

1956 Chronology

January

- 1/1 Democratic senators hold a series of meetings as they return to Washington.
- 1/3 Congress convenes. Vice President Nixon welcomes **LBJ (Lyndon Johnson)** back to the Senate in his first appearance there since his heart attack.
- LBJ and Senator Knowland speak at a dinner sponsored by the Women's National Press Club to welcome members of Congress back to Washington.
- 1/5 The Democratic Policy Committee clears the controversial natural gas bill for Senate consideration by mid-month. Already passed by the House, the bill would exempt natural gas producers from federal regulation. LBJ says Democrats are "closely divided" on it, but predicted that a majority of Republicans will support the measure. Drew Pearson reports that LBJ is determined to "ram" the Harris-Fulbright natural gas bill through the Senate immediately, but he is going to encounter opposition from Senator Paul Douglas of Chicago. Chicago's Negro population "has been seething" since the recent murder of Emmett Till, from Chicago, in Mississippi. Senator Douglas is going to attempt to tack an anti-lynching amendment onto the natural gas bill.
- Eisenhower delivers State of the Union Message to Congress, outlining foreign, farm, tax and other major election-year issues. He calls for payments on the national debt before making tax cuts.
- 1/6 Speaking to the Texas press, LBJ says that the state of the union and world is not nearly as rosy as Eisenhower pictured in his message, and that the "political overtones" of his message were "the subject of deep disappointment and great regret" to those who had tried to cooperate with the administration in the national interest.
- President Eisenhower, in his first press conference since his heart attack, says he hasn't decided whether to seek the nomination for re-election.
- 1/9 LBJ announces that Eisenhower's proposed farm program fails to meet the emergency situation confronting America's farmers, and that "the problem is too serious to be handled in a partisan manner."
- LBJ reports that Senate Preparedness Subcommittee action prevented "waste and inefficiency" in ordering army tents that could have amounted to \$2,500,000, after finding that an oversupply of tents existed.
- 1/12 Drew Pearson reports on recent meetings held in the office of Reps. Hugh Scott of Philadelphia to discuss the protection of Negroes in the Deep South and civil

rights generally. Participants include Rep. Jim Roosevelt of LA, Dick Bolling of Kansas City, Adam Clayton Powell of NYC, and Charles Diggs of Detroit. They reportedly decided on strategy to abandon any attempt to pass a FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Act) and concentrate everything on an omnibus bill guaranteeing Negroes the right to vote and physical protection.

1/15 Senate debate begins on the natural gas bill. LBJ reportedly is on the floor for much of the three days of debate.

1/16 LBJ reports that Eisenhower's budget is nearly \$6 million above the goal the President set for this year as a candidate in 1951.

1/17 LBJ meets with Walter Reuther, Hubert Humphrey and Robert Oliver.

1/18 LBJ delivers his first Senate speech since his heart attack. He speaks in support of the natural gas bill and assails the Supreme Court for trying to "write the laws of this nation." During the afternoon, Senator Pastore delivers the first opposition speech against the bill.

LBJ, **CTJ (Lady Bird Johnson)**, the Thornberrys and Mary Rather fly to Florida to vacation until 1/28. They attend a dinner in honor of Senator George Smathers on 1/19 in Miami Springs.

1/20 After George Brown informs Charles Francis that LBJ is worried about Sam Ervin's support of the gas bill, Francis writes LBJ that he feels certain that he can count on the favorable support of Senators Murray of Montana and Ervin of North Carolina. He adds that he is working through several friends in Virginia to try to help with Senator Byrd.

1/24 Governors Stanley of Virginia, Griffin of Georgia, Coleman of Mississippi, and Timmerman of South Carolina meet in Richmond, Virginia, where they resolve "that the states have not delegated to the federal government or any agency thereof power to prohibit segregation of the races in the public schools" and ask their state legislatures to adopt a resolution of interposition or protest against the encroachment of a central government on the sovereignty of the states. (the so- called Southern Governors Protest)

1/30 Martin Luther King's home in Montgomery, Alabama, is dynamited.

February

2/1 After three days of meetings, British Prime Minister Anthony Eden and President Eisenhower issue the "Declaration of Washington," which warns people of Asia

and Africa against looking to the USSR for political or economic aid. In a separate statement, Eisenhower and Eden invite France to discuss possible three-power action in the Middle East. The discussions open on 2/8 in Washington.

- 2/2 After a reception in Skeeter Johnston's office, Prime Minister Anthony Eden makes a speech on the Senate floor, assessing the results of his talks with President Eisenhower. Admitting that some policy differences between the U.S. and the U.K. have not been ironed out, he says "Never has the identity of our common purpose been so plain." He also warns that a united front is necessary at this critical time and derides the Russian peace offensive.
- 2/3 Senator Francis Case (R-S.D.) announces that he will vote against the natural gas bill because of a \$2500 campaign contribution offered him by a lawyer "interested in passage" of the bill.
- 2/4 LBJ reports that he intends to move on Monday (2/6) for the creation of a select committee of the Senate (composed of two members from each party selected by the Vice President) "which will be granted every power necessary to place every relevant fact upon the public record." On 2/6 he offers up a resolution sponsored jointly by him and Senator Knowland authorizing the creation of a select committee to investigate the episode. The committee is approved on 2/7 by a 90-0 roll call.
- 2/5 Speaking at a California Democratic council convention in Los Angeles, Estes Kefauver endorses equal economic and political rights for all citizens and a federal statute punishing mob violence. Stevenson on 2/7 says he does not favor an amendment to a federal school aid bill denying funds to segregated schools.
- 2/6 The Senate passes the natural gas bill by a vote of 53-38.
- 2/8 LBJ attends a meeting for southern senators in Senator George's office to discuss interposition and segregation. LBJ and CTJ fly to Texas.
- 2/9 Walter Jenkins cables Charles Francis that "despite two efforts on the Senate floor to reduce Mexican sugar quota, Senate just now adopted sugar bill without amendment and retaining increase for Mexico." Francis writes Arthur Perry on 2/17 that he thinks it was a good thing for U.S.-Mexican relations; he feels "it makes the Mexican government a bit happier about some of the sales it is making to citizens of this country, such as the sale of gas to Texas Eastern."
- 2/9-2/17 Johnsons at the LBJ Ranch. There LBJ visits with his family and friends, rests, and makes calls to leading senators and political supporters in Texas.

- 2/10 The special committee investigating the Case incident begins hearings which last until 3/5. Testimony centers on the activities of two agents of Superior Oil Co. of California, John M. Neff and Elmer Patman.
- 2/12 Adlai Stevenson calls for removal of the desegregation issue from the presidential campaign. The NAACP promptly attacks his position.
- 2/14 Eisenhower's doctors give him the go-ahead to run for a second term, saying he has "made a good recovery" from the coronary thrombosis he suffered on 9/24/55.
- LBJ and CTJ attend KTBC board meeting in Austin. On 2/15 they hold a long meeting with KTBC sales staff--Bud Graham, Bob Meacham, Bob Slack, Bobbitt, Kellam, Harvey Herbst, Victor [?], Earl Deathe, Bolton, Elmo Brown, Chuck Brooks and Charles Howell.
- 2/14-2/25 At the 20th Congress of Soviet Communists Party in Moscow, Nikita Khrushchev proclaims a new party line, including destruction of Joseph Stalin as national idol. The rush to "de-Stalinize" releases forces in the communist world which the USSR is able to control only by bloody repressions of the June 28, 1956 workers revolt in Posnan, Poland, and the Hungarian revolt in Oct. and Nov. 1956.
- 2/16 Late in the day, the Johnsons go to the West Ranch, and then fly to Houston via Austin, where they pick up Sam Houston and Mary Johnson.
- Johnsons return to Washington on 2/17 after stopping in Floresville and Austin.
- 2/17 Eisenhower vetoes the natural gas bill, saying that while he favored the aims of the bill, he believes it should not be approved until completion of congressional and Justice Department investigations.
- 2/18 The Democratic Advisory Council of Texas holds statewide workshop for Democratic workers in Houston.
- 2/21 Montgomery, Alabama grand jury indicts 115 Negroes for participating in an 11-week boycott against Montgomery buses, thereby violating a state law against boycotting without "a just cause or legal excuse," punishable by \$1000 fine and six months in jail.
- 2/22 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor, calling up the Hennings resolution, first proposed by Senator Hennings on 2/6, after LBJ had made his proposal for a select committee. (This resolution proposed a select committee to investigate campaign contributions, lobbying, "or any and all other activities or practices"

designed to influence the Senate improperly and consisted of a \$350,000 allocation. On 2/7, however, Hennings asked unanimous consent that his resolution lie on the table, as was granted.) The investigation of the Case incident, LBJ said, “has developed sufficient facts to indicate already that a much broader inquiry is in order.” The Johnson resolution passes.

2/23 LBJ makes a statement on the Senate floor recommending for membership on the Select Committee created on 2/22: Albert Gore, John L. McClellan, Clinton P. Anderson, and John F. Kennedy. He states that he had first asked Walter George and Carl Hayden whether they wanted to serve on the investigating committee, but because both carry heavy burdens and are candidates for re-election, they felt “the additional burden of an investigation which will last for many months would be too great.”

Reedy reports to LBJ on his conversation with Wayne Morse, who said LBJ’s assistance and that of House members, is “desperately needed” to solve Morse’s “serious election problems.” He especially needs help on Hells’ Canyon and appropriations for Oregon power projects.

2/24 Secretary of State Dulles tells the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the free world is stronger than a year before, and that this growing strength has forced Moscow to abandon a harsh Stalinistic line and seek friends on a new basis. His remarks produce a bitter partisan debate, with Democrats led by Senator Fulbright heaping criticism and ridicule on Dulles.

2/25 Sarah McClendon reports that Drew Pearson, in his 2/19 radio talk, denounced LBJ and Rayburn for their roles in the natural gas bill. She adds that while Rayburn shrugged off the criticism, LBJ was “deeply hurt to think that anyone would believe he was trying only to help rich moneybags in Texas at the expense of poor families unable to pay their gas bill in cold New England states.” He then had the minutes of the Senate Democratic Policy Committee meeting inserted in the *Congressional Record* so that the truth would be known about his consultations with the Democrats.

2/28 LBJ submits on behalf of himself and Knowland a proposed unanimous consent agreement that limitations on debate of the farm bill will go into effect on 3/5/56. LBJ also makes a statement on the floor bringing up the new elections bill that he and Knowland sponsored.

LBJ flies to Austin, stopping en route in Waco to meet with Jesse Kellam. LBJ stays in Texas until 3/7, with CTJ joining him on 3/2, apparently taking care of personal business, inspecting land they are interested in buying, and establishing the Johnson Foundation.

2/29 In a press conference, Eisenhower announces that he will seek re-election. He says he is convinced his health would permit him to carry the “burdens of the presidency” under a reduced work schedule.

CTJ is scheduled to attend the President of Italy Giovanni Gronchi’s address to the joint session of Congress and later a reception at the Italian Embassy.

March

3/2 Over the opposition of Senators Morse and Lehman, Senator Eastland assumes the chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee made vacant upon the death of Harley Kilgore.

3/3 Dr. Frank Stanton arrives at the Ranch for overnight visit.

3/4 LBJ announces that 49 senators have joined him in sponsoring the elections bill he presented on 2/28. The measure has bipartisan sponsorship and has been left open for additional sponsors since it was offered.

Republic of South Vietnam holds first National Assembly election, resulting in a solid victory for the pro-western regime of President Ngo Dinh Diem and all candidates behind his administration.

3/5 While LBJ confers with Ed Clark, CTJ goes to Austin with Mrs. Clark and then on to Marshall.

3/6 Eisenhower makes public a letter to Soviet Premier Bulganin calling for a mutual agreement to halt production of fissionable materials for war. He conditioned his proposal on Soviet acceptance of his “open skies” plan for aerial inspection by the two countries of each other’s territory together with Bulganin’s proposal of ground inspection at key points. Bulganin promised a prompt reply.

LBJ leaves the Ranch with Ed Clark and drives to San Antonio, then flies from San Antonio to Houston to see Ernest Kurth. On 3/7 LBJ leaves Houston and picks up CTJ in Shreveport, Louisiana before returning to Washington.

3/7 Rayburn releases a cable he sent to LBJ in which he says that Texas’ political situation could be solved by making LBJ favorite son and also chairman of the Texas delegation to the Chicago Democratic National Convention. LBJ wires Rayburn that he will explore and consider his favorite son proposal carefully and will want to talk it over with him fully.

Eisenhower says he will leave it up to Nixon to decide whether he should seek the vice presidency. In the New Hampshire primary on 3/13, more than 22,000 Republican voters write in Nixon's name for vice president. March 19, Ike praises Nixon at a press conference and says: "I would be happy to be on any political ticket in which I was a candidate with him."

3/8 CTJ has an early-morning TV interview with Mark Evans.

LBJ makes an extemporaneous speech on the floor of the Senate during a debate on the select committee to investigate lobbying practices. He responded to the conflicts over chairmanship and rules of procedure which had marked the opening weeks of the committee's activities. He asks that the Senate delay judgment on the debate until the select committee can have further meetings and until the George Committee can get additional authority and time and complete their investigation. If it cannot, the 2 to 1 Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections can take over. (Gore is chairman of that committee.)

3/10 After disputes over the chairmanship and rules of procedure marked the opening weeks of the Special Committee to Investigate Political Activities, Lobbying and Campaign Contributions, Albert Gore withdraws as prospective chairman. Senator John L. McClellan is chosen unanimously to head the committee with Senator Styles Bridges as vice chairman, and rules are agreed upon.

3/12 101 southern congressmen (19 senators and 82 representatives) sign the Southern Manifesto to Congress, the "Declaration of Constitutional Principles," criticizing the Supreme Court desegregation decision and pledging lawful means to overturn it. (Another "manifesto" is issued on 7/13 by 83 southern representatives attacking the civil rights bill.)

LBJ and Sam Rayburn did not sign the manifesto. LBJ reports that he has neither seen the document nor has he been asked to sign it. He says it is a statement issued by individual senators and concludes his comments by saying "In my opinion, the solution of the problem cannot be found on the federal level, for it involves basic values reflected in the sovereignty of the states. It's my hope that wise leaders on the local levels will work to resolve these differences."

LBJ makes a statement on the floor regarding the elections bill and the widespread recognition of the need for early action on the bill. The bill would also permit radio and TV broadcasters to accord some equal, free time, if they choose, to the nominated candidates for president and vice president, without the threat of being overwhelmed by requests for similar time from "fringe" candidates of minor parties.

LBJ issues a statement concerning Rayburn's favorite son proposal: "I repeat what I have said so many times in the past--that I am not running for any office." He delays making any final decision on Rayburn's proposal, however.

3/13 LBJ issues a statement concerning the gubernatorial primary election race in Texas between Price Daniel and Ralph Yarborough. He says that he does not intervene in state politics, but adds that Daniel has been sympathetic, understanding and cooperative, "and he has been as able as anyone with whom I have worked."

CTJ attends premiere of *Richard III* at the Playhouse and the post-premiere party honoring Sir Laurence Olivier. She is vice chairman of the premiere and party, which benefits the Washington Heart Association fund drive.

LBJ announces the appointment of Stuart Symington, Henry Jackson, John Sparkman, Richard L. Neuberger, and Pat McNamara to the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee. Last weekend, Alben Barkley was appointed chairman and Hubert Humphrey was named vice chairman.

In the New Hampshire primary, Estes Kefauver, the only official Democratic candidate, receives 21,604 votes to 4,016 write-in votes for Adlai Stevenson.

3/15 LBJ releases a report from the Senate Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee urging the Defense Department to experiment with the auction sale method as compared with the sealed bid method in disposing of surplus military property. LBJ said the subcommittee had reason to believe the auction sale method might bring greater financial return.

The UAW sharply attacks the election reform bill in a statement given to members of the Senate Rules Committee: "The bill gives the appearance of actions toward clean elections without providing the necessary substance to implement that appearance." One of the many objections raised by the UAW was that independent organizations, such as labor political action groups, might be prevented from carrying on their traditional political activities.

3/16 LBJ reports that the Senate today rejected a proposal that would have cost Texas 55,000 acres of its cotton allotment. A section in the proposed agriculture bill would call for 1% of the national cotton allotment to be set aside as a "minimum acreage" for small farmers. The Senate accepted an amendment offered by Senator Anderson to strike this section of the bill by a vote of 46 to 43.

3/17 LBJ announces modifications in the election reform bill that would limit individual contributions to \$1000 per year.

3/19 LBJ makes a statement on the floor regarding the upcoming vote on the farm bill. He says that while he had seriously considered voting against the measure, he has decided the bill has been improved to a point where he can vote for its adoption. He adds that the only constructive alternative is to make a drastic shift in the make-up of the Agriculture Department.

LBJ announces that he has not made a decision on the favorite son proposal and that the whole idea is just in the talking stage: "The response from Texas has been almost entirely favorable. The response from Lady Bird has been much less enthusiastic."

After month-long debate, the Senate passes the farm bill, which calls for high price supports as compared with the administration's flexible supports program. According to William S. White, the Senate adopted a "compromise" by which the principle of high price supports was kept alive after LBJ recruited 9 Democratic votes that had been lost in earlier stages of the debate.

3/20 In the Minnesota Democratic presidential primary, Estes Kefauver wins 26 of the state's 30 convention votes. Senator Ellender of Louisiana said that the South will not accept Kefauver or his views on civil rights. His first choice for the nomination is Senator Kerr, but since he doesn't seem to want it, Ellender said he'd be 100% for LBJ.

3/21 A delegation from the Texas Democratic Advisory Council--Byron Skelton, Jerry Holleman, Kathleen Voigt, Mr. Pall of Houston, and L.F. McCallum (?)--calls on LBJ in his Senate office.

3/22 LBJ and Rayburn attend a bipartisan White House briefing by Secretary Dulles, who reports on his recent Asian tour.

Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., 27, is convicted in Montgomery, Alabama, of leading an illegal boycott against that city's bus line. His \$500 fine and \$500 court costs are converted into a 386-day jail sentence when he chose to appeal rather than pay the fine, but sentence was suspended.

House and Senate members hold a conference committee meeting on the farm bill which provokes outcry in both chambers. LBJ accuses the administration of trying to "intimidate" the Senate into compliance with its views by threatening a presidential veto of the farm bill. Eisenhower said yesterday that the Senate bill is unworkable as it stands, and he appealed to the conference committee to "write a good bill." LBJ in response urged the conferees "to ignore these attempts to pressure and intimidate them." He is sharply critical of Secretary

- Benson's program of flexible price supports for farm products at a press conference on 3/23.
- 3/25 Allan Shivers, appearing on the nationally televised network program "Meet The Press," originating from the Fort Worth studios of WBAP-TV, declines to say whether he would support LBJ for the Democratic presidential nomination and names only Frank Lausche of Ohio as one he could support. He says LBJ is personally a friend, but if supported by the Democratic Advisory Council of Texas, Shivers could not support him. He says the favorite son proposal of Rayburn's actually came from Byron Skelton, "who used Rayburn as his voice." Shivers promises to say what he thinks about the proposal at a State Democratic Executive Council dinner on 3/27 in Houston.
- LBJ announces the appointment of James Rowe as counsel to the Senate Democratic Policy Committee. Rowe has resigned from the law firm of Corcoran, Youngman and Rowe to assume the position, but will serve only during the remainder of the present session of Congress.
- 3/26 Southern Democratic state chairmen appear to be taking a wait-and-see attitude toward the Democratic nomination for president. While a few are leaning toward one person or another for the nomination, most say they are taking a hands-off position in the pre-convention fight or simply refuse to declare their stand on particular candidates.
- LBJ issues a statement in response to the President's request for authority to make ten-year commitments in the foreign aid program, and states that "the administration will have to make a compelling case to convince Congress of the need for economic aid and long term commitments. I doubt whether there is any substantial sentiment at the present time for committing our resources for an indefinite period into the future."
- 3/27 Senate rejects five proposed constitutional amendments to change the system of electing the president and vice president. One would have abolished the Electoral College and provided nationwide primary and direct popular elections. Another would provide direct popular election without a national primary. Others would make the electoral vote more reflective of popular vote. All are sent back to the Judiciary Committee for more study.
- Shivers, in a speech in Houston, says LBJ will be acceptable to him for the two roles--chairman of the Texas delegation as well as favorite son--only if he renounces "liberal" alliances with groups such as the Americans for Democratic Action, the anti-Shivers Democratic Advisory Council of Texas, and the CIO political action committee.

3/28 In a press conference, LBJ says he would be glad to go to the Democratic national convention if he could represent the great majority and head up “a delegation representing the broad middle ground of reason and sanity.”

Drew Pearson’s column contains a chronological record of actions of Internal Revenue agents in Texas when they tried to investigate the taxes of Brown & Root in the early 1940s. He reports that B&R gave big bonuses to their executives just prior to or during the 1941 primary in Texas, and that these bonuses are a device frequently used by corporations to mask campaign contributions. As the IRS investigation intensified, Alvin Wirtz and LBJ called on FDR, and after IRS conferences with B&R, their tax assessment was scaled down, fraud penalties decreased, and proposals for prosecution were dropped.

3/29 The Johnsons, Mary Margaret Wiley, Mary Rather, and Gene and Helen Williams fly to Texas, arriving at the Ranch late in the evening.

Eisenhower accepts resignation of Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay, effective 4/15, who resigns to run for Senate seat of Wayne Morse.

April

4/1 *The New York Times* reports that the GOP committee said today that the second session of the 84th Congress is shaping up as a “do nothing Congress.” At the same time, Sherman Adams told New York state television audiences that Eisenhower “so far has been disappointed in the accomplishments of this Congress,” which have been pretty small.

The Washington Post reports that JFK was successful in changing votes in the Senate and bringing about the defeat of the Daniel-Mundt-Thurmond plan to change the constitutional system of electing presidents and vice presidents by giving states a choice of two different methods.

The *Fort Worth Star Telegram* reports that there are some in the Rayburn camp who are still grumbling at LBJ and Rayburn for agreeing with Shivers that Lt. Gov. Ben Ramsey should be named national committeeman in place of Wright Morrow of Houston.

4/3 LBJ holds a meeting with his district men at the Ranch: Chilton O’Brien; Bob Clark; Cliff Carter; Sam Low; Dub Singleton; Warren Woodward; Tommy James; Paul Bolton; Mac DeGuerin; John Connally; Raymond Buck; Elmer Parish; Cecil Burney; J. C. Looney; Jay Taylor; Charles Gibson; Adrian Spears; Lloyd Croslin.

4/4 Marquis Childs reports that top executives in leading oil and natural gas companies are quietly spreading the word that they have Ike's personal assurance that early next year the administration will sponsor legislation taking natural gas out from under federal regulation.

4/5 LBJ announces he would find it difficult to turn down an invitation to head the delegation, provided it was not split into differing factions, but that he would make his final decision and announce it on Tuesday, 4/10, in a statewide radio and television appearance. LBJ refused to make any specific comment on either Shivers or his anti-LBJ speech recently made in Houston.

Late in the day, LBJ goes to San Antonio and meets with Kathleen Voigt, Jerry Holleman, Vann Kennedy and Jimmie Knight. He returns later to the Ranch with Jesse Kellam and John Steele. The Johnsons return to Washington on 4/7.

4/7 The George Committee investigating election practices issues its report concluding that the \$2500 contribution offered to Senator Case was "for the purpose of influencing the Senator's vote," though not an attempt to bribe him. The bipartisan committee "severely censured" John M. Neff and Elmer Patman, attorneys for Superior Oil Co., for their part in the incident and criticized the company president, Howard B. Keck, for "remarkable laxity" in supervising their activities. The report recommended that Congress make "a thorough and complete study" of the 1946 Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act and re-evaluate the Federal Corrupt Practices Act.

4/9 Congress reconvenes after the end of the Easter recess. News reports assert that Democratic leaders are apparently determined to ram major legislation through Congress in an effort to avoid having the session tagged as "do nothing." On the agenda for both houses is a compromise farm bill, a Social Security bill which would lower benefit age for women under the Old Age and Survivors Insurance section, extend and strengthen disability benefits, and raise employee-employer payroll taxes to meet the costs. Action on the Social Security bill will probably be delayed until the return of Senator Byrd, chairman of the Finance Committee, who is recuperating from a recent operation. Democratic leaders are also pushing for Senate action next week on legislation to exert some congressional control over the CIA.

The administration submits to Congress a draft civil rights program that calls for: creation of a six-member bipartisan commission to investigate civil rights grievances; creation of a Civil Rights Division in the Justice Department, to be headed by an additional assistant attorney general; authority for the federal government to use civil procedures for the protection of civil rights; broader statutes to protect voting rights, including civil remedies for enforcement.

On May 21 the House Judiciary Committee reports the administration's civil rights bill. As reported, the measure omits earlier committee provisions calling for a Joint Congressional Committee on Civil Rights and banning discrimination and segregation in interstate transportation. On July 23, the House passes HR 627 in substantially the form reported by the Judiciary Committee, after a week of debate and parliamentary maneuvering, on a 279-126 roll call.

- 4/10 LBJ, in a broadcast over Texas radio and television stations, agrees to lead the Texas delegation to the national convention and let his name be presented as favorite son candidate.
- Stevenson gets more than 703,000 votes to some 28,000 for Kefauver in the Illinois presidential primary election.
- 4/11 After the Illinois primary showed a strong Democratic gain, both houses of Congress vote by unexpectedly large margins to defy the President and restore the high, rigid farm subsidies. Nine farm-state Republicans left the administration's side, and several Democrats from urban states who had been against high subsidies turned around toward the end and went along with the rest of their party. White describes this issue as the only clear cut partisan issue in Congress, and in bringing it about Rayburn and LBJ "have largely absolved themselves in the minds of liberal Democrats for their insistence" on the gas bill.
- 4/12 Senator George says that in the event of a deadlock at the national convention, LBJ may well be chosen as the Democratic presidential candidate.
- LBJ meets with a group of 21 East Texans headed by Marvin Watson of Daingerfield. Later he flies to Austin.
- 4/13 In Austin, LBJ meets with precinct workers and advisers, including: Stuart Long; Eddie Joseph; Tommy James; Bill Deason; Sam Johnson; Mack DeGuerin; Herman Jones; John Connally; Dave Smith; Paul Bolton. LBJ returns to Washington on 4/15.
- 4/15 On "Face the Nation," Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., national chairman of the Americans for Democratic Action, said his organization probably "will sit out" the 1956 campaign if the Democrats nominate either LBJ or Governor Frank Lausche of Ohio for president.
- 4/16 LBJ announces he will step up his "Johnson for President" campaign and will ask a number of men and women to serve as a kind of Johnson-for-President club. Tom Miller and Edgar Perry were recently named co-chairmen of the Johnson

campaign committee. LBJ also reportedly denied saying he has no organization working in Texas.

A Senate Armed Forces subcommittee under the chairmanship of Stuart Symington opens hearings to appraise U.S. air force capability in relation to Soviet strength.

Eisenhower vetoes the farm bill. His veto sparks a three-hour debate on the Senate floor. LBJ makes a statement on the floor of the Senate, describing Eisenhower's veto as "a crushing blow to the hopes and legitimate desires of American agriculture." He adds that Congress is seeking to raise farm income, while the administration is seeking to keep farm income down.

4/17 Estes Kefauver suffers his second major defeat in the New Jersey primary, where Governor Robert Meyner and his slate of uncommitted delegates to the national convention win all but one contest, leaving Kefauver with only half a vote out of the state's convention ballots.

The *Dallas News* reports that Johnson-for-President backers believe they can depend on at least 472 national convention votes in the event there is a Stevenson-Kefauver-Harriman deadlock and the Chicago national convention turns to LBJ as a dark-horse compromise candidate. A majority of major Texas daily newspapers choosing up sides in the upcoming state Democratic Party convention fight are committed to LBJ.

4/18 LBJ wires county chairmen urging them to call an immediate caucus of favorable voters in their county to plan work for precinct conventions, and urging that meetings be held by 4/21 and be reported to Johnson headquarters by 4/25.

Former Representative Lloyd Bentsen, Jr., and former Vice President John Nance Garner publicly announce their support for LBJ as favorite son candidate for president. Garner is honorary chairman of the LBJ-for-President committee. On 4/19, Mayor Oscar Holcombe of Houston and Harlon Fentress of Waco are announced as members of the committee.

The Democratic National Committee chooses LBJ to reply to Eisenhower's radio speech explaining his veto of the farm bill. LBJ is scheduled to speak on Monday, 4/23, over CBS radio, ABC radio and television, and Mutual Broadcasting System radio. NBC has agreed to allow the Democrats a half-hour, but the date has not yet been announced.

LBJ issues a statement on the farm bill in which he describes the soil bank as a long range solution to a long range problem of conservation that is not designed

to meet the immediate problems faced by farmers. It is “nothing more than an effort to divert public attention from the facts of that frustration.”

Representatives of 12 nations, including the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., agree in Washington on the charter for a worldwide atoms-for-peace agency to be linked to the U.N. but not under Security Council jurisdiction. The charter is to be submitted to all U.N. member countries for ratification in September.

4/20 LBJ and Rayburn attend the Saints and Sinners luncheon at the Mayflower, where Rayburn is the subject for much of the spoofing.

Democratic National Committee meets in Washington.

4/21 The Committee unanimously selects Rayburn as permanent chairman of the national convention.

Party chairman Paul Butler attacks Leonard W. Hall, Republican National Committee chairman, for turning down an offer from NBC of free time for a short, weekly debate between the two chairmen from now until the election. Butler contends that the Republicans, with \$5 million in their campaign chest, had refused the free time to keep Democrats from using the opportunity to present their side to the people. Democrats, with only \$75,000 to \$100,000 available, cannot afford to match Republican spending for television time.

Eight Democratic congresswomen discuss issues at a meeting sponsored by Katie Louchheim, director of Democratic women’s activities.

Virginia’s Democratic senators issue a joint statement praising LBJ, saying that he is likely to gain support from all areas of the nation for the Democratic presidential nomination. Their statement is interpreted generally as inviting a rally of other southern Democrats to support LBJ, and as a notice to the party that they are not prepared to accept any of the candidates now regarded as leaders in the race for the nomination.

Shivers supporter George Sandlin sends questionnaires to 35 or 40 of the 183 on the Johnson-for-President committee membership list asking if they’ve broken with Shivers and no longer share his views on certain issues.

The *Washington News* reports that the Johnson-Knowland election reform bill, which 85 senators were persuaded to co-sponsor, is in trouble because pressure groups are beginning to find flaws and some sponsors are talking of backing out. The bill does not cover primaries, for one thing, and there will be a fight to put them into the bill if it reaches the floor. The Senate Rules Committee has not yet

acted on the bill, but if LBJ wants to get it to the floor, reportedly his Policy Committee can pass the word and bring this about.

Adlai Stevenson proposes an end to nuclear testing in a speech to newspaper editors.

c. 4/23 In the Texas AFL-CIO newsletter, Leroy Williams and Jerry Holleman, president and executive secretary of the Texas state AFL-CIO, urge union members to enter the May 5 Democratic precinct convention and to support LBJ.

4/23 LBJ makes his radio and TV address in response to Eisenhower's message regarding his veto of the farm bill. LBJ states that while the President may veto one farm bill, he can't veto the farm problem. While Eisenhower campaigned for 90% of parity during the 1952 election, he then failed to support his promises.

4/25 A newspaper editorial on the farm problem reports that LBJ blames the present slump in farm income on Agriculture Secretary Benson's flexible price support policies, but LBJ neglects to add that most of the slump occurred long before the flexible price support system was inaugurated.

Marshall McNeil reports that the "Dump Nixon" movement is flourishing again. High-ranking conservative Republicans in Washington are claiming that men such as Herbert Brownell, Jr., General Lucius Clay, Paul Hoffman, and Sidney Weinberg are discussing various alternative candidates, including Allan Shivers. Ten days ago Brownell made a "secret" trip to Woodville, Texas to visit Shivers at his ranch, while all his other stops were widely publicized.

4/26 LBJ has a physical checkup at Bethesda Naval Hospital, where he is examined by Dr. R.W. Gifford and pronounced in good shape.

Agriculture Secretary Benson announces corn price supports for farmers that do not comply with acreage restrictions will be 25 cents less than those for farmers who do comply.

A *San Antonio Light* editorial criticizes Allan Shivers for charging that LBJ cannot function effectively as chairman of the delegation if he also goes to the convention as favorite son candidate, saying that there is no rule or reason why a candidate cannot lead his delegation on the floor.

The *Fort Worth Star Telegram* reports that Rep. Cannon of Missouri, author of the convention parliamentary manual published by the Democratic National Committee, who will also serve as parliamentarian at the Democratic National Convention, has "thrown cold water" on Shivers' recent assertion that an

unwritten rule would prevent LBJ from leading the Texas delegation, and said “there is no rule, and there never has been a rule,” which would prevent LBJ from doing so.

The Sam Rayburn Foundation has begun construction of the Sam Rayburn Library in Bonham.

Vice President Nixon announces that he will accept the vice presidential nomination, and President Eisenhower informs the press at once that he is delighted.

A news article regarding LBJ’s proposal of a constitutional amendment to outlaw the poll tax in federal elections reports that the poll taxes are no longer regarded as a serious obstacle even in the five southern states where they are prerequisite to voting. Black leaders are not very interested in the Johnson amendment; they say that if Congress wants to abolish the poll tax it could do that by a simple statute adopted by majority rule.

4/27 The Johnsons leave Washington for a short visit in Texas, accompanied by Cong. Wright, George Reedy and Juanita Roberts.

4/28 A news story accuses Shivers of setting up a 34-station radio network to make a series of early morning attacks on LBJ for refusing to say what he thinks on interposition and for his refusal to sign the Southern Manifesto.

4/30 Former Vice President and Senator Alben W. Barkley dies of a heart attack after collapsing on stage at a student political convention at Washington and Lee University.

May

5/1-5/5 LBJ tours the state to promote his candidacy for chairman of the Texas delegation and favorite son.

5/1 LBJ, CTJ, George Reedy, Ed Clark and Juanita Roberts fly to Dallas. There LBJ meets with supporters at the Baker Hotel. Standing on a chair in the hotel’s ballroom, jammed with hundreds, LBJ charges that Shivers and Brownell plotted to divide and wreck the Democratic Party in Texas, and he appeals for support at Saturday’s precinct convention. In a live broadcast from KRLD, LBJ again accuses Shivers of consorting with an enemy of Texas interests and implies that Shivers and Brownell made some sort of political deal at Woodville.

Kefauver loses every delegate contest in the District of Columbia's Democratic presidential primary.

- 5/2 LBJ's group flies from Dallas to Waco. LBJ tape records an interview on KWTX and then delivers an impromptu speech at a reception at the Hotel Roosevelt. Back in Austin, LBJ meets with campaign leaders and supporters. He makes a speech before a large group in which he predicts that he will carry every district except that of Dallas, and criticizes Shivers and Texas newspapers for failing to play up the visit of Shivers and Brownell.

In a speech in Baytown, Shivers denies that he has personally attacked LBJ, except to say that his "ambition and vanity were causing him to make a bad mistake and go off with the wrong crowd."

- 5/3 LBJ and CTJ go to San Antonio for a political rally and TV speech in front of the Alamo. Later that day they go to Houston.

- 5/4 In Houston, LBJ holds an early morning press conference, meets with Mayor Oscar Holcombe at city hall, attends several receptions and a luncheon. That evening he speaks over KPRC-TV before returning to the Ranch.

CTJ, in a newspaper interview in Houston, reveals that she has received many bitter, anonymous calls in recent days, and that she is surprised by the nature of the campaign against Shivers for head of the Texas delegation.

- 5/5 Democratic precinct conventions are held in Texas. Precinct Five in Blanco County unanimously elects LBJ chairman of delegates to the Blanco County convention on Tuesday.

- 5/6 In conversations with Earl Mazo of the *New York Herald Tribune*, LBJ discloses that he was threatened with death or maiming by an anonymous telephone caller after his speech Thursday night at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio. Besides the insulting telephone calls to CTJ and Mary Rather, LBJ reported that when he arrived in Houston on Friday, he found a telegram signed by 23 prominent men dealing with the "race hate" issue and asking him to state whether he favored "white and Negro children attending the same school classes."

- 5/7 Following an afternoon press conference at the Ranch, LBJ meets with Fred Schmidt, Jerry Holleman, Kathleen Voigt, John Connally, and Vann Kennedy.

- 5/8 A Colorado editorial reports that the six senators from Oregon, Washington and Montana, with the help of LBJ, are trying to trade an act authorizing the disputed

high Hells Canyon dam on the Snake River for the Frying pan-Arkansas project in Southeast Colorado.

Democratic county conventions are held in Texas. In Tarrant County, a “smashing defeat” of Shivers’ forces in the county convention is seen as proof of the growing power of labor unions in Tarrant County politics. In Dallas, however, the conservative, pro- Shivers wing of Dallas County’s Democratic Party took over control of the convention after pro-Johnson forces made a noisy, well-planned bolt out of the State Fair Auditorium, claiming that they would not be given a fair and legal hearing in that convention.

Brown County breaks tradition by electing a Negro as one of delegates to the state Democratic convention taking place in Dallas on 5/22.

After attending the county convention in Johnson City, LBJ and CTJ fly to Fort Worth, where LBJ meets with Connally, Rayburn, Skelton and Voigt at the airport before leaving for Washington. Arriving at Butler Aviation that evening, LBJ, CTJ and Rayburn are met by a jazz band, a reported 1000 cheering Texans, Paul Butler and John McCormack. According to Drew Pearson, however, while LBJ returned to Washington with great stature, “his office staff did have to enlist elevator operators and hired help from the Capitol Building to get a welcoming crowd at the airport.”

- 5/9 Senator Walter George, 78 years old, announces that he will not seek re-election to the seat he has held since 1922. Eisenhower immediately offered him a new post as U.S. ambassador to NATO. At the same time, former Governor Herman Talmadge announced his candidacy for the Democratic senatorial nomination. On May 14, George discloses he has accepted Eisenhower’s offer and will work part-time on NATO job until the Senate adjourns.

- Spring The Johnsons (LBJ, CTJ and Luci at least) appear on Dave Garroway’s TV program.

- 5/10 Labor leaders Jerry Holleman, executive secretary of the Texas AFL, and Fred Schmidt, executive secretary of the Texas CIO council, deny report by Bill Gardner of the *Houston Post*, that there is a split between labor and LBJ forces of the Democratic Party in Texas. But on 5/12, Reedy advises LBJ to make a personal call to Jerry Holleman because “he is in a key position where he could shut off some of the steam behind the ultra-liberals,” like Stuart Long and Creekmore Fath.

- 5/11 Shivers announces that he is ready to support Eisenhower in Texas.

- 5/12 Robert Albright reports that LBJ's "Program With A Heart" has received a shot in the arm as a result of his victory in Texas. With a few modifications, the 13 points he laid down in his Whitney speech in November, 1955 still make up the "core" of the Democratic legislative program, and 3 points will come up on the Senate floor this week: the second edition farm bill, the road bill, and amendments liberalizing social security.
- News reports attribute Shivers' defeat in the county conventions to the scandals that have rocked his administration, especially in the Veterans' land board and insurance board.
- 5/13 "Washington Staff-Capital Chatter" reports that the following scheme is being seriously presented to the Democratic national committee for use at the upcoming national convention: It proposes that LBJ be nominated for the presidency, and then he will, so the plan goes, "mount the rostrum and in the presence of the convention and presumably tens of millions of viewers decline the nomination on the grounds that a man who has suffered a heart attack . . . should not undertake the burdens of the presidency."
- Homer Thornberry is admitted to the Mayo Clinic for tests.
- 5/14 Columnist reports that some Democratic Party veterans say it is not out of the question that the party turn to Truman, and some believe he would consider it.
- 5/17 President Sukarno of Indonesia speaks to joint session of Congress, saying U.S. military aid to Asian nations is no substitute for Asian stability, and will only increase dependence on the U.S.
- 5/18 Adlai Stevenson wins all of Oregon's 16 national convention delegate votes in its Democratic presidential primary.
- 5/19-5/21 LBJ flies to Texas and meets with campaign leaders and supporters in Dallas in preparation for the State Democratic Convention.
- 5/22 State Democratic Convention is held in Dallas. 112 delegates and 70 alternatives are chosen, giving Texas the sixth largest delegation, with 56 votes. LBJ is named chairman of the delegation, as well as favorite son candidate, to be supported by the delegation until released by him. After some negotiation, Byron Skelton of Temple and Mrs. Frankie Randolph of Houston are elected national committeeman and committeewoman. The only roll-call vote at the convention concerns the question of whether to replace the present disloyal State Democratic Executive Committee. It is decided not to elect a new committee, but have the safeguard of a resolution providing for the convention to reconvene

when called, if necessary, to elect a new committee. Kathleen Voigt is designated as director of organization for the campaign committee in Texas. Sam Rayburn is unable to attend the convention due to his sister's (Miss Lou), illness.

- 5/23 LBJ and CTJ, accompanied by Walter Jenkins, Booth Mooney and Bess Beaman, return to Washington.
- 5/24 The housing bill is passed by the Senate, requiring a number of roll calls, as LBJ defeated three Republican amendments by one vote.
- 5/25 Senate approves the State-Justice-Judiciary bill which the House had passed without amendment on 4/25, allowing \$110 million for USIA and \$18.2 million for the exchange program. The Senate Committee allowed \$115 million and \$20 million respectively, and like the House group barred use of any funds for a proposed Cinerama exhibit ship to travel ports of Asia and Africa. After the Senate passed the measure without change on 5/25, the conference report, approved 6/11, granted \$113 million to USIA and \$20 million to the exchange program.
- LBJ wrote Homer Thornberry on 5/18 that Eisenhower had called him just prior to the committee meeting to mark up the appropriation bill.
- 5/26 Miss Lou Rayburn dies in her home in Bonham, with the Speaker at her side.
- 5/28 Eisenhower signs the Agriculture Act of 1956, containing provisions for a soil bank and flexible price support program.
- James Rowe writes LBJ that the Republicans are building up Senator Eastland as the symbol of the Democratic Party on civil rights, and that they plan to make an issue of the Judiciary Committee's opposition to the nomination of Solicitor General Sobeloff for the Fourth Circuit Court. He contends that the issue will have the effect of isolating the southern Democrats, which is what the Republicans want.
- 5/28-5/31 LBJ goes to Mayo Clinic for a checkup. His general condition is reported as excellent.
- 5/29 Stevenson wins 22 national convention delegate votes in Florida's Democratic presidential primary. Kefauver wins 6 delegates.

June

- 6/1 Stewart Alsop reports that Kefauver's recent decision to play it rough in primary campaigning is sure to affect his whole political future. Among Kefauver's charges: that Stevenson favors monopolies because he had defended RCA before the Supreme Court, and that 6 Florida congressmen had "ganged up" on him by announcing for Stevenson.
- Roscoe Drummond reported that Kefauver is eliminated because of voter rejection and because Kefauver did the most damage himself by the character of his campaign in the last days of the Florida primary. He resorted to bitter, unsubstantiated personal attacks, implying that Stevenson is a tool of big trusts and is against old age pensions. Also, his spokesman insinuated that he was two-faced on segregation.
- 6/5 Stevenson wins 68 national convention delegates in California's Democratic presidential primary. On 6/6, Stevenson says he considers Averell Harriman his chief rival.
- 6/7 LBJ attends breakfast meeting with Rayburn and Paul Butler.
- Jim Rowe writes LBJ about his conversation with Jim Finnegan, reporting that Stevenson wants to meet with LBJ and that Finnegan would be down soon to make arrangements to do so.
- 6/8 Eisenhower is stricken with ileitis and hospitalized at Walter Reed, where he successfully undergoes surgery on 6/9.
- 6/9 Averell Harriman officially enters the Democratic presidential race.
- 6/10 Eisenhower authorizes Republican congressional leaders to announce he is still running for re-election.
- 6/11 Reedy sends LBJ a memo regarding the profound psychological impact of Eisenhower's health on the nation's economy and the domestic and foreign political implications.
- 6/12 LBJ attends a bipartisan meeting at the Cabinet Room of the White House to receive a message from the President.
- Marquis Childs reports that Eisenhower's second serious illness in less than 9 months has revived the controversy over his health and the question of whether

he will or should run again. Childs holds that the Republican Party is counting on him to save the party and will pressure him to run.

- 6/13 Britain's 74-year military occupation of the Suez Canal Zone ends quietly as the last British soldier leaves Port Said. British handed over responsibility for defending the zone to Egypt in accordance with 1954 British-Egyptian treaty.
- 6/17 The *Dallas Morning News* reports that national labor chiefs, especially those from the old CIO, have "quite a hold" on LBJ and the Democratic Party in Texas. Unions raised money and manpower to defeat Shivers and are therefore new political partners of LBJ.
- 6/19 The Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reports the Morse bill authorizing Reclamation Bureau construction of a high Hells Canyon Dam.
- 6/21 LBJ announces the appointment of Sen. George Smathers as chairman of Senate Democratic Campaign Committee, a post which has been vacant since the death of Sen. Alben Barkley. Hubert Humphrey is vice chairman of the committee.
- Robert Allen reports that Rayburn is forecasting that it will be Stevenson by the second ballot at the Chicago convention, because of a "bandwagon swing" to Stevenson and because he offers the best prospect for uniting the Democratic Party. Rayburn reportedly made this statement at a Capitol luncheon attended by a group of businessmen and other congressional leaders, including LBJ, Carl Hayden and Earle Clements.
- 6/22 LBJ meets with James Finnegan, campaign manager for Adlai Stevenson.
- LBJ announces that he has urged Undersecretary of State Herbert Hoover, Jr., to take immediate steps to protect domestic oil industry against the increase in oil imports, based on the administration's authority to act under the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act.
- 6/24 The *San Antonio Light* reports that in response to LBJ's harmony move that left the State Democratic Executive Committee in the hands of conservatives backed by Shivers, liberal Texas Democrats have launched "fair play" resolutions that call for gubernatorial candidates to promise acceptance of state Democratic executive committee nominees selected at senatorial district caucuses, to be held between the August 4 county conventions and the September 11 state convention. Price Daniel and Ralph Yarborough have made no promises to do so.
- 6/25 James Childers reports that LBJ is a not a dark horse candidate for the presidential nomination, that he does not want the nomination and would not

accept it. Childers reports that it is LBJ's belief that a man who has had a heart attack should not seek the nomination, and in this his wife concurs and is determined he will not be a nominee.

6/26 House and Senate pass record \$33.48 billion highway bill. The highway bill would assign more than \$434 million in federal funds for Texas during the next 3 years for highway purposes, a share greater than that of any other state.

Senate adds \$960 million to the air force budget over the objections of the Eisenhower Administration and passes, 88-0, a \$34.6 billion defense appropriations bill. LBJ announces that the Senate vote on the air force appropriation is evidence that the Senate is clearly on record that U.S. defenses must be strengthened. While it is unknown what Eisenhower would do with any extra funds Congress may provide, LBJ hopes that Eisenhower will take their expression into account. Senate-House conferees on the defense appropriations bill agree to a \$900 million increase, and the bill is approved by Congress on 6/29. Eisenhower signs the bill on 7/2.

6/27-6/29 Senate debates the foreign aid bill.

6/28 Allan Shivers makes an appearance before the National Press Club in which he says he would not support a Stevenson-Johnson ticket. He says the Democratic Party in Texas had been split because of the abolition of the two-thirds rule and the unit voting rule.

6/29 LBJ makes a speech on the Senate floor in support of a proposal made by the Foreign Relations Committee to make a critical reexamination of foreign aid and foreign policy.

July

7/1-7/4 After the Johnsons return to the Ranch on 6/30, LBJ takes few outside calls and receives few visitors due to a bad cold-virus infection.

7/2 Reedy reports to LBJ that, according to Clyde Ellis of the REA, Leonard Hall is passing out literature to the effect that the American people are now ready to ditch the REA and are against public power.

7/7 The Johnsons go to San Antonio to attend dedication ceremony of new KENS radio and TV studios, later flying to Houston. They return to Washington on 7/8.

7/9 Reedy reports to LBJ that J.R. Poppele, who recently resigned as assistant director, Radio and Television, USIA, was actually eased out by the

administration because of a “messy conflict of interest case.” Also, USIA reportedly made two documentaries for foreign consumption that are being rejected abroad as obvious Eisenhower propaganda.

July During much of July, LBJ’s committee meets to review, consider and mark up supplemental appropriations to the State, Justice & Judiciary bill, the Mutual Security bill, as well as supplemental appropriations for military construction.

7/10 LBJ attends executive session briefing by Gen. Twining at the Armed Services Committee meeting, but had to leave the session during his testimony to take a call from Eisenhower.

Eisenhower makes it clear he will go ahead with his campaign for re-election.

7/11 LBJ meets with Sen. Morse and others on the Hell’s Canyon bill.

7/13 83 southern representatives sign a manifesto against the civil rights bill.

7/19 The Senate rejects by a 41-51 roll call vote (D 39-8; R 2-43) the Morse Bill (S 1333) authorizing federal construction of a high Hells Canyon Dam. (Daniel was paired against; LBJ for.) Democrats voting against the bill were Frear, Smathers, Russell, Long, Eastland, Ervin, Boyd and Robertson. The two Republicans voting for it were Langer and Wiley. The Eisenhower Administration opposed the bill. Sen. O’Mahoney said the administration was particularly interested in defeating the bill because it believed it would help defeat Sen. Morse in his re-election race.

U.S. informs Egypt it is withdrawing its offer to aid in construction of the Aswan High Dam on the Nile River, in response to Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser’s acceptance of Soviet-bloc arms and economic agreements with the communist world. On 7/20, Britain announces it is also withdrawing from the project.

7/21-7/22 Eisenhower and the presidents of 18 other Western Hemisphere republics meet in Panama City and sign the Panama Declaration, which outlines the political and economic philosophy of the Organization of American States.

Drew Pearson reports that several days before Eisenhower left for Panama he called LBJ regarding various pieces of legislation. Ike’s chief concern reportedly was getting his foreign aid bill passed. He also asked if it was important for him to be in Washington when Congress adjourned and wondered whether adjournment might take place before he left for Panama. Finally he urged LBJ to pass the executive pay raise bill at this session. Pearson also noted that the small

business bill has been blocked in the Senate, the Patman “equality of opportunity” bill, which prohibits price cutting whenever it tends to create a monopoly. It appears the bill will die in the Senate because, one, the White House is pulling wires to kill the bill quietly, and two, LBJ has passed out “word that he only wants to consider ‘must’ legislation.”

- 7/21 LBJ reveals the names of 180 LBJ-for-President committee members, including a number of former Shivers supporters, such as James P. Nash and C. T. McLaughlin.
- 7/23 Leslie Carpenter reports that in the final days before Congress adjourns on 7/26, LBJ pushed final action on dozens of major bills, but he has also been carefully looking out for legislation of importance to Texas. He rammed through the San Angelo reclamation bill, battled with the Agriculture Department to get more drought relief for Texas farmers and ranchers, got passed a bill authorizing a land conveyance to Galveston County, and worked to protect Texas considerations in the new highway bill.
- 7/25 Presidential disarmament adviser Harold E. Stassen attempts to spark a “stop Nixon” movement, claiming that his presence on the ticket might cost Ike as much as 6% of the vote in the fall and endanger Republican congressional campaigns. No major Republican leaders supported Stassen and the move quickly fades. Stassen actually ended by making the seconding speech for Nixon at the Republican convention in San Francisco on August 20-23.
- 7/26 Estes Kefauver announces his withdrawal from the race in favor of Adlai Stevenson.
- Egypt denounces the actions of the Western powers in withdrawing their support for the Awsan Dam project and seizes the Suez Canal. Negotiations throughout the summer and fall failed to persuade Egypt to modify her decision on nationalizing the Canal. On 10/29/56, Israel launches an invasion of Egypt, coordinated with British and French governments, which attack Egypt on 10/31. Sunken and scuttled ships block the Suez Canal. The USSR then steps into the controversy, threatening atomic war if Britain and France refuse to retreat. The U.N., led by the U.S., condemns French, British and Israeli moves. On 11/7/56, a U.N. cease-fire ends fighting and an international peace force moves in to enforce the peace. Peace terms allow Egypt to regain control of the Canal and force Israeli withdrawal.
- 7/27 Senate adjourns at midnight. According to AP reports, final action on much of the major legislation of the 1956 session was crammed into the final hours. Bills sent to Eisenhower before adjournment included the social security bill, the

foreign aid bill, an omnibus housing bill, a \$7.5 billion flood insurance measure; \$1.6 billion rivers and harbors bill; and a \$2.182 billion money bill mostly containing funds for the Atomic Energy Commission.

Parliamentary maneuvering prevented the House-passed civil rights bill from reaching the Senate floor prior to adjournment. Earlier in the session, the Senate Judiciary subcommittee had approved 4 civil rights bills, but the full committee resisted efforts of civil rights backers to pry it out of committee, although it did hold hearings.

Immigration legislation also was not passed, although the Senate passed by voice vote a bill to relax quota restrictions. But when it came to the House, Rep. Walter of Penn., co-author of the present controversial McCarran-Walter immigration law, blocked consideration of the bill.

- 7/28 In the gubernatorial race in the Democratic primary in Texas, Price Daniel receives 628,914 votes; W. Lee O'Daniel, 347,757; Ralph Yarborough, 463,416. Daniel and Yarborough will be in a runoff on 8/25.
- 7/29 The Johnsons fly to Texas and go to the Ranch.
- 7/30 Hubert Humphrey announces his candidacy for the vice presidential nomination.
- LBJ talks with Knowland by phone regarding the date for reconvening Congress. He speaks with John Connally regarding the upcoming caucus of southern states in Atlanta on August 1.

August

- 8/1 LBJ speaks with Ben Ramsey, Albert Thomas and Hubert Humphrey regarding the upcoming national convention.
- In his first press conference in 2 months, Eisenhower says he has "no doubts" about his physical ability to serve out a second term.
- 8/2 Allen Duckworth reports that there are strong signs that key leaders of LBJ's "moderation" movement are supporting Price Daniel for governor. They are mad at the liberal-labor groups for trying to dump Johnson's moderation program at the convention.
- 8/3 LBJ speaks with John Connally following his return to Fort Worth from the southern conference in Atlanta.

- 8/6 LBJ speaks with Adlai Stevenson by phone.
In Chicago, Texas representatives Vann M. Kennedy and Marietta Brooks attend the first session of the platform committee of the Democratic National convention, both advocating moderation.
- 8/8 LBJ talks with many political supporters and officials during the day, including Vann Kennedy in Chicago; John Connally in Ft. Worth; Sen. Russell in Winder, Ga.; Sen. Price Daniel; Walter Jenkins; Wesley West; Jimmie Knight; Secretary Dulles; Jesse Kellam; Bob Oliver; Humphrey; Mansfield; Rayburn; Sam Houston; Jim Rowe; Ed Ray.
- 8/9 LBJ has another full day of talking with supporters and Democratic leaders by phone from the Ranch, including: Russell; Rowe; Kilgore; West; Ed Cape; Gen. Parsons; Vann Kennedy.
- 8/10 LBJ again spends most of the day in preparation for the upcoming convention, and talking with Ben Crider; Joe Kilgore; John Ford; John Connally; Marshall McNeil; John Connally; Wesley West; Tommy James; Speaker Rayburn.
- Leslie Carpenter reports that LBJ is being advanced in Chicago as a serious candidate for the presidential nomination, on the theory that former President Truman will spearhead a stop-Stevenson drive and that he will throw his support behind Harriman. Carpenter contends that Johnson supporters feel Harriman cannot be nominated because he is not acceptable to the South generally or to a number of other delegations. Johnson strategists already in Chicago include: John E. Lyle of Corpus Christi; John Connally; Walter Jenkins; Warren Woodward; Raymond Buck; Wright Patman; Dolph Briscoe; Vann Kennedy; Merrill Connally; Sam Houston Johnson; Lawrence Jones; William O. Cooper; A.M. Willis. Others are reportedly on their way to Chicago.
- 8/11 LBJ and CTJ fly to Chicago for the Democratic National Convention. Shortly after their arrival, he holds a press conference, which some 300 reporters attend, in which he takes himself out of mere favorite son category and impresses upon the press the idea that he is definitely a serious candidate for nomination, regardless of delegate strength attributed to Harriman and Stevenson. Little more than an hour after this press conference, Rayburn gave LBJ a rousing endorsement, telling reporters he is "with Lyndon all the way."
- Former President Truman issues a statement endorsing Governor Averell Harriman of New York as "the man best qualified to be the next President of the United States." Truman's nod toward Harriman today led Texas delegates to say it pointed toward a national convention deadlock and boosted LBJ's chances for a presidential nomination.

Adlai Stevenson issues a statement (shortly after Truman's) saying he still expected to be the Democratic nominee.

During the course of the afternoon LBJ confers with political leaders and their staffs, including: Stanley Fikes (aide to Symington); Sen. Erwin of North Carolina; Gov. J. P. Coleman of Mississippi; Cong. Clarence Cannon; George Mahoney; Judge Dawson; Cong. McCormack; Truman; Rayburn; Clements; Gov. Griffin of Georgia; Mr. Shaw; Mr. Kendrick; Sen. O'Mahoney; Sen. Olin Johnston; Humphrey; Byron Skelton; Adlai Stevenson; Gov. Lausche's secretary; Paul Butler.

The Democratic Platform Committee ends its hearings late Saturday and began the task for drafting a campaign document that will appeal to all sections, after a heated session between North and South over the civil rights and racial segregation issue. Northern delegates demanded a platform that would endorse the Supreme Court decision outlawing racial segregation in public schools, while southern leaders declared that such a stand would split the party and help the Republicans win in November.

8/12 LBJ and Rayburn fly to Washington early Sunday morning for a bipartisan White House meeting of legislative leaders with the President, at his request, regarding the Suez crisis. Sen. George requested that LBJ see him first in Washington before going to the White House.

LBJ arrives back in Chicago late in the afternoon, bringing Sen. Russell with him. He goes to the Wests' suite for a reception for Rayburn, and later goes to President Truman's suite with Rayburn for dinner. Later that evening he holds a press conference.

8/13 The Texas delegation holds its first caucus at the Palmer Hotel. LBJ briefs the delegates on his role and they hear pep talks from Rayburn and former Sen. Tom Connally. It was learned that supporters of both Harriman and Stevenson had sounded out LBJ on his availability for the VP nomination, and LBJ indicated that he was not interested in that position. After their rally, the Texas delegation went off to Chicago's International amphitheater for the opening of the 1956 nominating convention.

Following the Texas caucus, LBJ meets or talks by phone with people throughout the day, including: Allan Duckworth, Bill White and Arthur Krock; Jim Rowe; Phil Graham; Symington; Dr. Frank Stanton; Adlai Stevenson and Jim Finnagan; Averell Harriman; Sen. Russell; Sen. McClellan; Sen. Frear; Harry Byrd, Jr.; Sen. Mansfield; Rayburn; Kefauver; Clark Clifford; Marshall McNeil; Sen. Bible and Mr.

McDonald; Gov. Hodges; Sen. Russell; Sen. Lucas and Sen. McFarland; Sen. Jackson; Sen. Kennedy; John Connally. He holds a 10:30 press conference.

8/14

Tuesday, the state caucuses continue to meet at the Democratic National Convention.

In the morning, LBJ meets with Jim Rowe, Tom Corcoran and Bobby Baker, prior to holding an early morning press conference. He also meets with Bob Oliver, Percy Priest, Sen. Anderson, Graham Wright of Alabama, Gov. William Marland of West Virginia, John Stennis, Carl Albert, Richard Russell, Wright Patman and Thomas Corcoran.

In a press conference late in the day, LBJ says he is still in the presidential race despite rumors he might withdraw at any moment, and that the Texas delegation would put his name in nomination to the convention.

According to Leslie Carpenter, state caucuses meeting Tuesday did not deliver any votes to LBJ, despite the promises made by some to LBJ in advance to do so. So LBJ is without any delegate votes outside the South.

In a noisy demonstration at Convention Hall, a parade is led by John Connally, delegation vice chairman, carrying the Texas standard and joined by many other states as the band played "Dixie" and "The Eyes of Texas. . . ."

8/15

Wednesday, state caucuses continue to meet.

Kathleen Voigt calls a caucus of Texas delegates to discuss plans for the 9/11 state party convention in Fort Worth, when the state executive committee will be organized. Delegates are divided on whether to endorse one of the two gubernatorial candidates on the party ticket.

Mary McGrory reports that while other candidates are rushing around trying to collect delegates, LBJ sits in his suite and receives visitors, including Adlai Stevenson, Averell Harriman, Estes Kefauver, Ernest McFarland, Senator George and other delegates.

LBJ and CTJ host a reception for the Texas delegation at their hotel this evening, prior to attending the platform session of the convention. The *Houston Chronicle* noted that LBJ was a half hour late for the reception because Truman had dropped in to see him and Rayburn for "just a social visit."

At the platform session of the convention, LBJ reportedly said the civil rights platform "is one we can all live under" and urged its support by Texans. W. Lee

O'Daniel, however, left a message for LBJ about the platform in which he said that if LBJ, Rayburn and Connally do not stand against the civil rights program, "I doubt if Texas people will stand in back of you. It is a carnival to look over TV and see you Texans so meek to those Yankees." The Texas delegation approves the platform the next day.

Mike Mansfield writes LBJ on 9/5 that he should be satisfied with the results of the convention, since he was able to get a civil rights plank "fairly acceptable to all segments of the party" and he was able to "minimize the floor fight to the extent that the responsibility for the retention of that plank was assumed by northern and western Democrats" in such a way that no ill will was generated.

News article reports that LBJ's hope in using his influence to make peace with the southern states on the civil rights platform was that Stevenson would give him at least a veto on the VP candidate--and possibly let him name the chairman of the Democratic National Committee. LBJ reportedly would like to see James Rowe in that post. He apparently won the veto power, but one key LBJ aide said LBJ had not discussed the choice of the new party chief with Stevenson.

8/16

Thursday. The *Dallas Times Herald* reports that as the time for nominations grows nearer, LBJ takes on the appearance of a favorite son candidate only--indicating that his main convention interest had been the platform battle. He said today that he would rather that no state yield to Texas to allow his name to be placed in nomination early, and that he hoped that John Connally would make a short nomination speech. Earlier in the week pressure had reportedly been applied to Alabama and Arizona to get them to yield for nomination.

LBJ did not accompany the Texas delegation to the convention hall, remaining in his Conrad Hilton suite, with telephone contact with the delegation on the convention floor. John Connally placed his name in nomination at 2:30 p.m., making a rousing nomination speech. Texas delegates stampeded the convention floor in the traditional nomination demonstration. CTJ, Mrs. Sam Johnson and Sam Houston Johnson watched the demonstration from box seats near the Texas delegation, as LBJ's three sisters joined the marchers.

Adlai Stevenson wins a smashing victory on the first ballot Thursday evening, 905 to Harriman's 210.

LBJ arrived at the convention hall almost simultaneously with Stevenson and was on the platform when Stevenson announced that he was throwing the VP nomination open and letting it be made "through the free processes of this convention." LBJ had announced at his press conference this morning that he was "going home to hunt jackrabbits" probably Friday, meaning that he did not

intend to stay around for the VP nomination. He told newsmen that he didn't have the slightest interest in the VP job, does not want to be considered and does not intend to try and influence the selection.

Later LBJ is summoned by Gov. Stevenson to the Stockyards Inn immediately after his nomination and discussed with him, Rayburn, James Finnegan, Richard Daley and other Democratic leaders (including Hale Boggs, a Democratic campaign chairman) his statement about throwing the vice presidential nomination open.

8/17 Friday. LBJ announces in his hotel suite that "under no circumstances that I visualize, will my name ever go before the convention [as VP nominee]. . . ."

The Texas delegation does an about face at 2 p.m. and casts its first ballot for Senator Albert Gore for VP, despite having earlier today voted unanimously to cast its first ballot for Gov. Frank Clement of Tennessee. On the second ballot, Johnson and Rayburn persuade the delegates to vote for John Kennedy. Estes Kefauver wins the nomination on the second ballot.

Drew Pearson reports that Stevenson had asked LBJ during earlier conferences (probably on 8/15, when they were supposed to be talking about the Suez Canal) why he had changed his favorite son to an active candidacy. LBJ based his reply on party unity, saying he wanted a civil rights platform acceptable "to my people." He named James Rowe as a man to unify the Democratic Party, and said he wanted to name the VP and that he wanted Stuart Symington of Missouri as VP. Stevenson replied that he would take any civil rights plank the convention adopted, and he had no objection to James Rowe, but he refused to deal on the vice presidential nomination.

On 8/29 LBJ writes Adlai Stevenson about Pearson's conclusions. LBJ remembers that he said he was not interested in the VP nomination and did not seek to name any person for that position; and the question of the Democratic National Committee chairman was not mentioned. LBJ asks whether his memory of that conversation coincides with that of Stevenson and Finnegan.

8/18 LBJ, CTJ and their party return to Texas and the LBJ Ranch. CTJ leaves shortly thereafter for Karnack. She and Luci fly from Longview to Austin the evening of 8/20 and return to the Ranch.

8/20 Republican National Convention opens in San Francisco. On 8/22 Eisenhower and Nixon are re-nominated by unanimous vote at the convention. The vice presidential vote followed the collapse of Harold E. Stassen's drive to "dump Nixon." Stassen seconded Nixon's nomination.

- 8/20-8/21 Walter Jenkins, George Reedy and five other aides arrive to set up LBJ's Senate office in the Federal Building.
- 8/21 The *San Antonio Express* reports that Texas Loyalist Democrats are feeling better about their chances to control the September 11 state convention, because Rayburn has assured them he will be on hand personally in Fort Worth, both before and during the convention, to see that the credentials committee "does not put the whammy on Loyalist delegations from counties which are sending contesting factions to the convention."
- 8/22 The *Texas Observer* reports that W. Lee O'Daniel, in a broadcast over an Austin radio station, advised his followers to vote for Ralph Yarborough in the second primary on Saturday and then elect O'Daniel governor as an independent candidate in the November 6 general election.
- 8/23 The Johnsons listen to the Republican convention proceedings, paying special attention to Eisenhower's speech.
- 8/25 Price Daniel wins the runoff primary election, receiving 698,001 votes to Ralph Yarborough's 694,830.
- 8/27 LBJ flies to Santa Fe to meet with Adlai Stevenson, Estes Kefauver and Democratic leaders from the West and Southwest to discuss key issues--especially water resources--and campaign strategy. During the course of the regional meeting, chaired by Gov. Simms, LBJ makes a speech in which he says that "the Democratic record on soil and water conservation is the key to winning the Southwest." The meeting is followed by a press conference, and then a buffet dinner hosted by newspaper editor Bob McKinney and Sen. Anderson for participants of the meeting.
- James Rowe is removed from the payroll of the Democratic Policy Committee and goes to work for the Stevenson campaign.
- 8/28 LBJ flies back to Austin. He holds a press conference an hour after his arrival in his Austin office, reporting on his meeting with Governor Stevenson. In the informal press conference, LBJ predicts a Democratic victory in Texas in November. He stated that water conservation was the number one problem nationally and farm problems were number two. He stated further that the drought this year in Texas had cost Texas farmers and livestock men a half billion dollars in crop and livestock losses. LBJ also said that he would attend the State Democratic Convention in September as chairman of his county delegation. In addition, LBJ announced that he personally invited Estes Kefauver to campaign for the ticket in Texas, for the week of the Heart O'Texas Fair in Waco, 9/29-

10/5. He hinted that Kefauver would also be present at a fundraising celebration honoring LBJ to be held in Austin and San Antonio.

AFL-CIO Executive Council gives official support to Stevenson-Kefauver ticket, by a vote of 17 to 5, with 2 members abstaining.

8/29 LBJ, Mrs. Sam Johnson, and Lynda Bird go to Scott & White Clinic today for physical examinations. Doctors said later LBJ was in "normal physical condition."

Egypt announces the discovery of a British plot to overthrow the government of President Nasser.

September

9/1 Texas Loyalist Democrats charge conservatives led by Gov. Shivers and State Executive Committee chairman George Sandlin with an "attempted steal" of the 9/11 state convention in Fort Worth, by throwing enough county conventions in contest to give the conservatives control. They also charge Sandlin with attempting to shove them out of the convention by assigning them housing in Dallas hotels rather than in Fort Worth. The massive Harris County delegation is assigned to the Baker Hotel; Bexar County is assigned to the Southland; Jefferson County is staying at the Dallas Hotel--all are contested delegations. Travis County is also billeted in Dallas. The State Executive Committee is scheduled to hear contests on 9/10.

9/2 Houston committee announces plans to form a state-wide committee to draft Ralph Yarborough as a candidate to succeed Price Daniel as U.S. senator. Daniel has not yet announced when he will resign his Senate seat. Ralph Yarborough on 9/4 announces he will not contest the certification of election returns. Sam Low sends LBJ a clipping on the "Draft Yarborough Movement" in Houston and warns him that there is a rumor that "Lyndon Johnson and his friends are out to stop Yarborough," which may spread discontent against LBJ at the Fort Worth convention. Low wants to join the Draft Yarborough Movement, "unless there is a good probability of having a candidate who is more to our liking...."

9/5 Abe Fortas visits the Ranch.

Stevenson proposes to end the draft, prompting Eisenhower to reply on 9/11 that he saw "no chance of ending the draft and carrying out the responsibilities for the security of the country."

9/6 LBJ flies from Fredericksburg to Bonham with John Connally to see Sam Rayburn, returning to the Ranch that evening.

Price Daniel today promises to support the seating of “all legally constituted delegations regardless of their political complexions” at the Fort Worth convention next week.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo about the Texas press corps’ view of the leaders of the various factions headed for the Fort Worth convention. Jon Ford reported that both George Sandlin and Kathleen Voigt claim “with absolute confidence” that they have enough votes to control the Fort Worth convention. The only clear thing is that the “Kathleen Voigt group has no intention of allowing this to be a Governor’s Convention.”

9/7 Liberal-Loyalist Democrats representing senatorial districts hold a strategy meeting, passing a resolution calling on the state convention to follow the wishes of senatorial district caucuses in naming the new 62-member executive committee.

Associate Justice Sherman Minton, 66, announces his retirement from the Supreme Court effective 10/15. On 9/29, Eisenhower names William Joseph Brennan, Jr., lifelong Democrat and Roman Catholic, to succeed Minton.

9/9 LBJ leaves the Ranch early to go to the Fort Worth convention. During the course of the day he meets with Rayburn, Price Daniel, Ed Smith, Mrs. Frankie Randolph, Dolph Briscoe, Cong. Wright, Vann Kennedy, Ed Starkey, Jimmy Knight, Chilton O’Brien, and Siebert Worley, and speaks with Sid Richardson by phone.

Raymond Brooks reports that Price Daniel predicted Sunday afternoon that his friends would control the convention Tuesday and name a State Executive Committee friendly to his administration. Brooks also reported that LBJ, Daniel and Rayburn held a long conference Saturday night--what Rayburn termed a “social visit”--joined by John Connally, whom Brooks names as a potential candidate for U.S. senator to succeed Daniel.

At a caucus called for county chairmen, where a crowd of about 650 turned out in the hotel ballroom, Liberal-Loyalist Democrats cheer the promises of no convention compromise on contested delegations and Yarborough’s suggestion that Texas should have a voter registration law to prevent members of one party from voting in the primary elections of another.

At a news conference today, Price Daniel refuses again to say flatly that he will support the Stevenson-Kefauver ticket, but says he will make an unqualified statement “at such time as it comes clear” that neither candidate will take a

stand that will cause him to repudiate the ticket. Daniel says he knows of nothing now that would cause him to not back the nominees.

9/10

The present conservative state executive committee meets to appoint credentials and other committees. The credentials committee will hold hearings on any of the 15 reported county or precinct contests which may develop. Both Daniel and Shivers have urged that the "legal" delegations be seated, regardless of their attitude. The state executive committee urges tomorrow's state convention to put into effect anti-integration proposals adopted in a referendum in July, where voters approved repeal of compulsory attendance law in integrated public schools.

According to news reports, conflict in the Liberal-Loyalist Democratic faction became known today. The controversy hinged around Kathleen Voigt and her issuance of a printed pamphlet bearing the name of the Democratic Party and entitled "The Big Steal, 1956 Version." Her actions precipitated a break here in which several of LBJ's aides have confirmed that not only LBJ but Rayburn have been antagonized by the tactics followed since she gained her new title--director of organization for the Democratic Party in Texas.

9/11

Texas State Democratic Convention opens in Fort Worth. Congressman Joe Kilgore from McAllen makes the opening keynote speech, urges Texas Democrats to support all the party's nominees, and calls for loyalty and unity in the party.

LBJ, chairman of the Blanco County delegation, arrives early on the convention floor, saying his chief interest was to insure that the executive committee supports the national ticket in November. Rayburn took his place as chairman of the Fannin County delegation. After Kilgore's speech, the convention breaks into floor caucuses by senatorial districts to nominate the executive committeemen and women for approval later by the convention committee on party officers. Loyalist-liberals have opposed this screening, and Daniel has agreed that caucus nominees be accepted without screening, with the reservation that he thought the convention should override any caucus that put up a nominee who would try to sabotage his program.

The executive committee's credentials committee early today made up the temporary roll call denying seats to the Harris County and El Paso liberal delegations and generally favoring the moderate conservatives in 15 other contests. Liberal delegations are seated in Bexar, Jefferson, and Wichita counties; conservatives are seated in Harris, Cameron, Cooke, El Paso, Hidalgo, Liberty, Jim Wells, Live Oak, Nolan, Tarrant and Van Zandt Counties. Delegates approved by the executive committee on recommendation of its credentials subcommittee were seated temporarily pending adoption of the permanent roll.

During the 6 hours while the credentials committee worked to decide which delegations to recommend for permanent seating in the convention, LBJ and Rayburn helped to fill the time by giving speeches on party loyalty and issues. The *Houston Press* reported that both LBJ and Rayburn received cold treatment from a good portion of the convention. Dallas delegates refused to stand in recognition of either man when they were introduced. All but 4 of Tarrant County delegates remained seated. LBJ reportedly shrugged off jeering from the “militant-liberal-loyalist bloc” as “one of those things.”

After Daniel flatly endorsed Adlai Stevenson and Estes Kefauver and gave full consent for setting up the party organization to work for them in the general election, the convention gave Daniel control of the party by voting 1006 to 869 on giving permanent seats to the Harris County delegation favorable to Daniel. Both LBJ and Rayburn voted with Daniel.

After that, General Ernest O. Thompson, the convention’s permanent chairman, pushed through other convention action that included: (1) adoption of a resolution calling on Shivers to summon the legislature in special session to put into effect anti-integration proposals adopted by Democratic voters in the July primary; (2) election of a state executive committee instructed to work for the national ticket, and adoption of a resolution specifically endorsing Stevenson and Kefauver. Jake Pickle had succeeded in getting the convention nominations committee to remove 4 caucus choices for executive committeemen or women, including Bexar County’s liberal leaders Kathleen Voigt and Bernard Lifshutz, substituting the names of Mrs. Walter P. Brennan and attorney John Peace. The committee unanimously approved Daniel’s request for 3 officers on the executive board: James Blundell of Dallas as chairman; Marietta Moody Brooks of Austin as vice chairman, and Jake Jacobson of Austin as secretary; (3) adoption of a platform including the major points Daniel had advocated as his program during the campaign; (4) approval of a resolution authorizing employment of lawyers to fight any defeated candidate in the Democratic primary who seeks to run as an independent or as a candidate of another party--W. Lee O’Daniel; (5) adoption of a resolution putting responsibility for conducting the presidential campaign in Texas in the hands of state party officials and the national committeeman, which is seen as a move to oust Kathleen Voigt as director of party organization, although Mrs. Voigt reportedly refused to acknowledge the demotion. New executive committee chairman Jim Blundell, national committeeman Byron Skelton, national committeewoman Mrs. Frankie Randolph, LBJ and Rayburn, according to one source, “huddled here secretly after the marathon convention adjourned to discuss the resolution.”

9/12

LBJ returns to the Ranch from Fort Worth.

9/13 Price Daniel denies reports that he had won the help of LBJ and Rayburn to control the state convention by making a trade that would call for Daniel's flat endorsement of the Stevenson-Kefauver ticket. "There was no trade or agreement," Daniel is reported saying. "I have given no flat endorsement, I'm going to support the Democratic nominees unless they take a position that will prevent me from doing so." Daniel said he wanted to clear up two matters before he comes out in favor of the national nominees: (1) Will Stevenson try to reopen the tideland question in favor of taking the property away from Texas? (2) Will the national nominees favor use of force in carrying out the Supreme Court edict against school segregation?

The *American Statesman* says that LBJ applied the "big spank" to Mrs. Voigt and to Harris County liberals for refusing to accept the Johnson proposal in May that Byron Skelton of Temple--DAC chairman--be named national committeeman, and that a harmony note be followed through by selection of Mrs. Lloyd Bentsen-- LBJ's choice--for national committeewoman.

Adlai Stevenson, in his nationally televised speech formally opening his campaign, attacks Eisenhower as a part-time president and charged that Republican leadership will depend on the heir-apparent Nixon.

9/15 Reedy sends LBJ a memo based on his conversation with John Cofer. Cofer reports that Kathleen Voigt is refusing to turn over her records and her money to the new organization "until she is satisfied that it is a bona fide organization which will not use the material to campaign for Eisenhower." Reedy writes that Voigt apparently wants Cofer to represent her in case a court suit arises over the question.

9/17 Sarah McClendon reports that while Sen. Albert Gore cleared the general plan for his bipartisan investigation of campaign contributions in the Senate and has LBJ's cooperation, Gore has no plans to investigate two well-known Texans who often cross state lines with their contributions, H.L. Hunt of Dallas and H.R. Cullen of Houston.

LBJ releases a statement indicating that new farm price support legislation will be the first order of business when Congress resumes on January 3. Other major issues Congress will tackle include social security liberalization, federal aid for school construction, an expanded highway program and the Senate-passed Colorado River basin project.

Texas Democratic Party leaders meet at the Commodore Perry Hotel in Austin to coordinate campaign efforts over the state. There, Byron Skelton, Mrs.

Randolph, James Blundell and Marietta Brooks, in an all-day campaign strategy session, choose the three individuals to be the new state chairman, director of organization and finance chairman, but withhold their names. Skelton said they will be announced probably Wednesday. Among those considered are John Connally, Clifton Carter and Warren Woodward.

9/18 LBJ goes to Greenville for a Democratic fundraising barbecue. He spends the night there, returning to Austin on 9/19. The barbecue preceded a parade of congressmen, senators and party officials, winding up with an address by Gov. Clement of Tennessee. Price Daniel sends a telegram announcing that he would support Stevenson and Kefauver "and all other nominees of the Democratic Party." Gov. Shivers reportedly announced Tuesday that he will vote for and support Eisenhower for re-election.

9/21-9/22 Sen. and Mrs. Price Daniel visit the Ranch.

9/23-9/26 Tony and Matiana Taylor visit the Ranch.

9/23 Democratic national committeeman Byron Skelton announces the appointment of Mayor Tom Miller and Warren Woodward as chairman and executive director respectively for the Democratic Campaign Committee in Texas.

LBJ speaks with Sen. John F. Kennedy and Sen. Alan Bible, calling long distance from Las Vegas.

Paul Butler is guest of honor at a luncheon hosted by Mayor Tom Miller and attended by other Democratic Party leaders, including Warren Woodward, Byron Skelton, Marietta Brooks and Mrs. H.H. Weinert. There Butler predicted a new broad base for paying Democratic campaign costs with contributions of more dollars from more people. Butler came to Austin after conferring with Rayburn at Bonham.

9/26 LBJ confers with Warren Woodward and Mayor Tom Miller for a long period in the morning, and during the day talks with Sen. Davie, C.T. McLaughlin, Cecil Burney, Pat Patton, Martin Dies, John Connally, Tony Buford, Bob Clark, and Gov. McFarland. He also meets with Jack Lentz of Victoria and T.A. McDonald of Calhoun County to discuss drought and the Guadalupe River.

The *San Antonio Express* reports that victory-hungry Texas Democratic presidential campaigners today launched a "Joe Smith"-style small contributions drive and chided Nixon for a poor showing on his visit to the state.

9/27 Richard Nixon visits Republican headquarters in Houston for a meeting with party precinct workers in Harris County. He then holds a press conference in the Rice Hotel, where he says that the administration's position on integration is that there must be steady moderate progress while avoiding the extremes on both sides. He also says that the states have the right to maintain law and order, as far as the use of force in school integration disorders are concerned. He discloses that he has been an honorary member of the NAACP since 1946 although he has never taken part in any of its activities or paid any dues.

Mrs. Nixon visited the Texas Children's Hospital and met with newswomen at the residence of former Gov. and Mrs. W. P. Hobby, where the Nixons were houseguests during their visit to Houston.

9/28 Mayor Tom Miller and Warren Woodward officially open the Texas Democratic national campaign headquarters in Austin, welcoming a group of 30 volunteer workers and staff members. None of the four appointed officers representing state and national party organizations (Skelton, Randolph, Blundell, and Brooks), were in Austin for the ceremony. Mrs. Brooks was in Washington attending an institute for Democratic women campaign leaders. Although LBJ was in Austin, meeting and talking with political leaders all over the country, he does not attend the ceremony.

October

10/1 LBJ flies to Dallas and meets Sen. Kefauver at the Dallas Airport, where Kefauver apparently holds a press conference. LBJ and Kefauver drive to Waco, stopping en route in Waxahachie, Italy, Milford, Hillsboro and West.

The *Washington Daily News* later reports that in introducing Kefauver in Hillsboro, LBJ read aloud to an audience of about 1000 the entire text of Gov. Shivers' endorsement of Eisenhower. But his reading was reportedly filled with overtones and double meanings, and the confused audience neither applauded nor cheered.

In Waco, LBJ and Kefauver meet with Mrs. Frankie Randolph to discuss a speaker for Houston, and then they attend a reception at the Roosevelt Hotel prior to speaking. Kefauver speaks at the Heart of Texas Fair (introduced by LBJ).

10/2 LBJ flies to Dallas and then on to Washington, D.C.

That night, picketers parade in front of Houston's Shamrock Hilton Hotel, protesting the appearance there of Gov. Frank Clement of Tennessee, in the city to speak at a dinner sponsored by the local chapter of the Zionist Organization of

America. Picketers carried pro-segregation signs and protests of Clements' calling out the National Guard during school desegregation riots in September in Clinton, Tenn.

10/3 In Washington, LBJ holds a press conference in the TV gallery at the Capitol and later meets with Tom Corcoran, Peter Brown, Abe Fortas and Jim Rowe. At the news conference, LBJ accuses Eisenhower of making "misleading" statements about Democratic cooperation in Congress. His blast was prompted by Eisenhower's charges that the Democratic Congress failed to act on key features of his legislative program, especially the school bill. Eisenhower has blamed the Democrats because they voted overwhelmingly against his own plan for dividing school construction funds. LBJ also said that the cut in farm income brought about by Republican policies, and GOP catering to big business at the expense of small business are the two biggest issues in the presidential campaign in Texas. He blasted Secretary Benson for his policy of no help to the drought-stricken areas.

LBJ later flies to Norfolk, Virginia to attend a rally and speak at a \$10-a-plate Democratic fundraising dinner. There he said that the South cannot look to the Republican Party for "a sympathetic understanding of our problems," especially regarding civil rights and farming programs. He apparently returns to Washington that evening.

10/4 LBJ gives a speech at the Mahoney fundraising luncheon. Later in the day he meets with Rayburn, Jim Rowe and Tom Corcoran.

10/5 After an early-morning breakfast meeting with Cy Anderson and Smathers, LBJ flies to Texas for a dove hunt at Brackettville, returning to the Ranch on 10/6.

Adlai Stevenson announces that based on their scientific evidence, Eisenhower cannot survive another term.

10/9 Mayor Tom Miller announces the appointment of Texas Agricultural Commissioner John C. White as chairman of the Farmers for Stevenson Committee in Texas, and Dallas attorney Pat Coon to head the Stevenson-Kefauver campaign in Dallas County.

10/10 CTJ, Grace Tully (executive assistant to LBJ), Marietta Brooks (vice chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee and in charge of women's activities for the Democratic Campaign Committee), and Mrs. Silas Grant of Whitney (a member of the executive committee), set out on an airplane tour to meet with Democratic workers in public meetings, receptions, workshops and coffee caucuses, starting with a coffee hosted by Ernest O. Thompson in Amarillo. A

- round of activities is planned for the women in their day-long visits in Amarillo, Lubbock on 10/11, and El Paso on 10/12. The tour is to continue until 11/6.
- 10/11 After meeting with Eisenhower at the White House, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell endorses him for a second term.
- In a publicity release from the Democratic National Committee on 10/13, Cong. William L. Dawson, VP of the Democratic National Committee, assails Powell for coming out for Eisenhower in view of his actions on civil rights. Dawson also says that "the Democratic platform clearly pledges to fight at the opening of the next session of Congress to eliminate Rule 22 in the Senate and other obstructive rules in the House" regarding civil rights.
- Eisenhower, seeking to remove the nuclear testing issue raised by Stevenson from campaign discussions, points out that U.S. testing helped develop defensive weapons and ways to reduce hydrogen bomb fallout. He denies reports that Republican strategists had planned to have him make a campaign announcement proposing an end to the draft and H-bomb tests but had been forestalled by Stevenson's action in doing so first.
- LBJ flies to Nevada and gives a speech in Ely on 10/13 on behalf of Senator Alan Bible and Cong. Walter Baring. He apparently makes speeches in California on 10/14, returning to Texas on 10/15.
- Oct. ? Reedy sends LBJ a memo regarding Eisenhower's 1952 campaign promise to cast out "crooks and cronies" and measures his failure to keep that promise, listing many of the administration's scandals.
- 10/15 Drew Pearson reports that Oregon Republicans have launched a whispering campaign, spreading a rumor that Wayne Morse is not a war veteran.
- 10/16 CTJ and LBJ fly to Dallas--accompanied by Homer Thornberry, Warren Woodward, Josefa Moss and Mary Rather--and meet Sen. and Mrs. Symington (arriving from St. Louis) and Speaker Rayburn. After a press conference, they fly to Abilene, where they are met by Cong. and Mrs. Omar Burleson, Cong. and Mrs. George Mahon, and Mrs. Bernard Hanks. While the ladies attend a tea in the afternoon hosted by Mrs. J.E. Connally, the others inspect the air base in Abilene. Later in the afternoon there is a reception hosted by C.T. McLaughlin, followed by a \$100-a-plate Democratic dinner at the Windsor Hotel. Symington is the headline speaker at the dinner; Rayburn, Daniel and LBJ also give addresses. They depart Abilene on 10/17, stopping in Dallas to let the Symingtons return to St. Louis. Rayburn, Thornberry and Ikard accompany the Johnsons back to the Ranch.

In an open letter to Sen. Symington, W.R. (Bob) Smith charges that the same senators who tried to block state ownership of tidelands are being sent to Texas to campaign for Stevenson: Kefauver, Gore, Kennedy, Mike Monroney and Mike Mansfield.

Meanwhile, Democratic headquarters in Texas levels attacks against the Republican administration: (1) Warren Woodward says Republicans are afraid to campaign in rural areas; (2) Byron Skelton telegraphs Leonard Hall, Republican National Committee chairman, that Texans are “shocked and disappointed” that after recent testimony before the Senate Post Office Committee regarding kickbacks from employees to the Republican Committee, the GOP has failed to express disapproval of H.J. Porter, national committeeman from Houston; (3) Cong. Clark Thompson of Galveston charges in an 8-station radio broadcast in Southeast Texas that the Eisenhower Administration has favored large farmers over small farmers.

10/18 The *Houston Post* reports that when Kefauver visited New York state recently, not a single member of the Democratic hierarchy showed up to greet him, including Averell Harriman. An aide to Kefauver said that Harriman wants the Democrats “licked so he can jeer, ‘See what happens when you pick the wrong candidate.’”

LBJ goes to Lockhart for a Democratic rally where he and Rayburn deliver speeches. One newspaper reported that LBJ did not mention Adlai Stevenson or Estes Kefauver’s name once during his speech.

10/20 CTJ flies to Dallas to attend a tea for Mrs. Ives (the sister of Adlai Stevenson) at the home of Mrs. Wright Matthews, returning to Austin that evening.

The ADA, Americans for Democratic Action, charge that the Democratic organization in Texas under the leadership of LBJ and Price Daniel “is dragging its feet” in supporting Stevenson and Kefauver. *ADA World* reports that “in some areas of the state, liberal and labor supporters of Stevenson and Kefauver face open hostility from the Daniel-Johnson forces in their effort to promote work for the national ticket.”

10/21 Sen. Russell Long and John Peace arrive for a visit at the Ranch.

10/22 Marietta Brooks, Mrs. Silas Grant and Grace Tully begin a campaign tour, joining LBJ, CTJ, Sen. Russell Long and Josefa Moss in Johnson City. LBJ attends coffees in Johnson City and Stonewall this morning and a Rotary luncheon in Fredericksburg before the group leaves for Brownwood to attend a fundraising dinner where Sen. Long is the guest speaker.

10/23 Brooks, Grant and Tully continue their campaign tour, going through Ballinger and Coleman on their way to San Angelo, where they attend a reception hosted by Houston Harte, Jr.

Roscoe Drummond reports that Adlai Stevenson has been successful in making his proposal to end H-bomb testing a central issue of debate in the campaign and has forced Eisenhower to announce that he will issue a “lengthy, detailed” reply to Stevenson’s proposal, after previously saying that he had said his “last words” on the subject.

LBJ and CTJ fly to El Paso, where they are met by a large delegation of local Democratic officials. John F. Kennedy, scheduled to arrive at the same time as the Johnsons, arrives several hours late and is taken directly to the Coliseum for a Democratic dinner and rally, where he attacks Republicans in his remarks for what he called their failures at home and abroad. LBJ also speaks and accuses the Republican Party of “playing politics with the H bomb.”

In a statement released by the White House, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell of New York retracts his report that Eisenhower told him he favors jailing anyone who disobeys court orders to desegregate schools. He said Eisenhower “did not make the remarks” which Powell attributed to him. Powell explained that he had confused in his own mind what was said in his interview with Mr. Eisenhower and an earlier news conference statement by the President on the enforcement of school integration.

10/24 LBJ, CTJ and Kennedy make an appearance at Fort Stockton before flying on to Laredo to attend a luncheon at the Boys’ Club and appear on a local television program with Price Daniel and Cong. Kilgore. They then fly to San Antonio, where they take a motorcade to the Alamo and attend a dinner and rally at Seven Oaks Country Club. Also present were Rayburn, Daniel, Grace Tully, Marietta Brooks, Byron Skelton, Frankie Randolph and Jim Lindsey. LBJ introduced Kennedy, the headline speaker, and Henry B. Gonzales presented him with a sombrero. During the tour, Texas Democrats for Eisenhower greet Kennedy with questions regarding his vote against the tidelands bill.

10/25 LBJ and Kennedy leave San Antonio and fly to Dallas, where they meet with a group of Democratic supporters. Afterwards Kennedy flies back to the East Coast.

CTJ rejoins the touring Democratic women, as they drive to Corpus Christi, stopping at several South Texas spots. The women’s group members are honorees at an afternoon tea and are then guests of honor at the Corpus Christi

Democratic Fundraising dinner, which Russell Long addresses. Due to her schedule, this is the last stop CTJ makes with the "Flying Team." Marietta Brooks also is compelled to drop out after this date.

The *Houston Chronicle* reports that LBJ has challenged Shivers to get a yes or no answer from Herbert Brownell on whether after the 11/6 election, he will sue Texas for two-thirds of the tidelands, as he has done in Louisiana.

10/27 Senator Kerr makes a campaign appearance in Amarillo.

10/28 LBJ goes to Austin with Homer Thornberry to meet with others regarding the Austin fundraising dinner.

The *Houston Post* reports that the rash of anti-Stevenson polls have dried up contributions needed for the final days of campaigning. The D-day dollar subscription drive was reportedly a complete failure; wealthy, conservative Democrats are not contributing because of Stevenson's "seeming surrender to the extreme liberal and labor elements of the party."

Amidst reports of mobilization of Israeli armed forces, Eisenhower warns Israeli Premier David Ben-Gurion against taking any "forceful initiative" in the Middle East; a few hours later non-essential Americans are asked to leave.

10/29 LBJ and CTJ fly from Austin to Fort Worth to attend a fundraising dinner where Mike Monroney is guest speaker, returning 10/30. In his speech Monroney charges that Eisenhower's legislative vetoes could cost Texas citizens \$1 billion during the next 4 years unless Democrats can revive the measures next year. He said Ike's veto of a natural gas bill would cost Texas citizens \$250 million each year, and losses of farm price supports due to administration policies would cause an equal deficit. He said the administration's refusal to enforce the 600,000 barrel per day quota on oil imports and administration "measures which are raising the cost of living and hurting little business" would account for the remainder of the \$1 billion loss.

During the day, Sen. and Mrs. Albert Gore arrive in Austin and are met by Grace Tully, who accompanies them on the trip to Lufkin. Late in the day, the Gores are guests of honor at a tea and fundraising dinner in Lufkin.

In a press conference, Shivers says he talked to Herbert Brownell on 10/25 in Jacksonville, Florida and received his personal assurance that he did not intend to file suit against Texas to reclaim part of the tidelands for the federal government. The *Houston Post* reports that Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois, a Democrat, has said he intends to introduce a bill in the next session to again take

the tidelands from Texas. Douglas is one of 11 Democratic senators who signed a petition asking Brownell to file suit. Other Democrats who signed the petition include: Kefauver, Gore, Kennedy, Anderson, Mansfield and Monroney, all of whom have or are speaking in Texas for Stevenson-Kefauver.

Israel launches an attack on Egypt's Sinai Peninsula and drives toward the Suez Canal. The Israeli Foreign Minister states the operation's purpose is to eliminate Egyptian fedayeen (commando) bases in the area. Britain and France serve an ultimatum on Israel and Egypt and call for an end of the fighting and withdrawal of both armies 10 miles from the Canal Zone. They ask Egypt to accept temporary occupation of key points on the Canal to safeguard it. Israel accepts conditionally; Egypt rejects it as "aggression" and violation of UN charter. Despite Eisenhower's protest, Britain and France attack Egypt on 10/31. At the U.N. Security Council, Britain and France veto U.S. resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire between Israel and Egypt and calling on all powers to desist from using or threatening force. Britain and France also veto a Soviet resolution for a cease fire.

10/30 The *Houston Post* reports that Rayburn has issued a statement from Texas Democratic campaign headquarters, saying that if the Democrats control Congress, the tidelands bill will never be repealed.

Sen. Gore returns to Dallas from Lufkin and flies on to California. Mrs. Gore and Grace Tully travel to Bryan to attend a tea at the home of Cliff Carter, returning to Austin that evening.

10/31 Mrs. Gore apparently appears on Austin TV and radio programs. Sen. Gore returns to Austin from California and makes a brief talk at the Austin airport, sponsored by the Young Democrats of Austin. Gore is the headline speaker at a \$25-a-plate Democratic Dinner held tonight at the Driskill Hotel, where he speaks on the danger of continued H-bomb testing. Both Gore and LBJ assert that Eisenhower has failed the nation and the free world during the Middle East crisis.

The *San Antonio Light* reports that LBJ, increasingly needed for not mentioning Stevenson, started off his talk with a pledge to Stevenson, followed up with further mentions. When he finished, he walked by the press table and muttered to some "union brasshats," "Did I mention Stevenson enough to suit you?"

After British air attacks begin in Egypt, the fighting prompts Eisenhower to cancel his flying trip to Dallas, Oklahoma City and Memphis. Administration sources said congressional leaders, including Rayburn and LBJ, have been alerted for a possible White House conference.

November

- 11/1 A group of top Democratic leaders, including the Johnsons, the Gores, the Thornberrys, Rayburn, Ikard, and state Democratic chairman Jim Lindsey, travel to Wichita Falls to attend a fundraising dinner tonight at Midwestern University Center. During the afternoon, CTJ and Mrs. Gore are honored at a tea at the home of Mrs. Gene Chambers, while the senators and congressmen tour Sheppard Air Force Base and receive a briefing on plans to expand the base. That evening, all attend the \$10-a-plate fundraising dinner where Gore is chief speaker, and LBJ, Rayburn and Lindsey also give talks. Apparently the Gores fly to Dallas after the dinner, and the Johnsons return to Austin.
- Coke Stevenson makes a radio broadcast over 50 stations saying that Eisenhower is a man of “integrity and Honor” who will keep his word, referring to his promise to sign a bill returning the tidelands to the states.
- Mrs. Frankie Randolph issues a statement attacking a reception given by Mrs. Shivers in the governor’s mansion and attended by more than 1,000 women supporting Eisenhower as a “humiliating spectacle” that “flies in the face of all customary standards of political morality.”
- 11/2 U.S. State Dept. announces the halt of a shipment of minor military supplies to Israel.
- LBJ makes a radio speech to East Texans saying he would like to hear Brownell explain his suit against Louisiana for two-thirds of their tidelands. He says Texans also want Brownell to explain Eisenhower’s veto of the gas bill.
- U.N. General Assembly adopts a U.S. resolution, by a vote of 64-5, calling upon Israel to withdraw its troops from Egypt, urging Britain and France to halt movement of forces into the Suez area, and calling for a cease fire for all involved. By 11/4, Israeli forces invading Egypt complete their conquest of the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip.
- 11/4 The *Dallas News* reports that Rayburn made 20 speeches in one day in his district for the Stevenson-Kefauver ticket, traveling with the Democratic campaign bus. His activity reportedly served as an answer to charges by the ADA that he is “dragging his feet” in supporting the ticket. The article also reports that while LBJ doesn’t know it yet, Gov. Frank J. Lausche of Ohio will be one of his biggest headaches if elected to the Senate. Lausche has stated that he’ll vote with the Democrats in organizing the Senate if Stevenson wins, but will “carefully consider lining up with the GOP if the President wins by a big margin and the party line-up is close in the upper house.”

- 11/5 After bombing Egyptian airfields for 5 days, British and French forces invade Egypt. Anglo-French troops land on 11/6 and soon capture Port Said and Port Fuad. Egypt and Israel accepted U.S. cease-fire proposal; Britain and France accept the cease-fire appeal, and major fighting ends on 11/7.
- 11/6 Election Day. LBJ makes a radio address over a statewide network of stations at 6:45 a.m., and then spends much of the day in his Austin office. He and CTJ cast their ballots late in the afternoon in Johnson City. They go to the state Democratic headquarters to watch returns come in, and toward midnight, when Stevenson seems finished, LBJ dictates a statement in which he says the Middle East crisis in effect was responsible for the Democrats' loss.
- The *San Antonio News* reports that with Eisenhower's avalanche win coast-to-coast, Stevenson and Kefauver take a back seat in party councils. Therefore LBJ and Kennedy are the new leaders of the Democrats, and a joint ticket is the best hope for the Democratic Party in 1960. Reached in Austin election night, LBJ would not comment on his new party standing.
- Final election returns show that Eisenhower and Nixon are re-elected by a landslide, carrying 41 states with 457 electoral votes. The Democratic ticket of Stevenson-Kefauver wins only 7 states and 74 electoral votes. The Republican ticket receives a plurality of well over 9 million in the popular vote. Democrats retain control of both houses of Congress, however, with majorities of 49-47 in the Senate and 233-200 in the House, with one vacancy and one seat in doubt.
- Incumbent Democrats returned to office include: Lister Hill; Carl Hayden; William Fulbright; George Smathers; Russell Long; Thomas Hennings; Alan Bible; Sam Ervin; Mike Monroney; Wayne Morse; Olin Johnston; Warren Magnuson. Democrats newly elected to the Senate include: John Carroll of Colorado; Herman Talmadge of Georgia; Frank Church, who defeated Herman Welker of Idaho; Frank Lausche, who defeated George Bender of Ohio; Joseph S. Clark, who defeated James Duff of Pennsylvania; Strom Thurmond. Republican Thurston Morton defeated Earle Clements of Kentucky.
- Republicans recorded their most smashing victory in the history of Texas. In virtually complete returns, Eisenhower captures 55.35% of the state's vote to top even his surprising victory in 1952 when he took 53.22%. But the Republican vote extends only to Bruce Alger, and all other posts, including all state offices and 20 congressional seats, are won by Democrats.
- 11/8 Mike Mansfield says today that while Stevenson will continue as the titular leader of the Democratic Party until the next presidential election, "very likely the source of power . . . the actual leadership . . . lies in the Senate and House

leadership. . .” He says that as a matter of practical politics, Eisenhower’s position in relation to his party will not be as strong as in the past; it will be the Democrats in Congress who will make the record for the party.

November Reedy reports to LBJ that “a first-class hatchet job” has created the impression with press people that LBJ did “absolutely nothing” in the campaign. Conservative reporters approve of what they think LBJ did, and “the liberals are walking around working up a slow burn.”

11/9 23 congressional leaders meet with Eisenhower and his advisers at the White House at his request to review the Middle East crisis and the situation in Eastern Europe. LBJ told reporters as he left the White House that Democrats will “give responsible consideration to any administration suggestions and we will not play politics with foreign policy.”

At a later press conference, LBJ says Eisenhower will get constructive cooperation from the Democratic majority in the new Congress. He also brushes aside speculation that the Republicans might be able to take control of the Senate, where Democrats retain a slim margin, and expresses confidence that a Democrat will take Price Daniel’s seat in the Senate in January.

Later LBJ and Sen. Knowland hold a meeting to discuss the next session and afterwards meet with TV news reporters. They agreed that the Senate will likely follow a course of compromise and cooperation with Eisenhower. LBJ tells reporters that the Democrats will not offer their own program, but will wait for Eisenhower’s recommendations and then “evaluate them as reasonable men in the light of what is good for America.” His comments indicate that there will be no full-scale distinctly outlined Democratic program, as Humphrey had called for, with an emphasis on strong civil rights legislation.

11/11 News columnist reports that with Eisenhower’s re-election, Shivers has new potential power that could determine party control of the Senate. If Shivers accepts Daniel’s resignation and Gov. Lausche remains in Ohio, the Senate would be evenly divided and VP Nixon could break a tie vote and the Senate would be organized by Republicans. Shivers could also appoint an interim senator to fill Daniel’s vacancy, and there are rumors in Austin he might name Coke Stevenson. This would enable Stevenson to even scores with LBJ by voting for Republican organization.

11/13 LBJ and CTJ fly from Washington to Paris on a military plane to attend the NATO conference, scheduled to begin on 11/18 and run until 11/29. Apparently the Thornberrys and the Jenkinses also go to Europe for the conference. In a press conference before leaving, LBJ says that the NATO alliance has been severely

strained by recent developments, but that he hopes there will be “some frank discussion of our mutual problems” at this meeting. LBJ plans to join with Sen. Russell in visits to defense installations in Germany and elsewhere after the meeting.

The *American Statesman* later reported that a Johnson aide attributed his planned inspection of military installations in Europe to LBJ’s interest in military affairs and the fact that so many military bases are in Texas. Many of Germany’s bases are staffed by Texans. Nixon and Dulles reportedly urged LBJ to attend the NATO conference, and these factors contributed to his decision to do so.

LBJ also says that Sen. Mansfield would be an “excellent choice” for Senate Democratic Whip to succeed Earle Clements, an endorsement that seems to assure Mansfield of the post. LBJ also announced that he has invited Earle Clements to be executive chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee and that Clements will have increased responsibilities over those normally held by non-senators on the staff.

LBJ flatly refused to be drawn into the controversy over the resignation of Price Daniel, saying that he had not talked to Daniel about it and that he always follows a course of steering clear of strictly state affairs.

Right after his press conference, LBJ went to Walter Reed Army Hospital to visit Secretary of State Dulles, who is recovering from cancer surgery. LBJ said afterward that they discussed world affairs and Dulles brought him up-to-date on latest developments.

11/14 The *Waco News Tribune* reports that confusion continues to surround the replacement for Price Daniel’s Senate seat. Shivers says Daniel’s letter of resignation written September 26 was not in fact a resignation until January 15 and that unless Daniel resigns as of now, no special election can be called prior to January 15. Daniel says he has written 3 letters of resignation already and that the way is clear for Shivers to call a special election to replace him.

11/18 NATO Parliamentary Conference opens in Paris. U.S. delegates include Senators Theodore Green, Richard Russell, William Fulbright and LBJ.

In a memo, Reedy recounts an incident which took place at the conference in which LBJ avoided a heavy commitment that would have cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars. One of the topics on the agenda was the question of supplying Western Europe with oil to make up for the deficit caused by closing the Suez Canal. European delegates had drawn up a resolution which contained a clause asserting that supplying oil to Western Europe should be a

matter of “common policy” and organized on the basis of “mutual aid”--meaning the U.S. would supply the oil. While the American delegate on the committee drafting the resolution missed the importance of the wording of the resolution, LBJ pointed out at a caucus of the American delegation the extent of the commitment and secured a unanimous agreement to oppose the language. Faced with opposition when the conference met, LBJ made a speech on the floor in which he said that America was willing to help, but the extent and method could not be determined in a quickly drawn resolution from the conference. Then, LBJ pulled out an amendment that eliminated the controversial commitment but stressed that the American delegation was concerned and would urge that steps be taken on the matter, at which point the delegates broke into applause.

11/20 Sam Houston Johnson writes LBJ to report that Ralph Yarborough came by LBJ’s Austin office and announced that he was running for the Senate and wanted LBJ’s support. Sam Houston told him that LBJ has told several prospective candidates that he is staying completely out of the Senate race.

11/22 In a “Democratic Declaration of 1957,” six Democratic senators-- Humphrey, Paul Douglas, Wayne Morse, James E. Murray, Pat McNamara, and Richard Neuberger--served notice that on January 3, 1957, they will press for a “reasonable” rule to curb filibusters, as part of a 16 point “guide to a minimum program of liberal Democratic action.” Their proposals serve as a rebuff to LBJ, who has said that Democrats will offer no program of their own; they also set the stage for a North- South civil rights fight.

11/26 LBJ and CTJ return from the NATO conference in Paris, but stay in Washington only about an hour before proceeding on to Texas. In a hurriedly-gathered press conference between planes in Washington, LBJ outlined his views of the conference, saying that stepped-up production of oil on the Gulf Coast is necessary to meet shortages in Western Europe. He said that with the international situation in Europe and the Middle East, the U.S. has a “responsibility” to help but he declined to discuss terms and conditions. LBJ also voiced his unqualified opposition to any change in Rule 22, saying that he is “committed” to the notion that the Senate is a continuing body.

In the first of a two-day meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee, held after LBJ’s press conference, Paul Ziffren of California takes issue with LBJ on his position against a Democratic legislative program being announced in advance. Ziffren said House and Senate leaders hold responsibility to come up with an affirmative constructive program. Mayor David L. Lawrence of Pittsburgh, considered a powerful member of the national committee, also backed a legis-

11/27 lative program in advance of the session. Johnson contends that the program will be its accomplishments at the end of the session.

The *Dallas News* reports that Americans for Democratic Action have charged LBJ with the loss of Texas to Eisenhower, saying that he had complete charge in Texas but what work he did for Stevenson was “nothing more than a clever pretense.” The ADA cited the handling of the Dallas campaign by men LBJ selected as local campaign chairmen as the worst example of the lack of enthusiasm of his local leaders.

Executive committee of the Democratic National Committee decides to set up a 17-man high level advisory group to develop and promote a liberal legislative program designed to meet “America’s most pressing needs.” Chairman Paul Butler said Rayburn and LBJ would be asked to serve, but reportedly neither feels he needs the advice of such a committee on legislation and they may reject the movement.

In a telegram to LBJ, the West Central Texas Oil & Gas Association takes issue with LBJ’s statement that the oil needs of NATO countries can be met by increasing crude production, particularly on the Gulf Coast, and implying that he was advising abandonment of the “ratable-take” provision of the Association’s conservation statutes. The association would abandon that provision of the U.S. or free world needed oil in excess of what could be supplied on ratable-take basis, but no such need is evident. Storage is at an all-time high and is adequate to meet all immediate European needs.

11/29 The *American Statesman* reports that Cong. Diggs of Michigan, one of 3 Negro members of the House, wrote LBJ suggesting that he resign as Senate Democratic leader if he cannot support a proposed rule change to prevent filibusters, since the 1956 Democratic platform pledged repeal of the present Senate rule.

December

12/1 Eisenhower orders 21,400 Hungarian refugees admitted to the United States.

Drew Pearson reports that when Paul Butler telephoned LBJ to tell him that the executive committee had voted unanimously to outline a liberal program, LBJ exploded, “You are splitting the Democratic Party to pieces!” When he cooled down, Butler asked him to join the advisory committee to coordinate and advance the liberal program, and LBJ reportedly replied that it was all right with him, but he would have to talk to Rayburn first.

Pearson also reports on the failure of two backstage moves to get rid of Paul Butler. Pittsburgh's Mayor David Lawrence wanted to replace Butler with Jim Finnegan, but Finnegan refused the job. LBJ was supporting either Earle Clements or Jim Rowe and he sounded out Democratic leaders about both men. But the executive committee unanimously endorsed Butler.

- 12/2 News article says Democratic senators are rebelling against the middle-of-the-road program and leadership of LBJ, and that liberal and conservative wings in and out of the Senate are lining up for a struggle. The challenge to LBJ reflects concern over the radical shift of roughly five million voters from the Democratic to Republican Party in the November elections, in both northern and southern cities. In addition, the declaration made by senators and the executive committee resolution indicate Democrats will be expected to take a sterner view of the Eisenhower Administration's conduct of foreign policy.
- 12/2-12/4 Israeli, French and British forces begin withdrawal from Egypt.
- 12/3 LBJ sends Rayburn a memorandum listing objections to the Democratic Advisory Committee and recommending that the Democratic leadership in Congress decline to serve but agree to listen to the advisory committee's nonbinding advice.
- Adlai Stevenson announces that he will not run again for the presidency and that he will resume private law practice in Chicago in January. He also says he has accepted membership on the Democratic advisory council.
- 12/5 Paul Butler announces the names of 20 outstanding Democrats he had invited to serve on the advisory group, including Rayburn, John McCormack, Carl Albert, party whip, Rep. Michael Kirwan of Ohio, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Adlai Stevenson, Kefauver, Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and LBJ.
- Jim Rowe writes Paul Butler about the continual references to his being a candidate for chairman of the Democratic National Committee, reminding him that the rumor originated in Pearson's column. Rowe claims that neither of the incidents described occurred and that Pearson never asked him about them.
- 12/6 In an interview, Kefauver says he opposes a suggestion that LBJ step aside as Democratic leader in any Senate debate next year on changing its filibuster rule. He says he is not yet ready to take a position on a move to change the rule, but he sees no reason why LBJ should yield his leadership role even temporarily.

- 12/7 *The Washington Post* reports that John Kennedy has offered strong support to LBJ, under attack from the Democratic left wing, with his announcement that “We can achieve more progressive legislation united behind our present congressional leader than under any alternative choice.” His words are interpreted as a slap at the ADA, which suggested LBJ resign his leadership position.
- Robert Allen reports that the Democratic Advisory Committee was a surprise to Paul Butler. National committeemen David Lawrence and Jacob Arvey arranged with Paul Ziffren to raise the proposal at the executive committee meeting and paved the way for immediate approval. Moreover, the executive committee has the final say on who will be named to the advisory committee, and former Solicitor General Philip Perlman has “potent” executive committee support for being named full- time director of the advisory group. Allen also reports that national committeeman George Rock is demanding that the committee start preparing for the 1958 elections by “cleaning house” and getting rid of Butler.
- 12/8 Hubert Humphrey announces that he will again support LBJ as Democratic floor leader despite their disagreements on some major issues. Humphrey is the third senator to line up behind LBJ after the ADA called for him to resign his leadership position. Nonetheless, Humphrey said, he will join other liberals in an opening session fight for revision of Senate debate-limiting rules. Humphrey said he expects all Democratic senators to support LBJ as Senate leader.
- In a telegram to Paul Butler, Rayburn, McCormack, Albert and Kirwan decline to serve on the advisory committee, although they are ready to consult with the committee at any time. They believe it would be a mistake for them to join a program that would have them work with any committee outside of the House.
- U.S. flies its first test rocket, the “Viking,” for its man-made satellite project, from Patrick Air Force Base in Florida.
- Sen. and Mrs. Earle Clements, Sen. Richard Russell and Bobby Russell arrive for a visit at the Ranch. On 12/9 LBJ, Sen. Clements, and the Russells apparently go to Falfurrias for a turkey hunt. From there they go to St. Jo Island to hunt, returning to the Ranch on 12/11, and departing for home on 12/12.
- 12/9 News reports indicate that Adam Clayton Powell, who openly urged Negroes to vote Republican during the election, has had his patronage allowance of two jobs cut by Democratic House leaders, who may also decide to take away his committee posts.
- 12/10 George Reedy sends LBJ a memo pointing out that the 16-point Democratic liberal program is “almost entirely a restatement of past programs” in which a

majority of Democrats concurred; practically all of the 16 points passed one or both houses of the 84th Congress under Rayburn and Johnson's leadership. Four of the 16 points were not passed by one of the two branches, and 8 were approved in substantial form by both houses. He adds that it is unlikely that programs that failed in the 84th Congress can be passed in the 85th.

12/12 After the Clements and Russells depart, CTJ leaves for Karnack to visit her father.

LBJ goes to College Station to be the keynote speaker at the opening of A&M College's second annual Student Conference on National Affairs. Addressing more than 500 people at the first plenary session, LBJ says that a definite review of U.S. foreign policy will be undertaken by the Senate when Congress convenes in January. LBJ returns to the Ranch that evening.

According to news reports, Paul Butler stuck his neck out in issuing invitations to the 20 advisers for the Democratic Advisory Committee, and Rayburn "chopped it off." Butler announced the 20 names publicly first, only to have Rayburn and 3 other Democratic House leaders decline to accept. The only members of Congress who have so far accepted are Hubert Humphrey, Estes Kefauver, and Edith Green of Oregon.

U.N. General Assembly condemns the USSR for aggression in Hungary.

12/13 LBJ today refuses to join the Democratic Advisory Committee, writing Paul Butler that "legislative processes are already very difficult, and the necessity of dealing with an additional committee not created by federal law before taking action would only cause delays and confusion." He says he has discussed the issue with a "substantial majority" of the Senate Democratic Policy Committee and reports that "without exception, all feel the Senate Democratic leadership should respectfully decline your invitation to serve," although LBJ would be willing to listen to their views. This suggests Mansfield and Smathers would also decline.

The Washington Post reports that Paul Butler plainly indicated that he would go ahead with the plan to set up the advisory committee, saying he feels bound to proceed as the executive committee voted, despite refusals by congressional leaders.

Jim Rowe writes LBJ, reporting on the results of LBJ's conversation with Dulles prior to leaving for the NATO conference. According to Rowe's sources, Dulles circulated a memorandum stating that LBJ and Mansfield would handle foreign policy problems in the Senate, and Dulles would be able to circumvent problems with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Dulles also told State Dept. personnel that LBJ had called Sen. Green a "senile old man" and Fulbright

“a real troublemaker.” Rowe is passing this information along so LBJ will be more cautious in his dealings with Dulles. Rowe also recommends that LBJ appoint John Carroll to the Judiciary Committee, which would help with his two problems in the Senate in 1957: (1) to avoid becoming the symbol of the South; (2) to cut the ground out from under the northern liberals at the right moment. Carroll wants Judiciary because of the monopoly aspects, and Rowe adds: “The more we can do with that in the next few years the better off the party will be,” especially in creating real issues against Eisenhower.

LBJ writes Rowe on 12/17 that he will talk to Carroll, although some senior senators are interested in the position and “there are some grumblings that I have stacked the committee with too many liberals already.” He also denies making the remarks about Green and Fulbright to Dulles.

12/14 The Philip Grahams arrive for a weekend visit at the Ranch, stay through 12/17.

John M. Neff of Lexington, Nebraska, and Elmer Patman of Austin, Texas, lawyers for Superior Oil accused of attempting to bribe Sen. Case, are fined \$2500 each and given suspended one-year sentences after they plead guilty to failure to register as lobbyists.

12/15 A group of about 100 loyalist-liberal-labor representatives meet in Austin for an all-day meeting and form the Democrats of Texas, a permanent statewide Democratic organization that will in effect replace the Democratic Advisory Council, named by Rayburn through the Democratic National Committee, to counter conservative Democrats led by Gov. Shivers. They call for an organizing convention to be held on May 18 with delegates from each county. They also elect an interim committee of 10 to serve as a steering committee. Mrs. Frankie Randolph is elected chairman and Creekmore Fath is elected interim finance chairman. Other members of the steering committee include: Bob Bryant; Kathleen Voigt; Mary Wilson; Jerry Holleman; Fred Schmidt; J.D. McLeod; Judge Tom Brookshire; Byron Abernathy.

12/18 LBJ flies to Fort Worth, where he attends a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of Commercial Stanford Insurance Company’s new building, where Raymond Buck’s daughter cuts the ribbon, and LBJ delivers an address. Mid-afternoon he meets Sen. Pastore and Bobby Baker, who arrive at the Amon Carter Airport. Bad weather delays their return flight to Austin and they arrive at the Ranch very late. Pastore spends the night at the Ranch and leaves the next day.

Paul Butler announces that no further efforts would be made to form the Democratic Advisory Committee as originally planned, apparently because party

leaders have fought the move. Butler calls for meetings on January 4 of both the truncated advisory group and the Democratic National Executive Committee to decide what steps to take. The advisory group will be retained--albeit without key congressional leaders that could have given it power in legislative matters--and will serve together with the executive committee. Butler suggests that governors or mayors be invited to take the places declined by congressional leaders.

- 12/20 Mary Rather reports to LBJ that Tom Corcoran is in a great rush to have LBJ talk with Dulles about having Robert Hill appointed as assistant secretary in charge of Latin American matters. Corcoran says the Republicans are pushing Henry Holland to go back to the State Dept. in this post, in order to keep Hill from getting the appointment, and that if Holland gets it, "it will be a feather in the cap for Texas Republicans." Corcoran wants LBJ to talk to Dulles today or tomorrow; otherwise it will be too late.
- 12/21 After a federal injunction barring bus segregation is issued in Montgomery, Alabama, Negroes there--led by Martin Luther King--end a year-long boycott and resume riding buses.
- Robert Allen reports that senators-elect Frank Lausche and Strom Thurmond are both refusing to say whether they will vote with the Democrats for organization of the Senate. Party chiefs have reportedly offered Lausche a plate on the Judiciary Committee, an unprecedented move for a new senator. Allen also reports that Paul Butler is not upset with the refusal of congressional leaders to be members of the national advisory committee, and that that's what he hoped they would do.
- 12/22 British and French forces complete their evacuation of the Canal Zone, despite harassment by Egyptian guerrillas.
- 12/24 The Johnson family goes to Mrs. Sam Johnson's home for Christmas Eve party. LBJ and CTJ apparently go to Rochester, New York before returning to Washington sometime between Christmas and New Year's.
- 12/31 Israeli officials say that within a week they will have withdrawn from four-fifths of the Sinai, implying that they will not retire from the Gaza Strip and Straight of Aqaba unless guarantees are given that Egypt will not be permitted to use those positions for aggression against Israel.