mon Wallgren to the National Resources Board because of the objections of Senator Harry Cain.

5/18 LBJ has lunch with Lt. Gov. Allan Shivers and Secretary of Interior Cap Krug in the Attorney General's office.

5/22 James Forrestal commits suicide by jumping from the sixteenth floor window of Bethesda Naval Hospital. Truman said that "this able and devoted public servant was as truly a casualty of war as if he had died on the firing line."

5/23 Big Four Foreign Ministers meeting opens in Paris (U.S., Great Britain, France, U.S.S.R.) to discuss Germany.

5/24 Leland Olds is scheduled to testify before the subcommittee on the natural gas act.

5/25 The funeral of James Forrestal is held in the amphitheater of the Arlington National Cemetery.

Chinese Communists occupy Shanghai.

- 5/26 Olds is scheduled to testify before subcommittee on natural gas act.
- Representative James Van Zandt makes a speech on the floor of the House demanding an investigation of the Air Force's awarding of contracts for the B-36 bomber.
- 5/23-5/26 The Senate defeats five amendments proposed by Senator Wayne Morse to the military unification bill. Amendments would have given more authority to the secretary of defense. Senate then passes the bill by voice vote on 5/26/49.
- 5/27 LBJ goes to Norfolk, Virginia for a weekend fishing trip, returning on Sunday, 5/29. He takes the boat down and flies back.
- 5/28 In Paris, three western powers propose that Germany be united on the basis on the Bonn Constitution and that four-power control be restored with a majority vote prevailing.
- 5/30 Staff investigations of the B-36 bomber by the House Armed Services Committee begin this week. Issues in the investigation include: (1) The Air Force concentrated a large amount of spending on the B-36 shortly after Louis Johnson took office as secretary of defense in March. Johnson had been director of Consolidated Vultee Corporation the company that builds the B-36, until March 7, 1949. Louis Johnson also served as Consolidated Vultee's Washington counsel, as well as being very instrumental in financing the 1948 campaign for the Democratic Party. (2) Floyd Odlum, chairman of Consolidated Vultee's board of directors, also is head of Atlas Corp., a large investment company. Substantial campaign contributions came through the Odlum office in New York City. (.3) When spending concentrated on the B-36, large orders for planes made by other companies were cancelled, in turn affecting the market values of securities of aircraft companies. In March and April of 1949, the quoted value of Consolidated Vultee stock rose about 50%. (4) There is congressional interest in a published report that some aircraft industries are behind the idea for a "General Motors of the air," an integrated aircraft company put together by mergers of a number of companies. Symington was to resign to become boss of the great combine.
- Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky rejects the western powers' proposal for Germany.
- 5/31 The Alger Hiss trial on two counts of perjury opens in New York.
- LBJ writes Allan Shivers: "Many thanks for your note of the 28th. I've heard that your little trip here caused quite a furor on several quarters. I want to assure you that it's in no way embarrassing to me. It was a pleasure to see you."

## June

### Early June

Continued controversy over the B-36 hearings.

6/1 Stuart Long writes LBJ regarding newspaper reports that Ben Connally will be appointed to a federal judgeship. Long is critical of the possible appointment of Ben Connally because he does not feel he is a “good Democrat,” while Long’s suggested appointee, J. Edwin Smith, is at the center of the liberal-loyal Democratic organization in Harris County.

At hearings before the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, Senator Hickenlooper cites personnel turnover in the AEC of 87 per cent within two years as proof of “incredible mismanagement” by the AEC and its chairman David Lilienthal. Lilienthal says the turnover is no larger than other federal agencies.

6/2 In a letter to Chairman Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee, Secretary Symington categorically denies that the air force’s choice of the B-36 bomber as a principal weapon had been influenced by personal reasons and politics. He also denies reports that he planned to resign to join Floyd Odlum, head of Atlas Corporation, which controls Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation, manufacturer of the B-36.

Whittaker Chambers admits at the trial of Alger Hiss that he had committed perjury when, while still a communist, he took an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution in accepting a government job in 1937. He swore Hiss passed forty-seven State Department documents on munitions to him in 1937-38 for transmission to a Soviet espionage agent.

6/3 Democratic Caucus meets to discuss labor legislation.

6/5 Former President Hoover rebukes the Republican National Committee for using his “objective and nonpartisan, talks on government reorganization for political purposes in rebroadcasts in which unauthorized additions were made by Republican members of Congress.

6/6 Three witnesses testify before HUAC that in 1945 Secretary of State James F. Byrnes had prevented the FBI from arresting a Soviet spy who subsequently escaped the country. The former secretary denies this.

6/7 National gas hearings resume; members of the FPC are scheduled to testify.

- 6/8           The names of leading Hollywood actors, authors and educators, listed by the FBI in a secret report as members of the Communist Party or fellow travelers, are introduced at the espionage trial of Judith Coplon. The report was compiled in 1947.
- Senator Hickenlooper, before the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, charged that authorization in 1947 of the export of 1 millicurie (1,000th of a gram) of radioactive isotopes to Norway had been in violation of the 1946 Atomic Energy law. Senator McMahon, chairman of the committee, and Chairman Lilienthal of the AEC said the isotopes were non-fissionable, shipped for research purposes, and were of no value in producing atomic bombs.
- 6/9           Truman signs H.R. 3334, granting the consent of Congress to the Pecos River Compact between Texas and New Mexico. LBJ is among those present for the signing and stays on for a private talk with the President after the ceremony.
- Truman, in a news conference, continues to support David Lilienthal.
- 6/10          Sam Low writes LBJ reporting on a conference he had on 6/4/49 with Arthur Combs, Hobart Taylor, J. Edwin Smith, Warner Brock and others representing the CIO and Negro groups in Harris County. Low writes that the Negroes are “deeply interested in the appointment of a marshal,” and understood that Mrs. Matthews would be named as the acting marshal to replace Frank Hammond, pending a new appointment by the President. Both Negro and labor groups approved of the prospective appointment of James Allred as a federal judge, but “it was their opinion that Ben Connally would be an exceedingly high price to pay. The purpose of the meeting was to have Low advise LBJ of views and to suggest LBJ designate a representative in the area who would counsel with them and transmit their views on any major appointments affecting Harris County. LBJ writes Low on 6/13/49 and declines to designate a representative or “clearance committee. “I want everyone there to feel that they can write me at any time about anything. . . . At the same time, I want them to understand that I don’t have to get the clearance of everybody who might be interested before I can recommend an appointment.”
- 6/11          Sam Low writes LBJ advising him of possible opposition to Allred’s appointment to federal judgeship from Houston attorney Bernard Golding and Senator Langer.
- 6/13          Dr. Robert Oppenheimer testifies before the Joint Atomic Energy Committee in defense of the AEC and Lilienthal.
- Executive session on S-1498, the natural gas bill.

LBJ writes a constituent that consideration of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Extension Bill was postponed some time ago because of the illness of Senator George.

A *Dallas Morning News* article lauds Rayburn for his “peacemaker” role in the tidelands compromise settlement. Rayburn was initially criticized for failing to push a bill pending in Congress which gave the states outright ownership of the tidelands. The administration had introduced a bill giving ownership to the federal government. When an impasse was reached, Rayburn called upon representatives from Texas, Louisiana and California to meet him in Washington and agree on a trading proposition. The trading proposal apparently led the administration to agree to introduce a new bill under which the federal government would quit-claim to the states the bed of inland waters. It would hold paramount rights over tidelands for navigation, defense and international affairs. The states would control development and production of oil and excise taxing and police powers. The states would give the federal government 37.5 per cent of oil revenues from the tidelands--and get the same percentage from the federally owned outer shelf.

6/14 Meeting of full committee of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee to discuss aviation.

6/15 Sid Richardson is expected in Washington, and he and Speaker Rayburn and Stuart Symington are expected to dine at the Johnsons’ home.

The House passes the armed services pay increase bill, which will completely revise the pay, allowance and retirement system of the armed forces for the first time since 1908.

6/16 The Senate Armed Services Committee meets to consider the Alaskan communications system and to discuss the armed services pay increase bill.

Both houses of Congress pass conference report on the Reorganization Bill by voice vote. As finally enacted the bill provides for veto of reorganization plans by a majority of either house within sixty days of submission of a plan by the President. Truman had asked for a two-chamber veto.

CTJ and Lera Thomas attend a luncheon at the 75th Club.

Truman predicts the “wave of hysteria” which is sweeping the country as a result of spy and loyalty inquiries will subside, and promises that anyone in the executive department who contributes to the hysteria would be cleaned out.

6/17 The port of Shanghai is reopened to international sea traffic.

In a letter to Speaker Rayburn, President Truman that the real estate lobby, in opposing his low-rent housing and slum clearance program, is guilty of “misrepresentation” and “distortion” by contending that the overall cost would be \$20 billion and not \$10 billion as Truman estimated. The National Association of Real Estate Boards calls the administration’s program a “socialist scheme for socialized housing.”

6/18 LBJ writes Herman Brown regarding amendments to the Thomas bill to revise the Taft-Hartley Act (S.249): “Most of these amendments are what they call coalition amendments offered by Senator Douglas and others. Senator Taft has I believe around twenty-nine amendments which he proposes to offer to the Thomas bill. I am satisfied that most of the amendments are going to be adopted. The net effect of which will be to strengthen the Thomas bill, but when the final decision is made as to whether or not the Thomas bill after being amended will be adopted is something else. It might well be that after adopting most of the proposed amendments to the Thomas bill that those who supported the amendments will turn around and vote against passage of the bill, which will leave us with the Taft-Hartley law.” The Thomas bill is the administration-supported bill to repeal Taft-Hartley.

6/19 CTJ makes a talk on “Texas Forum of the Air.” [?]

The National Planning Association, in a report sent to President Truman’s Council of Economic Advisers, recommends capital investment of \$4 billion-\$5 billion to overcome the economic lag of the South through development of industries, fewer and larger farms, and greater diversification of crops.

6/20 Leila Clark is due to arrive in Washington to visit the Johnsons.

Charles Hook, head of the Advisory Commission on Service Pay, is scheduled to testify before the Armed Services Committee in the Senate regarding the military pay bill.

The president of TVA is scheduled to testify before the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee regarding the aviation bill.

In executive session, the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee subcommittee on the natural gas bill reports favorably by unanimous vote a complete substitute for S.1498 (the Kerr-Thomas natural gas bill). The substitute would provide clarifying language to the Natural Gas Act of 1938 to continue the exemption of arms-length sales of natural gas by independent producers and gathers, which had existed since the Act was passed in 1938.

President Truman signs the Reorganization Bill and immediately sends to Congress seven proposals to streamline the executive branch of government. Principal among his recommendations is conversion of the Federal Security Agency into a new Department of Welfare to be headed by a secretary with cabinet rank.

- 6/21 LBJ recommends the appointment of Clifton C. Carter as U.S. marshal of the Southern District.
- 6/22 Full committee meets on the natural gas bill. LBJ urges the committee to report favorably the substitute for S.1498.
- 6/23 Alger Hiss testifies at his perjury trial that he has never been a communist or “fellow traveler.” He denies he gave Whittaker Chambers or any other unauthorized person copies of restricted documents.
- 6/24 The Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee favorably reports the natural gas bill by a 7-5 vote.

David Lilienthal writes LBJ (and Senator Connally) in response to questions raised by Dr. Karl John Karnaky regarding the AEC Fellowship program. He writes that the AEC fellowships do not involve secret information, and that the Commission does not select the fellows. That is handled by the National Research Council. The Council and Commission have recently modified procedures, requiring that every person now holding or awarded a fellowship be required to take a loyalty oath and sign a non-communist affidavit.

In a message urging reorganization of the Post Office Department along businesslike lines, President Truman recommends that the postmaster general be given authority to run the department autonomously, and postal rates should be raised to meet increased operation costs.

Truman asks Congress for \$45 million to provide technical aid to the world’s underdeveloped countries under his Point 4 program.

- 6/26 Rent control is modified when Housing Expeditor Tighe W. Woods issues new rules, whereby landlords who made improvements are permitted to ask for rent increases.

LBJ makes a talk on the natural gas bill on “Texas Forum of the Air.”

Nationalist China begins naval blockade against Chinese mainland.

- 6/27 Luncheon meeting of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

6/28 Charles Francis writes LBJ advising him that the Senate Committee recommend against the appointment of Leland Olds and have such a recommendation sustained by a vote of the Senate. Francis also sends LBJ a letter he wrote Tom Connally, in which he said: "...there is nothing more important to the welfare of the natural gas industry in Texas than that Olds be not [sic] put in charge of the Federal Power Commission."

Subcommittee meeting regarding the inland waterways act, S.211.

LBJ is scheduled to attend Mahon and Worley luncheon regarding the Canadian River Compact.

Over the opposition of the Truman Administration, the Senate passes an amendment sponsored by Senators Taft, Smith and Donnell to the S.249 labor-management legislation. The provision would permit the government to block national emergency strikes by injunction and by 60-day plant seizures.

6/29 Subcommittee meeting regarding inland waterways act, S.211.

Armed Services Committee of the Senate meets to discuss the armed services pay increase bill.

After defeating an amendment, 209-204, to drop a provision for construction of 810,000 low rental units within six years, the House approves Truman's national housing bill, 228 to 185. The bill, except for minor details, is the same as that approved by the Senate on 4/21/49.

6/30 The Armed Services subcommittee continues section-by-section analysis of armed services pay bill, and is scheduled to hear testimony by Congressmen Sutton, Furcolo, Williams and McCarthy.

The government files an antitrust suit against DuPont industrial combine.

In action on the labor-management legislation, the Senate rejects an amendment which would have repealed the section of Taft-Hartley permitting a state to outlaw the union shop. The Senate then adopts a substitute bill, 51-42, sponsored by Senators Taft, Smith and Donnell, which kills the administration provisions and reinstates the Taft-Hartley Act with the addition of the emergency strike provisions adopted on 6/28/49. A coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats unite to defeat the administration's position.

## July



- 7/1 From 7/1/49-1/1/50, the Senate Chamber in the Capitol is vacated in order to reconstruct the roof over the Senate wing of the Capitol and remodel the interior of the Senate Chamber. A second stage of reconstruction (7/1/50-1/1/51) is to include improvements within the Chamber below the gallery floor level, and in the lobby, cloakrooms and other areas adjacent to the Chamber itself.
- 7/2 Lucy's birthday.
- LBJ, CTJ and Leila Clark fly to Texas on Wesley West's plane.
- 7/2–7/12 LBJ and CTJ in Texas.
- 7/4 Drew Pearson publishes an article highly critical of LBJ's role in approval of the natural gas bill by the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. Pearson attributes this victory to the "steam-roller tactics" of Chairman Ed Johnson and Ernest McFarland, touched off by LBJ. After LBJ's speech on 6/22 on behalf of the bill, McFarland demanded that the committee vote "right now." This prompted Republican Owen Brewster of Maine and Democrat Warren Magnuson to walk out of the committee meeting in protest. Fearful of bad publicity, Ed Johnson gave them a two-day period before they would be polled and their votes added to the official roll call. This resulted in the 7-5 vote, on 6/24, when Senators Charles Tobey, Francis Myers and Estes Kefauver joined Brewster and Magnuson in opposing the bill. In a 7/12/49 letter to a constituent, LBJ describes the Pearson article as "one man's premature and baseless conclusions which were supported solely by information which was remarkably inadequate."
- 7/5 Debate opens on ratification of the North Atlantic pact in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
- Chiang Kai-shek declares in an interview with Clyde Farnsworth in Formosa that unless communist forces in China were effectively checked with the assistance of the U.S. and other democratic countries, communism would spread throughout Asia as part of a plan to dominate the entire world. He brands as "insidious propaganda" reports that Chinese communists would break with Moscow.
- 7/6 In San Francisco the trial of American-born Mrs. Iva Toguri (alias "Tokyo Rose") on treason charges gets underway.
- 7/7 Governor Dewey appoints John Foster Dulles, Republican foreign policy adviser, to the U.S. Senate to serve until 12/1/49. Dulles will serve part of the unexpired term of Senator Robert Wagner, Democrat, who resigned because of ill health.

- 7/8 Congress contemplates action on the compromise for Truman's long-range housing bill. The measure provides for construction of 810,000 low-rent units within six years, a \$1.5 billion slum clearance program and a \$325 million farm housing program.
- The jury in the perjury trial of Alger Hiss in federal court is discharged after it fails to agree on a verdict in twenty-eight-hour deliberations. The jury stood 8-4 for conviction almost from the start, but the minority held out for acquittal.
- 7/9 Hungary's highest court, the national Council of People's Courts, affirms the treason conviction of Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, but declares the sentence should have been death, not life imprisonment.
- 7/11 Governor Beauford Jester dies of a heart attack, is succeeded by Lt. Gov. Allan Shivers.
- House passes unanimously a Senate-approved bill increasing from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion the total of authorized investments and commitments by the Federal National Mortgage Association, the government's secondary market for mortgages.
- President Truman, in a mid-year economic report to Congress, drops his earlier demands for \$4 billion in additional taxes, stand-by wage and price controls, and other measures. Admitting a decline in the economy, he calls for a return to deficit spending and other "positive" governmental and private action to fight the "moderate downward trend" by increased employment and production.
- 7/12 The House Armed Services Committee votes 13-12 to shelve consideration of the military unification bill pending completion of its investigation of alleged irregularities in the air force's B-36 procurement program.
- Paul D. Grindle, New England furniture manufacturer, reveals he bought the influence of James V. Hunt, War Assets Administration consultant, for a retainer plus 5% of any contract landed. Grindle names three major generals as Hunt's contacts: Harry Vaughan (Truman's military aide), Alden H. Waitt, and Herman Feldman.
- 7/13 J. Ed Johnson meets with LBJ and CTJ in Washington.
- The Vatican issues a decree excommunicating all Roman Catholics who persistently followed communist doctrines, but providing for readmission to church of those who repented.

- 7/18 J. Ed Johnson writes LBJ that the *Dallas Morning News* had written a story (7/7/49) on the water situation in Texas and linked LBJ's name with Secretary Krug "in a very nice way." "I think this is a problem that is very vital to the needs of Texas, and I am glad to know that you are in a position to be of some real service."
- 7/21 The Senate ratifies the North Atlantic pact by a vote of 82 to 13.
- LBJ writes Paul Bolton asking him to draft a speech for LBJ to make on the Senate floor paying tribute to the Texas Legislature, Governor Jester, and the people of Texas for the "wonderful progress" that was made in civil rights. He cites action taken on poll tax, anti-lynching, increased appropriations for the Good Neighbor Commission, education, health and roads for rural areas. "It seems most important to me that social progress be measured in terms of what is done for the mind, the body, and communications interlocking diverse areas and communities. The Negro and the Latin-American in Texas profits from many things other than the legislation affecting his status or well-being directly."
- 7/22 LBJ meets with President Truman at the White House.
- In a letter to Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, accuses her of carrying on an "anti-Catholic campaign" in her syndicated newspaper column by advocating that federal aid should be limited to public schools, as provided by the pending Barden bill.
- 7/25 Truman sends a message to Congress asking for \$1.45 billion in foreign military assistance for NATO signatories, Iran, the Philippines and Korea.
- Federal Judge Elwyn R. Shaw in Chicago holds the Housing and Rent Act of 1949 unconstitutional because of its local option provisions.
- 7/26 Leland Olds writes Truman regarding the Kerr natural gas bill and the companion Harris bill in the House. "The Federal Power Commission majority holds that enactment of either bill would create a fatal gap in regulation, enabling the oil-gas interests to exact tens of millions of dollars in excess profits from customers of natural gas. . . . Every effort should be made to prevent their enactment. Should either pass, a strong veto message should be prepared."
- 7/27 The Senate Rules Committee upholds the election of LBJ as U.S. senator by unanimous vote. They also uphold the elections of Robert Kerr, Harley Kilgore and Homer Ferguson.
- 7/29-7/31 LBJ and CTJ go to Virginia Beach with Senator Warren Magnuson.

7/29

W. H. (Bill) Mason, a crusading radio commentator, is shot and killed on a street in Alice, Texas. Deputy Sheriff Sam Smithwick, whom Mason had named as the owner of a building housing a dime-dance hall, surrendered and was charged with murder.

**August**

- 8/1 Judge and Mrs. Hannay [?] and the Tom Clarks dine with the Johnsons.
- 8/2 Joint session of the Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committee meets [to consider foreign military assistance?]. These sessions continue throughout August. Secretary Johnson, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Averell Harriman, Dean Acheson, Henry Wallace and others testify.
- By a 356-7 vote, the House passes the conference report on the military unification act.
- 8/3 The Armed Services Committee in the Senate votes on the military public works bill.
- 8/4 The Senate rejects, by a 55-36 vote, a proposal to include \$50 million in Marshall Plan aid to Spain in the \$5,647,724,000 foreign aid bill.
- LBJ writes letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee endorsing the nomination of Tom Clark as associate justice of the Supreme Court.
- 8/5 Secretary of State Dean Acheson makes public a White Paper on China, blaming Chiang Kai-shek for the defeats of the Nationalist government and warning against Soviet intrigues.
- 8/8 Open hearings begin before the Investigations Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Department centering on activities of "five percenters." Secretary Johnson testifies that he has been fighting the five percenters since taking office. Hearings reveal that Albert Gross, one of James Hunt's clients, gave deep freezes to Harry Vaughan, Fred Vinson, Mrs. Truman, James Vardaman and Matt Connelly.
- The Senate passes by 63-7 vote the \$5,647,724 appropriations bill to finance the European Recovery Program and other foreign aid for twelve months. Included is \$3,628,380,000 for the Economic Cooperation Administration—10% less than was requested.
- 8/9 Hearings begin in the Senate on the Tom Clark nomination.
- The Armed Services Committee in the House begins hearings on the B-36. Robert Lovett testifies. Carl Vinson reveals anonymous documents linking Floyd Odlum to the 1948 Democratic campaign.

- 8/10 CTJ attends a luncheon given by Mrs. Vinson for Mrs. Pearl Mesta, aboard a yacht. Mrs. Mesta had been appointed minister to Luxembourg on 7/8/49.
- 8/11 Truman names General Omar N. Bradley to be chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and names General J. Lawton Collins to replace Bradley as Army Chief of Staff.
- 8/12 CTJ and LBJ go to the Greenbriar Hotel in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia on the train.
- In the House B-36 hearings, Secretary Symington and General Vandenberg deny improprieties in handling of the B-36. Symington assumes the sole responsibility for the B-36 program and criticizes the use of anonymous documents in the hearings.
- 8/15 CTJ and LBJ return from West Virginia.
- The Armed Services Committee is scheduled to vote on the military public works bill.
- 8/16 LBJ and Senators Fulbright, Lister Hill, Clyde Hoey, Burnet Maybank and John Sparkman meet with President Truman at the White House.
- A coalition of Republicans and southern Democrats in the Senate defeat Truman's proposal for the establishment of a department of welfare, a Hoover Commission recommendation, by a vote of 60 to 32. The controversy centered on the grouping of medical functions, within the proposed department.
- Mary Rather reports to LBJ in a memo about a call from Wright Morrow about his appointment as national committeeman from Texas. Morrow said that his opposition was sending a delegation to Washington to protest against him. He talked to the Speaker and said the Speaker is supporting him. He asks LBJ's help in discouraging the opposition, if he is free to do so.
- Senator Anderson announces that he will attempt to block Senate passage of a bill authorizing federal construction of a dam on the Canadian River until it has been approved by New Mexico officials. He notes that Senator Connally had blocked a similar project on the Pecos River for several years until a compact was drawn up between Texas and New Mexico. The bill authorizing the Canadian River dam has passed the House, where it was sponsored by Eugene Worley. Connally and LBJ are sponsoring the bill in the Senate.
- 8/17 Senate votes 57 to 32 to approve the administration plan to reorganize the Labor Department, concentrating all labor functions in that department. LBJ votes in

favor of the reorganization. The Senate also voted 47 to 40 to transfer the Bureau of Public Roads to the Commerce Department. LBJ and Connally voted against the road transfer.

8/18 Byron Skelton writes LBJ enlisting his aid in urging that the mandate from the state convention be carried out and that Skelton be seated as the national committeeman from Texas instead of Wright Morrow.

The House passes the foreign military assistance act.

LBJ makes a speech in support of Tom Clark's nomination, which passes 73-8.

8/19 U.S. Consulate General in Canton, China, the nationalist capital, is closed and its personnel moved to Hong Kong as the Chinese communists drive closer to the city. Most embassy staff has been evacuated.

8/22 B-36 hearings in the House reopen after a week's recess.

8/23 Nellie Connally is looking for a house in Austin.

Testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, Secretary Johnson denounces the suggestion that he used influence in the B-36 program, declares that the investigation was the outgrowth of rumors that seemed to be aimed at "terrorizing him" into halting the B-36 program. Secretary Johnson brands the anonymous charges as lies and links them to enemies of military unification.

Senate overrides its Appropriations Committee and votes to restore \$9 million to the Southwestern Power Administration (SPA) for funds to build transmission lines. The Appropriations Committee had cut it to \$3,874,000. Senators Johnson and Kerr led the fight to restore funds, which was seen as a victory for public power forces. Sen. Thomas led the opposition, insisting that the SPA be required to transmit all its power over Texas Power and Light lines. (SPA sells and distributes power generated at Denison Dam in Texas, and Norfolk Dam in Arkansas.) LBJ says that failure to set up SPA lines would be "protecting the private power companies and them alone." The vote is 45-38 in favor of restoring funds to SPA.

8/24 Tom Clark is sworn in as associate justice of the Supreme Court in a ceremony at the White House.

In the B-36 hearings, C.R. Worth, assistant to the under secretary of the navy, admits he wrote the anonymous documents and is suspended by Secretary Matthews.

The Democratic National Committee, meeting in Washington, expunges the names of five members from four states who supported the States Rights ticket in the 1948 presidential election. Morrow retains his post as national committeeman from Texas. Byron Skelton later writes LBJ on 9/2/49 that "the outcome of the struggle in Washington was of course disappointing to me and to the Loyal Democrats of Texas. I appreciate what you did for me and am sorry that we did not win. . . Perhaps a little more teamwork on the Texas team would have caused a different result."

As an economy measure, Secretary Johnson orders the dismissal of 135,000 civilians within the military establishment, the release of 12,073 reserve officers from active duty, and the closing down of 51 army, navy and air force installations in the U.S. and abroad, for an expected savings of \$200 million for the balance of the 1949-50 fiscal year, and in later years of \$500 million.

Truman signs the proclamation putting into effect the North Atlantic pact following ratification of the treaty by all twelve of the signatory nations.

8/25 The House Armed Services Committee, after a two-week inquiry, clears Louis Johnson, Symington and air force officers of "charges and insinuations that collusion, fraud, corruption, influence or favoritism played any part whatsoever in the procurement of the B-36 bomber.

The House votes a 26-day holiday because of the logjam of bills in the Senate, which refused to approve a formal adjournment.

The government lifts the ban on private imports of tin, which had been in effect since 12/17/41. During that period the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was the sole importer and the price rose from 50¢ to \$1.03 a pound.

8/26 Senate votes 49-9 to cut the current strength of the air force to 48 groups, for a savings of \$800 million. LBJ votes against the cutback, while Senator Connally supported it.

John Connally is soon to leave the Senate office.

8/30 Johnsons have dinner with George Brown, Warren Bellows, Governor Hobby and Congressman and Mrs. Thomas.

8/31 Senate recesses until next Wednesday, September 7.



## September

### Early September

CTJ goes to Texas with the children shortly after Labor Day.

9/1 LBJ flies to Houston, stays at the Lamar Hotel.

9/2 LBJ goes from Houston to Brackettville to visit until after Labor Day.

9/6 LBJ returns from Brackettville to Austin.

9/8 Meeting of Democratic senators is called by Senator Brien McMahon to discuss H.R.1211, the Trade Agreements Act.

Scott Lucas and Walter George telegraph LBJ in Austin: "An agreement will likely be reached Friday vote sometime next Tuesday on the so-called peril point amendment to the pending trade agreements bill. This vote most important and we need every possible vote against amendment as Republicans are solid in their support of it. Urge you to return not later than noon Tuesday. Conference of Democratic senators was held this morning resulting in a practically unanimous sentiment against the Millikin peril point amendment."

9/9 LBJ travels from Austin to Marshall and back to Austin.

Joint committees of Foreign Relations and Armed Services meet to vote on amendments to the military assistance bill.

A special grand jury in Alice, Texas, investigating the July 29 slaying of Bill Mason, radio commentator, indicted former deputy sheriff Sam Smithwick for the crime, and then called several witnesses not connected with the Mason case, including Luis Salas. Newspapers speculated that the grand jury may rekindle the investigation of the 1948 election and Box 13 controversy when it meets again on Monday, September 12.

9/10 LBJ travels to Brackettville, where he visits until Monday 9/12.

9/12 LBJ returns to Austin.

Joint session of Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees meets regarding the military assistance bill, and a final vote was expected.

9/13 LBJ flies to Houston, and then later that evening to Washington. CTJ and children apparently remain in Texas.

- 9/15 LBJ meets with the President at the White House. Matt Connelly called him and told him the President wished to see him regarding the nomination of Carl Ilgenfritz as chairman of the Munitions Board, Department of Defense.
- Senate passes Truman's House-approved reciprocal trade agreement bill (H.R.1211, Trade Agreements Extension Act) by 62-19, under which the President is authorized to cut tariffs up to 50% in return for trade favors from other countries. Fifteen Republicans voted with the Democratic majority. The Senate had earlier defeated Millikin peril point amendment by 43-38. The Thomas Amendment to restrict oil exports was also defeated on 9/15 by a close vote of 41-40. LBJ voted for the Thomas Amendment.
- Konrad Adenauer is elected chancellor of the Federal Republic of West Germany.
- 9/16 The appointment of Carl Ilgenfritz as chairman of the Munitions Board in the Defense Department is rejected by the Senate, 40 to 28. Ilgenfritz, a vice president of U.S. Steel, refused to give up his \$70,000/year salary as a steel executive if he accepted the government post. Senator Harry Byrd opposed the nomination, saying that permitting Ilgenfritz to keep his salary would set a bad precedent.
- The Navy Department orders officers to stop talking about the controversy within the National Military Establishment over alleged favoritism toward army aviation and neglect of naval aviation.
- 9/19 Opening of Senate debate on administration's foreign aid bill.
- 9/19-9/20 CTJ in Dallas
- 9/20 Executive session of land and water transportation subcommittee meets for general discussion. Members include Myers, Johnson, Reed, Bricker and Johnson.
- Interstate subcommittee meets regarding S.2111, the inland waterways bill.
- Walter Jenkins writes O.J. Weber about the activities of the office staff. Mary Rather is leaving shortly to make a grand tour of Europe. John Connally has returned to Texas. Mrs. Johnson has gone to Texas and "We have moved in with Senator Johnson until the end of the year."
- 9/21 Executive session of land and water transportation subcommittee meets for general discussion.

LBJ writes Truman about the two additional judgeships which had been created for the U.S. District Court in the Southern District L in Texas. LBJ recommends Ben Connally for appointment to one of the posts, and either James Allred or Dudley Tarlton for the other.

9/22 Senate passes foreign military assistance act, authorizing a total of \$1,314,010,000 in military aid to NATO members, Greece, Turkey, China, Iran, South Korea and the Philippines. \$75 million for China was added at the insistence of Senator Knowland and other senators who support the Chinese Nationalists.

9/23 Truman appoints Ben Connally and James Allred to the new judgeships created in the Southern District.

President Truman announces that the government has evidence that a nuclear explosion had occurred in the Soviet Union during recent weeks, ending the U.S. monopoly on the bomb. How the U.S. discovered the explosion is not disclosed.

The investigation of Jim Wells County and Box 13 ended today when a grand jury investigating the 8/28/49 runoff primary completed its work and was discharged without mentioning that election. CTJ goes to East Texas.

9/26 Senate passes armed services pay increase bill.

Truman signs the 1949 extension act of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Program passed by Congress, and urges approval by Congress of permanent agreement among the fifty nations already adhering to it.

9/27 Hearings on confirmation of Leland Olds to a third term on the Federal Power Commission commence and continue until 10/4. LBJ is chairman of the subcommittee of the interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee studying the nomination.

9/28 Both houses of Congress pass by heavy majorities the conference report on the administration's bill to provide \$1.314 billion in military aid to the European signatories of the North Atlantic pact.

9/29 Congress approves without major changes Truman's program of \$5,809,990,000 in foreign economic aid for 1949-50 fiscal year under Marshall and Economic Recovery programs.

9/30 John Connally officially leaves LBJ's Senate staff.

Friday. Leland Olds telephones LBJ requesting additional time to study the charges made against him. The subcommittee had wanted Olds to testify on Saturday. Olds requested Wednesday originally, but would agree to Monday. LBJ has the hearing postponed until Monday.

A proposed report by the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, prepared by Chairman McMahon and Rep. Durham, clearing Lilienthal of charges of "incredible mismanagement" brings protests from Senators Hickenlooper and Knowland, who contend the report should have been discussed first with other committee members.

Anglo-American airlift across the Soviet land blockade of western Berlin ends.

## October

10/1 Chinese communists formally proclaim the new Chinese People's Republic in Peking and name Chou En-lai as Premier. The new government is proclaimed by Mao Tse-tung, already chosen president, who declared the collapse of Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's nationalist regime.

10/2 The U.S.S.R. formally recognizes the new Chinese People's Republic and severs diplomatic relations with the Nationalist government.

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court William O. Douglas is thrown from a horse and seriously injured while riding on the Pacific Coast Trail in Washington. Hospital doctors find his chest had been crushed and fourteen ribs broken.

10/3 CTJ returns to Austin from East Texas.

Peyton Ford, assistant to the attorney general, writes LBJ informing him that the Justice Department has completed its investigation of the 1948 senatorial election. While he cannot disclose the nature of the material obtained in the investigation, he does assure LBJ that the Justice Department has no evidence that LBJ had any knowledge of or was in any way connected with any of the matters which were the subject of complaints to the department.

Navy Captain John Crommelin distributes copies of letters to Secretary of the Navy Matthews from three senior naval officers--Admiral Gerald Bogan, Arthur Radford and Louis Denfeld--criticizing the army and air force.

President Truman writes Senator Edwin Johnson reaffirming his support for Leland Olds.

10/4 Replying to Truman's letter, Senator Edwin Johnson writes: "The subcommittee was shocked beyond description by the political and economic views expressed

by Mr. Olds some years ago. We cannot believe that a person under our democratic capitalist system holding such views is qualified to act in a quasi-judicial capacity in the regulation of industry.”

Interstate subcommittee votes 7-0 against the confirmation of Leland Olds to a third term on the FPC. The vote came after the committee spent an hour studying a letter from Truman demanding Olds be appointed.

A coalition of southern and western Democrats plains Republicans, led by Senators Russell and Milton Young, offer an amendment to the farm bill to set 90% parity, instead of the sliding scale parity proposed by Senator Anderson. The amendment passes on a tie vote with Vice President Barkley breaking the tie in favor of the amendment. Senator Anderson then succeeds in having the bill recommitted.

Senate confirms, 48-16, the nomination of Federal Judge Sherman Minton to the U.S. Supreme Court to succeed the late Associate Justice Wiley B. Rutledge.

Senator John Foster Dulles, campaigning in upstate New York, announces he favors a new national labor law which would be “less restrictive to labor unions than the Taft-Hartley Act.” Principles include a curb on court injunctions against strikes except during war or when public health and safety are threatened.

10/5 House Armed Services Committee opens hearings to air the navy’s case in the unification battle.

10/6 Truman signs the military foreign aid bill.

10/7 CTJ goes to Brackettville.

Admiral Radford, testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, attacks the air force’s strategic bombing concept and the B-36 bomber, calling it a “billion-dollar blunder.”

10/10 The B-36 is described as both obsolescent and highly vulnerable by a group of navy officers testifying before the House Armed Services Committee. They agree that development of jet fighter strength is more vital to the country’s defense. Secretary Johnson warns that airing of the controversy within the services might do “grave damage to our national security.”

CTJ returns from Brackettville.

10/11 James Allred is confirmed by the Senate Judiciary Committee as district judge for the Southern District.

LBJ cables a constituent about the Canadian River bill: "Senator Anderson is key member of Interior and Insular Affairs Committee as far as Canadian River bill is concerned. He has been tied up continuously since last week on farm bill which I hope we complete tonight. Since Anderson is committed to take action on Canadian River Project as soon as possible do not believe it is necessary for delegation to come to Washington. We will do our best to get matter acted on before adjournment."

- 10/12 Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy absolves David Lilienthal by a 9-6 vote on charges of mismanagement leveled against him.
- Senate passes farm bill featuring sliding scale parity provisions. Senator Anderson apparently made concessions on price supports for wool which caused several western senators to switch their votes.
- 10/13 Senate defeats Leland Olds nomination by 53-15 vote.
- 10/14 After a nine-month trial, NY Federal Court jury finds eleven communist leaders guilty of secretly teaching and advocating violent overthrow of the U.S. government and destruction of American democracy.
- 10/15 Senate votes, 36-30, to recommit the House-approved bill liberalizing the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, thus putting off action until 1950. Seventeen Democrats, primarily from the South and Southwest, and nineteen Republicans voted to send the message back to the Judiciary Committee.
- 10/16 Truman authorizes the Atomic Energy Commission to withdraw \$30 million from its \$70 million reserve fund for new construction at the Oak Ridge, Tennessee and Hanford, Washington atomic plants, as the first step toward a major expansion program.
- 10/19 General Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testifying before the House Armed Services Committee, rebuts the navy's charges and accuses the admirals of "open rebellion" that has done "infinite harm" to the nation.
- Senate approves the nomination of Mon Wallgren to the FPC, to replace Olds.
- The first session of the 81st Congress adjourns after sitting for 290 days, the longest peacetime session in 27 years. In the closing hours, it passes a compromise farm bill providing price support for five basic commodities on a sliding scale: 90% in 1950, 80%-90% in 1951, and 75%-90% after that.
- 10/20 LBJ flies from Washington to Houston and then Austin.

- 10/22 Truman gives his support to Herbert Lehman in N.Y. senatorial race.
- 10/24 LBJ and Warren Woodward take the train to El Paso, where LBJ makes a speech to the Rural Electrification Administration, Region 10 Convention on 10/25.
- The six Republican members of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, in a minority report, called for “bolder, speedier and more effective” development of the nation’s atomic program, charging that the Atomic Energy Commission had taken a leisurely approach to the problem and had been lax in its security measures.
- 10/26 LBJ and Warren Woodward return to Austin by plane.
- 10/27 At the request of Secretary of the Navy Matthews, Truman relieves Admiral Louis E. Denfeld of his duties as chief of naval operations. In a letter to the President, Matthews, who early in August had backed Denfeld’s reappointment for another two-year term, declared the Admiral’s usefulness had come to an end. A letter from Denfeld was among those released on October 3 criticizing the Defense Department.
- 10/28 LBJ flies to Mineral Wells with Allan Shivers and Bob Anderson.
- 10/29 LBJ flies to Corpus Christi with John Connally and Homer Thornberry to attend swearing-in ceremonies of James Allred as district judge.
- After signing a \$15,585,863,000 military supply bill, Truman impounds the sum of \$615 million earmarked by Congress for additional airplanes for a 58-group air force, instructing the Secretary of Defense to place these funds in reserve. Procurement of additional planes for more than 48 groups would be an “unbearable burden” on the national economy in years to come.
- 10/30 LBJ flies to Mineral Wells with Horace Busby by private plane.
- 10/31 LBJ speaks at the Southern Newspaper Publisher’s Annual Convention in Mineral Wells, and later returns to Fort Worth by car.
- November**
- 11/1 CTJ and Horace Busby go to Bonham for lunch with Rayburn.
- Don Cook is sworn in as a member of the SEC, writes LBJ a memo on the possibility of being elected chairman.

Vice Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, in command of the Sixth Task Fleet in the Mediterranean, is appointed chief of naval operations by Truman to succeed dismissed Denfeld.

LBJ attends AP Managing Editors Dinner in Fort Worth. CTJ and LBJ drive from Dallas to Fort Worth in Raymond Buck's car and then fly to Houston for a Bar Association dinner in honor of Ben Connally and James Allred.

11/5 LBJ and CTJ return to Austin.

11/6 LBJ [and CTJ?] fly to Brackettville in private plane.

11/8 LBJ flies to Cotulla and makes a speech there, later returns to Brackettville.

Democratic victories from coast-to-coast mark the off-year election. In New York, Herbert Lehman defeats John Foster Dulles for the N.Y. senatorial seat. Virginia and Texas reject the proposed repeal of the poll tax.

11/10 LBJ and CTJ fly from Brackettville to St. Joseph Island by private plane, spending time there with the Bentsens.

J.A. "Cap" Krug, secretary of interior for the past 3 1/2 years, sends his resignation to Truman, explaining that he has wanted to leave for some time. Truman appoints Under Secretary Oscar L. Chapman to succeed him.

11/12 LBJ and CTJ fly from St. Joseph's Island to Austin by private plane.

11/17 Based on the fact that Russia has gained atomic capability, Lilienthal calls for a policy on civilian defense and the dispersal of strategic facilities, including the federal government, from congested areas.

11/18 LBJ flies from Austin to Houston with Homer Thornberry to attend a dinner honoring Sam Rayburn at the Shamrock Hotel.

After numerous crashes in November, the air force grounds all its B-29s that are without modernizing mechanical equipment or had been carrying "maximum operating stresses."

The second perjury trial of Alger Hiss gets under way in federal court in New York. Claude B. Cross, defense attorney, tells the jury that Hiss had never given secret official papers to Chambers--that they had been passed along by Henry Julian Wadleigh, former State Department economist.

11/19 LBJ flies to Fort Worth, meets Stuart Symington and Richard Russell for B-36 tests. Later that day he flies to St. Joseph's island.



- 11/22 LBJ flies from St. Joseph's Island to Fort Worth to attend the annual convention and banquet of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, where Assistant Secretary of Interior William Warne is scheduled to address the banquet.
- 11/23 LBJ goes to Dallas by car to speak at a Texas Farm Bureau meeting, and then drives to Austin.
- David Lilienthal resigns from his office as chairman of the AEC to be effective 12/31/49. In a letter to Truman he writes that one of his chief reasons for wishing to return to private life is to be able "to engage in public discussions and public affairs with greater latitude than is either feasible or suitable for one who carries specific public responsibilities."
- 11/24 Johnsons spend Thanksgiving in Austin.
- 11/25 LBJ is scheduled to drive to Fort Worth to speak at the Annual Teachers' Convention.
- 11/26 In Fort Worth, LBJ attends the SMU-TCU football game and dines that evening with the Sid Richardsons and the Amon Carters.
- 11/27 LBJ returns to Austin by car.
- 11/29 CTJ models in style show at noon at the Hitching Post.
- 11/30 LBJ drives to San Antonio and returns to Austin the same day.
- December**
- 12/2 LBJ flies to Lufkin to speak at a Texas Forestry Association meeting, and later that evening to Dallas by private plane.
- 12/3 LBJ in Dallas. His desk diary notes that his hands are very bad, and that morning he meets with dermatologists Wharton and Shelmire. He attends the SMU-Notre-Dame game that afternoon and later meets with Rayburn, Giles and Kittrell regarding tidelands. That evening he is scheduled to attend the Tom Gooch dinner for Governor and Mrs. Shivers.
- 12/4 LBJ [and CTJ?] flies to Marshall by private plane and then drives to Karnack.
- 12/5 LBJ [and CTJ?] in Karnack.
- 12/6 LBJ is in Karnack and Marshall, drives back to Austin that afternoon.

- 12/7 LBJ drives to Navasota with CTJ and returns later that day.  
  
Chinese Nationalist government flees to Formosa.
- 12/9 LBJ drives to Taylor with Jake Pickle, later attends Austin Club party for the press.  
  
Rep. J. Parnell Thomas is fined and sentenced to eight to twenty-four months for padding his congressional payroll.
- 12/10 Austin Club opening.
- 12/12 LBJ drives to San Antonio and back to Austin.
- 12/14 LBJ drives to Lufkin in Governor Shivers' car for Ernest Kurth dinner and spends the night in Lufkin.
- 12/15 LBJ drives to Dallas [about radio business?].  
  
Liz Carpenter has a baby girl, Christy.
- 12/16 LBJ drives from Dallas to Bonham to pick up Rayburn, then on to Paris to attend a dinner for Wright Patman.
- 12/17 LBJ returns to Austin in J. Ed Johnson's car.
- 12/18 LBJ drives to Houston in J. Ed Johnson's car with Mary and Jesse Kellam for radio and Taylor business.
- 12/19 LBJ is in Houston.
- 12/20 LBJ flies to San Angelo to attend a civic luncheon and then drives in the Harte car to Midland to attend West Texas Petroleum Association dinner, returning to Dallas that evening.
- 12/21 LBJ is in Dallas with Jesse Kellam on KTBC business.
- 12/22 LBJ returns to Austin.
- 12/23 LBJ writes William O. Douglas, who is recuperating in Tucson, Arizona: "Lady Bird, the girls, and I are having a wonderful Christmas here at our home in Austin. This has been one of the finest years--perhaps the finest--of our lives, and with good health distributed abundantly among us all our household could ask nothing more."

- 12/25 Johnsons spend Christmas in Austin and have dinner at Mrs. Sam Johnson's house.
- 12/27 LBJ flies to Round Mountain for hunting trip.
- 12/29 LBJ is at Chippadera Ranch in Eagle Pass, then returns to Round Mountain.
- 12/30 LBJ returns to Austin.