

CONVERSATION BETWEEN LBJ AND JACK ANDERSON (FROM ANDERSON)
JUNE 14, 1963

RE: TFX

^{LBJ:}
~~JA:~~ ...work. Been working on this Civil Rights thing -

JA: Say, uh, we've got a problem on this, uh, TFX thing. There's some people ^{been} coming to us with the, uh, ~~some~~ stories about Gromin, having a part. Now, ~~he~~, Gromin has supplied the airplanes for an awful lot of Democrats thru Mattie Matthews, and, uh, it's beginning to look kinda bad, and Drew wanted me to call, and talk to you. We, we, uh, talked ^{to}, or I personally talked to Zuckert. Now, now, uh, Liz ~~t~~ells me that you hadn't talked to him, but that he recalls you talking to him about the TFX, and I'm sure it must have been routine, but, ~~he~~ ^I, I just wanted to square that away. Do you recall that ever?

LBJ: I never talked to Zuckert deliberately, never talked to anybody about it. As ^a planned ^{thing}, a deliberate, because of such things as you're saying now.

JA: Yeah.

LBJ: And, uh, I thought it was rather cruel when ya'll said that the Air Force was saying that it ought to be named the LBJ instead of the TFX. Everybody that took up the question was saying.....

JA: No, ~~that~~ wasn't very nice, I agree...

LBJ: No, ~~and it wasn't very true~~ it wasn't, and it wasn't true, because I instructed all my people to do the same thing, and I did the same thing, and everybody from the state that talked to me. I told them that I couldn't discuss it with anybody ^{one}, although I had a perfect right to, but I didn't feel that way, because I had been in Washington and Kansas and ^{every} other states, and that I ~~was~~ Vice President of all of them, and they ought to

talk to their Congressman or their Senator.

JA: You don't recall....

LBJ: I didn't... I recall that I didn't - I recall that I ~~didn't~~ talked to LeMay,
 Anderson, Conally, Korth, or McNamara, or Gilpatric, that I, uh, I
 just made a rule not to, and I haven't.

JA: Not given to just ask the status?

LBJ: Not to - hell, no - I'm not concerned with the status of it. Why ^{should} I
 be called and asked ^{ing} the status of it? And, I'm positive that I didn't --
 at no time - or anybody in government - don't know anybody in government -
 nobody in government has talked to me about it.

JA: You don't know this guy - Ritaliada - he's ^{the} a fellow

LBJ: Never, never heard of him - never had a conversation in my life

JA: Well, I didn't mean to press, but, uh, Zuckert ^{had} and ~~Ted~~ said that you
 had asked 'em the status of it...

LBJ: I have not asked him the status of it at anytime in my life. He's got
 a very faulty memory if he has any such impression as that. I haven't
 talked to him about it, uh, I haven't talked to any of the rest of 'em
 about it, but I figure that anything that ^{was as} explosive as that, that the first
 thing they'd want to know, if I did talked to him; if I'd said "Good Mornin' "
 to him, ^{why} I'd be to blame.

JA: (Laugh)

LBJ: Because, I very honestly and strictly off the record, if you'll take it
 that way...

JA: Of course.

LBJ: The boys that investigated the Preparedness Committee, most of 'em

I hired, so they told me that the Colonels came up and told them that this ought to be called the LBJ instead of the TFX,

JA: Well,.....

LBJ: From the Air Force.

JA: Well, as you say, that wasn't nice.

LBJ: No, but you see, they're talking to my own peoples, so, uh, they didn't tell me that, they told one of my boys that I ought to know that that was ~~what~~ ^{being} the Air Force was ^{being} paid to do. And Drew told me one time that when President Eisenhower was coming back from Chicago from leadership meetin' of the Republican ~~National~~ Committee called ~~me~~ ^{him} and told ~~me~~ ^{him} that I had been riding the government plane, so that, that's what I think of ~~that~~ ^{the} Air Force,

JA: Yeah, well, uh,...

LBJ: And I think that this is pretty obvious that Mr. Zuckert would be sayin' that he'd, ~~that~~ ^{had} I'd been asking about the status of it, because he knows....

JA: Yeah, well in fairness, I don't know, I don't want to get him into trouble; and I told Liz that I ~~wasn't~~ didn't want to get him in trouble ...

LBJ: Yeah, but that's not ~~true~~, I wouldn't, I wouldn't - you're not getting ~~him~~ in trouble

JA: But, hu,

LBJ: I'm just saying that, uh,

JA: As soon as I asked him about several people, when I came to your name, I, uh, just said, "Well, uh, did you get a call from the Vice President?" He says, "Well, the Vice President asks me the status of it, once....."

LBJ: The Vice President never.....

JA: He was very innocent he said, ; he wasn't trying to implicate you.

LBJ: The Vice President never asked him or anybody else involved, and when I ^awas informed of the announcement—that the ~~cong~~ contract was being awarded, " I said, Thank you very much", ^{period} I didn't even open my mouth to a human being.

JA: Sure nuf,

LBJ: And, uh, you remember Tower announced some time before that they were going to, ~~uh~~, announce this thing, uh, uh, for political reasons and that kind of stuff, so I, uh, I, that was the very reason that I wouldn't do it. And it was a big issue, ^{you know} in the campaign in Texas. The Republicans were going to do all this with it in the conveyor.

JA:q Yeah, well, I didn't know that.

LBJ: Oh, ~~xxx~~ no.

JA: Well, it's, uh, Actually we've been on McNamara's side on this same thing Drew has, and so forth, but you know, when we get these things we ~~have~~ got to run them down.

LBJ: Well, as far ~~i~~ as I'm concerned, you'll find if you'll talk to every one of them, that I haven't not made one recommendation, have not checked the status of ~~it~~, and like the status of it, and haven't talked to anybody about it, ^{know nothing} ~~haven't talked~~ about the merits of it, uh, I have met the people I've seen the conveyor plan, but I know as little about ~~it~~ ^{am} as any business in my state, uh, I have no recommendation about 'em, I was interested in carrying Washington as I am in carrying Texas

JA: Sure you are.....

LBJ: And as ^{I am} interested in carrying New York as ^{Preparedness} Kansas, but I have just not felt ~~as~~ since I took over the ~~can~~ chairmanship of ~~this~~ Committee in '49, that any representation ^{should we} ~~that~~ be made by my office ^{on} ~~of~~ any contract ~~anyway~~ and never has been, although everybody would like to lay ~~it~~ it in your lap, and the reason they can't prove it, is cause you haven't done it

JA: Right.

LBJ: Donald Cook, who is my general counsel, wrote me a letter and said if you could investigate the Defense Departemtn, what you'll find is that when you get their tail ^{in the crack} ~~back~~, they'll come up and show some letter that you wrote 'em asking em to, uh, to consider something on its merits, and if you ask ^{em} them at all, it'll be used against you to let them out of some jam that you catch ^{em} in, if you ask 'em.

JA: Yeah...

LBJ: So, I just don't want you making any requests of 'em, and I've tried very scrupously to avoid it.

JA: Yeah, that was good advice. On the, on the -- if you've got one more

^{LBJ: Yeah,}
LBJ: minute, I'd like to ask you on this Civil Rights thing, can we help you on that? Now I heard that the Republicans were a little bit difficult ~~on that thing.~~ ^{This} on ~~that~~ thing.

LBJ: Well, I don't think that anyone knows yet what kind of bill the President and Attorney General and their people are trying to evolve the kind of bill that they want. It's a very-decision to make, it's a decision for him, uh, he wants to get the best bill he can; the attorney general wants to ^{the Attorney General wants the best bill he can get} get the best bill he can, but, uh, you, uh, it's a question of just what

you put in there, where you can get it, what committee it goes to,
~~in what~~ whether it's judiciary, or Interstate ^{foreign} commerce, or its education,
 it goes to Education and Labor, and if it's on the commerce- ^{clause} It goes
 to Interstate-Commerce, if they ~~split it up~~

JA: If they split it up...

LBJ: The judiciary, ^{it could} and there -- that means 4 or 5 committees, and that
 is a very difficult legislative problem -- on e that they'll have to kinda
 have to work out in Leadership -- Republicans nobody knows how many
 votes they'll get in the Rules Committee; they've got Eliot of Alabama,
 Trimble of Arkansas, and some of those ~~others~~, and Southern boys
 can't vote for it, so they'll have to get Republican votes....

JA: Well, I heard they're having trouble with -- (blur) ^{Byrd - ?}

LBJ: Somebody told me . . .

JA: Dirksen, is that so?

LBJ: Well, I don't think you can tell, uh, Dirksen has said the - what he
 said in the paper yesterday about what he said in meetings, that, uh,
 he wanted to evolve a bill, but he would have to see what ~~they~~ had
 take it up with his people, and ^{they} he'd have to, uh, decide, uh, how far
 they could go, and they have some bills introduced in the House, but
 uh, they're , they caucus at the appropriate legislation, and I don't
 think that they've determined yet what's appropriate, ~~and~~ until they
 see what the Administration wants. I think they want the President
 to recommend it first, and ^{then} they want to evaluate it, and ^{then} they want to
 have a ^{another} ~~little~~ conference on it, ~~some~~ some of 'em'll go to Javits, and some of
 'em'll go with Goldwater, uh,

JA: Are you going to play politics with this one?

LBJ: I don't know, I don't know, uh, you can't tell right ^{at} this stage, what's gonna evolve, it's uh, One thing, you've got to have all ^{that} Democ rats you can get plus roughly 25 Republicans. Uh, if you ~~pass~~ ^{now} the bill in the Senate, ~~and~~ that's pretty difficult to get 25 out of 33.

JA: Uh, huh.

LBJ: A good of many states - they're not, uh, --- Well, a state like Wyoming a state like Montana, a state like , uh, uh, some of 'em-Colorado, some of those states, they're not as concerned ~~as-a~~ ^{it} about ^{South} as New York, or South Carolina. You've got a problem. -- lYou've got a problem on each side of it, so - uh, that's kind of a gray area, but you've got to have practically all of them ,

JA: Uh huh,

LBJ: You've got to get 25 out of the 33 Republicans ,

JA: Well, uh,....

LBJ: And, uh, I don't know what they'll do in Rules Committee. I'm not trying to be elusive, but I just hadn't talked - I don't ^{even} know who the Republicans are on the Rules Committee. I thought Clarence Brown...

JA: I think that the leadership that you've shown on this is going to go down in histroy, this is obviously history in the making - this , this whole issue ^{now} the way that its ~~gotten~~ gone, and you've been ^{right} in the forefront, and I think that its, ^{uh} this, this, is the time when you're proving your leadership, and uh, I just want to congratulate ^{on it.} you. I think that ^{we} you ought to be in there helping you.

LBJ: Well, ^{you} uh,

JA: If we can, you let us know how, *hear?*

LBJ: Thank you, thank you, Jack

JA: It's pretty nice of ya to call, ~~and~~ I appreciate it .

LBJ: Well, I've been down talking to the Elderly Citizens now, and uh, *like you,*
the Senior Citizen thing ~~beforehand~~, and I've talked to the Junior Citizens,
and I'll guess ~~on~~ I'll go on home and talk to my daughters

JA: (Laugh...)

LBJ: (Laugh)

JA: Wonderful, and I thank you *ever* so much.

LBJ: Thank you , Jack.

JA: Goodnight.

CONVERSATION BETWEEN MR. JOHNSON AND ROY WILKIN'S SECRETARY,
MRS. SMITH 6-19-63

LBJ: Mrs. Smith?

MS: Yes?

LBJ: This is Lyndon Johnson, the Vice President. I got a wire from Mr. Wilkins this afternoon that was sent to me yesterday afternoon. I was on my way back from Tokyo. It asked that the President's Committee take notice of discrimination among some of the contractors on buildings projects in New York. I tried to reach him, and they said that he was here. I tried to reach him at his office here, and I missed him. I am going into the hospital tonight, and I will not be available for tomorrow or the next day. I have called the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, the Secretary of Labor, Mr. Wirtz, . I have asked Mr. Wirtz to contact Mr. Wilkins. And if you will, please ask Mr. Wilkins to give Secretary Wirtz a ring tomorrow sometime to review for him whatever the complaints so that he can bring them to the attention of the appropriate ~~an~~ investigators in the Committee.

MS: Yes, I will.

LBJ: And I sure do thank *you,* and explain to him *MS: you're quite welcome* ~~an~~ my problem, I don't want him to say anything about it, because I don't want to get a lot of publicity about it. I'm going in for my checkup. Had a little problem while I was in Rome; just got back, so I wanted him to know thought that I had handled this personally, and had the Secretary of Labor up in my office this afternoon, and he is now, I gather Mr. Wilkins referring to the Wrold's Fair Project that we talked about before, and the Præsident has asked ~~now~~ the Secretary of Labor to get in all those

building unions and talk to them, and he is now in the process of doing that, and you tell Mr. Wilkins that he is, but Mr. Wilkins that any further representations that he wants to make, that the Secretary will receive them for him, and will act from them, and has full authority from me ^{and the President} to do so.

MS: Allright, I'll do so.

LBJ: Thank you, ma'am.

MS: You're welcome.

CONVERSATION BETWEEN JUANITA ROBERTS AND GOV. ROSELLINI
7-16-63, 2:10 pm

Gov. Mrs. Roberts?

MJDR: Yes sir.

GOV. How are you?

MJDR: Just fine sir.

GOV. Say, I talked to the Vice President Friday when I was at the luncheon at the White House. He indicated an interest possibly in coming down to our National Governors' Conference and then I talk to....I didn't get the fellow's name that called me later... I was in Sen. Magnuson's office ... from your office.

MJDR: Could it have been Walter Jenkins?

GOV: Yes, I think it was. We discussed at that time that the Vice President would come down either representing the President for our State dinner or in some other capacity. We'd like to have him come down. I don't know if the White House called your office yet, they told me they would yesterday. We'd like to have him come down as the principal speaker for the State dinner on Tuesday night, -- the 23rd.

MJDR: All right sir.

GOV: Of course, following the banquet there is the formal black tie banquet. ... I'll put this in writing, of course.... there is a ball, a dance, for the Governors and their ladies, and naturally we'd be delighted if Mrs. Johnson by a-c any chance could attend also.

MJDR: Think she's sort of out of pocket for a couple of weeks. But I want to pass this on, of course. And that will be now for the 23rd? Mr. Governor, are you back at home base?

GOV: Yes, I'm back here, but I will be leaving for Miami tomorrow. But I will be here the rest of the day and tomorrow morning, but the office, of course, back there is very anxious to firm up the schedule back there.

MJDR: Yes, Sir. Now can you give me the name of anyone to call in the event you are not within telephone reach?

GOV: Yes. Mr. Bishop of my office -- Warren Bishop.

MJDR: Yes sir. And is there a particular telephone number to make it easier?

GOV: Yes, 753-6778, Olympia.

MJDR: All right sir, and then through him you could be reached, if the Vice President had need of talking with you.

GOV: This is true.

MJDR: Let me pass this along to him. He isn't here in the office now and I doubt I will be in touch with him for a couple -- may be three hours -- but let me get this to him.

GOV: This is the State Dinner. He spoke to the State Dinner of the conference in Hawaii two years ago and will be a similar affair where all the governors of the country of course will be.

MJDR: Yes sir.

GOV: They are very anxious to get word. He did indicate the other day, but I probably should make a further confirmation, should we not?

MJDR: Well sir, let me pass this along. I'm sure that Mr. Jenkins or I will be in touch with you shortly.

GOV: Oh fine, if you could, I'd appreciate it very much. I'll be hereof course, our time is 11:15 here, your Washington time....

MJDR: We are 2:15.

GOV: Well, I'll be here until at least 6 or 7 our time.

MJDR: All right sir. That ought to give us some time.

GOV: Thank you very much.

MJDR: You're welcome, Mr. Governor

July 17, 1963
Gov. Rosellini of Washington State calling MJDR.

GOV: Hello?

MJDR: Hello Mr. Governor, this is Juanita Roberts.

GOV: Oh yes, Mrs. Roberts, are we having any luck?

MJDR: The Vice President had conversation with Mr. Ken O'Donnell at the White House and Mr. Ken O'Donnell was to call you. He has not yet called?

GOV: No, I haven't heard from him and the office is -- the programs, you know

MJDR: Perhaps I could transfer you to Mr. O'Donnell.

GOV: Why don't we try to do that?

MJDR: All right fine. Now Mr. Johnson is expecting to go down. Will go down either Monday or Tuesday. He thinks the President is not going, but that - both things, whether the President is or isn't and whether or not Mr. Johnson should go is something for Mr. O'Donnell to pass along to you. But, Mr. Johnson can arrange, he thinks to get down and to go down either on Monday or Tuesday.

GOV: I see, fine. Well then, that would be fine because our State Dinner where we need to have one of them, of course, is Tuesday night

MJDR: Yes Sir, but let me see, Mr. Governor, if I can transfer you to Mr. O'Donnell.

GOV: I'll just hold on. Thank you very much for your trouble.

OPERATOR : Operator.

MJDR: Operator, will you transfer Gov. Rosellini to the White House.

OPERATOR: I can't transfer . They will have to call NA 8 1414. I can't connect them here.

MJDR: Mr. Governor, did you hear that?

GOV: Why don't I call and check with Ken O'Donnell?

MJDR ALL Right

GOV: Thank you very much for all your trouble.

MJDR: Yes Sir you are welcome .

WIDE: Yes Sir, I am very sorry.

COL: I am very sorry for you.



WIDE: Yes Sir.

COL: Mr. [Name], OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

WIDE: Mr. [Name], I am very sorry.

WIDE: Yes Sir.

OBSERVATION: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: Observation, I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

OBSERVATION: Observation.

COL: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: Yes Sir.

WIDE: Yes Sir, I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

COL: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

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COL: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: Yes Sir.

COL: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: Yes Sir.

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COL: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

COL: I am very sorry for you.

COL: I am very sorry for you. I am very sorry for you.

WIDE: Yes Sir.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1963

CONVERSATION -- THE VICE PRESIDENT AND DREW PEARSON

DP : Welcome home from a very fine trip.

LBJ: Well, same to you. By gosh, it looks to me that you've got the two nations together now and you are on the road to peace. I am going to salute and give you and Mrs. Meyer a medal the first thing you know.

DP: We would love to see you when you get back from Texas. I read some very good speeches of yours -- they were covered not as well as they should be, but as far as I could gather they were damn good speeches.

LBJ: Well, we had an awfully good press over there; I don't know what we had here, but it was exceptionally good there and I don't think it could have been more successful.

DP: The New York Times took a few little pot shots at you, that was the only thing I saw.

LBJ: They do once in a while; they had one of the damn boys said I was tired, and I was sick, and I was cancelling my schedule.

DP: We were worried about that.

LBJ: That wasn't true, what happened is, Drew --- this is off the record -- but these damn military people, everything you do, every place I went, they had me on ships. And their idea is to go out there and let 300 kids stand at attention for an hour and a half while you march up and down the gangplank, go up and down those damn stairs that will kill anybody, a heart man has no business climbing stairs anyway; go see the Admiral's bunk, see where he keeps his headquarters, etc., and after I did it in Sweden and after I did it in Finland, and after I did it in Norway, when I got to Denmark, I said by God I didn't come over here to be a ship inspector, and I wouldn't do that when I was on the Naval Affairs Committee and just a kid, if I wanted to look at a bunch of old gray battleships I'd go to the Brooklyn Navy Yard -- I came over here to see people and I am not going to another damn ship, so that cancelled out the Danish ship they wanted me to go see -- they ran out of American ships -- they had so damn many of them, and Lady Bird would go to see them and I didn't and then they wrote that I was cancelling my schedule and the only reason that I would cancel that schedule was that I was tired, so I just spent the time I was supposed to go on a ship out on the streets, shaking hands with people and talking to them and trying to get their ideas about --- all of them wanted to talk about peace, that's all they want to talk about.

DP: Yes sir, that's what I found out.

LBJ: And when you tell them that we have to remain strong, we can't let down our arms, our guard, but we have made some progress and we have got to have the test ban treaty, and nobody thought we could get that, but that is a step in the right direction, and after we get that and the Senate ratifies it, which it will, then we will try something else, and we will take a piece at a time, we're going to be patient, we're going to be cautious, we're going to be careful, but they can have faith in us, we don't court any territory, we don't covet any land, we want allies, we don't want colonies, we want friends, we don't want satellites, and if you want to be neutral that's your business. We're not over here trying to tell you -- we really approve your neutrality policy -- we told Sweden that and it had a hell of a good ring, and I talked to them about trade and space and what's happening there, how the world's not going to be run necessarily by the most populated nation, it's going to be run by those that have skill and brains and what we are doing in space is going to be of great benefit to them. And I went out to factories with them and I thought it was very good.

DP: Well, that's what I heard. When are you coming back from Texas?

LBJ: I'll try to be back Friday night or early Saturday morning. But then they have got a murderous schedule for me Saturday and Sunday in Ohio and then I'll be back here Sunday night. I want to be here Monday.

DP: Why don't you rest a bit?

LBJ: Well, the President wanted me to go to Ohio for Wayne Hays and some other folks and Steve Smith wanted me to go out there so I've got these two days and I've got to go to Cleveland to that big roast they give there every year, they have 40 or 50,000 people and I've got to go to Wayne Hays' District, and I've got to go to Toledo, so I've got two days of rough scheduling Saturday and Sunday, and Bird's got all the home demonstration women and everything in Texas and I've got a couple of meetings there. We want to try to get the poll tax repealed.

DP: I called up Liz on a thing -- you remember when the Tennessee school house was bombed?

LBJ: Yes.

DP: And you were very helpful and advised me on that. I am reviving that same committee with Luther Hodges and Orville Freeman, and John F. Kennedy was on that other committee, to help out on this Birmingham church, and I wondered whether you'd like to be honorary president.

LBJ: Well, I don't know whether that's the thing to do or not -- I think that we ought to do everything we can to help them; I don't know whether I ought to be the -- let me check it and call you back before the day is over.

DP: Well, if you don't want to be honorary president we will just make you a member.

LBJ: Let me see.

DP: But I think this is something the whole country is roused about.

LBJ: Oh, no question about it and I thought the article in the New York Times yesterday by that young man was just out of this world -- did you read that speech?

DP: No, I missed that.

LBJ: Well, if you haven't read it you'd better get it right now. Its in the New York Times of yesterday morning and it is the most effective speech I ever heard a young man make -- in Birmingham -- similar to the article on the front page of the Star yesterday afternoon. I want to do anything I can to help you with it and I will. Now the question is -- I wonder -- did you say the President is going on the committee?

DP: Pierre Salinger yesterday said he thought he would.

LBJ: I've had some discussions with him and you know Lady Bird and Mrs. Kennedy have had some discussions so I just want to clear it and to be sure it is all right. I'll have Liz get back in touch with you.

DP: He was on the committee before, and Hodges and Freeman have kept a lot of other people along that line.

LBJ: I will help you in any event, its a question of what part I do, but I'll do anything I can to help you and I think it's a good idea and good move, and I think it's disasterous --

DP: Well, you have been so courageous about this and I thought it was down your alley.

LBJ: Well, I'll do anything I can to help you.

DP: FINE.

LBJ: Bye

DP: Thank you.

NOTES ON
TELEPHONE CONVERSATION
VICE PRESIDENT TO ABE FORTAS
10-18-63
LBJ Ranch, Texas
10:15 am

VP They are kind of upset. Told him you were acting to be helpful to him -- at request. He had asked you to evaluate it. I told him you were concerned about this fellow's permanent attitude. I told him you had a lot of people discussing ~~thing-si-wha~~ things with you. You were looking at the big picture, the deceased involvement, etc. that you just probably had more cards to look at. Your man maybe had more cards than some of these juniors realize. You were more cautious than some of them.

I know you had some discussions about a neighbor of ours and some conversations he had had about a lot of things. You thought it would be better to write out a bank deposit than ~~wright~~ write out this. He (the president) didn't know who the general counsel was -- said he had to find out about him. Has great confidence in Katzenbach, and I told him that if I were him I would get these two fellows (Katzenbach and Fortas) together to handle this bottle of worms.

I said somebody over there was putting out leaks. He couldn't understand where it was coming from. He said nobody over there could be letting out the letters. Nobody out to get him, and I told ~~them~~ they him they were letting them out on me.

Fortas Between you and me, I don't know who it is, but I know it's coming from inside.

VP I would point that out to Katzenbach and this other thing -- that you are looking at a good many cards and you know that it has to come from inside. They are trading horses for rabbits. I would get prepared for the meeting with Katzenbach. Would tell him that you have a good many things in that you are not in a position to go into. This fellow no longer there. This fellow was down for a visit at his ranch and was making reports to your people. You can see this whole thing and you think the two of you can form some kind of defense. Tell him that all the leaders have given confidence. They have got to recognize that while these stories about full blown studies are put out, the other side is giving comfort.

Fortas Have tried to reach Nick. his secretary says he's not there, but is due back any minute. I thought -- in desperation -- I ought to reach his boss. All I want to do is to register the fact that I have tried. I don't think Nick is ducking me.

Here's my problem. The revised draft of the release is on its way over now. The release has got to hit at 3:00. I told Korth I would cancel my plans to leave here at 1:00 -- its caused a domestic crisis -- for the weekend. ~~What~~ do you think. I would like to get out of ~~there~~ here. We're going to Westport.

VP That town is pretty much shambles without you. It would be hard for me to recommend your leaving. I would call Clark and tell him that you were looking at a good many cards, and he ought to be talking to his southwestern clients. A man's judgement is no better than his information. They don't have the information about ~~his~~ ^{the} conversations that you know about. They are just dealing with the doorkeeper.

Fortas On that part, it can certainly wait.

VP Don't want to leave your fellow defenseless. You know that in these conversations the House Majority Leader was involved in this. -- You know you told ~~me~~ ^{me} about a reputed conversation this morning between the deceased and the big people, well they went in a delegation over to Defense. That is in the record. Albert is a pretty prominent man.

Fortas I know that. I know his involvement.

VP I think I would call the White House board and just ~~the~~ tell them you are going to have to leave town at 1:00, and it has been suggested to you that the President ~~d~~ wanted to ~~talk to~~ - you to talk to Katzenbach, and leave word you called.

Fortas Thank you.

ROUGH NOTES ON
TELEPHONE CONVERSATION
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENT
10-18-63
9:45 am
LBJ Ranch, Texas

VP He said he was in agreement with two topmen in the defense department on procedure. Release all the letters at 3:00 today. This is essential to counteract the vile and preposterous stories that the newspaper boys had. He said he was irascible but not at anybody in the administration, you or Korth or any of his people or McNamara or Gilpatric. He thought he was serving the administration, but thought we were acting unwisely. Thought the letters were being leaked by the administration itself..

P I don't believe that, Lyndon. You mean, McNamara and Gilpatric.

VP Says he has irrefutable proof that the administration....

P What does he mean by that?

VP He thinks it is murder to the administration. Has heard a good many sides of it. Says a man attempted to intimidate him -- now he knows what it's like behind the Iron Curtain. Talked to Gilpatric and McNamara. They apparently agree with the procedure that he is following. Talked to them about 8:30 this morning. Said Korth is a sick man, and has a good many cards in his own hand. But he's loyal and wants to be fair about it. Just summarizing: The General Counsel is not very tactful. This man is not angry. He thinks he is performing a service for you and Gilpatric. Gilpatric has asked for counsel and he has done it. Thinks it will go back to some deceased senators

P I don't know whether you saw the letters.

VP I read them hurriedly that afternoon. I was shocked. The letters are bad. That's not what will hurt. It will go into other subjects.

P The problem is that we didn't have the letters or they hadn't been written. They ~~had~~ may have felt Korth shouldn't have resigned. Is it his best judgement that Korth should have a conference and release the letters?

VP No, he has written a statement which releases all these letters.

P Does he think it's the best thing to do. I don't think anybody is trying to get him to release any letters.

VP I didn't ask him that, Mr. President. He just told me they had agreed on this procedure. He has a great deal of affection for Katzenbach -- he trusts him. I would suggest this, I know nothing about, but I assume Gilpatric is a wise man. The man I talked to is very concerned that we ourselves are pumping this up. Get Katzenbach to sit down with him and ~~figure this~~ figure this thing out.

P I think anybody in the administration who would be putting it out would be insane. We shouldn't use the word "the administration" because that sounds like approval from here or McNamara, and that's not so.

VP I think he approves of what McNamara is doing and also Gilpatric. He is very incensed about this attempted intimidation.

P I don't even know who the General Counsel is.

VP I would say you are dealing with a person ~~is~~/ who is very close and very friendly to the administration. Turn it over to Katzenbach and tell Katzenbach to keep you informed. I'll cooperate in any way.

Pq Thanks you.

ROUGH EXCERPT NOTES
TELEPHONE CONVERSATION
VICE PRESIDENT TO ABE FORTAS
10-18-63
LBJ Ranch, Texas
8:35 am

Mr. Fortas said that the release of the statement will counteract primarily the vile and preposterous stories that the newspaper boys are going to write (about 10,000 letters and about connecting it with official business). This was not what the Defense Department wanted, they came back to him with it last night. The General Counsel came over at a dinner party, brought out the same documents, then went over to see my client, and called me over there. It was after midnight when we finished, now I know what it's like behind the iron curtain. But as of the moment the head of the Department and next in command are in agreement with the procedure.

Thinks the protegee business is covered. They understand he was brought in by Gilpatric. They've been told that. It is wise to say these things in the release. Say that he was formerly employed by Gilpatric in Army, and then gave the Navy dedicated service.

There will be no press conference, but the release scheduled at 3:00 if they can get it done.

They're getting stories from Committee, but also from somewhere else.

I don't know if Clark is in agreement with what I'm doing. Yes, I'm irascible about it, but I would like to put this guy behind bars for attempted intimidation.

McNamara and Gilpatric okayed the procedure. Talked to Gilpatric about 8:30 this morning. Talked with Korth -- McNamara said the same thing to him. Have let them know that Korth has some cards of his own.

The Vice President summarized by saying something to this effect, *"I think I should say that these letters are going to be released at 3:00 and it's your understanding that it's agreed upon by the top men in Defense. And that you've also informed Clark and as far as you know he had no objection. I think if you could keep that relationship with Katzenbach and show him how reasonable and how just he is... If you don't mind you just mind call Katzenbach and tell him that it's been suggested that you call him and keep him informed of procedure and reiterate that it has been suggested by the summit almost that you talk to him -- don't say that because they don't want that known --

-2-

and tell him what you're doing. That you have two or three alternatives that this man has some cards and they're some mean ones, and that you're trying to do the best you can -- this is the lesser of the ~~evils~~ -- evils.

ROUGH NOT\$S
ON CONVERSATION BETWEEN
THE PRESIDENT — TO THE VICE PRESIDENT
10-18-63
7:45 am
LBJ Ranch, Texas

P Lyndon?

VP Yes, Mr. President.

P Did I wake you up?

VP There is some tension here between Abe Fortas and Fred Korth on the one hand and the Defense Department on the other. And in addition, these stories are being put out by the Committee staff and everybody got a piece of them -- they don't have the letters, but they've got -- the Star is about to print, etc. Now, commanding Abe Fortas who didn't think Korth should resign is irascible with McNamara, etc., so that their relationship is not very good. Now the thought is that due to the fact the Star is evidently going to print something tied to TFX which is the sore and maybe make it worse, the thought of Fred having a conference with and put the letters out or at least some of them to show the sort of same thing -- he resigned on his own.

It's difficult to have a contact with. . . . I just want to be sure that what they're doing given the circumstances is the best thing. I don't want to talk to Abe, because I don't know Abe, and evidently Abe is sore. Fred Maybe sore, and one thing you don't want -- Korth to be sore at us. He can be sore at the Defense Department, but we don't want, I don't want him to think in anyway I gave him the brush, so I don't want to talk to Fortas myself because I don't know at what point that might be used. I thought you had better take a look at what they're planning to do and see whaty they're plans are because if they're going to have a press conference we want to be sure that it's done in the interest the best it can under the circumstances .

VP Fine. Korth called me the day after you had talked to me about it. May be I made a mistake. Wanting to come to see me. I told him I thought maybe I better not discuss it because I just didn't think that was a wise thing to do, and suggest4d that he go ahead and follow Gilpatric's suggestion and talk to Fortas.

P Well, he may be mad at you, he lmay have wanted to stay, but that ~~position~~ ^{decision} is made for better or for worse, now the problem is to make the situation as good as it can be. k

- Pq Without making it look as if I've talked to you, you can say that you've heard these reports -- the press -- or maybe your office has been called about them, have been calling everybody..
- VP You think the thing I ought to do is talk to Fortas and find out what his strategy is?
- P Yes, what Abe's strategy is. Now as I understand it there has been real tension over there, Bob McNamara tells me, between McNamara and Fortas. Now I understand Fortas agrees something should be said. The question is what they're going to say and how they're going to handle it. I think we should be sure it's done as well as possible, on the other hand I don't like to get into this point myself.
- VP Who do you think would be best for Fortas to talk to within the Administration?
- P Well, I think he can....after you've talked to him and you find out his attitude, and is reasonable, then I think he can always talk to Clark.. Clifford, and if the two of them come to an agreement, I think that's good enough for us -- and maybe Nick Katzenbach -- he's been in touch with Nick, I think.
- VP All right. I-A. O.K. My judgement is -- Fortas told me he got into this because Gilpatric asked him to and that he was terrifically fearful. He thought it was very dangerous on our part on account of the TFX, and he felt very deeply but I didn't think he felt it was counsel or anything, he felt as consultant, and he just thought ~~were~~ we were handling it unwisely.
- P That may be true, but now that's done. So my guess is that with that Committee with those letters it was going to come out anyhow. It's just a question of where it comes out with Fred Korth or hold on in the Navy or where it comes out
- VPq Is there any guidance we should give him, I mean....
- P First find out what they're going to do. They you and I can talk. k/ Then you can come back to him.
- VP All right. Fine thank you.

COPY

August 1, 1963

The Vice President
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

I enclose a copy of Senate Resolution 168 agreed to by the Senate on July 11, 1963, which authorizes the Presiding Officer of the Senate to appoint four Senators to attend the next meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

This resolution is similar to the customary measure which each year provides for Senatorial attendance at these useful meetings.

The Kuala Lumpur conference has been set for November 4-11, 1963. While this is somewhat far ahead, in order to arrange transportation and other facilities, it will be necessary to name the delegation as early as possible.

of course, I know that some of the Foreign Relations Committee members may wish to be considered for appointment on the delegation. I will be glad to assist in any way I can, see that my staff provides necessary assistance to the Delegation.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Fulbright
Chairman

Mr. Johnson named
Senators Fulbright
Bartlette
Hugh Scott
Hiram Fong

The story that appeared in the Houston Chronicle amazed me. There is not a scintilla of truth in it. I have not even seen Mr. Shivers in a number of years. I have not sent any emissaries to him for any purpose whatsoever. I have absolutely no plans to intervene in any way in the 1964 Senate Primary in Texas and I have not done so.

What really saddens me, however, is that no one checked this story with me before it was written. The story is absolutely untrue. Now I am placed in a position of having to deny it and therefore give it greater circulation. It seems to me I should have had this opportunity in advance so that whoever wrote the story and whoever decided that it should appear could at least weigh the facts and decide whether an untruth would be carried in the newspaper.

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October 29, 1963

Transcript of conversation between the President and the Vice President - The Capitol - 12:15 pm. President originated the call.

Mr. Johnson: Hello

Operator: Mr. Vice President?

Mr. Johnson: Yes mam.

Operator: Thank you. The President, Sir.

Operator: (After three seconds waiting)
I'm sorry to keep you waiting, Sir.

President: Hello

Mr. Johnson: Yes Sir.

President: Did you hear about the Committee?

Mr. Johnson: Yes Sir.

President: That was good, wasn't it?

Mr. Johnson: Yes Sir. I congratulated you down there at the White House. I'm mighty proud of you. I thought you did a wonderful job the other afternoon the first day with Halleck and them.

President: They got it out 20 to 14. I thought, for your...you know, that one of the things, in case we're getting any heat from the Civil Rights advocates is the fact that every one of the Southerners but one, voted for the _____ amendment.

Mr. Johnson: That's ...that's what we ought to just pour it to them... all the time.
Thank you, my friend.

#

October 29, 1963

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**RESUME OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MRS.
PHILIP GRAHAM AND THE VICE PRESIDENT**

Mrs. G: Hi, Lyndon. You caught me in the middle of the hair dresser. What I really want to do is to come to see you.

LBJ: I am going to leave tonight to attend Senator Connally's funeral. I will be back here on Friday and then I leave for Europe.

Mrs. G: When will you be there? I had planned to go down to the farm on Friday and to come into Washington on Monday, but you won't be there then, will you? When will you come back?

LBJ: It would depend on developments. I am going to Texas. Bird is in California and we will meet in Texas probably and then we will come back here. We would probably come back Friday afternoon or Saturday.

Mrs. G: Lyndon, you know what I want to talk to you about and I want to come to see you whenever you are going to be there.

X LBJ: You are sweet dear. I will call you when I get back. I will tell you what I will do--I will have my secretary call you at the farm when we get back. I will be able to tell you then what my schedule is.

Mrs. G: What I did plan to do was to be down at the farm over the weekend. I was planning on coming back on Monday, but I can just not go to the farm.

LBJ: Oh, I wouldn't do that. I will drive down to the farm to see you.

Mrs. G: Nonsense, Lyndon. I will give up the farm. You know we just want to talk in general. You know we have been terribly worried about this job we have to do.

LBJ: You are mighty sweet.

Mrs. G: Lyndon, I will drive up from the farm on Saturday and then drive back again.

LBJ: I don't want you to do this.

Mrs. G: You just forget about me. I want to see you.
Do you have any objection to my bringing our friend along?

LBJ: Of course not, you can bring whoever you want to.
You know you have me just as close as you want me at any time.

Mrs. G: It was good of you to call and I appreciate it.

ms

October 29, 1963

Conversation between Mrs. Juanita Roberts and Mrs. Philip Graham (Kay)
Calling from New York - 4:30pm

MJDR: Hello.

Mrs. G: What I wanted to do was come and see him sometime uh, Kay, my Kay said he was going to the airport. Is he going to leave town awhile?

MJDR: You know, Senator Connally died.

Mrs. G: Oh, of course, he's going to the funeral, isn't he?

MJDR: Yes, uh huh.

Mrs. G: So, when will he be back?

MJDR: This, I'm not sure of, Mrs. Graham. You know he's scheduled to depart here, from Washington, for that Benelux trip. I've got departure scheduled for Sunday -- coming -- and he'll not be back from that until the next Sunday. Now, I don't know whether he's going to get back to Washington.

Mrs. G: Well, will you tell him that I did want to see him sometime, but I do understand that his schedule is that crowded, and if he can, well perhaps, he can call me back.

MJDR: Now then, let me ask you this. Could he call you from the funeral -- from Texas?

Mrs. G: I -- well, I just don't think I can do it on the phone.

MJDR: You don't?

Mrs. G: Well, I could at least talk to him. Yes.

MJDR: Could he call you -- would you like to give me any other numbers other than the Plaza 2-1500.

Mrs. G: Well, I'll tell you what my schedule is. I'm going to be here and I'm staying at the Regency tonight and I go back about 4:30 tomorrow to Washington.

MJDR: Oh, you do.

Mrs. G: And, I'll be there. At my house - and that's ADams 4-6462. I'll be at the Post during the day. And, on the weekend I'll

be at the farm, but he can always get me on the phone by calling the Post and they'll put him through.

MJDR: All right, I'll certainly do my best to get this word to him.

Mrs. G: Well, it isn't a great fire. I really just wanted to have a chat about a matter.

MJDR: Yes, all right.

Mrs. G: And, I did want to go see him but I can see it's impossible.

MJDR: Well, no, I wouldn't say that because I personally just happen not to know what his plans are about returning here from the funeral.

Mrs. G: Yes.

MJDR: And, for this reason, I can't offer any time suggestion

Mrs. G: Oh, I can see that.

MJDR: But, uh...

Mrs. G: Well, will you tell him I called?

MJDR: I surely will.

Mrs. G: All right.

MJDR: We'll be back in touch

Mrs. G: Thanks a lot.

MJDR: You're welcomed. Bye..

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CONVERSATION WITH DICK GOODWIN, WHITE HOUSE

Johnson: Lyndon Johnson

Goodwin: Hello, Mr. Vice President, this is Dick Goodwin, over at the White House. I tell you the President has been calling me just about every morning about this Executive Order and wants to know when I -- when we -- can get it out, and I was wondering what your schedule was.

Johnson: He can get it out any time he wants to. I told him when I talked to him the other day what I was trying to do about it, and if I am going to get out one, I will have to get it out in my own way and that's what I am trying to get it to him where I can recommend it.

Johnson: I submitted it to him the other day. Apparently, you all didn't know about the conversation. I don't know why he doesn't ask me about these things. I saw him Saturday all morning, and he didn't mention it. What I have to do. I have to get the thing in shape where I think he would be justified in signing it, and I can't do it if I am answering Bill Moyer and you and all the folks about his calling every morning about it. If he is ready to sign one, he can go ahead and do it.

If he wants me to prepare one that meets with his approval, then I'll do that and I'll do that just as quickly as I can. I have Frank McCollum coming this afternoon. I want to see . . . we have a big loophole in it and I want to see that there is not something National Labor Relations Board can do to say to these unions that we won't receive your complaints if you don't employ Negroes. If you are going to discriminate, then you are not to be in good grace with us. Now that's the first thing we are exploring. I ask Bobby Saturday night when I could get with him about the contractors fighting with the unions and what might come out of it.

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Now that's going to take a little time. If they want to issue it . . . somebody told me that you had asked Mr. Kazenback to draft one, and I told them that was fine with me. I think it would be better if someone else did it, but since he has asked me to do it, I am trying my best to do it.

Woodwin: No, the order that he drafted was the draft that was prepared for you. That's the only one that was drafted.

Johnson: Yes, I had that done by my people that I called in from up here and out in private, and I just asked him to review it, as I have asked Frank McCollum and some of these others folks that I want to go into it, but . . . before I put it on the President's desk.

Goodwin: That's right. Well, the only order that Katzenback drafted was your order on the basis of . . . he drafted a review on the basis of your order, and then Abe Fortas and the others, and we went over it with him and he made some changes, then submitted it back to you. And that's the only order that he has been asked to do.

Johnson: Well, you say this to the President. If the President is ready to sign it, that's fine by me and I'm anxious to get it out just as quick as I can. I'm not prepared to ask him to sign this one at the moment and the moment I am, I will put it on his desk. And if he wants to discuss it with me, I am available any time he wants to. I spent all Saturday morning with him, and he didn't mention it.

Goodwin: No, he definitely wants your approval and everything on it. The only thing we were wondering about was when you were going to be ready, we could set up an inter-departmental meeting with you and maybe Arthur Goldberg and Bobby, and finally all three of you, it was fine. Then we would go ahead and issue it.

Johnson: Well, I'll be glad to tell you just as soon as I get it in that position, and if he wants to go ahead on the basis of what he has with you all, that's perfectly

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Goodwin: Oh, no, I'm sure he wants to wait for your final recommendation.

Johnson: I don't want him asking you every morning if it's bothering you because he hasn't mentioned it to me and I have got it drafted and brought it up and I thought . . you have an order, you know, in effect.

Goodwin: That's right.

Johnson: What we are trying to do is to make more workable and more effective, and we don't think it has produced much results in eight years. But I can't. .

Goodwin: it is a real forward step that could be made . .

Johnson: It's got some things you could drive a wagon through too. People have pointed out to us. And I don't know to. .

Goodwin: The President, whenever he reads a civil rights story in the newspaper in the morning, he picks up the telephone and finds out what he is doing.

Johnson: You just say to him then that

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