

1954 Chronology

January

LBJ (Lyndon Johnson) and **CTJ (Lady Bird Johnson)** are already in Washington at the beginning of the year.

1/5

LBJ and other Democratic and Republican legislative leaders meet with Eisenhower at the White House to discuss Eisenhower's State of the Union message, foreign affairs and matters relating to the armed services.

LBJ and CTJ attend a reception honoring Margaret Chase Smith at the F Street Club.

Governor Allan Shivers is in Washington urging Agriculture Department officials to institute a cotton control program as soon as Congress approves the plan because cotton planting begins this month in Texas. The Senate approves a plan increasing cotton acreage on January 12, but Texas' share in the national acreage allotment is reduced from previous years. Price Daniel and LBJ reluctantly vote for the measure.

1/6

Rayburn's 72nd birthday. Congress convenes today instead of on the traditional date of January 3 in honor of Rayburn's birthday.

Republicans control both houses of Congress, but the party ratio in the Senate is 48 Democrats, 47 Republicans and 1 Independent (Wayne Morse). Morse votes with the Republicans on Senate organization, however, and Vice President Nixon breaks the 48-48 tie, allowing the Republicans to organize the Senate. Knowland remains majority leader, and LBJ is minority leader.

LBJ makes a speech at the Women's National Press Club "Welcome to Congress" dinner.

1/7

Eisenhower delivers his State of the Union message to Congress. LBJ is a member of the committee to escort the President to the podium.

1/8

Walter Jenkins is out of the office due to his mother's illness. She dies sometime in mid-January, and Jenkins is back in Washington by February 1.

1/9

Stewart Alsop reports in his column that LBJ is circulating a memorandum to fellow Democrats outlining a plan for party strategy. Under this plan, which has the support of Sam Rayburn and Hubert Humphrey, the Democrats would not oppose the Eisenhower Administration but would wait for the Republicans to feud among themselves. Two potentially explosive issues facing Congress are farm legislation and the Senator McCarthy investigations.

- 1/10 LBJ, continuing his weekly radio broadcasts, calls this a showdown “do or die” session for the Eisenhower Administration after last year had been their “shakedown” cruise. Outlining his plans to work for economic stability and prosperity as non-partisan issues, LBJ predicts that Democrats “will hold steadfastly to the politics of responsibility” and “avoid the temptation offered by the politics of partisanship.”
- Eisenhower submits his farm legislation message to Congress. His proposal to shift from high, rigid price supports to flexible, generally lower supports meets with opposition. LBJ says that “the effect of the President’s program will be to provide the farmer less protection and less money.”
- 1/11 Eisenhower sends proposed Taft-Hartley Act revisions to Congress. Organized labor is disappointed that he did not propose more sweeping changes.
- Knowland and LBJ announce their committee reorganization plan, giving the Republicans 18 bonus seats in order to insure their control of the committees in the closely divided Senate. Morse announces that he will fight the plan since it leaves him with two minor committee assignments, District of Columbia and Public Works.
- LBJ is scheduled to meet with the Steering Committee in Russell’s office to discuss Hawaiian statehood.
- 1/13 Sid Richardson and John Connally are scheduled to come to dinner at the Johnson’s.
- 1/15 LBJ writes H.R. Cullen regarding the Bricker Amendment. While LBJ says he will support an amendment to the Constitution providing that any treaty which contravenes the Constitution is automatically null and void, he does not favor an amendment that would tie the hands of the President in foreign affairs. LBJ writes that the amendment is the subject of almost daily conferences between the President, the Attorney General, Senator Bricker and other Republicans, but that he has not been asked to participate in the discussions.
- 1/17 In his regular Sunday radio broadcast, LBJ responds to a series of messages delivered by Eisenhower--regarding a farm program, labor-management relations legislation, welfare, health, housing and the budget--and outlines his plans to study all the legislative proposals.
- 1/20 CTJ attends the 81st Club luncheon at the Kennedy-Warren with Mrs. Maury Maverick.
- Senate passes the St. Lawrence Seaway Bill, establishing a St. Lawrence Seaway Development Committee to construct in cooperation with Canada a canal, lock,

and channel system in the International Rapid Section of the river. Eisenhower signs the bill on May 13, 1954.

1/21 Eisenhower transmits his budget message to Congress, calling for expenditures of \$65.6 billion and receipts of \$62.7 billion. Eisenhower asks that Congress extend excise taxes scheduled to expire on 4/1/54 and proposes twenty-five changes in the income tax laws. These changes included allowing a tax credit for a portion of income from dividends and a dividend exclusion of the first \$50 of dividend income. He also proposed changes in the deduction be allowed for medical expenses and that child-care expenses be allowed as a deduction under certain circumstances. Changes were also proposed in methods for deducting depreciation expenses on business returns and in the treatment of foreign income.

Debate centered on the dividend credit and exclusion provisions, with Democrats charging that these changes were relief for the poor and proposed an increase in the personal exemption to benefit low income families.

Nautilus, the first atomic submarine, is launched.

1/22 Sam Low writes LBJ giving him an appraisal of the political situation in Houston. He reports that "local Republicans, former Dixiecrats and many uninformed people, making up a vast majority of the voters in the county, are hopped up about the Bricker Amendment . . . The tactics being used by the Houston Chronicle, the Legion officers and the Minute Women are nauseating in the extreme but they have stirred up public sentiment which can be compared with that on the tidelands during the 1952 campaign." He also reports that Ralph Yarborough was in town and he is almost certain that Shivers will run for governor and that overtures have been made to the Democratic National Committee to have Shivers recognized as the leader of the Texas Democrats.

Senate staffers--Walter Jenkins, Sam Houston Johnson, Booth Mooney, George Reedy, Gerald Siegel, Roland Bibolet, Jack Hight and Arthur Perry--begin regular weekly meetings in which they submit written memos of their ideas for the weekly column and radio broadcast. LBJ wants to see the memoranda to see who has come up with ideas.

1/25 Robert E. Lee is confirmed as a member of the FCC by a 58 to 25 Senate vote, despite the controversy which arise because of Lee's association with McCarthy and his lack of radio and television experience.

Texas Ladies luncheon at the Shoreham.

LBJ meets with Stephen Mitchell and Stanley Woodward.

- 1/26 A new office policy for LBJ's Senate staff goes into effect today: Female staffers will have every other Saturday off, and male staffers will be expected to work every Saturday. Previously all staffers had had every other Saturday off, as the official policy.
- CTJ goes to the British Embassy presentation of a portrait of the Queen and later attends a reception at the Australian Embassy celebrating Australia Day.
- 1/27 LBJ attends a stag American Legion dinner at the Mayflower.
- In the Senate, debate begins on the Bricker Amendment, continuing through 2/26/54.
- 1/29 CTJ and LBJ attend Texas State Society coffee.
- 1/30 In a continuing investigation of alleged communist activities in the army, McCarthy questions army dentist Major Irving Peress, who refuses to answer questions about communist activity. On 2/2/54, McCarthy demands that Peress be court-martialed, and on the same day the army gives Peress an honorable discharge.
- Jake Pickle sends LBJ a report on his visits around the Tenth District. The general feeling is that LBJ will face little opposition in his Senate race.
- 1/31 In his regular Sunday radio broadcast, LBJ hosts five Texas congressmen and gives them an opportunity to discuss specialized issues: Clark Fisher of San Angelo spoke on the new defense program; Wingate Lucas of Fort Worth on the outlook for labor legislation; Homer Thornberry of Austin on legislation affecting public health matters; Walter Rogers of Pampa on the sliding scale parity program; Frank Ikard of Wichita Falls on the cotton acreage allotment.
- Senator Morse addresses a Roosevelt Day Rally in Austin where he criticizes LBJ, Price Daniel, Eisenhower and Shivers. Herman Brown later writes LBJ that Morse helped him more than he hurt him. Ed Clark writes LBJ on 2/12/54 about McCarthy's speech in Dallas, and says that Morse and McCarthy certainly didn't hurt LBJ any, "but obviously their intentions were entirely different."
- Late January Isabelle Shelton writes a newspaper article about CTJ: "Texas Senator's Wife Has Varied Talents." Walter Prescott Webb's book, *More Water for Texas*, based on a recent report of the Bureau of Reclamation, is published.

February

2/2 Texas Attorney General John Ben Sheppard makes public affidavits by Duval County citizens which indicate that \$67,454 in school funds had been paid in vouchers made out to persons who did not exist. Other vouchers, also signed by George Parr, were made out to people who did not perform any work for the schools. The disclosure is the latest development in an investigation by the Texas Attorney General's office and by the IRS and Post Office Department.

LBJ and CTJ are scheduled to attend a White House reception at 9 p.m. but cancel.

2/3 LBJ attends a stag dinner hosted by Senator Symington for the Democratic Senatorial Finance Committee.

2/5 Jay Taylor is visiting in Washington.

LBJ attends a luncheon for Billy Graham given by Senator Lennon of North Carolina.

Everett Looney writes LBJ about the publicity that is being given to the Parr investigation, warning him to be sure that no one gets into public print about the matter. He also expresses his hope that LBJ, as minority leader, will not oppose Eisenhower: "Don't ever forget for a moment that you are Texas's senator and that Texans care little, if at all, who is minority leader. Few of them know there is such an office and still a lesser number realize the importance of it."

Drew Pearson writes an article criticizing LBJ in which he gives Herman Brown and Frank Oltorf credit for getting LBJ elected in 1948.

2/6 State Representative Dudley Dougherty, wealthy Beeville rancher and oilman, announces that he will run against LBJ for the Senate.

LBJ sits at the head table at the annual Radio and Television Correspondents Dinner.

2/7 LBJ interviews George Mahon, Bob Poage, Lloyd Bentsen and Jack Brooks on his weekly radio broadcast. They discuss Eisenhower's budget message, Agriculture Secretary Benson's proposals for a sliding scale parity system, proposals to conserve Texas's water supply, and troop conditions in Korea.

LBJ flies to Houston and the next day addresses the Texas Bottlers Association meeting in Galveston. Cliff Carter is elected president of the Bottlers Association at the meeting. LBJ returns to Washington on the afternoon of 2/8/54.

- 2/9 LBJ joins Rayburn and Symington in criticizing accusations made 2/9 against the Democrats by some Republican leaders in recent Lincoln Day speeches. LBJ says these “irresponsible statements by high administration officials will make bipartisanship difficult.”
- 2/11 LBJ lunches with Governor Hobby and Senator Russell.
- 2/13 CTJ and LBJ host a coffee in the Capitol for Texas educators en route to a conference in Atlantic City.
- 2/14 LBJ and CTJ attend a black tie dinner at the Belgium Embassy in honor of Sam Rayburn.
- 2/15 Senate passes the first provision of the controversial Bricker Amendment. This provision holds that any treaty that is in conflict with the Constitution is null and void. A second provision which would require a roll call vote on ratifying a treaty is passed the next day. Controversy over the amendment centers on two other sections. The first provides that “A treaty shall become effective as internal law in the United States only through legislation which would be valid in the absence of treaty” (the “which” clause). The second disputed provision would give Congress power to regulate executive agreements. Both are opposed by the Eisenhower Administration, which maintains that they would subordinate the power of the president in foreign policy to the Congress and the states. Senator George proposes a substitute which would replace the two disputed sections with one stating that “an international agreement other than a treaty shall become effective as internal law in the United States only by an act of Congress.” This proposal is also opposed by the Administration. Debate continues until 12/26/54.
- LBJ writes Senator Lester Hunt about the rush of activities: “I am turning down all types of invitations now--wouldn’t even attend the State Young Democratic Convention at the request of Allan Shivers because I can’t get away from Washington.”
- 2/16 LBJ and CTJ attend a white tie dinner at the White House.
- 2/17 LBJ’s calendar notes: “Jack Martin at the White House; dinner with Governor Shivers.”
- Eisenhower asks Congress to repeal certain restrictions of the 1946 Atomic Energy Act in order to allow the U.S. to exchange with allies tactical information essential to the development of defensive plans and training of personnel for atomic warfare, to allow the exchange of technical atomic information for industrial and research use and for a number of changes in the act conducive to “broadened industrial participation” in atomic power development. Hearings are

held by the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in May and a bill is reported to both houses of Congress on 6/30/54. Public power advocates opposed the changes, saying nuclear power plants should be developed by the government, not by private power.

2/18

Congressional Secretaries Dinner.

Armed Services Committee holds hearings on the proposed air academy. LBJ questions Air Force Secretary Talbott about recent reports that San Antonio's Randolph Field is out of consideration as a site of the academy. Talbott calls the reports inaccurate. He also said that a site in Grapevine, Texas is under consideration.

Brig. Gen. Zwicker refuses to give McCarthy the names of those who had ordered the discharge of Major Peress. McCarthy tells Zwicker he is "not fit to wear that uniform." Army Secretary Stevens then directs Zwicker not to appear before the McCarthy subcommittee again and announces he will appear in his place.

Hubert Humphrey writes Olin Johnston suggesting that he discuss with LBJ and the Policy Committee ways that the Democrats can combat Republican propaganda that the Democratic Party is soft on Communism.

Albert Beeson is confirmed as a member of the National Labor Relations Board, 45-42. The former labor relations director of Food Machinery and Chemical Corporation was accused of conflict of interest in trying to keep his old job. The president of the corporation testified that Beeson was on a one-year leave of absence.

2/19

LBJ discloses that he has written Eisenhower asking him not to close the Texas City tin smelter as has been planned, pending the results of a study by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Senators George, Kerr, and Frear introduce a bill to raise the personal income tax exemption to \$800 in 1954 and \$1000 thereafter.

2/21

In LBJ's radio broadcast, he interviews Olin Teague on concerns and problems on the Veterans Affairs Committee, questions Clark Thompson about the proposal to close the Texas City tin smelter, and asks Omar Burleson to describe his proposal to investigate the feasibility of establishing a prison island in the Pacific where persons convicted of any subversive activity in this country could be exiled.

2/22

LBJ attends a conference at the State Department to discuss the Berlin conference.

LBJ and CTJ attend a dinner as guests of Tom Pickett in honor of Herbert Hoover and Allan Shivers.

2/24

Democrats override Republican leadership and adjourn the Senate in protest over a night session called by Knowland to try to pass the Bricker Amendment. The vote was 48-54, a straight party line vote with the exceptions of Senators Morse and Langer, who voted with the Democrats. LBJ accused Knowland of not informing him about plans for the night session.

The next day, *The New York Times* publishes a statement made by Knowland characterizing yesterday's vote to adjourn the Senate as a filibuster designed to prevent action on the Bricker Amendment and the Eisenhower program. LBJ criticizes Knowland's statements in a speech on the Senate floor, charging that the Republicans have engaged in lengthy debate, not the Democrats, and that Knowland was "Setting a new and dangerous policy by not informing his colleagues in advance of the night session.

Governor Shivers is in Washington to protest with the Veterans Administration against a proposed transfer of the Dallas district VA office to Denver. LBJ also writes the VA administrator protesting the move.

CTJ attends the 81st Club luncheon.

2/25

Alex Louis of Joe Beldon and Associates sends Jake Pickle a copy of a survey done February 1-14 throughout the state. The results show a significant drop in the number of adults definitely approving of LBJ compared with last fall.

Edgar Dixon, president of Middle South Utilities, and George Yates, chairman of the board of Southern Company, submit plans for a private power plant at West Memphis, Arkansas, to meet growing power needs in the TVA-area, particularly Memphis. The power produced at the West Memphis plant would technically be sold to the AEC but would be delivered to the TVA for the account of the AEC and actually used to supply the city of Memphis, while another TVA plant would deliver power to the AEC atomic plant at Paducah, Kentucky. Public power proponents and backers of the TVA oppose the plan, saying it would give private power a foothold in the TVA area and eventually destroy the effectiveness of the TVA. They also criticize the cost of the plan, saying it would cost the government \$140 million more over the twenty-five-year life of the contract than if the TVA built a plant at Fulton, Tennessee to supply the Memphis area.

2/26

CTJ attends 75th Club luncheon. LBJ presides at a Texas State Society meeting in the Senate Caucus Room.

Senate votes 61-30 to substitute Senator George's text for the previously passed sections of the Bricker Amendment. However, final passage of the bill, unlike

passage of amendments to the bill, requires a 2/3 vote. On the final ballot the vote was 60-31, one vote short of passage. Senators Millikin and Hedrickson switched to support the substitute; Hill, Flanders, Magnuson and Jackson switched to oppose. LBJ voted in favor of the bill.

2/28 George Brown and Frank Oltorf are scheduled to come to dinner at the Johnson's.

In his weekly radio broadcast, LBJ discusses economic conditions in the country and alternatives for recovery.

March

3/1 Five congressmen are injured when four Puerto Rican nationalists open fire in the House chamber. LBJ was visiting with a group of East Texans in his office at the time of the shooting.

Earl Warren is unanimously confirmed as chief justice. The nomination was approved after the Judiciary subcommittee entered a ten-point summary of charges made against Warren in the record. Charges included allegations that Warren had been connected with a liquor lobbyist and that he lacked judicial experience.

3/2 LBJ hosts a luncheon for visiting East Texans.

3/3 LBJ and CTJ attend a tea honoring Wright Patman. CTJ is to stand in the reception line.

3/5 Mary Rather writes LBJ about a recent conversation she had with Crawford Martin in which Martin said that LBJ would not have any opposition in his Senate race.

3/6 LBJ flies to Miami, Florida where he addresses the Southern Democratic Conference. LBJ praises the Democrats' achievement in the last session of Congress, and criticizes Agriculture Secretary Benson, whom he said "has made our farmers fear the future." Other Democrats at the meeting are Adlai Stevenson, John Sparkman, Spessard Holland, George Smathers, Sam Rayburn and Dick Russell.

CTJ attends "Summer and Smoke" with Mrs. Clements, Hennings and Gore.

3/7 In his weekly radio broadcast, LBJ responds to an announcer's questions regarding the major issues bearing on Texas--budget, farm program, social security, reciprocal trade and tax reform legislation.

- 3/9 The House Ways and Means Committee reports the administration tax bill. House Democrats caucus on 3/11 and agree to recommit the bill. Rayburn replies on 3/16, accusing Ike of advocating the “trickle down” theory and providing tax relief for the few while opposing it for the many. The motion to recommit the bill then fails by a narrow margin (204-200) and the administration bill passes the House on 3/18.
- 3/10 LBJ writes A. W. Moursund about a report that reached Moursund that LBJ was looking for a new ranch manager: “As you well know, I am not completely happy with everything that goes on and has gone on at the farm. However, I doubt that it would be wise to make any major changes right now.”
- 3/11 In the continuing army-McCarthy dispute, the army releases a chronology of dates on which the status of former McCarthy subcommittee staffer Private David Schine was discussed by army officials and members of the subcommittee staff and McCarthy himself. It appears that McCarthy and/or his staff was seeking preferential treatment for Schine. McCarthy accuses the army of attempting to blackmail the subcommittee to call off its investigation of the army.
- Mid-March? Official news bulletin put out by the American G.I. Forum is critical of LBJ’s stand on the Mexican illegal alien question.
- 3/12 CTJ attends Congressional Club tea to hear Hildegard.
- 3/13 Everett Looney writes LBJ that he received a letter from John Ben Shepperd in which he said that he would file for re-election as attorney general within the next few days, ending speculation that he would file against LBJ.
- 3/13-3/14 Democratic Advisory Committee holds meetings in Waco. Pickle reports to LBJ that the meeting received no publicity and that it seemed like a fairly representative group seeking to achieve moderation.
- 3/14 In his radio broadcast, LBJ discusses water projects in East and West Texas, Senator George’s tax bill, price support system for farm products, surplus commodities and food stamps, in response to the announcer’s questions.
- 3/15 Archbishop Lucey writes LBJ asking him to try to kill in the Senate a House-passed bill that Lucey feels will undermine the National Reclamation Law, which provides protection against land and water monopolies.
- Jake Pickle writes LBJ about rumors--reportedly originating in LBJ’s office--that LBJ is now opening his campaign office in Austin. Pickle wants to silence such talk, for “I don’t want any impression of a campaign and certainly we should not be the ones who help initiate such rumors.”

- 3/16 LBJ lunches with Leonard Marks.
- McCarthy subcommittee agrees to hold hearings on the army-McCarthy dispute with Senator Mundt replacing McCarthy as chairman. Televised hearings begin April 22 and continue for 35 days, attracting as many as 20 million TV viewers at a time.
- 3/17 Texas Supreme Court orders removal of Judge C. Woodrow Laughlin as district judge in Duval County. The court held that Judge Laughlin has dismissed a grand jury which he feared would indict him or his brother.
- 3/19 Lynda's birthday. Her birthday party is held the next day (Saturday).
- LBJ writes Ernest Kurth regarding issues before Congress. He is hopeful that they will be able to get the George substitute for the Bricker Amendment passed this session. He adds that he is personally opposed to admitting either Hawaii or Alaska to the Union at this time.
- Dudley Dougherty writes the general managers of Texas radio stations carrying LBJ's weekly radio broadcasts and asks them to provide him with the same services they provide LBJ.
- 3/21 In his Sunday radio broadcast LBJ discusses the move to cut the oil depletion allowance. Robert Clark later writes him that "I think the Q-A analysis you make in your radio address . . . of the Aiken-Williams move to cut depletion allowance is sound and unassailable. It clearly states all of the important reasons for not tinkering with this policy. A copy should be mailed to every oil company executive listed in the Petroleum Register."
- 3/22 LBJ writes Aiken, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, urging that a hearing be conducted on the proposal to authorize a watershed conservation program as soon as the committee winds up work on a general farm bill.
- LBJ writes Jesse Jones replying to Jones' telegram supporting the President's tax bill. LBJ says that he doubts the wisdom of making any material tax reduction at this time but that he feels that Senator George's tax bill is more equitable than any other proposal.
- CTJ attends Texas Ladies luncheon.
- Johnsons to dine with George Brown, Gus Wortham and Frank Oltorf.
- 3/23 CTJ visits the British Embassy with members of the 75th Club.

LBJ attends congressional night dinner at the Press Club.

- 3/24 LBJ writes W. A. Smith and Jesse Jones asking for their support in his re-election campaign: "I am extremely anxious, in order to avoid a hard campaign and an expenditure of a lot of time and money that belongs to my friends, to get by the next thirty days without an opponent. I believe if the Chronicle will say a good word that the Dallas News will do likewise."
- 3/25 CTJ's diary notes: "Stag dinner, Lyndon ?Phil Graham."
- Dust storms plague Texas.
- 3/26 LBJ writes a supporter that his weekly radio program has gone off the air: "I think the time has been reached in this election year when, in the interests of all, the radio station should not carry the program any longer."
- Johnsons scheduled to dine with Sid Richardson, Wright Patman and Sam Rayburn.
- 3/26-28 Texas Garden Clubs visiting in Washington.
- 3/27 LBJ writes Eisenhower protesting Secretary Humphrey's decision to shut the Texas City tin smelter down while the Senate Armed Services Tin Subcommittee investigates the need for a domestic tin smelter. While LBJ agrees that further stockpiling of tin is unnecessary, he feels that the plant should remain in operation during the investigation and the tin produced sold for commercial use.
- Pickle writes LBJ about a recent conversation with J. Q. Mahaffey of the *Texarkana Gazette News*. Mahaffey told Pickle that he hopes LBJ will not attack McCarthy in any way because he has found that most of the people approve of what he has done, although few approve of his methods.
- Willie Day Taylor, working with Pickle in the Austin office, leaves for Cameron this morning after getting a call that her sister is dying of cancer.
- 3/28 In response to concern about communist influence in Guatemala, the OAS, meeting in Caracas, adopts the Caracas Declaration of Solidarity. The declaration calls for consultation on moves to head off communist penetration in the western hemisphere.
- 3/29 Ted Andress writes LBJ about the political situation. He writes that Will Wilson would like to run for governor but if Shivers runs for re-election, Wilson is considering running against LBJ. He also writes: "It is my estimate that you could beat anybody from Shivers on down, but I am glad that Shivers will not run and I hope that Will Wilson will not run."

Pickle writes LBJ of a new rumor he has heard that Shivers and Rayburn, under LBJ's influence, will reconcile their differences in order for Shivers to run for president in 1956. The rumor is credited to Cameron McElroy.

April

- Early April French forces are pinned down by Communist Viet Minh at Dien Bien Phu, Vietnam. French ask for more U.S. aid and air strikes by U.S. planes. Admiral Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is in favor of the plan. Eisenhower opposes it, however. On 4/7, Eisenhower holds a press conference in which he compares the Indo-Chinese situation with falling dominoes: the fall of Indochina would lead to the fall of Burma, Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, and threaten India, Australia, the Philippines, Formosa and Japan.
- 4/1 The Senate votes 57-28 to include statehood for Alaska on a House-passed Hawaiian statehood bill. The House Rules Committee rejected a conference request, however, thus killing the bill.
- Earlier in the year, the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported separate bills for Alaskan and Hawaiian statehood, but the Senate combined the two bills on the floor, 46-43, and rejected two amendments: one, to grant commonwealth status to the two territories and another to permit the inhabitants of the territories to decide on either statehood or commonwealth status in a referendum. No further action was taken on the bill.
- 4/3 At Eisenhower's suggestion, Dulles convenes a meeting of eight congressional leaders (Knowland, Millikin, LBJ, Russell, Clements, Joe Martin, McCormack, Percy, Priest) at the State Department to discuss the U.N. situation. Dulles tells the congressmen the administration wants a joint congressional resolution authorizing the use of air and naval power in Vietnam. Admiral Radford also presents his plan for the use of air power to relieve French troops at Dien Bien Phu. The reaction of the congressional leaders is negative, saying passage of a joint resolution would require assurances from the French that they would give full independence to Indochina and that Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand would have to join in a collective defense arrangement. The administration does not ask Congress for the resolution.
- 4/5 LBJ delivers a speech on the Senate floor concerning passage of S. 3184, the highway bill. The proposed increase in federal aid for highways would provide six times as much money for interstate highway systems as is provided under present law, and primary and secondary roads and urban highways would also receive more federal money than at present.

- Harry Benge Crozier reports that Coke Stevenson, Jr. is considering running against LBJ.
- 4/9 LBJ attends a stag dinner at the German embassy.
- 4/10 LBJ delivers a speech at the Annual Baseball Luncheon.
- LBJ attends the Gridiron Dinner honoring the leadership of the 83rd Congress.
- 4/11 Wesley West writes LBJ urging him to oppose a wiretapping bill passed by the House and sponsored by A. G. Brownell. In a follow-up report, Gerry Siegel also recommends LBJ oppose the bill because of the dangers of abuses of the power.
- Mid-April? LBJ does a short TV clip film on the hydrogen bomb, which is to be broadcast on Texas stations prior to his announcement that he will seek re-election.
- 4/12 The AEC withdraws the security clearance of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer on orders of the President. Oppenheimer is the scientist who directed development of the first atomic bomb. A three-member review board declared him a loyal citizen on 6/1 but refused to reinstate his clearance. The reinstatement is again denied on 6/29 by the AEC. The AEC figuratively reversed the decision in 1963 when they awarded him the Enrico Fermi Prize for contributions to nuclear physics. LBJ presented the award to Oppenheimer in the White House on 12/2/63.
- Senator Dwight Palmer Grisdold (R-Nevada) dies.
- 4/13 LBJ writes Mary Rather that CTJ has been working on a list of women supporters and they recently sent out letters to thousands of them.
- 4/14 Pickle writes LBJ that Shivers will probably announce his intention to run for re-election sometime just before or just after the State Democratic Executive meeting on the 26th. Pickle recommends that LBJ officially announce sometime between the 20th and the 25th. He feels that if LBJ waits until after Shivers makes his announcement, it will appear that his decision was dependent upon Shivers.
- 4/15 The Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee reports by a 7-6 vote a bill revising the Taft-Hartley Act. The 6 Democrats opposing the bill accuse the Republican majority of steam-roller tactics and refusing to consider revisions not proposed by the President. Organized labor opposes the bill because it gives unions only minor benefits but gives the states greater power to block strikes in a wide variety of situations. Debate on the bill begins on 5/3.
- LBJ hosts a reception for newspaper editors in Washington for the American Society of Newspaper Editors meeting.

Shivers signs the bill outlawing the Communist Party in Texas on the John Daly show on CBS.

4/16 In an off-the-record question period at the American Society of Newspaper Editors meeting in Washington, Nixon says it would be necessary to send U.S. troops to Indochina if the French withdraw. Dulles answers that the use of U.S. troops is unlikely.

4/17 Pickle writes LBJ that Dudley Dougherty has a new press agent who is planning a "talkathon" for Dougherty in Houston in which he will speak on radio and television for 24 hours straight.

4/18 Easter. LBJ writes E. H. Perry on 4/21 that "Bird and I had a fine Easter. We took a little weekend trip to New York and saw some shows and thoroughly enjoyed it." LBJ wrote Eliot Janeway: "We did get to New York, but with a big party of people, and they made such a tight schedule we did not even get to have dinner with Eddie Weisl...."

Nassar replaces Naguib as Egyptian premier.

4/19 After some talk that he would retire, Allan Shivers announces that he will seek another term.

4/19-23 CTJ's diary indicates there are a number of constituents in Washington, apparently for the DAR convention. She takes several to lunch and sightseeing.

4/23 LBJ writes A. W. Moursund; both are concerned about the drought which is continuing to plague Texas.

CTJ attends a Congressional Club tea honoring Mrs. James Helms for 25 years of service in the White House as a social secretary.

LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor concerning appropriations which would authorize an increase of soil conservation funds by \$15 million to fight wind erosion and permit deep plowing type operations. He calls for a long-range problem to develop the soil and water resources of the Southwest and solve a national problem of great magnitude.

4/24 LBJ attends a stag dinner given by William O. Douglas for the Chief Justice.

4/26 The Geneva Conference on Far Eastern affairs opens with the foreign ministers of 19 nations--including Communist China--attending.

LBJ makes a speech on the Senate floor introducing a resolution declaring that the Texas City tin smelter continue in operation until June 1955, and that a subcommittee be established to determine if the tin smelter should remain in operation permanently.

LBJ makes a brief statement on the Senate floor regarding tidelands in which he says that he hopes they can now consider the issue closed, due to a Supreme Court ruling, and “proceed to the more important problem of developing the resources of the continental shelf.”

4/27 The Johnsons attend the White House congressional reception.

4/28 Marietta Brooks arrives in Washington and stays through 5/3.

LBJ makes a statement before a hearing by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, the Corps of Engineers, regarding the Trinity River Project. He urges the board to approve a project to expedite efforts to advance the comprehensive Trinity River project, in order to incorporate the modification of this project in the omnibus bill now under consideration in Congress.

4/29 James Rowe writes LBJ about the “desperate” situation of Indochina. He and Phillip Graham have discussed the matter and recommend that LBJ use his influence in the Senate to give Dulles more room to negotiate and therefore avoid the loss of Indochina to the communists and war. He suggests that Dulles might be given the authority to trade a seat in the U.N. for Red China for some substantial concessions by the communists.

CTJ attends a Congressional Club brunch honoring Mrs. Eisenhower.

4/30 Price Daniel writes Amon Carter that he and LBJ attended a meeting of the Board of Rivers and Harbors and the Board approved modifications of the mouth of the Trinity River. Daniel writes Carter: “Confidentially, I told Lyndon that you had called me about the importance of this hearing. He was somewhat disappointed that you had not called him also. I hope that you will not think me presumptuous if I suggest that you acknowledge in some way his excellent presentation at the hearing, because he did a fine job, and I know that he will be of much help on the entire project.”

May

5/1 LBJ and Shivers formally file for places on the Democratic primary ballot. The deadline for filing is the third. LBJ is opposed by Dudley Dougherty, Shivers by Ralph Yarborough.

- 5/3 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor about the bill that he and Senator Daniel introduced, designed to help small businesses in the drought-stricken areas of Texas and the Southwest. It would authorize the Small Business Administration to make loans to those businesses that have suffered substantial injury as a result of the drought. He asks that it be referred to the appropriate committee so that they can proceed with its consideration as quickly as possible. The Johnsons attend a white tie dinner at the White House, in honor of the Governor General of Canada, Vincent Massey.
- 5/5 LBJ, Rayburn and other congressional leaders are briefed by Secretary Dulles.
- CTJ attends a reception for Stephen Mitchell at the Women's National Democratic Club.
- LBJ urges a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee to increase funds for research on converting salt water to fresh water. The House has allowed only \$225,000 to be appropriated rather than the \$400,000 requested.
- 5/6 The Johnsons attend the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner at the Mayflower. Kennedy is chairman of the affair. Truman, Johnson and Rayburn address the crowd of 1600, attacking the Eisenhower foreign policy. Referring to the Amy-McCarthy hearings, Johnson says that "we cannot afford these circus luxuries, the TV spectacles . . . What have these silly quarrels to do with the problem of security against the gathering storm that threatens liberty?."
- 5/7 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor about legislation which he co-sponsored two years ago, which increased federal assistance to states for aid to the aged, blind and disabled. The increase was for two years and is due to expire on 9/30/54, unless it is extended. LBJ introduces a resolution to extend the programs for another two years.
- Dien Bien Phu falls.
- The Johnsons attend a reception for President Truman at the Sheraton Park Hotel.
- 5/8 In a sharp setback for Eisenhower, the Senate votes 50-42 to send proposed administration changes in the Taft-Hartley Act back to committee. All 48 Democrats plus Republican senators Malone, Young and Langer, as well as Independent Senator Morse voted to recommit the bill. Commenting on the bill, James Rowe writes Arthur Goldberg on 5/12 asking ". . . what comments you had on my friend Lyndon Johnson's performance in knocking off the Taft-Hartley amendments for you, when every Democrat is in his seat and Every Democrat votes the same way--which was the labor way--I would think you would moderate your criticism."

- 5/9 The Johnsons attend a luncheon at Senator Byrd's home, Rosemont.
- 5/12 Senator Clyde Hoey of North Carolina dies at his desk in his Senate office, apparently of a stroke. LBJ informs the Senate and they adjourn out of respect. Sam Ervin is later appointed to Senator Hoey's seat.
- 5/14 Perle Mesta speaks at a luncheon at the Congressional Club.
- LBJ flies with a group to the Air War College in Montgomery, Alabama, and later that day to Lubbock and Amarillo. In Amarillo, LBJ states that the U.S. government "will take every course we can to avoid sending our men into jungle combat," that America "will not stand by and watch the loss of Southeast Asia to communism."
- 5/15 LBJ attends the Armed Services Day ceremonies in Amarillo, then flies to Bryan to address the annual banquet of Texas A&M graduating seniors.
- 5/16 LBJ is to address the commencement exercises at Sam Houston State College in Huntsville.
- 5/17 LBJ is in Austin for the opening of the Lowich Building and dinner at the Austin Club.
- The Supreme Court rules 9-0 in the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas case, that enforced racial segregation of public education is a denial of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the 14th amendment. "Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." In a second Brown decision a year later, the Court addresses itself to compliance but does not order immediate desegregation, called for local school boards and local courts to work out solutions to the problems and bring about desegregation "with all deliberate speed."
- 5/18 LBJ gives a speech on the Senate floor regarding the recent Supreme Court decision on segregation: "I have unlimited confidence in the ability of our people to work this matter out within the boundaries of the Supreme Court decision and in a manner that will be satisfactory to both races."
- 5/19 The Deasons arrive in Washington for a visit. Mrs. Sam Johnson is in Washington also.
- The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee meets to discuss multiple ownership of radio stations, as well as the distressed condition of American shipyards.

The Armed Services Subcommittee meets to consider the government-owned tin smelter at Texas City.

The Senate Appropriations Committee votes funds for Texas water projects.

LBJ makes a speech on the Senate floor condemning the resolution pending in the House to shut down the Texas City tin smelter. He writes Jesse Jones on 5/22 that "within a few days I expect the Armed Services Committee to report out favorably my resolution providing for the continuation of the smelter and the making of a full investigation of the question of a permanent domestic tin smelting industry."

5/20 LBJ visits Eisenhower to invite him to the Big Bend National Park ceremonies in October. Also to be present were Congressman Regan, Secretary McKay and a delegation from the park service.

5/22 CTJ and LBJ take the Deasons and Mrs. Sam Johnson to the White House, and also to the Preakness at the Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore, as guests of Herbert R. O'Connor.

The Women's Press Club Annual Dinner and stunt party for President and Mrs. Eisenhower. The Johnsons are guests of Mrs. Anita Lyons, CBS.

5/27 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor reporting Senate Con. Res. 79, which would keep the Texas City tin smelter in operation until 6/30/55 and would direct a congressional inquiry into the whole problem of a domestic tin smelting industry.

5/28 LBJ is in San Antonio.

5/29 LBJ flies from San Antonio to Dallas, where he attends the Annual Texas Award Luncheons of A. Harris and Company, at the Baker Hotel.

Haile Selassie addresses a joint session of Congress. Mrs. Sam Johnson attends the session using a guest ticket provided by Senator Knowland.

June

6/2 CTJ hosts a luncheon for Mrs. Sam Johnson

LBJ rallies his fellow Democrats to vote 42 to 40 to increase the REA's lending authority to \$135 million. Eisenhower had asked for \$55 million and the House had approved \$100 million.

George Brown sends LBJ a copy of the letter he sent to the Committee for Constitutional Government, berating them for their support of Dougherty. He writes: "Senator Johnson has personally and quietly sabotaged more radical legislation since he has been minority leader than any member of the Senate. He has been extremely successful in keeping the radical elements of the Democratic Party in line and fairly quiet. His position calls for a silk-glove diplomacy of the highest type.

6/4 LBJ meets with George Hunt, head of the Washington bureau of *Life*, and with Allen Merriam of the *Dallas Times Herald*, as well as with Stewart Alsop.

The Harold Stuarts host a mint julep party in honor of the Bentsens.

6/5 LBJ greets students from Gladewater, Texas at the Capitol Rotunda.

6/7 Maury Maverick dies in his sleep at Nix Hospital in San Antonio, after having had a heart attack on 5/24.

The Supreme Court rules in the Phillips Petroleum. Wisconsin case (5-3) that independent producers of natural gas are subject to federal rate regulation. Prior to the decision only companies engaged in transmitting gas across state lines were clearly within FPC regulatory powers. This leads to increased demands for a natural gas bill exempting or limiting the FPC's power to regulate the sale of natural gas. LBJ writes Eisenhower on 6/14 suggesting that he assemble a study commission to investigate problems of natural gas regulation and report back with recommendations.

6/9 Coke Stevenson announces that he will take an active role in Dudley Dougherty's campaign.

LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor introducing legislation to handle the question of title to the Chamizal Zone.

Late May and June

Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee is considering the McCarran aviation bill, anti-gambling bills, the trip-leasing bill, the Federal Power Act, multiple ownership of radio stations, the civil aeronautics act, and a bill regarding the advertisement of alcoholic beverages.

6/11 Senator Flanders introduces a motion to remove McCarthy from his committee chairmanship until he answers certain charges made about him in 1952 by the Senate Privileges and Elections Subcommittee of the Committee on Rules and Administration. Flanders agrees to postpone action on the resolution in order not to block the administration's legislative program.

- 6/14 CTJ attends a tea for Mrs. Nixon hosted by cabinet wives.

Meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee in Austin.
- 6/15 Dudley Dougherty names his wife Pat as his campaign manager. Harry Bengé Crazier is placed in charge of the advertising campaign.
- 6/16 The Budget Bureau, on behalf of Eisenhower, orders the AEC to sign the Dixon-Yates contract. The next day, Democrats introduce the Dixon-Yates contract into the hearings before the Joint Atomic Energy Commission on the atomic energy bill, charging that Eisenhower had exceeded his powers in ordering the AEC to sign the contract.
- 6/17 Senator Clements hosts a luncheon for Mrs. Johnson.
- 6/18 Senate Finance Committee reports the tax bill; a five-day debate begins on 6/28.

Anti-communist forces led by Col. Castillo Almas launch an attack on the pro-communist regime of Arbenz Guzman in Guatemala. Arbenz Guzman is deposed on 6/27.
- 6/19 LBJ addresses the 10th annual fish fry of the Fraternity of the White Heron in Fort Anahuac Park, and speaks on the development of Texas water resources.

Senator Lester Hunt commits suicide.
- c. 6-20 Liz Carpenter writes a column on Mrs. Sam Johnson, which is printed in several Texas newspapers. Ruth Schumm also does a story on Mrs. Sam Johnson.
- 6/22 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor concerning Senate Con. Res. 91, a resolution he is sponsoring reaffirming U.S. support of the Caracas Declaration of Solidarity. In the U.N. Security Council, Soviets had vetoed the resolution to turn the civil war in Guatemala over to the OAS. LBJ said that "The veto will not--and cannot--prevent the American states from assuming jurisdiction over the Guatemalan civil war. Under these circumstances, there can be only one interpretation of the action. It was open, flagrant notice that the communists are reserving the power to penetrate the Western Hemisphere by every means--espionage, sabotage, subversion and ultimately open aggression." The Senate adopts the resolution on 6/25 by a vote of 69 to 1: Henry Cabot Lodge writes LBJ on 6/28 thanking him for his praise of Lodge on the Senate floor.

LBJ goes to the White House to hear Walter Bedell Smith report on the Far Eastern Conference in Geneva. Senators Clements, George, Green, Russell, Byrd and Hayden attend, as well as Sam Rayburn.

Dudley Dougherty formally opens his campaign with a statewide radio broadcast. Coke Stevenson joins Dougherty in the broadcast.

6/23 LBJ has an appointment with Eisenhower.

6/24 LBJ meets with representatives from the American Bar Association to discuss efforts to improve congressional committee procedures.

6/25 Pickle reports to LBJ of rumors that Stevenson and Dougherty are on their way to Washington. (In fact, they go to New York City.)

LBJ makes a statement before the Flood Control Subcommittee of the House Public Works Committee in favor of Canyon Dam and Reservoir bill.

Eisenhower and Churchill meet in Washington.

6/26 LBJ and other congressional leaders attend a White House luncheon honoring Winston Churchill.

6/28-7/2 Senate debate continues on the tax bill. Senate Democratic leaders agree to wage an all-out fight for an amendment by Senator George which would raise the personal exemption from \$600 to \$700. The amendment is rejected 46-49, however. In further action on the bill, the administration proposal for a dividend credit is deleted and a dividend exclusion of \$50 is accepted. However, an amendment by Senator Long to delete the dividend exclusion entirely and substitute a \$20 tax credit for every taxpayer is rejected. On 6/30 LBJ speaks on the Senate floor in opposition to an amendment by Senator Williams of Delaware to reduce the oil depletion allowance from 27.5 per cent to 15 per cent. The amendment is rejected. The Senate does accept a provision allowing working widows, widowers and wives to deduct child care expenses under certain circumstances. The tax bill passes the Senate on 7/2.

6/29 LBJ is invited to a luncheon meeting of the Conference of Western Senators in the Capitol.

6/30 Children's tour of the White House.

Both Houses of Congress agree to a conference report to the Labor, Health Education and Welfare Appropriation bill. Congress compromised with a \$50,000 appropriation for the migratory labor program.

The Joint Committee on Atomic Energy reports the atomic energy bill to both houses of Congress.

Late June Harry Truman has been ill and is in Research Hospital in Kansas City.

July

7/1 LBJ makes a brief statement on the Senate floor calling for a mutual effort in helping victims of the flood of the Rio Grande River, both American and Mexican. On behalf of himself and Senator Daniel, LBJ introduces a concurrent resolution expressing the sympathy of Congress and a desire to help people on both sides of the Rio Grande. He asks unanimous consent that it be read and considered immediately.

LBJ attends a stag dinner in honor of J. Ed Johnson.

Senator Hugh Butler (R-Nebraska) dies; funeral service is held on July 3.

7/2 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor supporting Knowland's call for a bipartisan reappraisal of U.S. foreign policy. Afterwards he and Senator Herbert Lehman have a heated discussion over the issue of U.S. withdrawing from the U.N. if Red China is admitted.

The House passes a compromise farm bill, setting parity on basic commodities at 82 1/2 to 90 per cent. Earlier efforts to freeze parity at 90 per cent failed after Eisenhower indicated he would veto such a bill.

Dudley Dougherty makes a radio speech indicting LBJ on several counts: (1) that LBJ voted to have U.S. military personnel stationed in a foreign land be tried by the courts of the nation where they are stationed, if they commit an offense, rather than be tried by American military courts; (2) LBJ voted to allow an additional 209,000 people from Europe into the U.S., in addition to the regular immigration quotas fixed by law; (3) LBJ voted to increase senators' salaries in a sneaky and deceptive manner; (4) LBJ voted to draft the railroad men into the army, because they were demanding fair wages and operating rules, in 1946.

7/5 LBJ's calendar notes that "either Senator or Mrs. Johnson to dedicate the Farrell's Bridge Reservoir," nine miles west of Jefferson, Texas.

7/7 Jake Pickle writes LBJ about meeting with Jerry Holleman, secretary of the state Federation of Labor. He writes that the state F of L does not officially "endorse" any candidate, "although the action they take and the word they pass is tantamount to such endorsement. I believe he will do most anything we want."

7/8 LBJ, Price Daniel and Congressman Paul Kilday issue a statement regarding cancellation of the School of Aviation Medicine at Brooks Air Force Base, calling it a "shockingly irregular action," which they are going to investigate. On 7/21, Air Force Secretary Talbott announces the project will be continued.

- 7/9 LBJ has lunch with Senator Clements to discuss the Democratic Campaign Finance Committee.
- LBJ makes a brief statement before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs urging approval of S. 3699, which would give the consent of Congress to an interstate compact between Texas and Louisiana relating to the Sabine River and its tributaries.
- The director of the Anti-Defamation League of B’Nai B’rith issues a statement regarding Dudley Dougherty’s use of anti-Semitic material entitled the “Williams Intelligence Summary,” in the campaign, and providing information on the source of the material.
- LBJ gives a speech in the Senate concerning drought conditions in Texas and the approaching cut-off date for the national drought relief protein feed program. An administrative decision or special aid program could extend this date.
- 7/10 LBJ has an appointment with Secretary Dulles at the State Department.
- 7/12 LBJ meets with John T. Jones, president of the *Houston Chronicle*.
- 7/13 LBJ attends a dinner hosted by officers of the AFL for senators who are candidates for re-election.
- CTJ flies to East Texas, returning 7/17. While there, she attends a meeting of clubs in Jefferson and a Daingerfield Chamber of Commerce barbecue at a state park near Daingerfield.
- 7/15 Secretary of Defense Wilson and other Defense Department officials appear before the Armed Services Committee regarding progress in implementing Defense Department directives on Armed Services security cases.
- LBJ submits the name of James P. Nash to be nominated for alternate delegate to the U.N.
- LBJ writes Eisenhower about drought conditions in Texas, urging him to either extend the national drought relief protein feed program, which expires on 7/15, or to devise a special program of assistance for stricken areas. He also gives a speech on the Senate floor about the drought in Texas and about his efforts to urge the President and the Secretary of Agriculture to meet the need for drought relief.
- 7/16 CTJ attends a luncheon at the Lone Star Steel Plant and Staff House.
- The FPC puts a freeze on wholesale natural gas prices, as a first step toward federal regulation of rates of independent natural gas producers, in accordance

with the Phillips Petroleum Supreme Court decision. On 7/17, LBJ writes Jerome Kuykendall, chairman of the FPC, urging the commission to reconsider its order and defer action pending a re-hearing before the Supreme Court--as requested by the state of Texas--and the President's decision on LBJ's request for a study commission.

7/17 CTJ returns to Washington from East Texas.

7/18 Sam Low writes LBJ about Harris County campaign activities on his behalf. Low arranged to have Harris County Democratic Executive Committee add LBJ's name on the instructions going to precinct workers, and Mrs. Frankie Randolph has 80 per cent of all the precincts there fully organized.

7/19 Lynda Bird leaves for Texas.

7/20 LBJ and CTJ cast absentee ballots for the Democratic primary from Washington.

Jake Pickle writes LBJ several memos and a letter reporting on campaign activities. He reports that Joe Steadman's office sent out another letter to all key labor leaders which repudiated the phony endorsement someone had already sent out.

Filibuster begins on the atomic energy bill. Knowland schedules an all-night session to break the filibuster.

7/21 In debate on the Senate version of the atomic energy bill the Senate rejects an amendment by Senator Anderson to kill the Dixon-Yates contract. It then adopts an amendment by Senator Ferguson to authorize contracts of the Dixon-Yates type, provided they are submitted to the Joint Atomic Energy Commission thirty days before going into effect.

The Indo-China truce is signed in Geneva. Vietnam is divided on the 17th Parallel; elections will be held in two years to establish a single government. Cambodia and Laos are neutralized and an International Control Commission is established composed of representatives of Poland, India and Canada. The U.S. does not sign the agreements.

7/22 LBJ writes Senator Styles Bridges, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, notifying him of his opposition to a request for a supplemental appropriation of \$300,000 for the FPC to grant the commission expanded facilities for handling the workload that will arise if the Supreme Court decision in the Phillips Petroleum, case stands. LBJ intends to urge rejection of the request upon the Committee and the Senate as a whole.

LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor repudiating a statement made by Senator Aiken, who said the Democratic leadership had notified him that they would not permit action on the farm bill--with its central issue of flexible-vs.-fixed price supports--until after the July 27 primary election of Senator Ellender. LBJ says the only barrier to farm legislation this session is the artificially imposed deadline of 7/31 for congressional adjournment imposed by the Republican leadership.

7/24 Texas Democratic primary election. Voters overwhelmingly return LBJ to the Senate. Allan Shivers and Ralph Yarborough are in a runoff for the gubernatorial nomination.

Senate recesses after yearly 86 hours of continuous session in the atomic energy filibuster. Debate resumes the next day and does not end until 7/27.

Before the Senate finally recessed late Saturday night, a series of tributes to LBJ were made. Knowland was the first to congratulate LBJ on his re-election, followed by Price Daniel, Senators Holland, Smathers and Butler. Marshall McNeil reported on 7/31 that LBJ got into his first real trouble as minority leader that Saturday night, right after this series of tributes, over the amendment to the atomic energy bill. His efforts to end the filibuster had alienated liberal Democrats, so that on the final vote on passage of the atomic energy bill LBJ voted for the measure, along with 10 other Democrats. 28 senators, including 26 Democrats, voted against the bill. McNeil also wrote that LBJ may also get into trouble over the question of who he will support in the runoff election for governor in Texas.

7/25 CTJ attends a dinner aboard the *Sequoia* with the Andersons.

LBJ attends a dinner and picture premier hosted by Ed Cooper and Democratic senators.

Late July Bill Moyers is apparently working in LBJ's Washington office this summer.

7/26 Dinner at the White House honoring the President of the Republic of Korea, Syngman Rhee.

Returns showed that apparent losers in the Texas primary elections were Wingate Lucas of Grapevine and Kenneth M. Regan of Midland. Jim Wright, mayor of Weatherford, defeated Lucas. Regan was trailing J. T. Rutherford by a slight margin and the verdict was still in doubt at this date.

7/27 Roy H. Cullen writes LBJ: "You made a wonderful campaign in this last election from Washington, D.C. Congratulations! I called your campaign manager in Houston and offered my assistance in the way of finance or writing an article

about you. He thanked me and said that he would not need any assistance. He said you would be elected by a very large majority. This is the first time in my life I offered help to a candidate and found he did not need it.”

7/28 CTJ goes to New York City.

LBJ attends a luncheon immediately following the joint session of Congress given by the Vice President in honor of Syngman Rhee of Korea. He also attends an adjournment party for Senator Lehman in his office, as well as a stag dinner given by Senator Magnuson in honor of Senator Ed Johnson.

7/29 CTJ leaves for Bermuda and stays there until 8/6.

LBJ meets with Herbert Hoover and some of the Congressional leadership regarding the Iranian situation.

Eisenhower nominates Wright Morrow as one of the alternate delegates to the U.N.

7/30 LBJ attends a reception and buffet hosted by the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

Senator Flanders introduces his resolution charging McCarthy with “personal contempt” of the Senate. On 8/2 the Senate votes 75-12 to turn over charges against McCarthy to a select bipartisan committee of 3 Republicans and 3 Democrats.

7/31 Democratic county conventions are held in Texas. In Dallas a resolution praising Rayburn and LBJ is hooted down by conservative Democrats.

LBJ attends a dinner party given by Senator Kerr in honor of Senator Ed Johnson.

August

8/2 LBJ appears before the Senate Judiciary Committee subcommittee hearing on the Texas City disaster claim bill, which proposes to afford restitution which would have been their right had the explosion been caused by private individuals. He urges the committee to act favorably on the legislation today. On 8/5 he attends a special meeting of the subcommittee regarding claims for damages.

8/5 Knowland and LBJ announce the members of the select committee to investigate Senator McCarthy. The members are Arthur Watkins (chairman), Frank Carlson, Francis Case, Edwin Johnson, John Stennis and Sam Erwin. The hearings are conducted from 8/31 to 9/13. They are open hearings but not televised, and

Watkins told reporters: "Let us get off the front pages and back among the obituaries."

Marshall McNeil reports in his column that neither Texas senator will publicly support either Texas gubernatorial candidate. McNeil adds that the "guesses," however, believe LBJ will vote for Shivers because his decision not to run in 1954 for the Senate was such a relief to LBJ's friends.

8/6

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approves all nominees to the General Assembly U.N. delegation, except that of Wright Morrow, the Texas Democratic national committeeman who backed Eisenhower in 1952. As a result, the National Democratic Committee refused to recognize Morrow as the Texas national committeeman. LBJ is believed to have objected to Morrow's appointment, but he refuses to comment on the matter.

LBJ does write Jesse Jones on 8/14 regarding his position, however: "The State Department asked me for my recommendation concerning a delegate to the U.N. I supplied it on July 13. On July 24, the appointment, which is recommended by the President and confirmed by the Senate, was tendered Mr. Morrow. I was not consulted or informed."

"When the Committee considering the appointment requested my approval, I withheld approval and made inquiry of the Secretary of State concerning the recommendation I had made and asked whether this kind of action affecting a senator from Texas should be made without even his knowledge, much less his approval."

"The nomination is still pending. I am waiting to hear from the State Department before determining what course of action should be taken."

On 8/19, LBJ is informed that Wright Morrow's nomination for U.N. alternate delegate has been withdrawn and that James P. Nash, LBJ's nominee, has been nominated as alternate delegate to the U.N.

8/8

LBJ and Wright Patman cancel plans to address the Texas Retail Grocers Association meeting in Houston because of the continuation of the congressional session.

8/9

LBJ, Price Daniel and Jack Brooks jointly announce approval of a \$1,250,000 federal grant for construction of a new hospital in Orange, Texas.

LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor regarding the Agricultural Act of 1954 and his opposition to flexible price supports. He then votes against the farm bill, which would establish flexible system of price support at 82 1/2 to 90 per cent of parity. The bill passes 49-44, however.

- 8/10 In a defeat for the Eisenhower Administration, the Senate votes 45-44 to approve Senator Humphrey's amendment to the farm bill. The amendment would prevent the Secretary of Agriculture from limiting the number of terms to which County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee members may be elected. On 6/10/54 Agriculture Secretary Benson had limited the number of terms for any committeeman to three consecutive terms, because the committeemen were favorable to New Deal programs. These committees are the basic unit of administration for federal farm programs, consisting of farmers elected by their neighbors to draw up acreage allotments and to watch for over-planting, et cetera. The Administration's farm program becomes a major issue in the fall congressional elections, with the Democrats charging that the flexible price supports will further reduce farm income.
- 8/12 A Senate agreement is reached to curb debate on atomic energy legislation and bring the compromise measure to the Senate floor under a talk limit of three hours.
- 8/13 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor concerning the conference report and revision of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. He urges a "no" vote on the conference report and a motion to return the bill to conference, insist on Senate amendments, and appointment of conferees, as is the standard procedure. On 8/14, the Senate rejects the conference report 48-41 with only 2 Democrats (Byrd and Fulbright) voting for the bill.
- 8/14 Bill Moyers, Harry McAdams and Mary Fish have arrived in Austin.
- Estes Kefauver writes LBJ to renew his application for an assignment to the Atomic Energy Committee when the committees are reorganized after the fall elections.
- 8/16 Stephen Mitchell charges that Eisenhower had personally ordered the awarding of the Dixon-Yates contract and that a director of one of the companies involved was one of the President's closest friends (golfer Bobby Jones).
- 8/17 *The Austin American Statesman* reports that the Justice Department has announced that an income tax case involving George Parr has been forwarded to the U.S. Attorney in Houston and will be brought before a Houston grand jury. On the same day, Charles Herring writes LBJ about his conversations with William Rogers of the Justice Department regarding Herring's resignation as U.S. Attorney and his replacement by a Republican. Herring regards the forwarding of the Parr case to Houston as a personal affront to him.

The Senate passes a bill outlawing the Communist Party and making membership in it a crime by a vote of 81-1. LBJ voted for the amendment. Daniel did not vote, but was paired for the amendment.

8/18 The Senate passes the controversial compromise farm by 44-28, giving Eisenhower flexible agricultural price supports. The vote came after a 14-hour session during which there was a long squabble about whether or not there had been a “gentleman’s agreement” not to take a record vote. The bill was opposed by farm state members of both parties who wished to continue mandatory supports at a minimum of 90% of parity.

8/19 LBJ and other farm state Democratic senators charge that the administration’s drought relief program is “grossly inadequate.” In a speech on the Senate floor, LBJ charges that the administration is more concerned with saving money than with saving people.

8/20 LBJ delivers a statement on the Senate floor regarding the achievements of the 83rd Congress.

The Senate adjourns, but is subject to recall on 5-day notice for study of the McCarthy censure. On 9/24 Knowland announces that the Senate will reconvene on 11/8 solely for the McCarthy issue.

8/22 LBJ leaves for Texas.

8/27 On LBJ’s birthday, the Thornberrys, Winters and Moursunds come over for a quiet celebration.

8/28 Runoff election for Democratic candidates for governor in Texas. Shivers defeats Yarborough, with a total of 775,088 votes to Yarborough’s 683,132 votes.

8/31 The Government Operations subcommittee releases its report on the Army-McCarthy hearings. The Republican majority concludes that McCarthy was not guilty of using improper influence on Schine’s behalf but should have exercised more vigilance over his staff. They also find that Roy Cohn had been “unduly aggressive and persistent” on behalf of Schine and that the army had attempted to terminate the investigation and should have protested to the committee attempts to influence them by Cohn. The Democratic minority reported that McCarthy had condoned Cohn’s actions and also criticized Stevens for lack of administrative judgment.

September

During the summer, LBJ wrote constituents that he may be out of the country in September.

- 9/1 Senator Burnet Maybank (D-South Carolina) dies.
- 9/4 LBJ and CTJ visit in Houston.
- 9/7 Spessard Holland writes LBJ regarding his desire to be appointed to the Appropriations Committee.
- 9/8 The Southeast Asia Defense Treaty is signed in Manila by the U.S., Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand and the Philippines. The signatories agree to resist armed attack against the general area of Southeast Asia and the Southwest Pacific. Protection is extended to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, although these areas are barred from joining a military alliance by the Geneva accords.
- 9/10 LBJ goes to Temple.
- 9/13 LBJ writes Hubert Humphrey regarding Democratic goals for the 84th Congress in the event Democrats receive a majority.
- 9/27 In a unanimous report the Watkins Committee recommends that McCarthy be censured on two counts: McCarthy's conduct before the Senate Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections in 1952; and his treatment of Brigadier General Zwicker.
- 9/28 Senator Pat McCarran (D-Nevada) dies.
- 9/28-10/30 The Senate Antitrust and Monopoly Subcommittee holds intermittent hearings on the Dixon-Yates contract.
- October**
- 10/6 LBJ, speaking at the 35th annual meeting of the Mid-Continental Oil and Gas Association in San Antonio, describes the Supreme Court ruling in the Phillips case as "shockingly wrong."
- 10/8 Eisenhower makes a nationwide television address warning that a Democratic congressional victory would start a "cold war of partisan politics between the Congress and the executive branch" which would block the administration's work. Rayburn and LBJ send a joint telegram to Ike complaining that he had made "an unjust attack on the many Democrats who have done so much to cooperate with your administration and to defend your programs against attacks by members of your own party."
- 10/11 LBJ sits for photographs in the Austin office for *Time* and *Life* magazines.

- 10/13 LBJ leaves for a ten-state western speech tour for Democratic candidates for Congress.
- 10/14 Vice President Nixon is scheduled to speak before the Druggists Association meeting in Houston. LBJ had originally planned to have a plane there to transport him to the LBJ Ranch to spend the night there with LBJ, but Nixon altered his plans to stay in Houston to give a fund-raising speech. He writes LBJ on 9/28: "One condition that I insisted upon in making the speech was that I not have to endorse the Republican candidates for the House and Senate in Texas. You can be sure that nothing I say will be in anyway uncomplimentary as far as the minority leader is concerned."
- 10/15 LBJ is in Seattle, speaking on behalf of Scoop Jackson and Warren Magnuson.
- 10/16 LBJ is in Billings, Montana for an evening rally, speaking on behalf of Senator James Murray.
- 10/17 LBJ gives a speech at an afternoon barbecue in Cheyenne, Wyoming on behalf of Joe O'Mahoney.
- 10/18 LBJ is scheduled to speak at an evening rally in Casper, Wyoming on behalf of Joe O'Mahoney.
- 10/19 LBJ speaks at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah in the morning and at an evening rally in Sands, Utah.
- 10/20 LBJ is in Las Vegas, Nevada, campaigning for Alan Bible, who is running for the Senate seat to replace Pat McCarran, who died last month.
- 10/21 LBJ is in Tuscon, Arizona, and Rayburn is in Independence, Missouri. Both are speaking on behalf of Democratic candidates in a drive to regain Democratic control of both houses of Congress. LBJ spends the night in El Paso and flies to Albuquerque the next morning.
- JFK has back surgery (double spinal fusion operation) in New York City. He suffers severe postoperative complications and is twice given last rites.
- 10/22 LBJ makes a speech before the 10th Regional meeting of the REA in Albuquerque, and announces a 7-point program for the next Congress, including cooperation with Eisenhower on foreign policy, investigation of the Dixon-Yates power contract, and a revised farm program. LBJ flies to Minneapolis that night.
- 10/23 LBJ attends a luncheon in Minneapolis and then drives to a farm rally in Madison, Minnesota.

West Germany is granted sovereignty and admitted to NATO and the Western Europe Union.

- 10/24 LBJ ends his ten-state tour in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and flies back to Austin that morning.
- 10/27 Tony Buford has been visiting LBJ and CTJ at the Ranch. He writes LBJ on 10/27: "Many thanks from the bottom of my heart for a wonderful time at your ranch. I arrived home this morning"
- 10/28 LBJ addresses the Gillespie County Farm Bureau farm membership meeting at Gillespie County Fairgrounds.
- 10/29 LBJ flies to Las Cruces, New Mexico to speak on behalf of Senator Clinton Anderson and stops over in El Paso en route.
- 10/30 LBJ is scheduled to speak in Yuma, Arizona.

LBJ and Rayburn cable Eisenhower answering the charge by his "chief subordinate" [Nixon] that the election of a Democratic Congress would mean election of a "Left Wing" Congress that would be obtrusive and uncooperative. They then send a copy to every Democratic candidate for the House and Senate.

November

- 11/2 Election Day. LBJ and CTJ cast their votes in Johnson City. LBJ, Shivers and Rayburn are re-elected. LBJ defeats Republican candidate Carlos G. Watson with 538,417 votes to Watson's 95,033. Shivers gets 569,533 votes to Tod Adams' 66,154 votes. Bruce Alger defeats Walter Savage in a class congressional race in Dallas.

Democrats elected to the Senate include Alben Barkley (Kentucky); Patrick McNamara (Michigan); Alan Bible (Nevada); Richard Neuberger (Oregon); Strom Thurmond (S. Carolina); and Joseph C. O'Mahoney (Wyoming). New Republican senators include Gordon Allott (Colorado); Thomas E. Martin (Iowa); Carl Curtis and Roman L. Hruska (Nebraska); Norris Cotton (New Hampshire); and George H. Bender (Ohio).

After close senatorial contests in New Jersey and Oregon are decided in favor of Democrats Clifford Case and Richard Neuberger, the Democrats hold 48 seats in the Senate. With Independent Wayne Morse voting with the Democrats on organization, as he has said he will do, the Democrats gain control of the Senate. Former Vice President Alben Barkley, newly re-elected to the Senate, says he will support LBJ for majority leader despite his seniority.

Democrats also gain control of the House.

- 11/3 LBJ, at a press conference in Austin, promises that the Democrats will cooperate with Eisenhower and lists seven major Democratic aims in the new Congress.
- 11/4 LBJ and Price Daniel attend an appreciation dinner for Albert Thomas in Houston.
- 11/5 LBJ flies to Bonham to confer with Rayburn over organization of Congress. He flies to Washington later in the day to attend censure hearings on Senator McCarthy.
- Eisenhower invites Democratic and Republican congressional leaders to a White House briefing on foreign affairs to be held on 11/17.
- 11/6 LBJ holds a news conference in Washington, and again promises cooperation with Eisenhower although he and other Democrats were disappointed with some of his campaign statements against the Democrats.
- 11/8 Senate reconvenes for a special session to consider the McCarthy censure.
- 11/9 CTJ goes to San Antonio with Liz Odom.
- 11/10 LBJ has a breakfast meeting with Robert Oliver and Walter Reuther.

In their first post-election conference, LBJ and other senators on the Senate Democratic Policy Committee took “aggressive domestic and foreign policy decisions” including: (1) not to permit Senate confirmation of the most important of Eisenhower’s appointments until the next Congress assembles in January; and (2) to warn Eisenhower that his November 17 review of foreign policy with Democratic and Republican congressional leaders must involve reconsultation as well as information”; and (3) to promise the country that in January the Democrats will give a “quiet burial” to the controversial Dixon-Yates private power contract.

McCarthy inserts in the Congressional Record a speech he made on 11/8 in which he calls the Watkins Committee the “unwitting handmaiden” of the Communist Party. On 11/16 Watkins announces that the censure report will be amended to include McCarthy’s recent remarks.

LBJ has a telephone conversation with Joe Kennedy regarding the rumors that JFK has cancer or Parkinson’s Disease.

- 11/11 LBJ meets with Harris Melasky for breakfast.

Dixon-Yates contract is officially signed by the AEC. The Joint Committee on Atomic Energy holds hearings from 11/4 to 11/13 and approves the contract by a 10-8 vote on 11/13.

11/12 LBJ meets with columnist Doris Fleeson.

11/14 The *Waco Tribune Herald* reports that South Carolina Governor James Byrnes called LBJ “an upstart” in a conversation with Governor Shivers at the Southern Governors Conference in Boca Raton, Florida. Byrnes and Shivers deny that Byrnes used that term but do not deny that they discussed LBJ as a possible presidential candidate in 1956.

11/15 LBJ has an appointment with Joe Kennedy.

11/15 LBJ meets with Roger Green of the AP.

11/16 LBJ tells the Senate it should not consider nominations to government positions in the present session but should concentrate on the McCarthy censure issue “if we’re going to get out of here before Christmas.” He appeals to Eisenhower not to send any further nominations to the Senate. The nomination of Judge John Marshall Harlan to the Supreme Court and two nominations to the AEC are pending.

11/17 LBJ goes to a morning meeting of bipartisan congressional leaders at the White House on foreign affairs.

LBJ attends the Harmon International Trophy Presentation at the White House; awards are given to Jackie Cochran and Mayor Yeager.

11/19 LBJ and CTJ fly to Austin to spend the Thanksgiving recess in Texas. They spend Thanksgiving in Karnack.

11/27 Alger Hiss is released from prison.

11/28 LBJ flies from Austin to Washington.

December

12/1 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor regarding McCarthy’s recent “unwarranted attack” upon members of the Watkins Committee and on the Senate itself. For LBJ, “the real issue is whether the Senate of the United States--the greatest deliberative body in the history of the world--will permit abuse of a duly-appointed committee seeking to carry out its will. It is just that simple If these are unwitting men, then our country is lost.” A motion condemning McCarthy’s abuse of the Watkins Committee is substituted for the one concerning his treatment of General Zwicker, and on 12/2 the Senate votes

to censure McCarthy on 2 counts by a vote of 67-22. Democrats vote 44-0 to censure McCarthy; Republicans vote 22-22. Morse votes to censure. McCarthy becomes the third senator in history to be censured.

- 12/2 LBJ makes a speech on the Senate floor regarding senators who are leaving office--Edwin Johnson, Guy Gillette and others.
- 12/3 LBJ flies to Amon Carter Field in Fort Worth with Homer Thornberry.
- 12/11 LBJ returns to Washington from Texas.
- LBJ meets with McNeil and President Eisenhower.
- LBJ attends the Gridiron Club dinner as a guest of William K. Hutchinson.
- 12/13 LBJ meets with Steve Mitchell.
- 12/14 LBJ goes to the White House for a meeting of the bipartisan congressional leadership. There Eisenhower tells members of congressional committees dealing with foreign affairs, national defense and mutual security that he will consult with them before making his recommendations in these areas. LBJ saw the plan as a "good idea."
- LBJ meets with Senators Clements and Russell for lunch.
- LBJ holds a press conference, apparently to respond to President Eisenhower's position on consulting congressional members before making foreign affairs and defense recommendations.
- 12/15 LBJ flies to Texas with Senator [and Mrs.?] Bridges, as well as Zephyr Wright. Styles Bridges writes LBJ on 12/20: "We returned to Washington last evening after a very wonderful trip to Texas. You and Lady Bird certainly made our visit most pleasant and we both thoroughly enjoyed it. We were so interested in your ranch and in learning something about the historical background of that section of the country as well as the current situation. Needless to say, the wild turkey shoot was tremendous . . . I hope your condition is not getting any worse and that your first consideration will be to look after yourself."
- 12/21 Christmas Party at St. Andrews.
- The Johnsons are in Texas and will be there until the first of the year.
- Late Dec. Around Christmas, John F. Kennedy is able to leave the hospital to go to Florida.