

1959 Chronology

January

- 1/1 **LBJ (Lyndon Johnson)** is in Washington, goes to the Capitol today to look at the new majority leader's office (P-38). Later he attends parties at Senator Bible's home and Walter Hornaday's.
- Castro assumes power in Cuba following the collapse of Batista government.
- 1/2 LBJ meets **CTJ (Lady Bird Johnson)**, Lynda and Luci at the airport upon their arrival in Washington.
- 1/3 LBJ meets with Senator Green; they apparently discuss the possibility of Green giving up the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee because of his age and ill health.
- 1/5 LBJ attends bipartisan congressional leadership meeting at the White House this morning, later meets with Truman. That evening LBJ attends a dinner given by Eric Johnston for Mikoyan, the deputy premier of the U.S.S.R. Mikoyan, on a tour of the U.S., urges East-West talks about Berlin. In November 1958, Khrushchev had issued an ultimatum, saying the Soviets would sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany in 6 months thereby terminating Allied rights in West Berlin in May 1959.
- 1/6 LBJ meets with various people today concerning Rule 22 (filibuster rule). In the morning he meets with Aubrey Williams and a group of southerners, in the afternoon with Senator Humphrey and others.
- 1/7 Congress convenes. In the House, Charles Halleck defeats Joseph Martin for minority leader. Martin had served as the Republican leader since 1939. Rayburn is re-elected speaker.

The Senate consists of 64 Democrats and 34 Republicans, including 2 senators from the new state of Alaska (Ernest Gruening and E. L. Bob Bartlett). LBJ is re-elected majority leader; Everett Dirksen defeats John Sherman Cooper for the position of minority leader left vacant by the retirement of William Knowland.

When the Senate opens, LBJ, exercising his prerogative as majority leader, is the first to be recognized by Nixon. He offers a resolution to revise Rule 22 to enable two-thirds of members present and voting to shut off debate on any measure, including a rules change. The resolution also includes a provision stating that Senate rules shall continue from one Congress to the next. Hoping to pass a more liberal filibuster rule, Senators Case and Javits object to LBJ's unanimous consent request that his motion be considered immediately, and Senator Anderson moves that the Senate proceed to consider the adoption of new rules. LBJ maintains that he still has the floor, refuses to let Anderson make his motion and adjourns the

Senate. Contrary to standard Senate procedure, LBJ's opponents on the Rule 22 measure call for a roll call vote on the adjournment motion and are defeated, 73-23.

The next day LBJ does allow Anderson to make his motion but it is defeated on 1/9, 60-36. LBJ's motion is adopted on 1/12, 72-22.

Bobby Baker allegedly offered freshman Democratic senators choice committee assignments in return for their vote on LBJ's filibuster proposal.

Scripps-Howard newsman Vance Trimble writes a story about relatives on the payrolls of members of Congress. Similar stories throughout the year result in a Senate resolution passed on 6/24 requiring quarterly publication of payroll information on all Senate employees.

1/8 Speaker Rayburn hosts a party this afternoon at the Johnsons' home for the children of the Texas delegation.

1/9 Eisenhower delivers the State of the Union Message.

CTJ hosts the first of two luncheons for wives of new senators. The second is 1/14.

1/10 Soviets send message to Eisenhower and 26 other nations calling for a conference to discuss the reunification of Germany through negotiations, rather than free, all-German elections. Dulles tells the Senate Foreign Relations Committee there is no acceptable alternative to elections to achieve reunification.

1/14 Senate Democrats announce new committee assignments. Several freshman senators receive choice assignments: Robert Byrd, Thomas Dodd, Gale McGee on Appropriations; Clair Engle, Bob Bartlett and Howard Cannon on Armed Services.

The Johnsons' dog, Little Beagle Johnson, is returned home after being lost for 2 days. He apparently had been hit by a car and was found in a Tacoma Park (Md.) hospital after *The Washington Post* ran a front-page story on his absence.

1/15 Florida Governor LeRoy Collins writes LBJ on the need for federal legislation to implement the Supreme Court desegregation decision. On 1/19, the Virginia State Supreme Court ruled that the "massive resistance" laws passed in that state violated the Virginia Constitution provision requiring the state to provide free public education. Governor Almond has used these laws to close public schools in several Virginia cities to avoid court-ordered integration. Schools are also closed in Little Rock, Arkansas to avoid integration.

- 1/16 CTJ and Mrs. Homer Thornberry fly to Austin to attend a ceremony at Bergstrom Air Force Base to christen the first B-52 to land there. She returns to Washington on 1/19.
- 1/17 LBJ makes a Senate speech on confusion over the nation's defense and space programs, announces that the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee, in cooperation with the Space Committee, will hold hearings within the next 2 weeks to review the progress made since their last report in January 1958.
- Eisenhower submits the nomination of former AEC chairman Lewis Strauss as secretary of commerce to the Senate. Opposition to Strauss is led by Senator Anderson who as chairman of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee had had disputes with Strauss on atomic energy matters.
- Jim Rowe writes LBJ concerning LBJ's continuing insistence that he will not be a candidate for president. While Rowe writes he will not press LBJ again on the subject, he feels LBJ is the most qualified candidate and that he should try for the nomination even if he loses.
- 1/19 Eisenhower submits "balanced" budget to Congress calling for estimated receipts of \$77.1 billion and expenditures of \$77 billion. Success of the budget is contingent upon the economy recovering from 1957-58 recession and upon congressional passage of an increase in the gasoline tax, continued postponement of scheduled reductions in corporate and certain excise taxes, and certain other tax revisions. Debate over economic priorities continues throughout the year with the administration contending that inflation is the primary problem facing the economy, and the Democrats more concerned about high unemployment and low economic growth.
- Reedy reports on lunch meeting with Andy Biemiller concerning proposed labor legislation.
- 1/20 LBJ introduces a bill to extend the life of the Civil Rights Commission, strengthen penalties against bombings, give the Department of Justice subpoena powers in the investigation of voting rights cases, and to establish a Federal Community Relations Service to assist in conciliation of desegregation disputes. Eisenhower introduces a similar plan on 2/5, offering limited technical and financial aid to areas facing school desegregation.
- Reedy reports that J. Edgar Hoover is opposed to legislation in the bombing field, but will not publicly oppose the bill.
- 1/22 LBJ attends executive session of the Armed Services Committee this morning to hear Army Secretary Brucker and General Maxwell Taylor.

- 1/23 LBJ and CTJ attend the Silver Quill Award dinner; LBJ presents National Business Publications Silver Quill Award to Speaker Rayburn and Rep. Joseph Martin.
- Reedy sends LBJ a memo on the dangers of labor's insistence on pro-labor Taft-Hartley amendments to anti-racketeering labor bill.
- On 1/28, Eisenhower sends his proposed labor legislation to Congress, calling for annual financial reports by labor unions, amendments to Taft-Hartley to tighten controls of secondary boycotts and organizational picketing, and permission for states to take action over "no man's land" cases.
- A labor bill introduced by JFK deals only with cleaning up labor corruption exposed by the McClellan Committee, not amendments to Taft-Hartley concerning collective bargaining as the President has proposed. Hearings on the bills are held 1/28-2/6 in the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee.
- 1/24 LBJ leaves this morning for Albuquerque, New Mexico to speak at the Democratic Victory Dinner tonight. After the dinner he flies to Austin, spends the night at the Driskill Hotel. CTJ remains in Washington.
- In his speech LBJ accuses Eisenhower of trying to "blackjack" the Congress by threatening to veto bills. LBJ says the Democratic victory last November was a call for government action, something the Republican administration has not provided.
- 1/25 LBJ is at the Ranch until 1/27.
- 1/27 CTJ begins Hester Beale Provenson's public speaking course today.
- 1/28 LBJ meets with the Speaker this afternoon and then meets with Eisenhower at the White House.
- 1/29 LBJ holds Preparedness Subcommittee hearings on national defense and space programs today; Defense Secretary McElroy testifies. McElroy concedes that U.S.S.R. could have an edge on the U.S. in long-range ballistic missiles and that it is not the government's policy to match the U.S.S.R. missile for missile. Symington says McElroy's testimony confirms his forecast that Russia will have 4-to-1 ICBM superiority and that the "missile gap" is widening. Hearings continue tomorrow with Dr. Glennan of NASA as a witness.
- During the hearings LBJ is handed a note from Eddie Higgins of Senator Green's staff asking LBJ to meet with Green after the hearings about an editorial in the *Providence Journal* saying Green should relinquish the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee. LBJ meets with Green that afternoon and the next day Green resigns the chairmanship because of failing eyesight and hearing. Fulbright assumes the chairmanship.

- Reedy reports on a conversation he had with Hugh Sidey about rumors that there will be a revolt in the Senate against LBJ's leadership. Muskie is apparently dissatisfied with his committee assignments and feels that they are a result of his vote on the Rule 22 fight. Reedy recommends that LBJ take a vacation after action on the housing bill is completed to diffuse any opposition.
- 1/31 LBJ has a chest X-ray this at Bethesda Hospital this morning. Dr. Willis Hurst is also in Washington, has dinner with the Johnsons at their home the next night.

February

- 2/2 Eisenhower presents the American Heart Association "Heart of the Year" Award to LBJ in a ceremony at the White House this morning. That afternoon CTJ and LBJ fly to New York City where LBJ addresses the New York State Publishers Association banquet. They return to Washington that evening.
- 2/3 LBJ attends a ceremony honoring Herman Brown at the Bureau of Yards and Docks this morning and a VFW dinner at the Sheraton Hotel.
- Horace Busby reports to LBJ on a recent Belden Poll which shows that more people in Texas think LBJ is doing an exceptionally good job than they do any other public official.
- Busby also writes Eilene Galloway of the Senate Space Committee concerning waning public interest in the space program. He feels that space program should be made appealing to "the man in the street."
- 2/4 LBJ attends a meeting at the White House this morning, possibly to talk about the housing bill and Eisenhower's upcoming visit to Mexico. Reedy had drafted a memo concerning President Lopez Mateos for LBJ to give to the President. Later LBJ attends a CIA briefing of the Preparedness Subcommittee. That evening Herman Brown and Posh Oltorf join the Johnsons for dinner.
- Reedy writes LBJ concerning his recent meeting with the Civil Liberties Clearing House about LBJ's civil rights bill. He reports that there is support for the bill among all but the NAACP if some minor amendments are made.
- John Foster Dulles begins a trip to England, France and Germany to discuss the Berlin situation with the other western powers.
- 2/5 Senate passes an omnibus housing bill which would authorize a 6-year extension of urban renewal and the construction of 35,000 more public housing units. After meeting with Eisenhower yesterday, LBJ agreed to reduce provisions for college construction loans to "veto-proof" the bill.
- LBJ meets with the western Democratic senators caucus this morning.

- 2/6 Senate passes a 4-year extension of the Federal Airport Act authorizing \$100 million a year for matching grants for construction of airports. The administration had proposed the federal government's gradual withdrawal from the program by cutting it back over four years to \$35 million a year. On 3/19 the House votes to reduce the program to \$62 million a year. Rather than risk a veto, House and Senate conferees on 6/15 compromise on a simple 2-year extension of existing program.
- LBJ meets with Woodrow Bean and representatives of State, Treasury, and Justice concerning the construction of port of entry facilities at Cordova Island in El Paso.
- LBJ crowns the Mardi Gras queen at the Louisiana State Society ball.
- 2/7 Reedy sends LBJ a memo recommending that he stay out of the news as much as possible for a while because some of Reedy's newspaper friends have detected "more grumbling" about LBJ's leadership than ever before. He again recommends LBJ take a vacation if possible.
- 2/8 The Johnsons hosts a party for Texas REA officers in Washington for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association convention.
- 2/9 Reedy sends LBJ a memo on Eisenhower's "balanced" budget proposal, saying the administration has set a trap for Congress by underestimating expenditures and overestimating receipts, assuming that Congress will pass a postal rate increase and gasoline tax increase. Reedy feels Congress is unlikely to pass either and the public will blame the Congress for not balancing the budget.
- 2/10 LBJ addresses the NRECA convention this afternoon and defends the REA against Eisenhower Administration attempts to increase the REA interest rates.
- 2/14 Eisenhower announces that Secy. Dulles is suffering from a recurrence of cancer.
- Horace Busby is apparently visiting in Washington until 2/19.
- 2/15 LBJ addresses the Texas State Society brunch honoring the ambassadors of Mexico, Spain and France.
- 2/17 LBJ meets with Eisenhower at the White House at 6 p.m. Busby apparently rides with him to the White House.
- 2/18 LBJ and Homer Thornberry fly to Austin this afternoon with the President. Eisenhower stays overnight in Austin before continuing on to Acapulco where he meets with Mexican President Lopez Mateos.

- 2/19 LBJ is in Austin today, meets CTJ at the airport at 2 a.m. They go to the Ranch the next day, returning to Washington on 2/27.
- 2/20 In LBJ's absence, Senator Proxmire request the notes of the last Democratic Conference from Mansfield's office. After failing to reach LBJ by that afternoon, Mansfield, as acting majority leader, sends the notes to Proxmire's office. Apparently shortly thereafter, LBJ calls and tells him to get the notes back, which is done. In the interim, Proxmire did not see the notes.
- 2/21 J. McDonnell of Mansfield's office writes Reedy concerning a meeting he and Senator had with Proxmire. Proxmire told them he intends to make a speech in the Senate on 2/23 concerning the diminishing power of each senator. Mansfield informs Proxmire that LBJ is ill with the flu and will be unable to be in the Senate when Proxmire makes his speech. Mansfield also told Proxmire that Senator Scott intends to make a speech critical of LBJ. Proxmire said he will make his speech anyway but will not speak to the question of the power of the Majority Leader, only to the diminishing power of each senator. Mansfield instructed McDonnell to tell LBJ that he will be in the Senate when the speeches are made to "take care of the situation."
- 2/23 Proxmire delivers the first of three speeches in the Senate on "Responsibility of the Individual Senator: Its Disintegration," advocating the greater use of the Democratic conference or caucus to give Democratic senators greater voice in the Senate. Neuberger rebuts Proxmire's criticism of LBJ, saying that until his re-election Proxmire had "battered-up" LBJ more than any other Democratic senator, and that at LBJ's request Neuberger had given up his priority for a seat on the Agriculture Committee to Proxmire.
- In a memo on 2/26, Reedy writes LBJ that Russell told him that Neuberger cut Proxmire's jugular in his reply and that Proxmire should publicly be ignored. Russell also recommends that other senators be prepared to answer Proxmire after his other speeches.
- 2/24 Khrushchev, meeting with Prime Minister MacMillan in Moscow, reaffirms his intention of signing a peace treaty with East Germany in May.
- 2/28 Eisenhower orders a 10-day extension of voluntary oil import controls pending a special cabinet committee's on the effect of oil imports on the domestic industry. In a speech on 3/2 in the Senate LBJ urges that the President act firmly to protect the domestic industry and the nation's oil supplies.
- On 3/10 Eisenhower orders mandatory import controls on oil effective the next day; he cites the refusal of some importers to follow the voluntary program and the threat to the national security of the current volume of imports as justification for the move.

LBJ and CTJ attend the Democratic Victory Dinner tonight.

March

3/2 Washington Texas-Exes Banquet tonight; both LBJ and CTJ attend, LBJ addresses the group.

3/3 LBJ and Yarborough host a coffee for the Texas AFL-CIO; CTJ and LBJ attend the AFL-CIO banquet tonight.

3/4 Busby sends LBJ a memo suggesting changes in the operation of the Policy Committee to meet criticism that the committee serves only LBJ and not all Democratic senators. Busby feels that recent criticism is due to the overwhelming majority of Senate Democrats. The narrow Democratic margin in previous years ensured greater party discipline.

Rayburn sets a record for longest service in the House, his 47th consecutive year.

3/6 LBJ, Rayburn, Dirksen and Halleck attend a White House conference on the Berlin situation. Herter, McElroy, Allen Dulles, Nixon, Bryce Harlow, Genl. Goodpaster, and John Eisenhower also attend. Eisenhower also meets later with members of the Senate and House Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees.

Eisenhower reportedly told the groups that he feels that the U.S. has the necessary strength to meet the Berlin situation and intends to carry through planned cuts in military manpower, saying that the Soviets are "trying to spend the United States into bankruptcy."

LBJ issues a statement after the meeting saying that while he and other Americans will stand united behind the President, he is concerned that the budget is being cut for the nation's armed services. He announces that Preparedness Subcommittee hearings on this question will be reopened next week.

3/9 In continuing controversy over U.S. preparedness in light of the Berlin crisis, LBJ introduces into the Senate record detailed reservations made by military chiefs of the army, navy, air force and marines on the administration's economy cuts. Russell, Symington, Stennis and Douglas also criticize the administration's defense cuts.

Proxmire delivers his second speech in the Senate on the role of the majority leader and the Policy Committee in determining Democratic Party policy. He is supported by Douglas who notes the uneven geographical make-up of the Policy and Steering Committees and of the committee chairmanships.

3/11 Senate votes, 76-15, to admit Hawaii to the Union after rejecting a motion by Thurmond to recommit the bill and report back a commonwealth measure. The House passes the bill on 3/12; Eisenhower signs it on 3/18.

Senate Preparedness Committee resumes hearings. Military chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines are scheduled to testify.

Rowe calls LBJ apparently in response to a suggestion LBJ made that because of recent criticism of his leadership he resign as majority leader and call a Democratic caucus. Rowe and Mansfield disagree. Rowe says LBJ would be re-elected leader and the move would be described as a "put up job" and would make Proxmire a martyr.

3/12 LBJ speaks at the dedication of the portraits of five outstanding senators (Clay, Webster, Calhoun, LaFollette and Taft).

LBJ also hosts a party for the Speaker. Forty-six senators who had served with Rayburn in the House present him with a silver tray inscribed with their signatures.

3/13 After hearing three days of testimony in Preparedness Committee hearings, LBJ announces that expert testimony indicates that the U.S. has adequate military strength to meet the Berlin crisis but the defense budget may not be adequate in the future.

Eisenhower asks Congress to extend the Mutual Security Program without change, authorizing \$3.9 billion. House passes \$3.5 billion measure on 6/15.

3/14 Gridiron Dinner tonight; LBJ is the guest of Marshall McNeil. CTJ attends the Gridiron Widows dinner.

3/15 Governor Pat Brown breakfasts with LBJ at 30th Place this morning.

3/16 Rowe writes LBJ to reiterate a suggestion he made last year that LBJ add a northern liberal, preferably Humphrey, JFK or Symington, to the Policy Committee to quell the "liberal revolt."

There has also been press speculation about the significance of Rowe's presence in the Humphrey presidential campaign.

3/17 LBJ meets with George Meany and Andy Biemiller this morning.

Hearings on the nomination of Lewis Strauss as Secretary of Commerce begin in the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

3/18 Preparedness Subcommittee meets today.

- 3/19 LBJ flies to Hartford, Connecticut to address the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner where he pledges his support for Eisenhower in the Berlin crisis. After the dinner he flies to New York City.
- Neuberger speaks on the Senate floor in opposition to Proxmire's recent speeches calling for more Democratic caucuses, saying that such caucuses, to be effective, might jeopardize the independence of individual senators by binding them to the decision of the caucus.
- Prime Minister MacMillan arrives in Washington for talks concerning Berlin. Agreement is reached on a proposal for a foreign ministers meeting between the western powers and the USSR. Khrushchev accepts proposal and talks begin 5/11.
- 3/20 Senate Finance Committee begins hearings on House bill extending certain benefits of the 1958 Unemployment Act until 7/1/59. Eighteen Democratic sponsors of a substitute bill proposed by McNamara urge the committee to approve their bill which would extend all benefits of the 1958 act until 7/1/60. The committee reports out the House bill, however, with only technical changes on 3/23.
- LBJ, in New York, lunches with *Time* magazine editors and later meets with *Newsweek* editors. CTJ joins him in New York that evening and they attend *The Music Man*.
- 3/21 The Johnsons have dinner with Dr. and Mrs. Frank Stanton at Club 21 and later attend *Flower Drum Song*.
- 3/22 LBJ holds a KTBC business meeting in his suite at the Waldorf this morning. That evening he returns to Washington.
- 3/23 Congress authorizes the creation of a Joint Economic Committee chaired by Senator Douglas to study the problems of inflation, unemployment and economic growth.
- Senate passes the Area Redevelopment Bill, 49-46, calling for \$390 million in loans and grants to areas with high and sustained levels of unemployment. An amendment by Dirksen to substitute an administration \$53 million bill is rejected, 43-52. The authorization is eventually reduced to \$25 million by the House Banking and Currency Committee but the bill is stalled in the Rules Committee this session.
- LBJ lunches with Prime Minister MacMillan at the British Embassy today before flying to Dallas this evening.
- 3/24 In Dallas, LBJ addresses the Texas Cattle Raisers Association, calls for increased military strength to meet the communist challenge. After the speech he flies to the Ranch where he stays until 4/6.

CTJ graduates from her public speaking class.

3/25 Senate passes the unemployment extension bill after rejecting, 38-49, an amendment by McNamara to extend the 1958 act until 7/1/60. An amendment by McCarthy to extend all provisions of the act until 7/1/59 was accepted, however.

On 3/30 McNamara writes a letter to LBJ criticizing his lack of leadership on the issue. He sends copies of the letter to the 38 senators who supported his amendment. On 4/4 Reedy writes LBJ a memo suggesting that McNamara's letter is part of a well-organized "liberal" attack on LBJ and that Joe Rauh might have authored the letter. He also notes that liberals are losing support nationally.

JFK, Ervin, Cooper and Javits introduce a new labor bill which, along with anti-corruption provisions, contains Taft-Hartley amendments favored by organized labor but not those proposed by the administration. The bill is reported by the Labor and Public Welfare Committee.

LBJ spends the day in Austin and meets CTJ at the airport that afternoon upon her arrival from Washington. They return to the Ranch and spend the next few days there.

3/26 Reedy sends LBJ a memo concerning LBJ's status in the presidential race. Reedy writes that LBJ will be regarded as a presidential contender regardless of his wishes but that position has certain assets such as deflecting potential opposition in Texas. Reedy recommends LBJ maintain his current status: when asked, deny he is a candidate but occasionally accept speaking engagements in northern states.

3/28 LBJ flies to Abilene this afternoon to attend the Democratic Dinner where he introduces the main speaker, Senator Monroney.

3/29 LBJ flies to Mineral Wells this morning, attends the First Christian Church and dedicates the 49th Armory before flying to San Antonio. There he attends the Golden Anniversary Dinner of the Congregation Rodfei Sholom, returns to the Ranch that night.

CTJ and the children go to East Texas to visit her father for Easter.

3/30 LBJ meets with Herman Brown and Posh Oltorf today at the Driskill in Austin; spends the night there.

3/31 CTJ is still in East Texas; Lynda returns to Washington to attend school.

April

- 4/1 LBJ is the principal speaker tonight at the Texas Exes Banquet in Austin.
- CTJ and Luci return to Washington.
- 4/2 LBJ meets with IRS agents at KTBC today before returning to the Ranch.
- 4/4 Mr. and Mrs. George Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Baker are visiting at the Ranch today.
- 4/6 LBJ addresses a joint session of the Texas Legislature this morning and emphasizes that "it is time to stop the wrestling match between Washington and the states and go back to the work of fulfilling our responsibility to the people," particularly in improving the educational system. LBJ flies to Washington that afternoon.
- 4/8 LBJ addresses the AFL-CIO Unemployment Conference at the National Guard Armory. In reply to McNamara's recent criticism of his handling of the unemployment compensation measure, LBJ states that he is not satisfied with stopgap measures and outlines a plan for focusing public attention on unemployment, thus enabling Congress to enact effective legislation with less fear of a veto.
- Later in the Senate, LBJ introduces a bill creating an 11-member commission to be composed of 3 senators, 3 representatives, and 5 members appointed by the president to study the unemployment problem and report their findings within 60 days, in time for congressional action this session. McNamara calls LBJ's proposal an "idle gesture." The bill passes 4/10 but no action is taken in the House.
- Senate passes a bill giving the REA administrator, instead of the secretary of agriculture, the final authority to approve REA loan applications. The House passes the bill on 4/15.
- 4/9 LBJ attends the opening day baseball game.
- Jake Jacobsen reports from Austin on progress in the Texas State Legislation on the bill to move the primary election date from July to May. It was reported by committee by a vote of 9-8 with Creekmore Fath leading the opposition. Jacobsen feels the bill will do better on the House floor where there is not such a high concentration of liberals.
- Dr. Glennon of NASA announces the selection of the 7 Mercury astronauts.
- 4/11 Luci rides on the Texas float in the Cherry Blossom parade.
- 4/13 LBJ meets with Scripps-Howard editors and publishers in Williamsburg, Virginia.
- 4/14 LBJ attends the dedication of the Robert Taft Memorial.

- 4/15 Senate debate on the labor reform bill begins. LBJ meets with George Meany and Andy Biemiller this afternoon.
Proxmire delivers his third speech; he had sent LBJ an advance copy on 4/4 with a note, "I'll be happy to have you on the floor if you care to be there."
- Secretary Dulles resigns as secretary of state; Christian Herter is sworn in as secretary at the White House on 4/22.
- 4/16 LBJ addresses the American Society of Newspaper Editors banquet. LBJ also attends a reception for Texas editors this afternoon.
- Paul Butler also addresses the ASNE, saying that the Democratic Party will adopt a strong desegregation plank and "If anyone does not want to go along with that statement of principles and feels that it compels them to seek political refuge elsewhere, it will have to be up to them"
- 4/17 Defense Secretary McElroy informs LBJ of the decision to close Camp Gary in San Marcos. LBJ writes McElroy questioning the economy of moving Camp Gary's activities to Fort Rucker, Alabama and informs McElroy he is requesting a GAO audit of the army's decision.
- LBJ attends a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Clark Thomason in honor of editors from Texas at the ASNE convention and LBJ and Rayburn. Later LBJ speaks at a stag dinner for Justice Douglas given by a special committee of his friends to commemorate his 20th anniversary as a Supreme Court justice.
- 4/19 Office picnic at Fort Hunt.
- 4/20 LBJ meets with UAW leaders this morning.
- Texas Senate passes a bill introduced by State Senator Dorsey Hardeman to let candidates be on the ballot for both national and state office at the same time. Texas House passes the bill 4/27 over the opposition of Houston Representative Dean Johnston.
- 4/22 LBJ meets with JFK this afternoon.
- Over JFK's opposition, the Senate passes the McClellan "bill of rights" amendment to the labor reform bill, 47-46. The amendment, opposed by organized labor, guarantees union members' voting rights, their right to speak freely, and offers protection against arbitrary discipline in union affairs. Immediately after the vote, a motion to reconsider was defeated after Nixon broke a 45-45 tie in favor of the McClellan amendment. All Republicans were present for both votes with only 2 (Javits and Langer) voting against the amendment. Five Democrats were absent,

including Humphrey who is campaigning in California. Fifteen Democrats, including Chavez, Dodd, and Lausche, voted for the McClellan amendment.

The next day, Reedy reports on press speculation that LBJ set up the vote to “knife” JFK and Humphrey. The press feels that LBJ influenced Chavez and Dodd to vote for the amendment. Reedy rebuts the argument by pointing out that Ellender and Long voted against the amendment when most southerners voted for it and that LBJ could have more easily influenced them had he wanted to sway the vote.

The amendment is later modified to strike a provision empowering the secretary of labor to seek federal court injunctions against attempts to deny union members their rights. Opponents to the bill of rights amendment pointed out that the provision paralleled the controversial Part III of the 1957 civil rights bill.

Busby reports on the progress of the “Johnson Bill” for May primaries in the Texas legislature. After talks with conservative leaders, Callan Graham told Busby that the bill will pass despite Yarborough’s opposition to it.

4/23 LBJ meets with Bob Oliver and Jim Carey this afternoon.

Humphrey cancels the rest of his West Coast tour to return to Washington to work on the labor reform bill. The press reports that Humphrey had a pair with Capehart on yesterday’s vote but Capehart declined to honor the pair on the close vote. Lausche and Dodd also declined to be paired with Humphrey.

4/25 After defeating attempts to add the administration’s Taft-Hartley amendments, the Senate passes the labor reform bill.

4/27 Eisenhower vetoes the bill giving the REA administrator final authority on REA loans. The next day the Senate votes to override the veto by a 64-29 vote. The vote in the House on 4/30 is four votes shy of two-thirds majority needed to override the veto, however.

4/28 Senate confirms the nomination of Clare Boothe Luce as ambassador to Brazil after Morse attempts to have the nomination recommitted. At a press conference following the vote, Luce comments “my difficulties of course go back some years when Senator Wayne Morse was kicked in the head by a horse.”

Reedy writes LBJ suggesting LBJ ask Eisenhower to have Luce apologize or the Senate will have to take some action because of the insult to a senator, particularly the chairman of the subcommittee dealing with Latin American affairs. Luce resigns on 5/1 as a result of the incident.

LBJ speaks at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce convention this morning.

May

- 5/1 The Johnsons fly to Fort Worth to attend the funeral of John Connally's daughter Kathleen. Apparently they return to the Ranch afterward, staying until 5/4.
- 5/5 LBJ, in Washington, attends a meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee on Rivers and Harbors of the Appropriations Committee this morning. Later he meets with Mary Lasker and Barbara Ward before attending a luncheon reunion meeting of the Truman Committee. That evening he flies to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to speak at a Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner, apparently returns to Washington that night. The Texas Legislature passes a bill (HB 158) to move the date of primary elections from July to May. State Senator Henry B. Gonzalez filibustered for 4 hours, 25 minutes before the bill was passed in the Senate. Gonzalez had "tagged" the bill, meaning 48 hours notice is required before the bill can be considered by a committee. Senator Hardeman got a majority vote to suspend the rules, however, and cleared the bill for floor action. House leaders for the bill were Elmer Parrish and Marshall Bell.
- News reports indicate that after a party at Mike Monroney's, Rayburn and Truman reached a secret decision to support either LBJ or Symington for the presidential nomination.
- 5/6 LBJ hosts a breakfast this morning for President Truman; 13 new Democratic Senators are invited. That evening LBJ attends a stag party at the White House for Sir Winston Churchill.
- 5/7 Price Daniel informs State Senator Dorsey Hardeman that he cannot sign HB 158. He objects to the bill on two grounds: that the provision of the bill which calls for the May state convention to be held on the Tuesday before the Saturday run-off primary election would cause hardship for people involved in both events. He recommends that the convention be held after the second primary. He also objects to the provision revising election procedures for members of the State Democratic Convention. He recommends that the bill be returned to the Senate for amendments on these sections.
- 5/8 LBJ and CTJ attend the Truman Diamond Jubilee Birthday Dinner in Boston, Massachusetts, which honors Truman on his 75th birthday. JFK introduces LBJ at the dinner as "Mr. Democrat."
- Texas State Senate passes the amendments to HB 158 requested by Governor Daniel.
- 5/9 LBJ and CTJ fly to Austin; LBJ returns to Washington on 5/19. Press speculation is that LBJ is going to Austin to work on the "Johnson Bill" pending in the state

legislature. He canceled a speech he had scheduled before the National Rivers and Harbors Congress to make the trip.

5/11 Foreign ministers of U.S., U.S.S.R., Britain, and France meet in Geneva to discuss the Berlin situation.

Texas House passes the revised HB 158 Texas election bill after Bob Eckhardt makes a speech against it.

5/13 CTJ flies to Washington, returns to Texas on 5/15.

5/14 LBJ attends the ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Austin airport terminal.

5/16 LBJ Company Board of Directors and stockholders meet today at the Ranch.

In a speech before the Western States Democratic Conference in Denver, Paul Butler urges Democrats to fight for a progressive legislative program. While Butler doesn't criticize anyone by name, the speech is seen as an attack on the leadership of Rayburn and LBJ.

5/18 LBJ attends a bank directors meeting at Johnson City; that afternoon he and CTJ fly to Memphis to attend a testimonial dinner in honor of Dorsey Hardeman's father, N. B. Hardeman, on his 85th birthday. After the dinner they fly to Washington.

5/19 Senate Commerce Committee votes 9-8 to recommend confirmation of Lewis Strauss as secretary of commerce.

Reedy writes LBJ pointing out the dangers of the Democrats opposing the appointment. At this point he maintains there is not enough evidence to deny the President his selection for a member of his cabinet. He also points out that opposition to Strauss will be regarded by some as anti-Semitism.

5/20 Preparedness Subcommittee hearings today. BOB Director Maurice Stans testifies in executive session. LBJ questions him on the adequacy of the defense budget, asks if military defense is being weakened to maintain a balanced budget.

LBJ announces that the Democratic leadership will take no formal position of the Strauss nomination.

Ronnie Dugger is apparently interviewing LBJ's associates, such as Dean Acheson and Bill Douglas, for articles he is writing on LBJ for *Harper's* and *The Nation*. LBJ meets with Dugger on 5/22.

Senate passes a "Health for Peace" bill sponsored by Lister Hill that would establish a program of international medical research at a cost of \$50 million per year. There is no action on the bill in the House, however.

5/21 House passes the Senate housing bill after it had been stalled in the Rules Committee. In order to prevent a veto, Senate and House conferees cut the total cost of the bill further. The Senate approves the conference report on 6/22 and the House on 6/23.

5/22 In attempt to solve the problem of huge wheat surpluses, the Senate passes a wheat bill giving wheat farmers 3 options to choose from in a referendum vote: 1) plant full acreage allotment, receive 65% parity; 2) reduce acreage 10%, receive 75% parity (current parity level); 3) reduce acreage 20%, receive 80% parity. Eisenhower had proposed abandoning statutory price floor on parity for a new system fixing supports for a commodity on the average market price during the 3 preceding years ("3-year moving average").

Democrats of Texas Executive Board, Executive Committee, and Steering Committee meet in Austin today in preparation for their open meeting tomorrow. COPE is also meeting in Austin. Busby reports on the closed meeting of the DOT. Jerry Holleman, Stuart and Emma Long and Walter Hall apparently are trying to keep anti-Johnson forces from launching open attacks on LBJ in tomorrow's meeting.

The next day Busby reports that the open meeting was uneventful with the exception of a resolution that was offered recommending that the DOT ask the governor to recommit HB 158.

LBJ flies to Austin this evening, returns 5/25.

5/24 LBJ makes the commencement address at Southwest Texas State Teachers College in San Marcos today; calls for a world summit of non-communist nations. Later he attends a party at Camp Gary where he tells the Gary personnel that there is little chance of revising the Army's decision to close the camp.

Dulles dies; LBJ attends his funeral at Washington's National Cathedral on 5/27.

5/27 Ed Weisl informs LBJ that the President of the Urban League is willing to endorse the Conciliation Service part of LBJ's civil rights bill.

5/28 Gore and LBJ engage in a debate on the Senate floor when Gore also criticizes lack of Democratic Party policy in the Senate, specifically on spiraling interest rates on housing. Gore maintains that LBJ made a speech saying efforts should be made to stop such increases yet one of the first measures to be passed by the Senate was a bill to increase VA housing interest rates. LBJ replies that the Democrats split 30-25

on that vote and he fails to see how the party could present a policy on an issue on which they were so closely divided. Gore's attack came as a surprise since earlier criticism was from northern liberals.

5/29 LBJ attends luncheon at German Embassy with Chancellor Adenauer.

5/30 LBJ, CTJ, Grace Tully, and Mary Margaret Wiley fly to Hyde Park, New York this morning where LBJ speaks at a memorial service at FDR's graveside. After the ceremony they fly to NYC, have dinner with the Weisls and attend *Marriage Go Round*.

June

The Progressive publishes articles by Proxmire and Neuberger on the current debate over LBJ's leadership of the Senate.

Reedy reports to LBJ on the Cuban government's seizure on cattle lands in Camaguay province.

6/1 The Johnsons fly from NYC to Providence, Rhode Island to attend the Brown University commencement. LBJ receives an honorary doctor of law degree. That afternoon they visit with Senator Green before returning to Washington.

At 6 p.m. LBJ, the Speaker, Halleck, Dirksen and the ranking members of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees meet with the President and Secretary Anderson at the White House. Press reports indicate that the meeting concerned legislation to raise interest on government savings bonds and to increase the ceiling on the national debt.

The next day in a telephone conversation with Anderson, LBJ recommends that Anderson meet with the House and Senate committees in executive session as soon as possible about the legislation because there will be considerable opposition to the measures. He cites his recent debate with Gore as an example.

6/3 Reedy sends LBJ a memo concerning information he has received that someone in the Vice President's office apparently is trying to influence Jewish groups to denounce opposition to the Strauss nomination as anti-Semitism.

LBJ meets with Mary Lasker and Florence Mahoney today.

6/4 Despite the opposition of Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Fulbright, the Senate confirms the nomination of 33-year-old Ogden Reid as ambassador to Israel.

- 6/5 Ernest McFarland writes LBJ giving his thoughts on strategy for Johnson-for-President campaign; suggests LBJ talk to Rayburn because he believes Rayburn's feelings have been hurt by LBJ not consulting him about the presidential race.
- 6/7 LBJ flies to Wheeling, West Virginia to make the commencement address at Bethany College. That evening he flies to Baltimore to attend a testimonial dinner honoring Congressmen Edward Garmatz, Samuel Friedel and George Fallon.
- 6/8 LBJ attends meeting of the State-Justice-Judiciary Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee today. Hearings also held 6/10-6/12.
- Walter Jenkins reports on a telephone conversation with Raymond Hedge of Tyler whose company, Lone Star Farms, has extensive rice holdings in Cuba. They are experiencing difficulties with the Castro government.
- Eisenhower asks Congress to remove the interest rate ceilings on series E and H savings bonds.
- 6/9 LBJ meets with Walter Reuther and George Harrison this morning. Reedy advises that LBJ point out that the Senate has passed most of labor's measures and the labor should use its influence in the House to get the bills out. Later LBJ meets with Senators Kennedy, Humphrey, McNamara and Douglas.
- LBJ and Hawaiian Delegate Burns introduce a bill to create a center in Hawaii for cultural and technical interchange between the East and the West.
- CTJ flies to Austin for a reception given by Mrs. Jesse Kellam for Mrs. Warren Woodward. Warren Woodward recently joined the staff of KTBC as vice president.
- 6/12 House passes its version of the wheat bill, giving farmers 2 choices: 1) cut acreage 25%, receive 90% parity; 2) rescind all acreage restrictions, receive 50% parity. In conference it is changed from 25% and 90% to 20% and 80%.
- 6/17 LBJ to testify at Foreign Relations Committee executive session in behalf of Hawaiian East-West Center bill.
- LBJ and Senator John Williams engage in a heated debate in the Senate tonight. Williams accuses LBJ of trying to push through a \$715 million appropriation for the Commerce Department. Williams, a Republican, refused to agree to a debate limit on the bill to which he had proposed some amendments. LBJ replied that he was trying to get the President's program through by 7/1.
- Eisenhower announces he will "use every single influence" he has for the Strauss nomination.

- 6/18 Under heavy administration pressure, the House rejects the conference report on the wheat bill, 202-214 (150 of 153 Republican members present, all but 7 vote to kill the report). The bill appears dead but on 6/22 LBJ offers a motion to have the Senate accept the original House bill. The motion passes, 44-40, but Eisenhower vetoes the bill on 6/25.
- 6/19 At 12:35 a.m., the Senate rejects the nomination of Lewis Strauss, 46-49, the first veto of a major Eisenhower appointment in 6 years and the first rejection of a cabinet appointment since 1925. Two Republicans (Langer and Margaret Chase Smith) join the 47 Democrats in opposing the nomination. The Republicans tried to delay the vote until 3 senators (Morton, Bennett, and Milton Young) returned from out of town.
- 6/20 LBJ meets with Mary Lasker and Florence Mahoney this afternoon.
- Bill Douglas writes LBJ enlisting his aid in getting the State Department to grant permission for him to go to Red China to write an article for the *National Geographic*.
- 6/21 Johnsons visit George Brown's home in Middleburg, return to Washington 6/22.
- 6/22 Senate Foreign Relations Committee reports a \$4.2 billion mutual security bill. (Eisenhower had asked for \$3.9 billion, House had passed \$3.5 billion.) Controversy centers over a provision added by the committee to give the Development Loan Fund (DLF) authority to borrow \$1 billion per year from the Treasury for the next 5 years, critics calling this provision "backdoor spending." On 7/1, the Senate by a vote of 42-48 refuses to table an appeal by Francis Case to the presiding officer's ruling that such a provision is permissible. If Case's point of order should be sustained, the legality of other government program's financed by borrowing would be questioned. Therefore LBJ and Dirksen offer a compromise authorizing appropriations for the DLF in fiscal 1960 and 1961. Case withdraws his appeal the next day and the compromise is quickly accepted.
- 6/23 LBJ and CTJ host a luncheon for Perle Mesta today. Senators Smathers, Ellender, Cooper, Bible, Cannon, Church, Green and Scooter Miller attend. Later LBJ meets with Secretary Herter.
- Senate passes the State-Justice-Judiciary Appropriations bill, 90-0, after accepting amendments by LBJ and Mundt to add \$250,000 to State Department funds to initiate the East-West cultural exchange center at the University of Hawaii. The measure is approved in conference on 7/1.

6/24 LBJ meets with Eisenhower at the White House this afternoon.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo on the results of a recent Texas poll. While the poll shows LBJ would beat either Price Daniel or Jim Wright in the 1960 Senate race, it also shows LBJ has lower ratings than Daniel among Negroes, Latin Americans, women, and "lower socio-economic groups," Reedy is somewhat concerned but questions the low samplings among the groups. He feels the poll should be the basis for further study, not action, at this point.

6/25 In action on the tax bill, Senate agrees to repeal the 10% tax on passenger travel, telephone tax, and the 4% tax credit on dividends. Senate also turns down 2 proposals to solve the crisis in highway financing caused by the suspension last year of the Highway Trust Fund's "pay as you go" provision: 1) to divert certain funds from the general fund to the highway fund, 2) to raise the gasoline tax as Eisenhower had requested. The House refuses to accept any of the Senate changes except repeal of the local telephone tax and reduction of passenger travel tax to 5%. Senate accepts the House changes. Senate passes bill raising the permanent debt ceiling to \$285 billion, with an additional \$10 billion to expire 6/30/60. Eisenhower had asked for a permanent ceiling of \$288 billion.

6/26 The Johnsons spend the weekend with the Thornberrys at George Brown's home in Middleburg.

6/30 LBJ meets with Mary Lasker, Florence Mahoney and CTJ today.

July

7/3 LBJ flies to Dallas today to attend the Texas Bar Association meeting tonight where he introduces Dr. Werhner von Braun. Unclear when he returns to Washington.

7/5 Paul Butler accuses congressional Democratic leadership of being too conservative and not fighting for a progressive program. His speech touches off calls for Butler's removal as Democratic national chairman.

7/7 Eisenhower vetoes the housing bill, setting off 2 hours of debate in the Senate.

In action on the mutual security bill, the Senate passes an amendment cutting the President's request for \$1.6 billion in military assistance to \$1.3 billion. Senate passes the final bill the next day. Reedy writes LBJ a memo saying the press will almost surely ask him if the housing veto affected the mutual security vote. Harry McPherson sends LBJ a memo on JFK's proposal to repeal the loyalty oath provision of the NDEA student loan program and Dirksen's counterproposal to impose criminal penalties against subversives who benefit under the act. Reedy feels that the Dirksen substitute is more dangerous than the loyalty oath itself.

Senate passes the House-passed public works bill, 82-7. Bill calls for 67 new starts on water projects, the administration had wanted none. Ike vetoes the bill 8/26. On 9/2 the House is one vote shy of overriding the veto.

7/11 In a news conference, Butler renews his criticism of the Democratic leadership, saying "We can't win the election of 1960 if we are to ape the Republican Party." In a news story published on 7/13 in the *Washington Star*, LBJ replies that he will not try to pass legislation which has little chance of White House approval simply to create issues for the 1960 campaign.

The next day, Butler announces that congressional leaders are seeking to replace him as DNC chairman with a "certain western senator." Press speculation centers on Anderson, Mansfield or Engle.

7/12 In a ceremony in Dallas, CTJ inaugurates the first commercial jet service from that city to New York City.

7/15 Nationwide steel strike begins, lasts 116 days.

Senate Judiciary Constitutional Rights Subcommittee reports a skeleton civil rights bill requiring preservation of voting records and extending the Civil Rights Commission. The bill is bottled up in the full committee, however, until adjournment. As a result, LBJ and Dirksen on 9/14 announce plans to bring up civil rights legislation early in 1960.

7/21 CTJ returns to Washington from Texas.

7/22 Nixon leaves for a 13-day tour of Russia to open the U.S. exhibition in Moscow. While there he engages Khrushchev in the "kitchen debate."

LBJ issues a statement urging Eisenhower to take action to end the steel strike, citing losses to the US Treasury of up \$45 million a week due to the strike.

7/23 After 2 days of debate, Senate votes 49-42 to recommit the bill, eliminating the loyalty oath provision of the student loan program.

7/24 Johnsons spend the weekend in Middleburg.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo on Paul Butler's criticism of LBJ. Reedy doesn't feel that ousting Butler as DNC chairman would be profitable. He feels that lack of any extraordinary legislative achievements this session is the source of criticism of LBJ and that perhaps LBJ should make the veto of the housing bill a vehicle for answering Butler's and the Senate liberals' criticism of LBJ.

7/28 Hawaii elects Oren Long (D) and Hiram Fong (R) to the Senate and Daniel Inouye (D) to the House. They are sworn in 8/24.

7/31 LBJ meets with Andy Biemiller and Arthur Goldberg this morning.

August

8/1 LBJ's calendar notes that he went to Senator Dirksen's farm today.

8/3 LBJ meets with Bryce Harlow today to discuss Khrushchev's upcoming visit to the U.S. That evening LBJ and Rayburn meet with the President at the White House.

8/5 LBJ meets with Dirksen and Attorney General Rogers this afternoon concerning federal judgeships.

8/6 Eisenhower makes a radio-TV address in support of the Landrum-Griffith labor reform bill in the House. In response, on 8/10 Rayburn makes a nationwide radio speech urging passage of the Elliot bill.

8/7 LBJ attends funeral of Mrs. Langer. That evening he goes fishing with Rayburn and some other members of the Texas delegation, returning to Washington tomorrow.

Reedy sends LBJ a memo on a new civil rights bill that has been proposed. Reedy advises against introducing it because its provisions are too much for the South, too little for the North. He also reports that he has learned from conversations with Hyman Bookbinder that lobbying leadership in civil rights has shifted from Clarence Mitchell and the NAACP to labor, church and Jewish groups.

8/8 LBJ gives a radio report concerning Khrushchev's impending visit to Washington.

8/11 House debate on the labor reform bill begins. House has 3 labor bills to choose from: 1) Elliot bill (basically the Senate-passed bill, endorsed by JFK and Rayburn); 2) Landrum-Griffin bill (backed by the administration); 3) Shelly bill (favored by unions, corresponds more to the original JFK bill). The Shelly bill is rejected 132-245 on 8/12.

8/12 Senate fails to override Eisenhower's veto of the housing bill by 9 votes. The Banking and Currency Committee reports a new bill the next day which contains limited concessions to Eisenhower's objections, \$325 million less than the vetoed bill.

Little Rock public schools re-open on an integrated basis after the law which Faubus used to close the schools last year was declared unconstitutional by a federal court.

- 8/13 House takes key vote on the labor reform bill, voting 229-201 to substitute provisions of the Landrum-Griffin bill for the Elliot bill. Vote represents a victory for the President and a coalition of southern democrats and conservative Republicans, defeat for Rayburn and labor. A recommittal motion is defeated the next day, 303-125.
- By a 47-45 vote the Senate passes a bill sponsored by Hubert Humphrey to create a Youth Conservation Corps for 150,000 men ages 16 to 21 to work on federal and state conservation projects. No action is taken on the bill in the House.
- 8/14 LBJ has a number of phone conversations with labor leaders today (Goldberg, Biemieller, Oliver, Holleman). LBJ goes to Huntlands that evening.
- 8/17 After two-and-a-half hours of debate, the Senate agrees to a conference with the House on the labor reform bill rather than holding a vote to simply accept the Landrum-Griffin bill. LBJ, with Goldwater's backing, maintains that certain provisions of the Senate bill concerning racketeering are stronger than those of the Landrum-Griffin bill. JFK is named chairman of the conference committee.
- LBJ's diary shows a meeting with Russell and others with Arthur Goldberg, Andy Biemiller and JFK today.
- Walter Hornaday writes a column discounting recent speculation that the House vote on the Landrum-Griffin bill represents a weakening of Rayburn's leadership. He notes that while Rayburn made a radio speech in favor of the Elliot bill, he did not speak on the House floor for it as he would have for a matter he was deeply interested in. Also, only four members of the Texas delegation voted against Landrum-Griffin, indicating Rayburn had not applied heavy pressure on the delegation.
- 8/18 Senate passes the second housing bill, 71-24; House passes it on 8/27.
- 8/19 News story accuses LBJ of influencing the Senate Judiciary Committee to sit on the nominations of 20 federal judges because he disapproved of Eisenhower's selection of John Tucker, a Republican, to the Texas Eastern district court judgeship. Eisenhower named Tucker in February but early this month Tucker asked him to remove his name from consideration because the long delay had embarrassed him. LBJ reportedly has his own candidate for the judgeship.
- LBJ attends Western States barbecue at the Westmoreland Recreation Center.
- 8/21 Hawaii is admitted to the Union as the 50th state.

- 8/22 LBJ writes a letter to a number of constituents regarding the controversy over the Landrum-Griffin bill. The letter is critically regarded by Texas labor leaders and causes controversy throughout the year.
- 8/26 LBJ flies to Offutt AFB, Nebraska to attend a top secret briefing. He then flies to Minneapolis that night.
- Paul Butler asks the DNC to adopt convention rules that state parties pledge the official Democratic ticket will appear on ballots and that electors will vote for the nominees under the party label. Thurmond, Talmadge call for Butler's removal as chairman, saying his suggestion is a move to oust the South from the party. On 9/16 the DNC adopts a "good faith" rule on the question.
- 8/27 LBJ's birthday. LBJ gives a speech to the American Legion Convention in Minneapolis this morning and then attends the opening of the Cordova Island Bridge in El Paso at 6 p.m. The ceremonies in El Paso are cut short by rain and LBJ returns to the Ranch that evening.
- 8/28 With the conference committee deadlocked, JFK introduces a resolution asking the Senate to instruct its conferees on the labor reform bill to insist on a compromise proposed by him. Dirksen introduces a counter resolution asking the Senate for conference instructions to accept the House bill. No action is taken on either resolution because the conference reaches agreement on 9/2 after House conferees accept softening amendments on the "no man's land" provisions, garment and construction industry exemptions from the hot cargo contract provisions, and organizational and recognition picketing provisions. Senator Morse refuses to sign the conference report, however. Senate agrees to the report on 9/3, the House on 9/4.
- 8/29 LBJ, CTJ and Lynda fly to San Augustine to speak to the Deep East Texas Co-op Membership meeting. They spend the night at Judge Joe Fisher's home in Jasper and fly to Washington the next day.
- 8/31 In Washington, LBJ attends a luncheon meeting with JFK, Andy Biemiller, Cy Anderson and Arthur Goldberg.

September

- 9/3 Eisenhower vetoes the second housing bill, saying it is little improvement over the first bill. The Senate vote to override the veto is 5 votes short of the two-thirds needed.
- 9/5 A few minutes before midnight, the Senate passes the House-passed highway bill, increasing the gasoline tax from 3 to 4 cents per gallon through 6/30/61. (Eisenhower had asked for an increase to 4.5 cents.) Senator Morse carried on a

day-long delaying tactic, criticizing LBJ's steamroller tactics and accusing the Congress of "trying to run away" before the arrival of Khrushchev on 9/15. News reports indicate that Morse is angry at LBJ for getting debate limitation on a bill without notifying Morse in advance and because LBJ has announced that the Senate will meet on Labor Day.

- 9/6 LBJ, Walter Jenkins, and Warren Woodward go to Butler Aviation to look at a plane that is for sale. LBJ is apparently considering buying a plane for the LBJ Company.
- 9/8 LBJ meets with Morse and Fulbright this afternoon to discuss the question of Congress staying in session during Khrushchev's visit.
- House and Senate pass a 2nd public works bill, still containing 67 new water project starts, but appropriating \$30 million less than the original bill. Dirksen said Eisenhower would accept the bill if the 67 new starts are staggered over 3 years. Democrats counter that they should be started over the year and a half remaining in Eisenhower's term. As a result Eisenhower vetoes the bill on 9/9. On 9/10 House and Senate vote to override the veto, the first time a veto by Eisenhower has been overridden.
- 9/9 Joe Fisher is confirmed by the Senate as judge of the Texas Eastern District. Eisenhower had submitted his name only 2 days before. Fisher, the brother-in-law of Ed Clark, is a friend of both LBJ and Yarborough.
- 9/11 Talmadge writes LBJ concerning an invitation he has received to address the Public Affairs Luncheon in Dallas. The organizers of the luncheon have asked Talmadge not to mention LBJ in his remarks because of LBJ's unpopularity with that group. Talmadge has declined the invitation if he can't mention LBJ in his speech. On 10/9 Talmadge addresses the group and praises LBJ for keeping legislation from being "vastly more radical, vicious and disruptive."
- 9/12 After the House fails to act on the Senate bill creating an 11-member Committee on Unemployment Problems, LBJ and Dirksen push a measure through the Senate creating a 9-member Special Senate Committee on Unemployment Problems. Eugene McCarthy is named chairman of the committee.
- 9/14 Mutual security appropriation bill passes the Senate. As finally sent to Eisenhower the bill provides \$3.2 billion for mutual security, \$1.2 billion less than Eisenhower's request and less than originally authorized by Congress. The bill contains a rider offered by Hayden extending the life of the Civil Rights Commission for 2 years and appropriating \$500,000 to it. The commission was scheduled to go out of business in 60 days. The Senate is apparently in session all night. LBJ's diary notes he attended mutual security conference at 11 p.m.

- 9/15 Congress adjourns at 6:24 a.m. Several hours after adjournment Khrushchev arrives in Washington to begin a tour of the U.S. He visits New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Des Moines and Pittsburgh. Upon arriving in Washington, Khrushchev announces that the USSR has successfully launched a rocket to the moon.
- LBJ and CTJ attend White House dinner tonight for Khrushchev.
- 9/16 LBJ attends reception given by the Foreign Relations Committee for Khrushchev this afternoon.
- 9/18 LBJ, CTJ fly to Texas, spend the next several days at the Ranch.
- 9/19 State Democratic Executive Committee meets in McAllen, passes a resolution calling on LBJ to make himself available for the presidential nomination.
- 9/20 LBJ and Warren Woodward inspect another plane that Woodward flew to Fredericksburg from Austin. The LBJ Company leases the plane.
- 9/24 LBJ attends a party at Taylor honoring Homer Thornberry.
- 9/26 LBJ addresses the West Texas State College Golden Anniversary in Amarillo today, returns to the Ranch that afternoon.
- CTJ is in Karnack today, flies to Wichita Falls on 9/28.
- 9/27 LBJ attends funeral services for Jimmie Allred today in Austin.
- 9/29 CTJ and LBJ are in Iowa Park for the Texas-Oklahoma Fair and Southwest Oil Exposition; returns to Ranch that evening.
- Reedy sends LBJ a memo on the difficulties involved in electing the Texas delegation to the national convention next year. While LBJ can't openly wage a presidential campaign, he could be a serious favorite son candidate. Governor Daniel should not be named chairman of the delegation, however, because of his previous support of Eisenhower, and Ralph Yarborough should also be persuaded to remain neutral.
- 9/30 Bob Hill telephones Walter Jenkins concerning arrangements for Lopez Mateos' visit to the Ranch in October. The transcript of the conversation indicates that LBJ is considering a trip to South America and possibly Canada. There have been leaks about the proposed trip in the State Department. Tommy Corcoran is working on the Canada trip.

October

- 10/2 LBJ attends Sid Richardson's funeral in Fort Worth this morning.
- 10/3 LBJ is at the Ranch, looks at land for a proposed airstrip. Joe Mashman and his son arrive in a helicopter for a visit. Gov. and Mrs. Daniel are also visiting at the Ranch.
- 10/4 Early this morning heavy rains cause the Pedernales to rise. LBJ asks the men to help move irrigation pipes to prevent them from washing away in the flood. Later he and Mashman rescue some of the neighbors in the helicopter and in the process one of the neighbor's dogs bites LBJ.
- 10/6 LBJ addresses the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen at the Commodore Perry in Austin. Then he and Thornberry fly to Bonham to meet with the Speaker.
- CTJ is in Karnack.
- House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee Legislative Oversight Subcommittee begins hearings on rigged television quiz shows. They continue through 11/6. Robert Kintner, president of NBC, testifies suggesting federal legislation to prevent cheating. Frank Stanton opposes such legislation, saying primary responsibility rests with the broadcasting industry.
- 10/7 LBJ in Bonham; meets with the Speaker, Thornberry and Frank Ikard; addresses the Combined Service Club luncheon in Bonham.
- 10/9 LBJ goes to Shreveport where he joins CTJ and visits her brother Tommy who is in the hospital there. They fly to Washington where they attend a White House dinner in honor of Mexican President Lopez Mateos.
- Eisenhower invokes the Taft-Hartley Act, orders a 3-man presidential fact-finding board to investigate the steel strike.
- 10/11 LBJ appears on "Face the Nation," says that he is not a presidential candidate and does not intend to become one. However, if the nomination were to be offered to him he would have to consider it.
- 10/12 LBJ flies to Austin. He spends the next few days preparing for Lopez Mateos' visit to the Ranch.
- 10/13 Allen Duckworth writes in the *Dallas News* that LBJ and Daniel have reached a compromise on the chairmanship of the delegation to the Democratic convention next year. Duckworth reports that LBJ and Daniel will be co-chairmen.

- 10/17 LBJ flies to Dallas to attend a reception given by the Democratic Women of Dallas County for Truman and a rally where he introduces Truman. He returns to the Ranch that evening. Truman and Rayburn also go to Austin.
- While in Dallas for the Truman activities, Rayburn announces that he is starting an LBJ-for-President drive. LBJ was noncommittal when asked about Rayburn's plan at a reception in Dallas.
- 10/18 The Johnsons host a barbecue for Lopez Mateos at the Ranch. They meet Lopez Mateos and Carrillo Flores at Bergstrom AFB where they board a helicopter with Sim Gideon to make an aerial tour of the LCRA dams en route to the Ranch. Among the guests at the barbecue are Truman, Rayburn and Secretary Anderson.
- 10/19 Lopez Mateos and LBJ meet with Governor Daniel at the Governor's Mansion in Austin before Lopez Mateos returns to Mexico City.
- 10/20 LBJ introduces Ambassador Robert Hill at the Rotary Club luncheon in Austin. Then he attends an LBJ Day supper given by the Lions Club in Brenham.
- 10/21 Federal court issues an 80-day back-to-work injunction in the steel strike. The Supreme Court upholds the injunction on 11/7.
- CTJ goes to Shreveport to see her brother who is in the hospital.
- Jim Wilson sends LBJ a memo on controversy over the size of a proposed national park at Padre Island. Wilson reports that the controversy is largely newspaper-manufactured. While there is some disagreement among the members of the Texas delegation over the size of a park, everyone involved recognized the need for some land for private development. Wilson also reports that a rumor that the establishment of a park will require the Navy to move its bombing practice ranges on the coast is the opinion of one naval officer only--not that of the Navy Dept.
- 10/23 LBJ attends the swearing-in ceremony for Judge Joe Fisher in Beaumont.
- 10/25 LBJ, CTJ, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Engelhard, and Mr. and Mrs. Tim McInerny go to Pat Rutherford's ranch in Buda for a brunch honoring the Johnsons. CTJ leaves for Washington at 2 p.m. The Engelhards and McInernys return to the Ranch with LBJ.
- 10/26 Castro denounces the U.S., soon nationalizes all private business in Cuba.
- 10/27 LBJ and Daniel address the Austin Rotary Club luncheon.
- 10/28 LBJ begins a week of touring Texas; visits Cameron, Bryan, Gladewater, Sulphur Springs.

- 10/29 LBJ visits Paris, Clarksville, and Texarkana today.
- 10/30 LBJ visits Texarkana where he is introduced by Wright Patman at a breakfast. He then attends a combined service club luncheon in Marshall and a coffee in Atlanta before returning to Texarkana for speeches at Texarkana Junior College and at a Federal Civil Service Employees Association banquet.
- 10/31 LBJ attends a luncheon in Quitman, attends Jim Hogg memorial services at the Jim Hogg State Park, and the Texas Lutheran College Homecoming Banquet in Seguin and returns to Austin that evening.

CTJ's brother Tommy passes away this morning; CTJ joins family in East Texas.

November

- 11/1 One thousand attend Jaycees Citizenship Seminar in Austin sponsored by LBJ. The group hears speeches by NASA director Glennan, RCA president John Burns, Air Force secretary James Douglas, Speaker Rayburn, Senator Dodd, Cyrus Anderson, Howard Butt and Arthur Godfrey on major issues facing the nation. Mitch Miller conducts a sing-along for the group. LBJ gave a brief welcoming speech before leaving for Jefferson to attend Tommy Taylor's funeral. Original plans for the group to go to the Ranch were also canceled.
- Reedy reports on a conversation he had with Cyrus Anderson last night. Anderson feels that LBJ will not receive the support of industrial unions but could receive that of the building trades and railroad brotherhoods. Anderson also says LBJ should have no problems with George Meany and Jerry Holleman. Reedy recommends LBJ contact Holleman.
- 11/2 Reedy talks with Holleman and Fred Schmidt, reports that Holleman seems interested in working with LBJ, Schmidt does not. Reedy also writes that Holleman, Bill Petri, and Marcus Loftis all feel that LBJ should address the upcoming AFL-CIO convention in San Antonio; Schmidt is noncommittal.
- 11/3 LBJ and CTJ attend the Bastrop County Fish Fry.
- 11/4 LBJ and CTJ continue his speaking tour of Texas; he addresses the Del Mar College student body in Corpus Christi, a Robstown Rotary Club luncheon, Robstown High School, and returns to Corpus Christi to address a Jaycees banquet.
- 11/5 LBJ addresses the Kingsville A&I student body, Bishop High School, Corpus Christi Kiwanis-Rotary luncheon, and attends a public reception in Sinton.
- Reedy reports to LBJ that his 8/22/59 constituent letter on the labor reform bill has created a controversy with labor. Reedy and Ken Belieu have received calls from

labor leaders and Bob Oliver is especially upset. He says the Steelworkers are planning to reprint 2 million copies of the letter to circulate throughout the country.

- 11/6 LBJ is in Austin, attends meeting on plans for a new KTBC building, a reception at Bergstrom AFB honoring Governor Daniel and Tom Miller, and services at Temple Beth Israel for the investiture of their new rabbi.
- 11/7 LBJ attends the UT Ex-Students Association breakfast before going to the UT-Baylor football game. That evening he attends the UT Exes Dinner.
- 11/8 Senator Langer dies.
- 11/9 LBJ addresses the Huston-Tillotson College student body with J. Edgar Hoover, and later introduces Hoover to the United Fund luncheon. They return to the Ranch that evening.
- Reedy sends LBJ a memo on advising that it is urgent that western senators declare their support for LBJ for president as soon as possible. Otherwise, the LBJ campaign will become a southern monopoly. Reedy feels that with the endorsement of O'Mahoney, Hayden, Bible and Cannon, "the whole political scene could be shifted overnight."
- Reedy also reports on conversations with labor leaders on the 8/22 labor reform bill letter. In his talks with the leaders Reedy stressed that LBJ's actions on behalf of labor are more important than a letter he wrote to get anti-labor forces in Texas off his back.
- 11/10 LBJ goes to Dallas to address the U.S. Savings and Loan League convention and attend the Dallas Hospital Association reception and dinner.
- 11/11 LBJ attends the Decatur National Guard Armory dedication, addresses the Dallas Downtown Rotary Club luncheon and attends the Stephenville Kiwanis Farm and City Banquet, returns to the Ranch.
- 11/12 LBJ and CTJ go to C.T. McLaughlin's ranch in Snyder for a luncheon.
- 11/13 LBJ attends a San Antonio Bar Association luncheon and a banquet in honor of Kilday.
- 11/14 In San Antonio, LBJ is given a physical by Dr. Howard Burchell at Brooks Hospital before attending the dedication of the Aerospace Medical Center. Later he also attends the opening of the Texas Vegetable Market and then returns to the Ranch.

- 11/15 LBJ to Houston, speaks at a dinner where he is introduced by Billy Goldberg. He returns to Ranch that evening.
- 11/17 The Johnsons' twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. The Kellams host a party for them at 1901 Dillman and at El Mat restaurant, attended by the Birdwells, Ray Lees, DeGuerins, Deasons, Boltens, Mary Rather, the Busbys, Stegalls, Jake Pickle, Mary Ellen Woodward, Walter Jenkins, Doris Herring, and Dr. and Mrs. Bailey.
- 11/18 LBJ addresses the AFL-CIO Convention in San Antonio where he is introduced by Jerry Holleman. He then flies to College Station to pick up Robert Kennedy. They return to the Ranch where Kennedy spends the night.
- 11/19 LBJ goes deer hunting with Robert Kennedy this morning and later LBJ takes Kennedy to the Austin airport.
- 11/20 LBJ goes quail hunting in Eagle Pass with the Kellams, Moursunds, Mary Margaret Wiley.
- 11/21 Reedy and his wife leave on a trip to Mexico.
- LBJ attends lunch at Pat Rutherford's ranch in Buda.
- 11/26 LBJ addresses the Texas State Teachers Association in San Antonio.
- 11/29 LBJ meets Rayburn at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth. They fly to Washington and then Philadelphia to address the Nationalities Dinner of the DNC.
- 11/30 LBJ attends a White House breakfast for the congressional leadership to discuss Eisenhower's foreign trip beginning 12/3. Eisenhower visits Rome, the Vatican, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Greece, Tunisia, Paris, Spain and Morocco before returning to Washington on 12/22.
- Later LBJ, CTJ, Rayburn, Fulbright and Jenkins fly to Texas (stopping briefly in Little Rock to let Fulbright out).
- The Senate makes its complete payroll available. Twenty senators have relatives on the payroll. Sam Houston Johnson is the 3rd highest paid relative.
- Jack Cox announces he will run for either governor or LBJ's Senate seat on the Republican ticket.

December

- 12/1 LBJ addresses the AMA House of Delegates meeting in Dallas.
- 12/3 Senator and Mrs. Humphrey arrive for a visit at the Ranch.

- 12/4 LBJ and Humphrey fly to Houston where they have lunch with J.R. Parten and Marlin Sandlin.
- 12/5 LBJ and CTJ, Cliff Carter and the Moursunds go to Morganfield, Kentucky, where they have lunch with Earle Clements. The following week Clements resigns his position with the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee and is appointed the Kentucky Highway Commissioner. LBJ spends the night at Tony Buford's farm in Farmington, Missouri, near St. Louis.
- Democratic Advisory Committee begins 3 days of meetings in New York City. Stevenson, Symington, Humphrey, Brown, Robert Meyner, G. Mennen Williams, JFK, Truman and Eleanor Roosevelt attend. LBJ cites his long-standing engagements in the Midwest for not attending.
- 12/7 Tony Buford hosts a breakfast for LBJ with St. Louis Democratic leaders. Afterwards, LBJ addresses the St. Louis University student body. That evening LBJ speaks at the Democratic dinner in Hutchinson, Kansas.
- FCC begins hearings on television policy; they continue until 2/1/60. The FCC also orders all broadcasting stations to report by January 1960 on "payola" practices.
- 12/8 LBJ addresses the Wichita Lions Club luncheon in Wichita, Kansas; attends a Chamber of Commerce banquet in Council Bluff, Iowa; and then spends the night at Iowa Governor's Mansion in Des Moines.
- 12/9 LBJ and Governor Loveless of Iowa hold a press conference this morning. LBJ then attends a combined service club luncheon in Des Moines.
- 12/10 LBJ attends a Democratic dinner in Phoenix, Arizona; returns to the Ranch 12/11.
- 12/13 LBJ attends a dinner in Wichita Falls.
- 12/14 LBJ addresses the Association of General Contractors Dinner in Austin.
- 12/15 LBJ attends a testimonial dinner in his honor in Fort Worth.
- 12/16 LBJ addresses the Houston Home Builders Association.
- Jim Wilson reports to LBJ on the progress of congressional hearings in South Texas on the proposed Padre Island National Park.
- 12/17 LBJ flies to Washington to address the Aero Club Dinner. In his speech LBJ criticizes the administration's "budget first" policy and the delays in the Saturn missile program. He emphasizes that the U.S. should be first in defense and space.

LBJ returns to the Ranch on 12/18 with Luci and Sam Houston.

12/19 In Paris, Eisenhower meets with Adenauer, de Gaulle and MacMillan. They reaffirm western commitment to Berlin and agree to summit talks with the U.S.S.R. in April 1960.

12/20 Senator Pete Williams is a guest at the Ranch, leaves 12/21.

12/21 LBJ meets with his district men at the Ranch today and tomorrow.

Reedy and Bill Lloyd write LBJ suggesting that he discontinue the publication of the newsletter immediately in order to avoid conflict in the eyes of voters with the newsletter from the Johnson for President clubs. LBJ disapproves the idea.

12/22 CTJ's birthday. Mr. and Mrs. Will Odom, the Busbys, Jenkins, Mrs. Oriole Bailey, Dr. and Mrs. Bailey, Kellams, Deasons, Woodward and Moursunds come to a birthday party at the Ranch that evening.

Morse announces his candidacy for the presidential nomination; he plans to enter the Oregon primary next year.

12/23 The Johnson for President Headquarters formally open in Austin, Texas at the Littlefield Building. Larry Blackmon is the executive director; Jake Jacobsen is co-director; Byron Skelton is chairman of the executive committee.

The Johnsons spend the day shopping in Austin, spend the night at the Driskill.

12/24 Lucia, Birge and Becky Alexander are at the Ranch for Christmas.

12/26 LBJ goes to Falfurrias, returns to the Ranch the next day.

Texas Headquarters for Lyndon Johnson for President open in Austin.

12/27 Susan Taylor and Sammy Johnson (Sam Houston's son?) are at the Ranch.

Nelson Rockefeller withdraws from the race for the Republican presidential nomination after a recent seven-state tour. His move implies that Nixon has the nomination locked up.

12/29 LBJ is in Sherman, Texas for a party for Rayburn in advance of his 78th birthday next January. Eisenhower, Monroney and Kerr also attend.

California Governor Pat Brown removes himself from serious consideration for the Democratic presidential nomination; he will be a favorite son candidate only.

- 12/30 Hubert Humphrey announces his candidacy for the presidency.
- 12/31 John Connally and his family are guests at the Ranch.