

1958 Chronology

LBJ (Lyndon Johnson) scheduled to arrive in Washington on 12/31 or 1/1.

January

1/1 Ed Weisl, Preparedness Subcommittee counsel, reveals on 12/31 that the subcommittee investigating U.S. missiles and satellite programs has decided against calling Charles E. Wilson, former defense secretary who left the government on 10/8, but said this decision might be “reconsidered” in view of Wilson’s statements to a *New York Herald Tribune* reporter on 12/30 disclaiming responsibility for holding down military spending. Wilson claimed that Eisenhower and budget director Percival Brundage “trimmed” military spending requests over his opposition.

1/3 The White House is blocking attempts of the Preparedness Subcommittee to obtain copy or specific excerpts from the Gaither Committee report. The report warns that America faces unprecedented danger in the next 15 years because of Soviet advances.

The proposal to place a single commander at the head of U.S. military forces, as a way of eliminating rivalry among the armed forces, is gaining strong bipartisan support in Congress, although it is opposed by Richard Russell in the Senate.

Carl Vinson on 1/4 says that single chief of staff would mean “national suicide” and praises the present system of the joint chiefs of staff. The Vinson Committee in the House will begin closed-door inquiry into entire defense system Friday.

1/4 Lieut. Gen. James M. Gavin, head of the Army’s research and development organization, announces his decision to retire effective 3/31. His actions stir speculation that the administration’s tactics forced his resignation because he had criticized the way the missile and satellite programs were being managed.

On 1/5 LBJ says his subcommittee will investigate Gavin’s decision and the rumors that he had been threatened with transfer to an obscure post unless he changed his views about the missile program. Gavin appeared before the subcommittee in public session on Dec. 13, 1957, and urged then that Joint Chiefs of Staff be abolished in order to increase Pentagon efficiency.

On 1/6 Gavin testified at closed hearing of Preparedness Subcommittee that he was retiring because he was no longer being considered for promotion and assignment to a more responsible position, and that he had made his decision after Maxwell D. Taylor, army chief of staff, told him of change in plans for his future.

In press conference, LBJ states that while defense and foreign policy will be dominant issues in next session of Congress, other domestic problems include: low

farm prices, unemployment, small business failures, lack of conservation measures, inflation, et cetera.

LBJ also says that he and members of subcommittee staff have held 10 separate conferences with WH staff members without producing the Gaither Committee document.

1/5 The first of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund reports is released; "International Security: The Military Aspect," is an analysis of the West's security problems produced since the war and states that U.S. is rapidly losing lead over USSR in military race.

1/6 Senate Preparedness Subcommittee hearings recommence.

Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, chief of naval operations, speaking before the National Press Club in Washington, sharply criticizes the growing number of proposals to reorganize the Joint Chiefs of Staff under a single head. Secretary of the Navy Thomas S. Gates reinforces Burke's stand with his presence in the audience and his unofficial approval. Influential congressmen also criticize the Rockefeller panel proposals to end inter-service rivalries.

1/7 Congress opens new session. No business is conducted until after Eisenhower's State of the Union Message on 1/9. At a conference of Democratic senators held before Senate convenes, LBJ gives a Democratic message on the state of the Union, in advance of Eisenhower's message. In it he sums up missile investigation made by Preparedness Subcommittee, and also discusses importance of space exploration.

Republican senators hold similar meeting and receive preview of Eisenhower's message. Eisenhower sends first defense spending request to Congress--a call for \$1.26 billion in supplemental appropriations for current fiscal year ending June 30 to expand missile production and improve operations of Strategic Air Command.

In unusual press conference, Army Secretary Wilber M. Brucker offers Lieut. Gen. James M. Gavin certain promotion to four-star general and choice of two major army assignments if he will withdraw announced plan to retire at end of March.

On 1/8, Gavin says he will still leave army March 31 because he is unable to halt steady deterioration of army, and Brucker reluctantly approves Gavin's request for retirement. Some papers reported that according to LBJ, Gavin was motivated by principle rather than concern for promotion. Others held that Gavin's action had to do with his personal ambition for promotion and specific assignments, as had been inferred from his and Brucker's previous statements.

1/8

LBJ attends breakfast meeting at the Pentagon arranged by Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy, the first in a series of such breakfasts for congressional leaders. There Democratic congressional leaders told McElroy they would support “essential and adequate” military spending. Later LBJ meets with Preparedness Subcommittee in executive session.

Gen. Thomas D. White, Air Force chief of staff, charges in testifying before Preparedness Subcommittee that despite his urgent appeal “before every proper authority,” the administration refused to accelerate the intercontinental ballistic missile programs “as much as they can and should be.” He asserts the new Eisenhower budget permits limited speed-up in the Atlas long-range missile program but none at all in the companion project, known as Titan.

Earlier today at a Pentagon breakfast meeting, McElroy assured LBJ and other congressional leaders that he would not permit budget limitations to block a request for all the military funds he personally feels necessary to gain full parity with USSR.

News report says that while LBJ is advocating high level bipartisan approach to missile program, Rayburn and Yarborough do not hesitate to criticize the administration’s role in the missile lag.

VP Nixon refutes pessimistic views of U.S. being weaker than the USSR.

1/9

Maj. Gen. Bernard A. Schriever, head of Air Force ballistics missiles program, appears before Preparedness Subcommittee in closed session, where he says production of 1500 and 5000-mile range Air Force missiles can and should be increased beyond the administration’s proposal. He says he recommended a speed-up in production of Thor and Atlas missiles and creation of more missile-operating crews, but that the administration curtailed part of the budget and called for a program lower than physical capabilities would allow.

Eisenhower gives State of the Union Message, appealing for bipartisan support of the reciprocal trade (tariff-lowering) and foreign aid programs.

1/10

News report: Senate Labor Subcommittee chairman, John Kennedy--often considered too right-wing by many Democrats--will strike a deft coup by unveiling his own labor program for the Senate. Drafted with advice of top-level professors and labor experts, Kennedy will press the plan as the answer to the McClellan Committee expose.

Preparedness Subcommittee decides to ask Army Generals George C. Marshall, Omar Bradley, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, and Gen. Carl A. Spaatz to give the committee advice on current situation and proper organization of the Air Force.

- 1/11 LBJ tells reporters that action to “knock some heads together” at Defense might be more effective in producing more missiles than a Defense reorganization. LBJ was reportedly angered by the Air Force’s release of Maj. Gen. Bernard Schriever’s testimony given before a closed session of Preparedness Subcommittee, and was said to feel that the release demonstrated a division of authority at the Pentagon that needed to be corrected.
- 1/12 Press reports: The administration is offering to keep Republican campaign opponents from attacking some Democratic congressmen if the Democrats support the foreign aid and trade programs. The administration reportedly needs support from Democrats to win votes for a proposed aid program of approximately \$4 billion and a bill that may seek to extend the Reciprocal Trade Act for five years.
- 1/13 Preparedness Subcommittee resumes hearings today, calling Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff to testify in open session. Sarnoff is member of panel funded by Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Gen. Nathan F. Twining, chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff, is scheduled to testify at closed-door session later today.
- LBJ pays a surprise visit to Sen. Richard Russell’s office, with friends, in honor of Russell’s 25 years of Senate service.
- Eleanor Roosevelt writes an article critical of congressional leaders who are more concerned with the arms race with Russia than they are with domestic needs.
- 1/14 General Nathan F. Twining appears in closed door session of Preparedness Subcommittee. There he voices concern that the public has the “mistaken conclusion” that U.S. is militarily inferior to USSR. On 1/17, Pentagon releases the transcript of his comments after security clearance and censorship of his testimony, but their deletions left the impression that Twining had criticized the subcommittee for spreading such an impression by its hearings airing defense weaknesses. Ensuing congressional rumble causes Defense to restore the censored testimony on 1/19.
- In a speech before CBS affiliates in Washington, LBJ calls for a step-up in weapons output as well as some effort by Eisenhower to sponsor a UN effort to control space. Nixon reportedly appears on same program.
- 1/15 News reports that LBJ is becoming increasingly irritated with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt’s running criticism of his leadership in Congress. She has charged that the Democratic leadership is “as unimaginative as the Republican.”

Former UN delegates Senators Sparkman, H. Alexander Smith and Cooper voice approval in separate interviews of LBJ's plan for UN program of manning space for peace.

1/16 LBJ, **CTJ (Lady Bird Johnson)** and Senator Russell attend dinner at the White House for Nixon and Cabinet.

1/19 LBJ discloses that highly classified report on national defense prepared by the Johns Hopkins Operations Research Office "calls and raises" amounts proposed by Rockefeller and Gaither reports for defense spending.

1/20 Maryland Governor McKeldin disparages LBJ's leadership and criticizes his proposal that U.S. accelerate its space exploration program as a means of controlling the elements.

Eisenhower begins appearing as featured speaker by TV and radio from Chicago at a maze of Republican dinners across the nation.

Speaking in Minneapolis, presidential assistant Sherman Adams accuses Democrats of "politicking with national defense" in their critical charges that the Eisenhower Administration is responsible for Russian superiority in missiles, satellites and other defense areas.

On 1/21, LBJ advises Democratic colleagues to ignore Adams' attacks; he asserts that Adams and other Republican speakers are acting not so much to protect Eisenhower from implied criticisms from the investigations as to improve Republican partisan morale against oncoming congressional campaign.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo regarding his talks with labor leaders about Neel's vacancy on the Senate Labor Committee. They feel that they are entitled to a pro-labor man in his place, since he had the best labor record of any member of either house. Andy Biemiller would prefer someone like Church, while Meany would like Clark to get the position. Reedy notes that they have no objection to Yarborough, and thinks it would be interesting if he got the seat.

Life magazine, strong supporter of Eisenhower from 1951 to January 1958, now appears to be all out for LBJ to take over from Ike.

1/23 Gen. Lucius D. Clay, former military governor of Germany and final Preparedness Subcommittee witness, urges Pentagon reorganization vesting control of all 3 military forces' weapons procurement and research funds in Defense Secretary with power to shift them as he sees fit with subsequent report to Congress.

- 1/24 Conclusion of present set of Preparedness Subcommittee hearings lists principal areas on which action must be taken. Interim report of 17 points is unanimously approved by entire subcommittee.
- 1/26 Prominent Democrats--Mansfield, Kefauver--snipe at the administration calling for speedy and comprehensive Defense Dept. reorganization.
- 1/27 U.S. signs agreement with USSR opening up Russia to American students, scientists and cultural groups on a reciprocal basis.
- LBJ apparently speaks before Senate, saying that he sees the agreement as first step toward eventual cooperation in achieving conquest of space. He has urged that U.S. take initiative in making control of space a UN undertaking, although such an effort would require "long and careful preparation."
- Eisenhower makes special education message to Congress, requesting a \$1.6 billion federal-state education program emphasizing science, mathematics and foreign languages.
- 1/28 Sam Houston Johnson sends LBJ a report that Holmes Alexander, usually pro-Johnson, had been "sold a bill of goods" that Preparedness Subcommittee report was "white wash." SHJ got Alexander to talk to Reedy, who completely changed his unfavorable opinion.
- 1/30 SHJ recommends that LBJ stay out of Texas as much as possible until after May and do more work on winning back the liberal moderate group.
- Eisenhower asks Congress for 5 year extension of trade act.
- 1/31 First successful U.S. satellite, Explorer I, is launched by army from Cape Canaveral, Florida. Second satellite launched on 3/5 fails to go into orbit. Third satellite is launched 3/17.

February

- 2/1 Egypt and Syria join together to form United Arab Republic, headed by Nasser, with the aim to unite all Arab nations. They soon export terrorism to Lebanon, which appeals for UN intervention. On July 14, King Faisal II of Iraq is killed and a UAR-inspired revolt overthrows his government. In response to Lebanon's request, Eisenhower immediately sends marines and declares on 7-15 that American forces will be withdrawn as soon as UN is prepared to assume responsibility. An emergency session of UN General Assembly hears Eisenhower call for UN action on

August 13 and approves putting the problem in hands of UN Secretary Gen. Dag Hammarskjold. U.S. troops are finally completely withdrawn Oct. 25.

2/8 Johnsons fly to Austin with Joe Kilgore, Wiley and Bill Brammer. LBJ attends meeting at Driskill with Joe Kilgore and a group interested in the Hondo Air Force Base.

Nixon announces makeup of 13-member special committee created to frame a national policy on space. Democratic members of the space group include LBJ, who is expected to be its chairman, Russell, Green, McClellan, Magnuson, Anderson, and Symington. Republican members include Bridges, Wiley, Hickenlooper, Saltonstall, Bricker and Mundt.

2/10 Dr. Bernard Schwartz is dismissed as chief counsel of Special House Committee on Legislative Oversight after accusing most members of subcommittee of trying to whitewash its investigation of federal regulatory agencies. Schwartz charged FCC members accepted gifts and favors from broadcast industry. As result, Richard A. Mack, FCC member and Florida Dem., resigned on 3/3/58.

On 2/12, Kefauver calls LBJ to discuss whether Senate should take over work of House Oversight Committee and investigate Schwartz' charges regarding improper activities of FCC members. LBJ thinks Senate should not become involved unless House ends its investigation.

2/13 LBJ asks Senate committee chairmen to give urgent attention to 10-point anti-recession program designed to increase federal spending on housing, reclamation projects, highways and hospitals.

2/16 LBJ calls for "positive action" to iron out U.S. economic ills, citing: unemployment, decline in farmers' share of national income; small business failures; decline in industrial output, all "danger signals."

Johnsons drive to San Antonio to see Astronaut Donald Farrell emerge from "space" vehicle experiment at Randolph School of Aviation Medicine. Ferrell completed 7-day simulated flight to moon. That afternoon they fly to Washington from Austin.

2/18 Hearings headed by Sen. Albert Gore begin on federal-aid highway program. First witness is Dem. Gov. Foster Furcolo of Mass. On 2/21, Dem. Gov. Averell Harriman is scheduled to appear. Gore contends interstate highway program is hampered by bureaucratic red tape, lack of initiative and shortage of money.

2/20 The Senate Space Committee meets in Vice President Nixon's office.

Washington correspondent Neil McNeil publishes an article charging that in 1952 and 1953, LBJ took an official interest in the license application of a television station--station KWTX-TV in Waco--that is now owned in part by CTJ.

2/21 LBJ requests Defense Dept. release funds for 15 Texas projects, urging work start immediately to stimulate employment. Corpus Christi's new National Guard Armory has number-one priority. Other Texas armories are being held up for lack of federal matching funds.

2/22 Democratic Party dinner in Washington. Speakers include Truman, Stevenson, Rayburn, LBJ, Mansfield, and Gov. James T. Blair of Missouri. Democratic fund-raising activities are increasing while Republicans are backing away from a controversial \$100,000 fund raised at a Houston dinner a couple of weeks ago.

In his comments, LBJ urged the Eisenhower Administration to start planning on a big public works program, in the event that it is needed. Some press report that he laid down a legislative agenda for 1958 in his comments.

2/25 LBJ attends Eric Johnston dinner, "Foreign Aspects of U.S. National Security" at the Statler. Eisenhower is speaker.

2/27 LBJ, accompanied by Mike Mansfield, meets with Soviet Ambassador Menshikoff, apparently at the Soviet's request.

Republican National Committee's fact sheet accuses LBJ of leading a Democratic attempt "to frighten the nation [about] a business dip . . . for political advantage" and charged that a "series of panic statements" in Congress were inspired by telephone calls from LBJ.

2/28 After 4 days of debate, Senate passes by voice vote an amended version of HR 5836, postal rates-postal employees pay bill, providing \$730 in postal rate increases and including a \$320 million postal pay increase. Eisenhower signs bill on 5/27.

March

Juanita Roberts suggests that someone interview Mrs. Rebekah Johnson to record her voice as a permanent record in a history of LBJ.

3/2 In an interview, LBJ says he doubts that Eisenhower's prediction of an economic upturn in March is correct; says he expects Senate to push for March passage of housing and highway bills designed to aid recovery.

- 3/3 Senate Demo leaders have given top priority to \$3 billion housing bill in their program of anti-recession legislation, laying down an emergency schedule for hearings and action by Senate Banking and Currency Committee and intending to bring it to Senate floor for passage within two weeks. Dispute will provide first clear-cut floor test between administration and Demos on how to combat the recession.
- Eisenhower and Nixon disclose the secret terms of their “understanding” regarding the procedures to be followed if Ike is disabled; they agreed to put into effect immediately the major provisions of a constitutional amendment proposed by the administration nearly a year ago. Their actions embarrassed Democrats who had been demanding the disclosure of the terms. Demo leaders have balked at the amendment and stalled congressional action on it, proposing instead that Congress pass law which would create a “disability commission” to determine whether the President was able to serve. This commission at present would have a majority of Democrats.
- 3/4 News report: Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt visited Mrs. Sam Johnson while on a speaking tour in Austin.
- The Johnsons host a coffee for Texas AFL-CIO members at the Capitol.
- 3/5 LBJ supports Albert Gore’s proposal to establish a Public Works Administration with \$500 million job-creation fund, the federal government contributing 90% of the cost of projects for reducing unemployment. LBJ discloses he has written the Budget Bureau, Defense army engineers and other agencies urging adoption of speed up program on projects already under way.
- 3/6 LBJ writes Eisenhower regarding mounting oil imports and their danger to domestic oil industry, suggesting: (1) mandatory 20% reduction of oil imports under authority Congress granted to President under Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act; (2) cut imports back on a basis comparable to cutbacks in domestic industry in states where pro-rationing is in effect.
- LBJ and House Majority Leader John W. McCormack simultaneously introduce concurrent resolutions expressing “the sense of Congress” that the executive department promptly proceed with vast program of military and civilian construction projects, which were scheduled to be given speedy approval by almost all Demos and a substantial number of Republicans before being sent to the White House. According to Marshall McNeil, the final version of the resolution was watered down and even praises the President for speeding up civil works spending to make jobs. 93 members voted for the resolution, 2 announced for it, and only 1 voted against it, Sen. Cotton of New Hampshire.

Two tax cut bills were introduced by Senators Douglas and Yarborough, but LBJ refuses to give them official approval, saying tax cuts wouldn't help the army of unemployed. LBJ proposed a new public works administration to handle the federal program. (clip)

Senate Banking Committee approves Demo housing bill that would raise ceilings on interest rate for veterans' mortgages and authorize \$1,850,000,000 of federal funds for housing, mostly for buying mortgages. The housing bill meets one Administration request: It would eliminate government controls over the discounts charged by lenders on government-backed mortgages.

- 3/7 Donald A. Quarles, deputy secretary of defense, writes LBJ, pledging to start military construction projects "as expeditiously as possible," and to "explore the feasibility" of speeding up projects already underway in areas of high unemployment. LBJ had urged such action in a 2/19 letter.
- 3/8 News report: Democratic leaders are rushing out their anti-recession program in an effort to beat the administration to the punch. LBJ lined up colleagues behind the big public works spending program after learning that Eisenhower had scheduled a White House briefing with GOP leaders on 3/22 on administration plans to speed up public works projects, and that Eisenhower told GOP leaders he agreed with Albert Gore that the interstate highway system should be completed in 13 years and had ordered Commerce Secretary Weeks to plan for faster going.
- Eisenhower is sharply critical of Democratic sponsored anti-recession proposals announced by LBJ.
- 3/11 In a speech on the Senate floor, LBJ says "Congress wants action, not credit" for leading the way in battling the recession. Johnson apparently was attempting to stave off charges that Democrats are trying to make political capital by goading the administration into action on the economic situation.
- 3/15 While LBJ attends the white-tie stag Gridiron Dinner with Marshall McNeil, CTJ goes to the Gridiron Widows Dinner with Mrs. Marshall McNeil.
- 3/17 LBJ urges a one-package "prosperity bill" wrapping up emergency unemployment pay, an increase in social security payments and a possible cut in taxes as an anti-recession stratagem for Congress, saying he hoped the House would send these elements in one package to the Senate. He endorsed the \$2 billion federal-loan program formally introduced in the Senate today by Sen. William Fulbright to finance local and state public works projects.

In a statement to the Senate, LBJ serves notice that he will force night sessions if necessary to complete action before Easter recess on the highway construction bill.

LBJ estimates that anti-recession legislation moving through Congress could provide 2 million jobs, almost 40% of the unemployed in February. His statement is one of most optimistic of Democratic statements.

3/18 Billboard lobby has delayed Senate action on highway speed-up bill for more than a week so it can organize last-ditch drive to defeat billboard control provisions of the bill, over vigorous opposition of LBJ. LBJ sharply criticized members of Public Works commission for delay, which he said was “difficult to justify” in terms of the fight over billboards alone. So the highway bill, which was approved by committee last Friday, won’t be reported formally to the Senate until next Sat.

Sen. Homer Capehart accuses Senate Democratic leaders of trying to completely block out the minority in committee and floor debate. His outburst is prompted by William Fulbright’s attempts to cut off Capehart’s questioning of Mike Monroney, when Secretary Anderson had been waiting for half an hour to give testimony to the Senate Banking subcommittee.

3/19 The *Wall Street Journal* reports that recession is sparking interest in a capital bank proposal that would provide longer term loans and ownership capital--through purchases of stock--for small businesses. LBJ and House Small Business Committee chairman Wright Patman are sponsoring a version of the bill, which would set up a special Small Business Capital Bank Board as an independent agency.

Senate Banking and Currency Committee begins hearings on bill to set up a \$2 billion federal fund for state and local public works projects. A heated argument between Fulbright, chairman of the committee, and Paul H. Douglas of Illinois marked the committee session. Their dispute arose over Douglas’ proposal to keep before the full committee, rather than referring to a subcommittee, a compromise depression-area bill introduced March 11 by Sen. Payne of Maine. Douglas accused Fulbright of stacking the subcommittee with members opposed to bills for federal loans and grants to stimulate employment in chronically depressed areas. Fulbright called Douglas “derelict” in his duties as chairman of the subcommittee. The argument ended with the adoption, 8 to 5, of the Douglas proposal.

Responding to Eisenhower’s economic speech to group of Republican women yesterday in Washington, Senate Democratic Policy Committee adopts resolution promising “nonpartisan treatment” and expeditious handling of any antirecession proposals Ike might send to Congress.

- 3/21 Senate passes farm bill by 48-32 vote. Bill is aimed at holding crop supports at or above 1957 levels for one year.
- 3/22 CTJ and Lynda Bird take the train to Alabama.
- 3/23 LBJ appeals to Eisenhower to sign a bill to freeze price supports, saying a veto would be a “crushing blow” to agriculture and would add to industrial unemployment. Passed by Congress last week in an effort to block Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson from carrying out plans to cut supports on dairy products, wheat and feed grains, Eisenhower is expected to veto the bill, and congressional votes showed farm bloc leaders they could not muster the two-thirds majority needed to override a veto.
- 3/24 Press reports that over LBJ’s opposition, Kerr held up the highway bill for a week to pave the way for an organized lobbying campaign against the anti-billboard section of the bill. Kerr’s amendment to strike from the bill a provision providing a one-half of 1% bonus in federal interstate highway funds for states that agree to regulate billboard advertising along new stretches of the interstate highway system is rejected by a 41 to 47 vote on March 26. LBJ and Blakley voted for the amendment.
- The Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1958 (HR9821--PL 85-381) is passed by the House on March 13 by a voice vote, and by the Senate on March 27 by an 84-4 roll call vote. It is cleared in conference on April 3 by a 300-28 roll call of the House and by a voice vote in the Senate. It is signed into law on April 16, 1958.
- The legislation came about because cost increases and a slowing-up of revenues going into the Highway Trust fund had stretched the interstate highway program schedule from 13 to 20 years. To avoid stretching out the program and as an anti-recession measure, Congress passed HR 9821 pumping \$3.26 billion in new federal funds into highway construction during fiscal years 1959-61. While HR 9821 passed House without much controversy, in the Senate the billboard provision was highly debated. PL 85-381 provided that \$115 million advance to the states would be available to cover up to two-thirds of the states’ share of ABC projects, and it suspended balanced budget requirement for Highway Trust Fund in fiscal years 1959-60, in effect allowing some projects normally financed from the Trust Fund to be financed from general revenues of the Treasury.
- 3/26 Former Sen. Herbert Lehman challenges Democratic Party wisdom in allowing LBJ and Rayburn to shape party issues for 1960 presidential campaign. He assails them as the chief architects of the Democrat’s defeat in 1956. He said both men were oriented politically to Texas voters rather than voters of the nation as a whole. Under their leadership, the Democratic Party prior to 1956 abandoned the role of responsible opposition.

- 3/27 LBJ attends a meeting in Nixon's office and then a luncheon hosted by Rayburn for British Parliament members.
- c. 3/28 LBJ gets up on Senate floor and commends Republicans and President George Meany of the AFL-CIO, for their support of legislation passed by Congress to freeze price support prices and acreage allotments. On 3/25, Republican senators voted 17 to 14 at a policy committee meeting to appeal to Eisenhower to sign the measure.
- 3/28 Texas labor leaders are praising LBJ for supporting a bill to increase postal employees' pay after Ike vetoed a similar bill last August, having the Senate adopt the measure as official Demo Party policy bill and playing major role in getting it to the floor. His anti-recession programs also won their approval.
- LBJ flies to Austin, where he meets CTJ and they go to the Ranch.
- 3/29 Sen. Pat McNamara writes LBJ requesting he be relieved of his assignment on Select Committee on Improper Activities in Labor or Management Field. According to later press, McNamara resigned from rackets committee in anger over its investigation of Reuther's part in Kohler company strike. After talking with Nixon, LBJ submits Frank Church to fill his vacancy.
- 3/31 Jack Bell reports that Democrats are arranging a "save-the-farm" demonstration in Congress to greet Eisenhower's expected veto of a bill freezing crop price supports for one year. LBJ has been working to line up a maximum Dem.vote in the attempt.

April

- 4/1 LBJ and CTJ drive to Bryan to put in a surprise appearance at hearing on the closing of the Bryan Air Force Base. Rep. Olin Teague, LBJ and Yarborough staff members, and Brig. Gen. Bertram Harrison, fly from Washington to Bryan to attend the hearing. Harrison said the decreasing need for pilots, the low re-enlistment rate at Bryan, and the high cost of providing the base with certain adequate facilities were the main reasons for closing the base.
- LBJ suggests to Air Force reps. that they study the possibility of spreading training of pilots over 6 bases rather than 5, which received very favorable reception from the nearly 800 people at the hearing. LBJ also calls on Air Secretary Douglas and Gen. White, chief of staff, to review the base.
- In LBJ's absence, Republicans led by Knowland and allegedly prompted by the White House, rise up and by a 41 to 39 vote put off until after Easter recess the

- 4/2 Yarborough-Fulbright bill to provide \$1 billion to loan for building community facilities. Democrats Harry Byrd and Frank Lausche joined Republicans on the vote. Eisenhower sends special message to Congress proposing legislation to establish civilian controlled National Aeronautics and Space Agency to direct all government activities in space exploration.
- 4/3 Neil McNeil reports that LBJ's recent political fence mending efforts in Texas and his "deliberate wooing" of voting blocks in states which have previously not always been pro-LBJ are designed to insure him enough personal following and control over state organization to come to 1960 presidential convention with delegates ready to work for him as a presidential nominee.
- Eisenhower proposes to Congress major reorganization of Defense Dept. giving Defense secretary sweeping authority over military plans and congressional appropriation spending.
- Sen. Ralph Flanders of Vermont writes LBJ about the proposed repairs of the East front of the Capitol and the need for additional space in the Capitol.
- Congress begins 10-day Easter recess.
- 4/4 LBJ meets with Mayor Miller and Howard Cox in Austin.
- 4/7 News report: despite congressional anti-recession claims and actions, Congress has passed only 2 major bills which deserve anti-recession labels: housing and highway bills, and even these will not provide the number of jobs that are claimed. Other anti-recession actions include: a rivers, harbors and flood control bill that is simply a "pork barrel" measure, and the vetoed bill that would have frozen farm price supports at 1957 levels, which is a renewal of the old fight between Democrats and Eisenhower over flexible farm price supports and has little to do with the recession.
- 4/9 LBJ meets w/Texas labor leaders Jerry Holleman, Fred Schmidt, Bill Petri, Loftis.
- 4/12 AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany writes LBJ urging speedy action on the Douglas-Kennedy-Ives bill, which would require administrators of all large employee welfare and pension plans to file financial reports disclosing their stewardship with the federal government. It would also make false statements and embezzlement of funds involved federal criminal offenses. LBJ writes back that he will do what he can to pass the protective measure without crippling amendments.
- 4/13 Johnsons leave Austin for Washington.
- 4/14 Senate meets following Easter recess.

4/16 LBJ meets with Bill Kittrell and George Carmack.

Senate approves \$1 billion anti-recession program of federal loans for construction of local public works projects by a vote of 60 to 26, after Republicans failed in their attempts to restrict the measure. Forty Democrats and 20 Republicans voted for the measure; 4 Dems. and 22 Republicans voted against it. Republicans had already reduced the originally proposed program from \$2 billion in Banking and Currency Committee, and sought to halve it again on the floor. Other Republican efforts to water down the bill also failed on the floor. Just before passage the measure was expanded to cover nonprofit hospitals.

4/17 CTJ hosts luncheon for editors wives; later that day she and LBJ attend Women's National Press Club dinner as guests of Liz Carpenter.

LBJ meets with George Carmack and Walter Humphrey.

4/18 LBJ meets with George V. Allen, director, USIA.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo recommending that he resign as majority leader, that he announce the resignation on 4/20 to a Democratic Policy Comm. meeting, and set a Dem. conference for 2 days after the meeting. Moreover, LBJ should take no part in maneuvering to elect a new leader. Reedy suggests that LBJ explain that someone else should take over leadership so that he can devote himself to his state, and to his basic interests like national defense and outer space.

Rowe sends LBJ a memo saying that it would be disastrous--for country and for Democrats--if Dems. delay much longer in moving towards tax cut. While public works is better way to pump-prime the economy, it takes too long and can only be successful if a "hard-driving" Executive is behind it. He warns LBJ to not be guided by advice of Bob Anderson, because in his role as Secretary of Treasury he will fight against tax cuts to the very end.

4/19 Sen. Cotton, member of Senate Public Works Comm., accuses Senate Demos. of arranging a field day of criticism of Eisenhower by scheduling hearings on the vetoed rivers and harbors and farm price freeze bills. Cotton characterizes LBJ's action in sending the bills back to committee as a propaganda move. In a separate interview, Sen. Aiken says the Demos are out for publicity and says he doesn't believe enough votes will be changed to override the President's veto. Sen. Ellender, in a recorded radio broadcast, criticizes Ike's veto of the rivers and harbors measure, even before formally scheduling hearings by the Agriculture Committee, saying he is sick of Ike building projects in the rest of the world but not in the U.S.
LBJ speaks before the American Society Newspaper Editors Dinner.

- 4/21 LBJ and CTJ attend dinner hosted by the Campaign Conference for Democratic Women Leaders (part of Democratic National Committee), where LBJ makes a special address at the senatorial dinner. In his remarks, LBJ predicts that Demos will pick up enough seats in November congressional elections “to put an end to government by veto.” He also lashes out at Ike for vetoing the rivers and harbors bill and the farm price support bill.
- Commerce Secretary Weeks stated publicly over weekend that certain top level Demos. in Congress were “deliberately plotting” to exaggerate the business decline and attempting to scare people from spending money on goods and services.
- 4/22 Press reports that LBJ temporarily blocked Knowland’s labor legislation by postponing scheduled action on the bill designed to curb misuse of workers’ welfare and pension funds. Knowland planned to use this measure to force vote on his omnibus labor bill. LBJ ordered a staff study of the amendment, and pending a report by his own committee and committee experts, LBJ said he was undecided about calling up fund bill for action and presumably was counting votes. Knowland could now take a different tact by offering his omnibus labor legislation in the form of amendments to other measures in the bill.
- 4/24 Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell makes an unexpected announcement proposing Eisenhower’s general labor recommendations as a rider to the welfare-pension bill, which will complicate the Senate struggle even further, as Sen. Knowland is attempting to tie more sweeping amendments of his own to the bill. Shortly after Congress convened, Johnson and Knowland clash on Knowland’s move to tie amendments to the bill.
- 4/25 Sen. McClellan tells Senate he doesn’t want his own comprehensive labor bill debated as an amendment to the pending measure for regulation of employee pension-welfare funds, saying it would be unfair to consider broad-gauge labor legislation without in depth committee hearings.
- 4/26 Senate meets in first Saturday session of the year to debate labor legislation.
- 4/27 Press reports that Sen. Proxmire won a coveted seat on Senate Agriculture Committee last week as result of Johnson’s support.
- 4/28 Senate passes, by 88-0 vote, the labor bill regulating employee-welfare and pension funds, defeating Republican efforts to attach general labor legislation to the bill prior to having committee hearings. An unchallenged rider offered by Sen. Karl Mundt provides for a 5-year jail sentence or \$500 fine for individuals who serve as pension plan officers after losing their citizenship upon conviction.

According to one press report, Knowland was primarily interested in advancing his own fortunes in the battle over labor legislation. LBJ was more interested in defeating Knowland than he was concerned with defeating the amendments. Southern senators who normally side with Knowland found themselves aligned with liberals. They were not interested in Knowland, LBJ or the amendments themselves. Southern politicians were “primarily interested in preserving a record of devotion to the committee system” so that “they would be able to insist that all civil rights amendments must clear a committee also.”

4/29 LBJ performs ground-breaking ceremonies at the site of the new Washington headquarters of 16 railroad unions at 1st and D Sts., N.W. With him were Rayburn and Edward Keating, editor and manager of the railroad workers weekly paper, *Labor*.

AFL-CIO leaders--George Meany, pres.; Walter Reuther, UAW pres.; George Harrison, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen pres.; Al J. Hayes, pres., Machinists Union and chairman of AFL-CIO Ethical Practices Committee-- meet with LBJ in Washington to pledge their cooperation in getting constructive labor legislation through Congress this session, also meeting with JFK, chairman of Senate Labor Subcommittee.

Senate passes Health and Welfare Fund bill by vote of 88 to 0.

4/30 LBJ meets with Attorney General Rogers, Arthur Goldberg, Phil Graham and George Garrett during the course of the afternoon.

May

5/2 LBJ goes to Louisville, Kentucky, returning on May 3 or 4 (probably 4).

5/3 *Newsweek* reports that LBJ made a deal with Al J. Hayes, president of machinists union, that he would control enough Democratic votes to Kill Knowland's amendments to the labor bill if Hayes agreed to several conditions: make no more attacks on Democrats; labor would have to cooperate on a reasonable labor bill to come out of committee within 60 days; and organized labor start working on individual Republican senators with target of picking up 10 or 12 necessary Republican votes against the amendments.

5/4 LBJ is scheduled to be first witness as Senate Labor subcommittee begins its investigation. Senate has been promised broad scale labor bill by June 10. Senators McClellan, chairman of Senate labor management racketeering committee, and Knowland also are scheduled to appear as witnesses.

According to Reedy, Sen. Morse insisted on asking McClellan a long string of questions designed to reveal how little he knows about labor legislation.

5/5 News report: LBJ and Yarborough are coming closer together, especially over labor. The signs of this include: LBJ's defeat of Knowland amendments; anti-recession proposals introduced by LBJ and supported by Yarborough are virtually identical to proposals made by Jerry Holleman and state executive board; LBJ desires to have Yarborough remain on labor committee, where he creates Dem. majority; LBJ claims to be impartial to Texas junior senator's race, contrasted with his earlier warm reception of Blakley and coolness towards Yarborough.

5/6 Space committee holds first hearing, with Gen. Doolittle as witness. Secy. Quarles testifies on 5/7.

5/8 Appropriations subcommittee meets. Space committee continues its hearings. Secretary McElroy testifies on 5/13. LBJ drops by luncheon hosted by Senators Symington and Bridges and meets Price Juan Carlos.

5/9 LBJ testifies before Senate subcommittee in behalf of appropriations for Texas projects, making a special appeal for the McGee Bend hydroelectric dam in the controversial Angelina River project. At issue is whether project should be halted until engineers strip hydroelectric power from the plans.

5/13 LBJ's letter to the *New York Herald Tribune* is published, in which he defends the move to bring labor legislation to committees in accordance with orderly procedures.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo outlining both sides of the question of whether he should resign as majority leader, and raising some questions he should answer in order to make his decision.

VP Nixon and Pat Nixon, on good will tour of South America, encounter violent anti-U.S. demonstrations in Peru and Venezuela. They barely escape injury in Caracas before troops drive off rioters. Eisenhower greets the Nixons on their return to Washington, ascribing the incidents to communist instigation. Later administration abandoned opposition to project long sought by L.A. countries, and agreed in September to put up most of funds for Inter-American Development Bank, which Congress ratified in 1959.

Military coup by French officers in Algeria (where French forces are fighting losing battle against Algerian rebels) provokes crisis in Paris, leading to the return of Gen. Charles deGaulle to power. He is installed as premier on 6/1/58 and promptly

restores order and drafts a new constitution. On 9/28/58 a popular referendum ratifies a new constitution overwhelmingly, and on 12/21/58 he wins election to a 7-year term as the first president of the Fifth Republic of France.

5/14 Gordon M. Tiffany, former New Hampshire attorney general and a Republican, is confirmed as staff director of newly created civil rights commission by a 67-13 roll call vote (D 30-13; R 37-0). His confirmation is opposed by southern Democrats.

5/15 LBJ, Humphrey, Mansfield and Lausche go to the airport to meet the Nixons returning from their South American tour. LBJ was later apparently criticized for this action.

5/16 Appropriations Committee meets to consider the Colorado River channel, the Galveston seawall, the Texas City channel, and the Ferguson Reservoir projects.

5/19 Public Works Committee meets. LBJ attends luncheon at the White House.

Speaking before a group of 23 influential Texans from the Trinity River basin in Washington to urge Congress to vote \$250,000 for a new survey of the river, LBJ said--in often off-the-record remarks--that he is deeply disturbed by the state of the nation at home and abroad, and called for a complete resurvey of American foreign policy. He also defended himself against criticism for greeting the Nixons on their return from the disastrous South American trip.

5/21 Secretary of State Dulles appears before LBJ's Senate Appropriations subcommittee to appeal to them to restore most of the \$7 million-plus cut from the State Department's budget made by the House. LBJ's opening remarks emphasized need for well-trained diplomatic corps, saying that "personal diplomacy is no substitute for the well-trained and dedicated diplomatic corps."

House agrees to a motion to consider Alaska statehood bill, by roll call vote of 217 to 172. Although Rules Comm. had never granted HR 7999 a rule, the vote came after Rayburn ruled, on a point of order, that the bill qualified as privileged matter, under House rule permitting bills to admit territories to statehood status to be reported directly to the floor without Rules Comm. approval.

On 5/28 House passes HR 7999 by 210-166 roll call vote and sends bill to Senate. Passage came after 5 days of consideration and defeat of several attempts to kill bill.

After lengthy debate in Senate, HR 7999 is passed on 64-20 roll call vote (D 31-13; R 33-7) and is sent to Eisenhower. LBJ and Yarborough announced for the bill. Southern Democratic filibuster did not appear as threatened. Points of order

against bill on grounds of unconstitutionality were systematically voted down; attempts to amend bill by southern demos also unsuccessful. If bill had been amended, it would have been sent back to House, where objection by one rep. could have returned bill to Rules Committee. Eisenhower signs it into law on July 7.

5/23 Mitchell appears before labor subcommittee on last day of hearings.

The Johnsons drive to New York with the Jenkinses, Eloise Thornberry, and Mary Wiley. While they are there they see *Look Homeward Angel* and *Sunrise at Campobello*; shop; and go to Toots Shors, the Colony, Lindy's, the Harvard Club, Peacock Alley, the Latin Quarter, Stork Club, etc.

5/27 At a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing on the USIA budget request for the coming year, LBJ urges the Voice of America to change its theme song, "Columbia, The Gem of the Ocean," because the loud and distinctively American music was causing many East Europeans to be arrested.

The Appropriations Committee is considering budget for state, justice and judiciary. On 5/28, the committee discusses the President's Special International Program and hears from the Justice Dept.'s outside witnesses.

5/28 The Johnsons host party for Jim Cain at the Capitol. Later that evening, LBJ flies to Texas with Jesse Kellam, Lloyd Hand, and Wiley.

On 5/31, he flies to Houston and addresses University of Houston graduates in commencement exercises there Saturday night, after visiting Texas Childrens' Hospital earlier in the day. In his address he lays down an indictment of the administration's foreign and domestic policies, especially their support of dictators abroad. He returns to the Ranch on 6/1. He and his group returns to Washington on 6/3.

June

6/3 Reedy sends LBJ an analysis of the Kennedy labor bill, saying that it is tougher than it sounds, and it is hard to find bargaining room in either direction. Reedy concludes that Kennedy's only hope is that McClellan accepts the measure "as is."

Press reports: Last week, when keynote speaker Walter G. Hall mentioned names of LBJ and Rayburn in his address to Demos of Texas convention, only one person at the speaker's table clapped--Mayor Tom Miller. Otherwise there was silence.

6/4 Johnsons go to White House dinner honoring Pres. of Germany.

- 6/6 Full Senate Labor Committee approves labor bill by vote of 12 to 1. Bill is basically Kennedy labor bill, with changes made in subcommittee and in full committee--a number on suggestion of McClellan. Only Goldwater opposed the bill. His motion to substitute his sterner bill for Kennedy's failed by 8 to 5 vote. Labor bill will be reported to Senate on 6/10, meeting deadline LBJ pledged in April upon defeating Knowland amendments.
- 6/8 LBJ, speaking to conference of United Jewish Appeal, proposed that the USSR and U.S. present ideas on each other's television and radio once a week. His suggestion is in response to Nikita Khrushchev's filmed interview telecast in U.S. by CBS on 6/7.
- 6/9 Labor Secretary Mitchell releases statement declaring that labor bill prepared by Kennedy labor subcommittee is "filled with imperfections, omissions or loopholes." He said bill gives the Secretary certain powers while giving him inadequate means to properly discharge his responsibilities.
- 6/10 Reedy sends LBJ a memo about Si Anderson being angry about being given assurances by Bobby Baker that the transportation bill would not come up this week and that he had acted on those assurances. Anderson feels so strongly he may get an FEPC amendment tossed into the transportation bill.
- 6/11 Press reports: LBJ claims Bureau of Budget is acting like a czar or dictator by holding back funds appropriated by Congress, or by funding projects not designated by Congress. LBJ has said Democratic Congress was not going to allow political budget director to tell it what projects to pick to authorize.
- 6/12 Senate scheduled to begin debating union reform legislation. LBJ reportedly plans to hold night sessions and meet on Saturday to expedite action. The committee bill faces opposition from the administration and from Barry Goldwater, who have their own labor programs. All bills differ drastically in method and degree of regulation.
- Kennedy accepts revisions to committee labor bill, while maintaining most were unnecessary, and insisted his concessions were not substantial. Senate adopted the amendments unanimously or with a maximum of 2 dissents. But revisions adopted upheld objections raised by Mitchell on 6/9 and gave him increased enforcement authority.
- 6/13 In 12-1/2 hour session, Senate votes on 10 amendments to labor legislation.
- Supporters of Kennedy-Ives labor bill won one battle by beating down 60 to 27 an amendment to validate state laws prohibiting or controlling strikes against public

utilities. The vote is seen as a sign of southern support for the committee bill in fight ahead.

Later, Senate rejects by 53 to 37 vote an administration proposal to let states deal with labor when National Labor Relations Board declines jurisdiction. Senate adopts by voice vote an alternative remedy, giving NLRB initial jurisdiction, but it could cede authority to states with statutes in line with federal labor law. Senate also rejects by 47 to 42 administration amendment to impose fiduciary responsibility on officers who handle union funds.

- 6/14 LBJ announces that all Texas projects were included in new rivers and harbors bill reported out by Sen. Comm. on Public Works, which he said will be taken up early next week in the Senate. LBJ had been urged to attempt to override the President's veto, but instead sent the bill back to committee for study and meetings with Budget Bureau personnel.
- 6/15 Press reports: House investigators are looking at Sen. Kerr's role in FCC removing channel 8--a VHF channel--from Peoria, Illinois after FCC ruled 3 times it was entitled to the station. The move benefited Kerr financially, as majority stockholder in a UHF channel in Peoria.
- 6/16 Senate votes 66 to 20 to require non-communist oaths from employers using NLRB, turning "upside down" a provision in Kennedy-Ives bill that would have repealed existing Taft-Hartley requirement that union officers swear they are not communists.
- 6/17 Johnsons are invited to White House dinner in honor of President Garcia of Philippines.
- 6/19 Johnsons fly to the West Ranch with the Thornberrys, Ashton Gonella, Mary Wiley, and all the children. They remain at the LBJ Ranch, with trips to Austin and the Wests, until 6/26, when the Johnsons, Thornberrys, Ashton, Mary M., Cliff Carter fly to Mission, Texas (apparently to visit Sam Houston). They go from there to Laredo on 6/28 for LULAC convention, returning to Mission that evening. On 6/29 they drive to Padre Island, stopping in Brownsville. They return to Austin and the Ranch on 6/30.
- 6/20 Jim Rowe sends James Wechsler, editor of the *New York Post*, a cutting letter in defense of LBJ and especially his position on the tax cut. Reedy then writes Rowe on 6/21 about Wechsler's philosophy and desire to "sharpen the issues" and concludes that he is happy to keep Wechsler "blasting away at U.S. as it adds up to wonderful protection in Texas."

- 6/23 Press reports: LBJ and Yarborough diverged sharply last week when Senate considered tax legislation for next year. While Yarborough strongly supports tax reductions, LBJ is committed to holding the line on taxes. Earlier in session, LBJ voted against a Yarborough amendment to increase tax exemption from \$600 to \$800. Last week they split on one-year tax extension bill.
- 6/25 Republican National Committee Chairman Meade Alcorn challenges LBJ to reveal any “backstage efforts” made on behalf of LBJ Co.’s TV and radio holdings. Alcorn also challenged Clinton Anderson, Kerr, Johnston, Sparkman, O’Mahoney, and Magnuson.
- 6/28 LBJ addresses the United League of Latin American Citizens in Laredo and calls for The Good Neighbor Policy to be a permanent practice of this government regardless of which party is in power.
- 6/30 James Hoffa, Teamsters Union president, says his union strongly opposes broad labor control bill passed by Senate and now before House because legislation would interfere with union members running unions as they desire.
- Senate approves Alaska statehood legislation already passed by House. Eisenhower signs act on July 7.
- July**
- 7/4 Johnsons go to Brady Jubilee Fourth of July celebration, where LBJ discusses the threat of cold war.
- 7/5 LBJ, CTJ and Governor Price Daniel attend dedication of Ferrell’s Bridge Dam and Reservoir (Lake O’ the Pines million-acre-feet reservoir) on Cypress Creek near Jefferson.
- Then Johnsons fly to Waco for groundbreaking of new \$40 million Lake Waco Dam and reservoir (conservation and flood control project).
- State Bar of Texas’ annual convention passes resolution rebuking Rayburn, LBJ and Yarborough for helping to delay passage of legislation to create badly needed courts. Demos. are reportedly unwilling to legislate for new courts and give appointments to Eisenhower.
- 7/6 LBJ returns to Washington, where Senate meets, and there is a White House meeting on 7/7.

Press reports that LBJ's absence has given Mansfield a chance to test own leadership. LBJ's long, unannounced vacation has caused speculation that he may be thinking of retiring from leadership and wants to see how Mansfield would do.

7/7 LBJ predicts Senate will restore at least part of \$872 million slashed from Eisenhower's foreign aid bill by the House. He also voices confidence that Senate will approve "good" reciprocal trade and defense reorganization bills before Congress adjourns.

July Armed Services Committee debates HR 12541. Appropriations Comm. considers mutual security appropriation bill.

7/8 Press reports that LBJ is killing the Jenner-Butler anti-Supreme Court bill. LBJ says there are prior bills on Senate schedule, such as the reciprocal trade extension legislation. Press says delay is politically motivated, and because it is a bill, LBJ won't allow Republicans to gain prestige over it.

7/10 Senate adopts code of ethics for government officials, approved by House 11 months ago.

Meeting of full 28-man House Comm. on Education and Labor will consider Senate-approved bill requiring full disclosure on pension and welfare funds. Rayburn is holding up Kennedy-Ives bill until he sees whether House can get bill on pension and welfare fund reform. Supporters of the bill want to see it brought to House vote under suspension of rules.

Senate Finance Comm. approves three-year reciprocal trade agreement bill after voting amendments administration denounces bill as "totally unacceptable."

By vote of 8 to 7 the Committee took away President's power to overrule Tariff Commission decisions. The Committee also approves new national security provision which demands consideration of the impact of foreign competition on nation's economic welfare and determination of whether weakening of internal economy may imperil national security.

July Homer Thornberry's mother dies. Her funeral is held in Austin on 7/13.

Johnsons fly to Texas on 7/12 with the Thornberrys. Johnsons visit Mrs. Sam Johnson, who is in Brackenridge Hospital, before LBJ returns to Washington on 7/14 with the Thornberrys. CTJ returns to Washington on 7/16.

7/14 Reedy sends LBJ a report on the White House meeting that is held today on the Middle East crisis. According to Mansfield, the meeting was devoted to discussion

of sending Marines into Lebanon and that Eisenhower and Dulles have apparently made up their minds that they must do it.

7/15 U.S. Marines dispatched to Lebanon, at request of Lebanese government, to forestall threatened effort by Egypt Pres. Nasser's United Arab Republic and the USSR to overthrow Lebanon's pro-Western regime. U.S. troops withdraw in August 1958, after calm is restored.

Eisenhower's decision to send Marines into Lebanon receives general--although not unanimous--approval from Republicans and Democrats in Congress. LBJ says that "in the judgment of the President this action was necessary to preserve freedom in the Middle East." Rayburn voiced similar support. Mansfield and Morse are more critical, both claiming that there is no justification under terms of Eisenhower Doctrine.

As a result of what he interpreted as an intelligence failure, Mansfield introduces resolution to create special watchdog committee of Congress to review work of CIA in future.

Space Committee meets. LBJ meets with labor leaders.

7/16 Eisenhower writes LBJ sending his best wishes for Mrs. Sam Johnson's recovery from surgery. He also thanks him for the statement he issued on action in Lebanon.

7/17 Richard Neuberger writes LBJ of his appreciation for LBJ's effort to "bring about harmony between" Morse and himself.

7/18 LBJ attends meeting at White House to discuss Middle East crisis.

7/20 Army Secretary Brucker has appealed to Senate Armed Services Comm. to block a House-approved military construction bill which demands the army offer for sale its San Jacinto ammunition depot on the Houston ship canal.

7/21 Senate Office Building Commission meets; LBJ attends luncheon in honor of Madame Chiang Kai-shek, given by members of special study mission on Far East and Pacific, of House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Press reports criticize Senate Appropriations Committee's decision to buy LBJ, Hayden, and Knowland--all members of Appropriations Comm.--new \$10,700 limousines, even though current limousines are only 2 years old.

7/23 LBJ attends White House luncheon.

Armed Services Conferees meet re: Defense Reorganization.

Jenkins notifies LBJ that when the House Appropriations Committee cut over a half million dollars out of a \$2 billion military construction appropriation bill, Texas lost \$19.85 million in cuts. While Texas still has \$35 million in the bill, they're going to get a lot of pressure to reinstate many of the projects.

7/24 Reedy sends LBJ a memo saying that Sam Rayburn put out a statement announcing that he has voted for Ralph Yarborough. Rayburn said he put out the statement in order to clear up misunderstandings. LBJ has a long meeting with Rayburn that evening.

Appropriations Committee meets to discuss legislative appropriations.

7/27 LBJ calls Ralph Yarborough in Austin to congratulate him on winning Democratic nomination to Senate as result of 7/26 primary election.

July Postal journal reports that LBJ was responsible for successfully tying pay bill to rate bill.

7/27 *New York Times* reports that LBJ saved reciprocal trade bill from disaster and even paved way to continue trade program under more liberal procedures than administration had expected when it requested an extension last winter, but Eisenhower got all the credit.

7/29 John F. Kennedy makes speech on floor in which he charges that powerful business lobby headed by National Association of Manufacturers was responsible for killing labor reform legislation in House. He accuses the lobby of an exaggerated and misleading propaganda campaign. Barry Goldwater interrupts his speech and accuses Sam Rayburn of killing the reform legislation by holding the Senate-passed bill on his desk for 41 days. Rayburn said prospects for committee approval of broad labor measure are apparently poor despite the 88 to 1 vote it received in Senate. Rayburn also said he didn't want the reform to get lost in controversy over pension and welfare fund bill, which has been approved by committee and is awaiting clearance by House Rules Committee.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo on conservative opposition (NAM and U.S. Chamber of Commerce) to the labor reform bill in which he says that if the Kennedy-Ives bill passes this session of Congress there will probably not be any more labor laws for a few years. If it does not pass, however, there will probably be a bill written by the next session which will almost certainly be more pro-labor than the present session.

Reedy reports to LBJ that Arthur Goldberg says labor is deeply disturbed over Democratic leadership's failure to answer charges made by Senate Republican Policy Comm. in its staff document on labor political contributions. Reedy talked to Clements, who recommended a competing document.

Eliot Janeway writes Walter Jenkins that he thinks it was a practical move to delegate responsibility for administering the "Peg" to the Federal Reserve Board, but that in practice Anderson's policy is being sabotaged by Baird, Martin and Rouse. While Janeway feels Anderson was right in proclaiming his present policy publicly, his failure to follow through on it is making the economic picture worse than before.

7/31 Senate Finance Committee reports amended HR 7125, an omnibus bill of technical changes in excise tax laws, passed by House in 1957. Senate debate centers on floor amendments aimed at the 27.5% depletion allowance.

In a 26-63 vote (D 15-28; R 11-35), the Senate rejects Williams (R-Del.) amendment to reduce allowance to 15%. On 8/11/58 Senate also defeats Proxmire's amendment cutting allowance on a sliding scale for incomes above \$1 million by 31-58 vote. (D 21-22; R 10-36). LBJ and Yarborough voted nay. Senate also rejects amendment by Malone to cut cabaret tax from 20% to 10%, by 39-51 vote. On 8/12 Senate passes HR 7125 by voice vote. House approves conference report on 8/14 and Senate approves on 8/15.

August

8/1 Senate Judiciary Comm. approves S 654 (S Rept 2250), by 8-4 vote, which permitted states to pass anti-sedition laws. On 8/5 the Senate Judiciary Comm. reports S 654. Committee reports S337 (S Rept. 2230) on 8/6/58 after approving it on 8/5 by 8 to 1 vote. S337 was essentially the same as the original Smith bill (HR 3), but by barring use of doctrine of "preemption by implication" applied only to future acts of Congress, while HR 3 applied to past and future acts. S 337 never reaches floor.

8/4 Sen. Hennings writes LBJ asking that he make the following points in his behalf if the Jenner-Butler bill is discussed at the Dem. Policy Comm. meeting tomorrow: Judiciary Comm. held hearings on only one of the four sections; it contains unconstitutional sections; a lengthy floor debate on the bill will probably cause serious split in Dem. ranks.

8/5 Reedy reports that George Meany told Jerry Holleman that he wanted the whole Texas labor movement to know that Meany had never met an abler legislator than

LBJ, or a more honest one, and that he thought labor was always better off when it stayed out of factional politics.

8/6 Johnsons fly to Austin, pick up Mrs. Sam Johnson and attend the Blanco County Centennial Pageant. LBJ's mother stayed by his side during the proceedings despite the physical strain. On 8/7 Johnsons attend Johnson City Centennial Parade in the morning. LBJ returns to Washington on 8/10, after visiting with his mother and family.

8/12 LBJ receives a letter signed by Senators Proxmire, Hennings, Humphrey, Douglas, Carroll, Morse, Clark, McNamara, Neuberger, and Kennedy, calling for a full debate on the recent decisions of Supreme Court but in the next session rather than bringing up legislation in the last stage of this Congress.

Senate votes 69 to 20 to override Eisenhower's veto of a bill proposing to raise wage rates for workers in a Maine navy shipyard. LBJ gave Margaret Chase Smith major credit for first upset of 110 Eisenhower vetoes since 1953.

Senate passes a bulky excise tax revision bill, finishes a tax revision bill, and adds a separate measure designed to give tax relief to small businesses, then goes to conference with House.

8/13 Senate passes National Defense Education Act (HR 13247) bill by 62-26 roll call vote (D 35-10; R 27-16). House Education and Labor Comm. first approved bill with 23,000 scholarships a year and \$220 million for federal loan fund to aid college students. Then it stripped scholarship provision and placed \$120 million to finance them in the loan fund. House approves NDEA bill on 8/8/58 by voice vote after recommittal motion by Ralph Gwinn is rejected by 140-233 roll call vote. Senate Labor and Public Welfare Comm. reported bill with provision for 23,000 scholarships annual for 4 years, and Senate approved when it passed the bill on 8/13. Senate also defeated McNamara amendment to add grants for school construction. House loan provision is accepted in conference and by both chambers. Eisenhower signs bill on 9/2/58 (PL 85-864).

Prospects for passage of farm bill this session improved as administration and House Demos. came to agreement on measure. Rayburn said bill would be carried to floor 8/14 under a limited-debate, no-amendments rule. Bill would prevent drastic reductions of cotton and rice acreage which would occur if bill did not pass this session. At same time, it meets administration demands by holding price support levels down. Last week House refused to suspend rules in order to pass amended Senate farm bill, which had administration approval.

- 8/15 After introducing a bill this week providing for a Texas Water Resources Study Commission (which would submit its findings to the President, who would in turn send report with recommendations to Congress) LBJ ensures its enactment through a parliamentary maneuver and the bill is passed.
- 8/16 Democratic Policy Committee cleared some 106 bills for action.
- 8/18 William Wilson White is confirmed as assistant attorney general in charge of Civil Rights Division of Justice Department by roll call vote of 56-20 (D 20-18; R 36-2). Division was created by Civil Rights Act of 1957. In 1957, while serving for Justice Department, White wrote memoranda which served as basis for Eisenhower's decision to send federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas during school desegregation fight. Both LBJ and Yarborough vote against confirmation.
- 8/19 LBJ goes to the White House to meet with Eisenhower.
- 8/20 During debate on interlocutory relief bill (federal preemptive legislation), Jenner-Butler bill is offered up as an amendment, is debated, and tabled by 49-41 vote. Continuing debate on interlocutory relief bill, Sen. Douglas offered amendment affirming Supreme Court decisions on school desegregation. But LBJ moved to proceed with consideration of S 654, the Bridges bill, which would permit individual states to have laws against communist subversion despite Supreme Court decisions to contrary. McClellan offered as an amendment to Bridges bill the provisions of HR 3, making provisions retroactive. Hennings to lay McClellan amendment on table, his motion is defeated by 46-39. On the following day, Sen. Carroll moved to recommit bill to Senate Judiciary Committee; his motion is approved by 41-40 vote. At midnight, LBJ met with Humphrey, Reedy and Tony Lewis.
- 8/21 Gerald Siegel is in process of leaving Johnson's staff and making an academic career.
- 8/22 LBJ attends a briefing given by Douglas Dillon for himself, Mansfield, Knowland, Dirksen, and senior members of Foreign Relations, Armed Services, and Joint Atomic Energy Committees, prior to the announcement today about the suspension of atomic and hydrogen bomb tests. Bill McComber called LBJ's office saying the State Department didn't want to go ahead with the briefing without LBJ's OK, and that the newspaper stories have been "misleading."
- 8/23 Senate approves by voice vote the \$3,518,092,000 foreign air appropriation, its last major roadblock to adjournment. In the first vote, the Senate rejected (by a vote of 45-36) an amendment offered by Ellender that would have trimmed \$100 million from the \$1.515 billion military assistance item.

LBJ is credited with defeating the South on the Smith bill by a one-vote margin on motion to recommit--thereby kill--the Smith States' Rights bill. As voting time approached, Southerners had 46 pledged votes; liberals had 39. Then LBJ talked Smathers into paring his vote with absent Mike Mansfield, who would have voted to recommit; got Milton Young, cosponsor of the bill, to take a walk; induced Frear, pledged to the southern bloc, to vote to recommit; got Kerr to sit out the vote in the cloakroom; got Dirksen to convince Utah Sen. Wallace Bennett to vote with liberals.

8/24 LBJ writes Richard Russell that he doubts seriously whether he should continue as leader through the next session. He is going back to Texas to let things settle for a while. He wants to meet and talk later about the things that should be done. LBJ flies to Texas where he visits with his ailing mother and rests at the Ranch. On 8/27 he goes to Houston for a birthday party given in his honor by Leopold Meyer, returning to Austin on 8/27.

8/25 News report: In final days of session, Senate passed bill to give ex-presidents a \$25,000-a-year pension and allowance of up to \$50,000 yearly for office and staff.

8/26 Marshall McNeil writes that the loss of power-as-a-unit of the southern bloc is not unrelated to Capitol rumor that says Russell will quit as head of the southern bloc. Russell says he has not resigned, but it seems he is considering it.

8/28 Press report: Southerners' main criticism of LBJ is that he manipulated parliamentary situation in such a way as to hold off until the last minute action by the Senate on crucial bills, when it was a question either of a filibuster that would have delay adjournment or killing the legislation at this session.

September

9/5 LBJ has a conference with Governor Daniel at the Ranch. Daniel and his wife had been at the Ranch the previous day.

9/7 LBJ puts CTJ, Lynda and Luci on the train to Washington.

Joe Belden reports that one of the best prospects for unifying the Democratic Party in Texas in preparation for 1960 presidential politics is for state convention meeting on 9/9 to endorse LBJ for presidential nomination. Survey shows LBJ is the favored choice of both Daniel and Yarborough supporters, from the field of Kefauver, Kennedy and Adlai Stevenson.

- 9/8 Texas liberals face defeat in the fight to take over State Democratic Convention when Governor Daniel, working in consultation with LBJ and Rayburn, who were not present, proposes Cong. Frank Ikard of Wichita Falls to be temporary chairman of tomorrow's convention. Daniel proposed Ikard to the state committee meeting Yarborough and Mrs. Frankie Randolph are supporting District Judge Jim Sewell of Corsicana.
- In first test vote on 9/9, Sewell is beaten by Ikard in vote of 2956 to 1788. The convention passes a resolution calling on LBJ to be presidential candidate, and then hurriedly adjourned when liberal forces began a noisy protest of Gov. Daniel's refusal to accept two committeemen who had been elected by caucus.
- Press reports on 9/11 that just when the Democrats of Texas organization has almost died, Governor Daniel revived it by violating a resolution passed earlier to honor district caucus choices if they would support party nominees and officials, and refusing to accept nomination of Dr. Chloe Armstrong of Waco as District 13 committeewoman and Bernard Lifshutz of San Antonio from District 9. Daniel substituted Mrs. Sam Wood of Killeen and John Cofer of San Antonio.
- Rayburn and LBJ on 9/11 join in criticizing the State Democratic Convention's action in not honoring all district caucus nominees for executive committee posts.
- 9/9 Reedy sends LBJ a memo saying that the San Antonio convention definitely enhanced his relations with organized labor in Texas, due to disillusionment with the "liberals" and with Ralph Yarborough.
- 9/10 LBJ leaves the Ranch at 2 a.m. to go to Brackenridge Hospital where his mother is very ill; she apparently underwent surgery on 9/9. He is there much of the day.
- 9/11 Eisenhower makes TV broadcast televised from White House office regarding the situation in the Formosa Straits and the U.S. stand on the Far East crisis.
- 9/12 After meeting Dr. Sebold [?] at Austin airport, LBJ spends all day at Brackenridge Hospital. Rebekah Baines Johnson passes away.
- 9/13 LBJ meets CTJ and Mary Johnson at the airport. Sam Johnson apparently is already there. Late in the afternoon, LBJ, CTJ, Mary and Sam Johnson, Mary Rather and Mary Wiley drive to the Ranch.
- 9/14 Wesley and Neva West, Gene Chambers, Aunt Jessie, and Mrs. Booker arrive late morning at the Ranch. Johnsons have lunch at Lucia's house in Johnson City. They all attend Mrs. Sam Johnson's funeral in Johnson City, followed by burial at the family cemetery. A large group comes to the Ranch afterward. Later the Johnsons

drive to Shornhorst place with Tony Taylor, Mary Rather, Bobby Baker, Homer Thornberry, J. C. Kellam, Mary Wiley, Sam and Mary Johnson.

9/20 LBJ, CTJ, Sam and Mary Johnson, Lucia and Josefa meet to discuss the will of Rebekah Baines Johnson.

9/22 Sherman Adams, assistant to President, resigns after House reveals he had interceded with federal agencies on behalf of friend, Boston industrialist Bernard Goldfine, and had received gifts from Goldfine. Episode hurt Eisenhower on anti-corruption issue and was one of several factors contributing to Democratic sweep of congressional and gubernatorial elections.

9/23 Rowe sends Reedy a memo on Quemoy and Matsu, advising LBJ to make a carefully worded statement saying that if Eisenhower views the situation as seriously as it appears to be, he should follow the tradition of calling Congress back to Washington. Only Eisenhower knows if this is necessary.

Phil Graham sends LBJ Ben Cohen's analysis and position with respect to Quemoy, Matsu Island situation. Ben Cohen calls LBJ to express his hope that LBJ will speak out in support of Dean Acheson's views on Quemoy and Matsu. He should recommend placing the matter before the U.N., and that their judgment would almost certainly be that Chiang Kai-shek should withdraw from offshore islands, and that Communist Chinese should restrain from acts against Formosa.

9/28 Supreme Court decides case of *Comeer v. Aaron*. The school board of Little Rock, Arkansas, had asked for additional time to implement its integration plan; specifically, they wanted a one-year stay. Supreme Court refused to grant additional time, making that local political hostility was not basis upon which to delay mandate that integration proceed "with all deliberate speed."

9/29-9/30 Fleeson visits at the Ranch.

Fall Beginning of 3-1/2-year unpoliced moratorium on nuclear weapons tests by U.S. and U.S.S.R.

October

10/1 LBJ meets with Byron Skelton, Walter Woodul, the president of Imperial Sugar, Raymond Buck, and Tom Lampier during the day, and talks with Secretary Dulles by phone.

10/4 Rowe memo reporting on a conversation he had with a source close to both Stevenson and Harriman who forecasts that it will be Stevenson in 1960, because

Kennedy will be stopped and will then go for Stevenson, and LBJ and the southerners will also choose Stevenson.

- 10/5 Eisenhower approves a Republican policy statement full of charges that the Democrats are dominated by “certain politico-labor bosses and left-wing extremists.” The charge is issued after Nixon holds a luncheon with top party officials discouraged by the outlook for elections.
While LBJ was scheduled to arrive back in Washington on 10/9, he is coming earlier and is preparing to hold a press conference to answer the GOP attack.
- Three predawn dynamite explosions virtually destroy the Clinton, Tenn. High School, which was integrated in 1956 despite outbursts by segregationists. The AEC made available an abandoned elementary building, to which Clinton H.S. was transferred. Drew Pearson apparently made some proposal in a telegram that national leaders form a committee (including LBJ, and the Governor and Senators from Tennessee) regarding the incident. Reedy advises LBJ against such a committee.
- 10/6 LBJ drives to San Antonio with Reedy and Wiley, where he addresses the National Association of Home Builders at the Hilton Hotel. He does a film clip for WOAI and is interviewed by Martin Stern of the *New York Times*. After returning to the Ranch, he goes to Johnson City to be a pallbearer in the funeral of George Croft’s father.
- 10/7 LBJ flies to Houston where he attends a luncheon at the Rice Hotel by AIME for General Thompson. He returns to Austin that evening.
- 10/8 LBJ flies to Dallas with Reedy and Wiley, where he addresses the county judges and commissioners at the Adolphus Hotel. He lunches with Stanley Marcus and a group of Dallas businessmen at the City Club. He meets with Irving Goldberg and Barefoot Sanders during the afternoon at his hotel suite. That afternoon his group drives to Denton with Bob Clark. LBJ visits and inspects the Regional Civil Defense Office in Denton, and addresses a dinner meeting of the Denton County Livestock Association before driving to McKinney to spend the night at the Roland Boyds. (CTJ is present on 10/9.)
- 10/9 LBJ addresses joint luncheon meeting of McKinney Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs in McKinney, where he discussed foreign and domestic affairs. He and his party drive to Dallas, where that evening he addresses the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce Banquet.
- 10/10 LBJ meets with Bill Kittrell in Dallas. He and his party go to Neiman-Marcus, and then leave for Austin and later the Ranch. CTJ apparently returns to Washington on 10/9 or 10/10.

- 10/12 LBJ speaks informally at ceremonies opening the new poultry processing plant just completed by Market Produce Company in Fredericksburg LBJ will cut the ribbon officially.
- c. 10/12 Hayden is quietly circulating among Senate colleagues a pamphlet setting forth arguments against making it easy to choke off Senate debate. The pamphlet consists in large part of excerpts from speeches made by former senators.
- 10/15 LBJ and his staff fly back to Washington.
- 10/16 Johnsons attend the annual meeting of the Washington Heart Association, where LBJ is a guest speaker at the luncheon.
- 10/18 LBJ goes to the Mayflower to meet with Truman. In the afternoon LBJ, Reedy and Wiley fly to Bluefield, West Virginia and meet with area people before driving to Welch, West Va. That evening LBJ is a speaker at the Democratic fundraising dinner, where he accuses the Republicans of “running against Eugene Debs,” the late Socialist leader, and taking a “can’t afford it” attitude toward problems.
- 10/19 In Bluefield, LBJ and his party meet a plane with CTJ, Mrs. Gore and Mrs. Kefauver, and they all fly to Knoxville, Tenn., where they are met by Sen. Gore, et al. They drive to Oak Ridge and tour the area, then drive to Kingston and visit the steam plant. They take a plane to Nashville that afternoon and have dinner with Silliman Evans, Jr.
- 10/20 LBJ and his party drive out to Sen. Gore’s farm at Carthage in the morning. LBJ and CTJ have lunch at the Hermitage with a group of Dem. workers, and that evening he addresses a Dem. fundraising dinner at Nashville. LBJ declares his continued support for a bipartisan foreign policy, but he criticizes the Republicans for their lack of support of the President’s foreign policy. He sharply attacks the Eisenhower Administration’s domestic record, however.
- 10/21 LBJ and CTJ fly to Austin in Silliman Evans’ plane. LBJ goes to Georgetown for a meeting of West Loan Fund trustees at Southwestern University. He then attends the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce dinner for Homer Thornberry, returning to the Ranch that evening. Apparently Speaker Rayburn and Homer Thornberry return to the Ranch with the Johnsons.
- 10/22 LBJ goes fishing with the Speaker, Homer T., and Silliman Evans. Later they drive to the Scharnhorst Ranch and the West Ranch.
- 10/23 LBJ drives to Fredericksburg to take the Speaker and Silliman Evans to airport.

- 10/26 LBJ and CTJ fly to Raymondville in Lloyd Bentsen's plane. They take a boat trip with Charley Johnson to the Gulf of Mexico and spend the night at Port Mansfield.
- 10/27 CTJ is honored at a coffee social at the McAllen Country Club. LBJ attends a community meeting in San Benita, speaks to the Harlingen Chamber of Commerce, and later is guest speaker at the dedication of the new U.S. Dept. of Agriculture laboratory at Weslaco. He and CTJ spend the night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bentsen, Sr. at McAllen.
- 10/28 Johnsons fly to Dallas, where LBJ makes informal remarks at an IPAA meeting. LBJ has lunch with Gene Locke and members of the oil industry and later meets with Ralph McKnight of Gulf Oil at the request of Red James. He and CTJ return to Austin that evening.
- 10/30 LBJ flies to Indianapolis with Reedy and Woodward. After having supper with Frank McKinney and others, he makes a TV appearance with Vance Hartke. Later he addresses a Democratic rally at Indianapolis.
- 10/31 LBJ and his group take plane to Casper, Wyoming, where he is met by Sen. O'Mahoney and Mr. Whitaker (?). He attends a reception at the Petroleum Club and later that evening addresses a Democratic fundraising dinner.

November

- 11/1 LBJ takes plane to Salt Lake City, where he attends Democratic luncheon. That afternoon he flies to Las Vegas, where he visits with Howard Cannon and later Alan Bible. He returns to Austin on 11/2. In Salt Lake City, LBJ challenged Eisenhower to name any member of Dem. leadership in Congress he would consider either "radical" or "socialist." He also called on him to stop all public roads funds to Indiana until Senate investigates ties between Republican labor leaders and Republican state government there.
- 11/4 LBJ flies to Houston, where he meets with Russell Jolley and others to discuss HR 3, attends Mayor Cutrer's reception for newly elected city officials, and later meets with Dub Singleton and Horace Busby. That evening he addresses the Texas League of Municipalities, saying that the federal government was not paying enough attention to the cities; the time has come to undertake thoughtful and penetrating study of problems and role and opportunities of local government. He says he will introduce a measure to create a study commission with full representation of all level officials. He then returns to his hotel suite to get election results.

In elections, Democrats sweep the nation, control House and Senate by largest margins since 1936. Dem. governorships and legislatures increased also. Anti-union measures defeated in California, Ohio, Colorado, Idaho and Washington, winning only in Kansas. In Senate before election, breakdown was 49 Dem. and 47 Repub. Thirteen Dem. and 21 Repub. seats were at stake, and Repub. lost 13 seats and captured none. This made new composition of Senate 62 Dem. and 34 Repub. In House, Dem. took 48 seats away from Repubs., who took only one Dem. seat.

Rep. Brooks Hays of Arkansas was unseated by Dr. Dale Alford, segregationist member of Little Rock school board, a write-in Dem. candidate running as an independent. Rep. Hays sought to mediate last year's school crisis in Little Rock by bringing Gov. Faubus and Eisenhower together in meeting at Newport, R.I., which failed to produce a solution. Hays later said Alford's campaign was masterminded by Faubus, and he charged him with violating his "oath" as head of Arkansas Dem. Party by failing to support party's candidates.

Most spectacular Dem. success was in California, where Nixon campaigned vigorously for Knowland, who gave up Senate seat to run for governor. There Knowland was snowed under by Atty. Gen. Edmund G. (Pat) Brown. Clair Engle defeated Gov. Goodwin J. Knight (R) for Knowland's Senate seat. Dem. candidates defeated Repub. senators Bricker, Potter, Thye, Revercomb, Malone, and Watkins.

In dramatic reversal of trend, Nelson A. Rockefeller wins governorship of NY by nearly 560,000 votes from Gov. Averell Harriman in a highly publicized "battle of the millionaires."

In Arizona, Barry Goldwater withstood challenge by Gov. Ernest McFarland. In Pennsylvania, Hugh Scott, Jr. defeated Gov. George Leader (D) for Senate seat.

Political observers see election as leftward trend, since each of 13 new Dem. senators is classified as liberal. Results also seen as enhancing prospects for 1960 presidential election for John Kennedy, who was re-elected by more than 870,000 votes; for Pat Brown; Stuart Symington, who won re-election by record off-year plurality; and for Nelson Rockefeller, whose election made him potential threat to Nixon.

11/5

LBJ flies from Houston to El Paso, where he has a TV interview by Conrey Bryson, KTSM, attends an organizational coffee for county men and friends in the El Paso area, and is a guest at a reception at the Cortez Hotel given by Mayor Selles (?) and others. That evening he drives to Juarez for dinner with Ray Divigans, Lloyd (Hand?), Cliff Carter, and Ted Andress.

11/6

In El Paso, LBJ addresses the annual West Texas Citizen and Career Conference at Texas Western College in the morning. At noon he speaks to the El Paso Chamber of Commerce, where he calls for the Good Neighbor policy to be translated into action. Later he has an afternoon coffee with conservative supporters. Mid-afternoon he leaves El Paso for Monohans to attend an organizational meeting with county men at Conrad Ounagan's house. He then drives by car to Odessa (where he is joined by CTJ, who flew in from Austin), holds a press conference at the Lincoln Hotel, and attends a reception and buffet given by Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Rodman. LBJ drives to Midland that evening with Judge Pickett.

George Meany says the AFL-CIO will support enactment of anti-corruption legislation by Congress patterned after the Kennedy-Ives bill, and will press for revision of 14b of Taft-Hartley Act, in separate proposals.

11/7

In Midland, LBJ attends community breakfast at the Scarbauer Hotel, and later that morning a coffee given by some local people in his hotel suite. Late morning he drives to Big Springs with Paul Davies and Bob Ward (?), Cliff and Wiley. He addresses the Texas Business Education Day luncheon at the high school cafeteria in Big Springs. There he says that his purpose is to counter the feeling that "because of the bitter feelings which were engendered in the heat of the campaign, it will not be possible to run our government until 1960"; in fact, Democrats will cooperate with Eisenhower, as they have in the past, and Democrats will not look for partisan warfare and petty strife. He then attends a community coffee at Suttles Hotel.

Mid-afternoon he flies to San Antonio, where he and CTJ attend a dinner for Cong. Paul Kilday. The Stewart Alsops fly in from Florida, attend dinner, and drive to Ranch with Johnsons.

Eisenhower holds conference with budget and veterans' officials on how to trim federal spending wherever possible. Following the meeting, he is confronted with two multibillion dollar spending program attacks. First, AFL-CIO's executive council calls on incoming Congress to enact a 10-point "welfare" program, spurning Eisenhower's pleas to hold down spending. Another council resolution calls for wider civil rights law and a change in Senate rules governing filibusters or unlimited debate.

Meanwhile, in a speech he makes at Big Spring LBJ outlines a 12-point spending program, focusing on space program, peaceful use of nuclear energy, water conservation, a review of foreign policy, consistent Latin American policy, new farm program, federal help to depressed areas,, countering high interest rates, a labor bill, housing program, revamping airport program, urban renewal program.

Paul Butler reopens civil rights controversy by announcing at press conference that the Demos could win in 1960 only by taking a “forthright and positive stand” on civil rights, and that they could win even if the South bolted.

- 11/8 Johnsons and Alsops go fishing, and later that afternoon visit Scharnhorst Ranch.
- According to one news report, the liberal trend evidenced in the election lessened chances Democratic Party will name a “compromise” candidate like Stuart Symington or LBJ. John F. Kennedy got biggest boost with his large plurality vote, and Humphrey and NJ Gov. Robert Meyner were helped by sweeps in their states.
- 11/9 Johnsons attend Catholic Church with the Alsops in Stonewall and pick up Bill Lawrence in Fredericksburg. That afternoon LBJ meets with a foreign relations group (9 men) from Austin with Horace Busby. Alsops apparently leave 11/10.
- John F. Kennedy says on “Meet the Press” that he is not seeking delegates for 1960 presidential nomination, does not intend to open a headquarters, and has no plans to enter 1960 preferential primaries. He also said he did not think there would be a general Southern bolt from party over civil rights issue in 1960.
- 11/10 White House asks State Department to pass on to LBJ the main points of Eisenhower’s speech to Colombo Plan Nations. Secy. Dulles, at the Colombo Plan ministerial conference, announces LBJ’s acceptance of Dulles’ invitation for LBJ to make a statement to U.N. General Assembly together with Henry Cabot Lodge.
- According to press reports, several newly elected liberal senators have accepted invitations to visit LBJ at the Ranch before Congress convenes--most of them around December 5-7--although LBJ has denied reports he plans any group meeting. Invitations have reportedly been received by R. Vance Hartke of Indiana, Philip A. Hart of Michigan, Frank E. Moss of Utah, Gale McGee of Wyoming, and Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota.
- Doris Fleeson reports on 11/12 that invitations have gone to 13 new Dem. Senators, and the Alaskan candidates if they make it, to meet with LBJ at the Ranch on Dec. 7. points out that this is also the day the Democratic Advisory Council will hold its first post-election meeting, and only one day after the Democratic National Committee will meet to decide whether to retain Paul Butler as national chairman.
- LBJ meets with Tom Martin of *Time*. He talks by phone with Ambassador Lodge, Mansfield, Monroney, Secretary Dulles, and Bill Macomber.
- 11/11 LBJ drives to San Antonio with Reedy and Wiley, where that evening he addresses the second symposium, “Physics and Medicine of the Atmosphere and Space,” where he says that peace is the greatest opportunity space offers and there needs to be an exchange and pooling of knowledge; security is prime but not single concern. They return to the Ranch that evening with space comm. staffers Mrs. Eilene Galloway and Glen Wilson.

- 11/12 Speaking on the steps of the White House executive offices, Harold E. Stassen names a list of Republican presidential possibilities, including Nelson Rockefeller, Henry Cabot Lodge, Robert B. Anderson, and Fred Seaton, but pointedly leaves Nixon off the list and makes clear his omission is not without malice.
- 11/13 LBJ and CTJ fly to Victoria. LBJ addresses the combined service clubs at Victoria at noon, and meets with county men in an organizational meeting that afternoon. Later they drive to Port Lavaca, where he addresses the Chamber of Commerce dinner for Carroll Hartzog. They spend night at Port Lavaca.
- 11/14 LBJ addresses San Antonio Rotary Club at St. Anthony Hotel. He meets with Earl Williams and later that afternoon he and CTJ fly to Austin, pick up Wiley, and fly on to Marshall, where they are met by Winston Taylor and Doris Powell. They spend night at A.J. Taylor's.
- 11/15 LBJ attends missile firing at Longhorn Ordnance and a tea for CTJ given by Mrs. Cameron McElroy. That evening they attend the Harrison County Friends of Wright Patman dinner at the Marshall Hotel.
- 11/16 Johnsons, Reedy, Busbys, Wiley and Dr. and Mrs. Bailey fly from Shreveport to New York City. Johnsons go to Ambassador Lodge's suite at Waldorf, and later go dancing at Peacock Alley at Waldorf.
- 11/17 LBJ has meeting with U.S. delegation to U.N. in New York, and later that morning addresses the Political Committee of General Assembly of United Nations. He attends a luncheon given by the Burma delegate to the U.N., U Thant. That afternoon he goes to see the New York Times editorial board, and that evening he was an honoree at a stag dinner given by Ambassador Lodge. Later that night he and CTJ go dancing at the Roosevelt Hotel with others in their party, as well as Diane Tschursin, and in the early morning they go to Toots Shors.
- 11/18 Joseph Clark writes LBJ suggesting that Democratic Policy and Steering Committees be enlarged in order to add more representatives from "big city" states.
- LBJ holds press conference at U.N. and attends a luncheon at 21 Club given by Mrs. Anna Rosenberg. LBJ meets that afternoon with Milo Perkins and Tom Corcoran at his hotel. The Johnson party takes a plane to Washington.
- Back in Washington, LBJ goes to the White House to meet with the President and make a report on his appearance at the U.N. According to Ted Lewis, LBJ visited with Eisenhower for more than an hour in upstairs living quarters. LBJ said Eisenhower just wanted to see him because Dulles had been very happy with the impression LBJ made before the U.N. Reportedly LBJ also called the President's

attention to the fact that the 85th Congress reduced his budget requests by more than \$5 billion, while Eisenhower had referred to the last Congress as spendthrift. According to Sarah McClendon, they discussed fiscal policy of the nation, and LBJ explained with Congress did and what congressmen think. At a press conference on 11/19, LBJ countered spendthrift charges, and added that the Eisenhower administration had greatly added to costs of servicing the public debt by upping interest rates and other fiscal manipulation.

11/19 LBJ meets with Dick Rubattom [?], Secretary Anderson and Secretary Milton [?], and later with Senator Hayden and Frank Dryden. Mid-afternoon he takes a plane to Austin and goes to the Ranch.

11/20 Rowe sends LBJ a memo he prepared for David Lloyd on developing a Democratic program for legislative use. He suggests projects in education and health, and stresses the importance of passing in the form of legislation as much as possible of the "guts" of the Rockefeller report in order to steal Nelson Rockefeller's thunder before he gets his 1960 campaign off the ground.

11/21 LBJ and Homer Thornberry go to the airport to pick up the Speaker, Silliman Evans and Amon Carter, Jr. They go hunting and all spend the night at the Ranch.

News report: A group of 17 labor-liberal leaders, including Walter Reuther, Joseph Rauh and Roy Wilkins, have sent LBJ a long letter telling him their groups think he is dragging his feet on civil rights. Only 2 days ago, at a press conference, LBJ indicates he wants to wait until Civil Rights Commission reports late next year to discuss the question. The liberal-labor combination also wants to change the Senate rules so that a new Congress must reenact all its rules at each session.

11/22 LBJ drives to Fredericksburg Airport with Rayburn, Carter, Evans, and Thornberry. He attends birthday party for John Nance Garner at Uvalde. He then flies to Del Rio to meet and take plane to Acapulco with Dr. and Mrs. Bailey, the Busbys, the Jenkins, and Reedy and Wiley. CTJ joins them on 11/23. In Acapulco, LBJ relaxes, goes fishing, swimming, shopping, sunning. On 11/23 he meets with President-elect Lopez Mateos for a lengthy conference. On 11/28 and 11/29 he visits with Miguel Aleman. He and his party return to Austin on 11/30.

11/25 News report: Sen. Gore proposes at a conference on nuclear testing in Geneva that U.S. put to U.S.S.R. an agreement to end all testing, except underground, for three years. If they reject the proposal, the failure of the conference will be blamed on them.

U.S.S.R. declares it is up to U.S. to make next move toward reviving East-West negotiations on outer space. There is little prospect of U.S.-U.S.S.R. meeting before

U.N. General Assembly puts final approval on creation of 18-nation outer space study committee.

Drew Pearson publishes column revealing the source of Eisenhower's bitter feelings toward Truman. Reportedly on Oct. 4, 1952, Truman made a speech in California disputing Eisenhower's charge that the Berlin blockade was the fault of Truman's government. Truman claims Eisenhower delegated the job of negotiating unlimited access to Berlin conditional on the withdrawal of U.S. troops to Gen. Clay and left Europe. Gen. Clay got only an oral assurance from the Russians instead of precise written agreement and therefore our right to access was never firmly established. Truman concluded that while Gen. Clay admitted this was a mistake, the responsibility to arrange free access to Berlin lay on Eisenhower and he should step up and share some of the blame.

11/29 New Gallup poll reveals that among rank-and-file Democrats, Adlai Stevenson leads the field, with John Kennedy a close second. But among independent voters, Kennedy holds a 3 to 2 advantage over Stevenson.

December

LBJ works in Austin office.

12/3 LBJ flies to Beaumont with CTJ, Blakely Locke, Jack Brooks, and Ashton. In Beaumont LBJ addresses the Downtown Rotary Club, and later meets with county and local people. They return to Austin that evening.

Eisenhower is scheduled to meet with National Aeronautics and Space Council, to be followed by first of two sessions with National Security Council. Reportedly Eisenhower is ready to decide controversy over proposal of new National Aeronautics and Space Administration to take over army ballistic missile agency and its 2000 scientists.

Speaking at opening session of annual convention of National Association of Manufacturers, both Paul Butler, national Democratic chairman, and his Republican counterpart, Meade Alcorn, agree that Dem. sweep in November elections was due in large measure to support in many Repub. areas of so-called right-to-work laws.

12/5 LBJ leaves for hunting trip, returning 12/7.

12/7 Democratic Advisory Committee issues draft legislative program which calls for: stronger civil rights legislation; curbs on Senate filibusters; federal aid for school construction; federal scholarships for college students; liberalization of immigration laws; program of loans to local health insurance cooperatives; \$1.25 national

minimum wage; enactment of Kennedy-Ives labor law; repeal of Taft-Hartley provisions permitting state "right-to-work" laws; extension of foreign aid.

12/8 Rayburn politely thanks DAC for its advice, but serves notice that new Congress will set its own legislative program. LBJ is also cool to DAC proposals. Republicans criticized DAC program as socialistic, and costly. DAC has no House members, and the two senators who are members--Kefauver and Humphrey--did not attend Sunday's meeting.

Sen. Joseph Clark sends LBJ a memo prepared by Kenneth Galbraith and a group of "eggheads" on the tasks facing Democratic Party in next two years. He adds that he and Adlai Stevenson were against the Democratic Advisory Committee making a public policy statement without coordinating it with congressional leaders, but they were unsuccessful.

12/9 Walker Stone, R.W. Howard and Jack Howard visit at the Ranch, go hunting. They are joined that evening by Dr. Frank Dobie.

Humphrey meets with Eisenhower following his return from a 10-country tour of Europe that climaxed with 8-hour talk with Soviet Premier Khrushchev. Humphrey said Khrushchev gave him a personal message to bring to Eisenhower and also revealed two things about Soviet progress in military and atomic fields, but declined to say what these were. News reports said one item claimed Russian development of an 8700 mile intercontinental ballistic missile, the other perfection of small, inexpensive and efficient 5-megaton hydrogen bomb. Neither White nor Humphrey would confirm these reports. Doris Fleeson notes that these events have combined to fix Humphrey's presidential capabilities in the minds of public. Arthur Krock points out the "publicity mileage" Humphrey got out of those hours with Khrushchev and details the gradual easing of Humphrey's avowed silence on it, while concluding that Khrushchev was unlikely to send an important communication to the President through one of his foremost foreign policy critics in the opposition.

12/10 In last 9 months, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has 3 times criticized John Kennedy's fitness to be President, especially for refusing to take a stand on McCarthyism. Most recently she said on TV that his father had been spending oodles of money all over the country to win election.

Bitter personal feud between Senators Wayne Morse and Richard Neuberger of Oregon becomes public when correspondence between them is aired by sources close to Neuberger. Conflict evidenced since 1957 civil rights fight, and exploded when Morse blocked minor bill sponsored by Neuberger. LBJ earlier tried to ease the conflict.

- 12/11 Johnsons fly to San Angelo, where LBJ addresses the banquet of San Angelo Board of City Development and meets with students at San Angelo College. They return to the Ranch on 12/12.
- 12/13 Sen. and Mrs. Clements arrive at Ranch for a visit. That evening they drive to San Antonio for the International Black and White Ball. Clements leave on 12/15.
- 12/15 LBJ flies to Dallas and speaks to Ford dealers informally at a luncheon at the Ford plants. That afternoon he flies to New York City. Press report: talks among 3 liberal Dem. senators are part of opening steps in a campaign to push Rayburn and LBJ to the liberal side. They are also seeking to eliminate obstacles to legislation in housing, civil rights, federal school construction, and higher minimum wage.
- 12/16 In NYC, LBJ meets with Eddie Weisl, and Bob McKinney, and later addresses the New York Institute of Technology. LBJ returns to Washington on 12/17, meeting Sen. Mansfield at the Johnson home.
- 12/18 LBJ returns to Austin (with Luci and Lynda?).
- 12/19 LBJ accepts Ginkgo Leaf award from Dr. Albert G. Wilson.
- 12/24 Eisenhower extends present voluntary curbs on oil imports until February 28 while details of new mandatory controls are worked out. Independent operators had been expecting announcement of mandatory control program. Domestic producers expressed disappointment with Eisenhower's decision.
- Johnsons spend Christmas at the Ranch with Sam and Mary Johnson, Mary Rather and the children.
- 12/27 Johnsons fly to Corpus Christi, where LBJ confers with John Young. They return to the Ranch on 12/28.
- National Committee for an Effective Congress--a 10-year old organization of liberal, largely eastern intellectuals--issues "Special Report on 86th Congress," which paints LBJ as an opportunist and a short-range tactician with no new ideas, while praising both Humphrey and Nelson Rockefeller.
- 12/31 Johnsons fly to Washington.