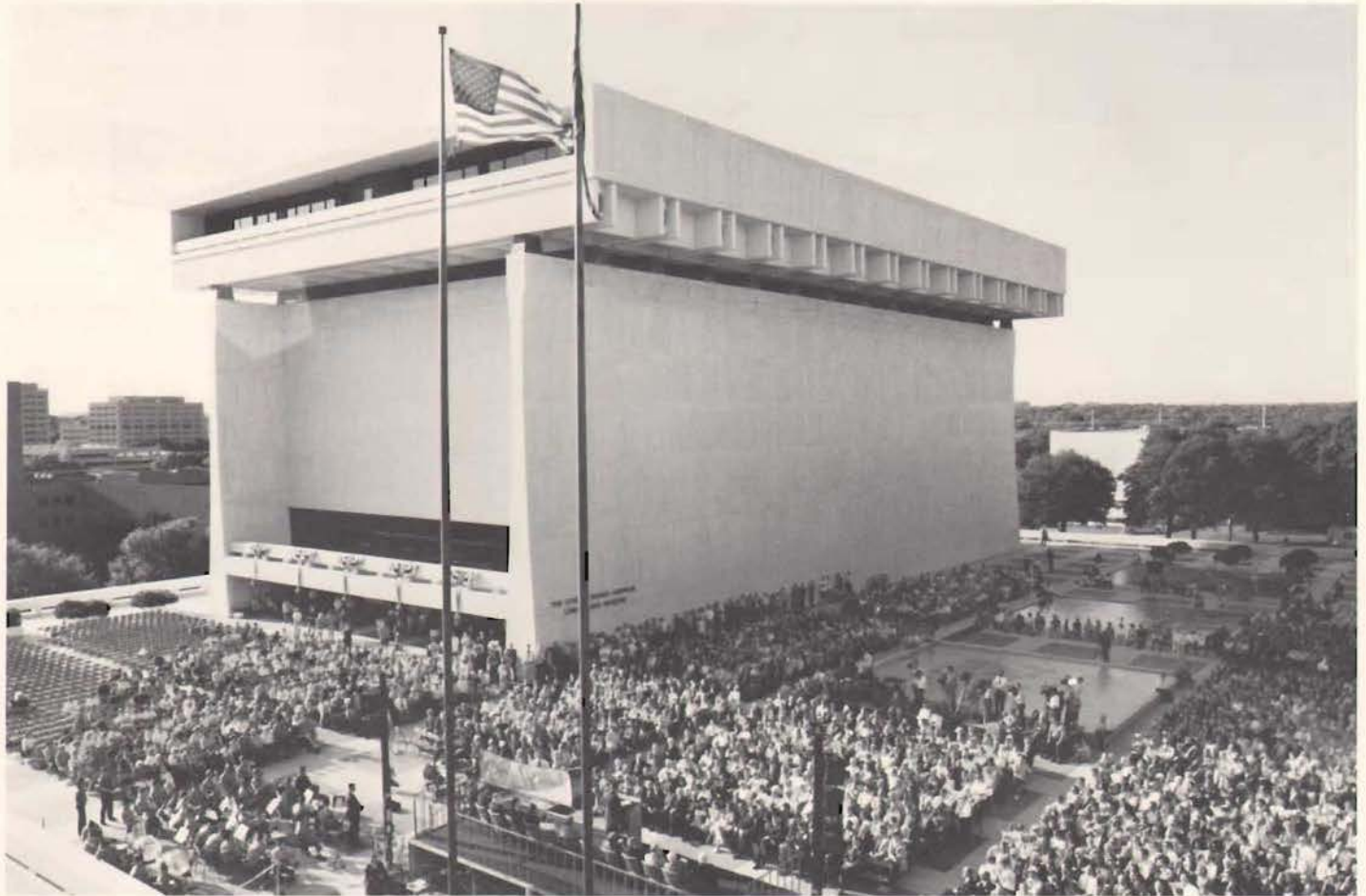


AMONG FRIENDS *of LBJ*

Issue Number LIII July 1, 1992



Chief of Staff Opens World War II Exhibit

Some 3,000 persons crowded onto the plaza outside the Library on April 21 to hear General Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, inaugurate the most ambitious exhibition ever executed by the Library's museum staff: a documentation, in poignant letters, rare memorabilia, priceless historical documents and art, of the greatest war ever fought.

Titled "World War II: Personal Accounts Pearl Harbor to V-J Day," the exhibit—which General Powell called "America on display"—was commissioned by the National Archives. After it leaves the LBJ Library on August 31, it will travel to

the other Presidential Libraries, ending up at the Archives building in Washington, D.C. for the 50th anniversary of the end of the war with Japan.

The items on display, said General Powell, who toured the exhibit before the plaza ceremony, "open a wide window on America, and through that wide window we see laid bare for us the tears, the heartaches, the courage, the laughter, and most of all, the unconquerable spirit of the American people."

World War II, Powell said, "was the defining experience of the 20th century. The diaries and letters in the

exhibit define America as surely as the most finely chiseled monument."

One such letter was from an army officer to his wife, postmarked Normandy 1944, freezing for history the charged moments before the greatest amphibious invasion in the history of warfare: "Now it's our turn. Rifles are loaded and the safety taken off. The coxswain signals me that we're about to touch down. The ramp is lowered, and the sergeant and I stepped off."

Other such historic moments presented in the exhibit include President Franklin Roosevelt signing the Declaration of War against Japan and, four years later, the surrender of Japan



aboard the U.S.S. Missouri. Between those two events are the death march on Bataan; the burning of the U.S.S. Lexington in the Battle of the Coral Sea, as members of her crew leap from the flames into the surrounding sea, where the tide of war changed; and the last will and testament of Adolph Hitler, which signaled its end.

When peace came to Europe, a corporal in New York City described the celebration: "All hell broke loose. Traffic was stopped and lights went on that had been out for five years. I went to the Trocadero and really got kissed good and proper. Every girl there must have kissed me! Ooh, la la! What a variety of lipstick."

"That corporal got it right about New York City on that day," General Powell said. "I know he got it right, because I was there, and eight-year-old boys don't miss a thing."

The hour-long ceremony also featured the Air Training Command Band from Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio whose members, attired in World War II uniforms, performed music from that era. A military honor guard from Bergstrom Air Force Base also participated.

Dr. Don Wilson, Archivist of the United States, introduced General Powell. Other program participants included Congressman Jake Pickle, U.T. Chancellor Hans Mark, and Vice President William Livingston. Library Director Harry Middleton was M.C.



General Powell visits Mrs. Johnson and tours the exhibit before making his presentation on the Library plaza.



"You must see" the exhibit, General Powell told his listeners. "Your children must see it. By recalling this vivid selfless courage-full part of our past, we make our current lives more meaningful, and we make our future more hopeful. We come to understand more fully what we owe to the generations that went before us and what we must give to the generations that will follow. And we come to appreciate the power of America's moral strength, that strength which now motivates millions of new converts to democracy, from South Korea to Czechoslovakia, and from Buenos Aires to Vladivostok.

"In the final analysis, what this exhibit does is awaken us to the power for good that is in all of us. And that is a very important awakening, because it is that power for good which guarantees America's future. See this exhibit. Share this exhibit. Share the greatness that is America."



Peacetime Honolulu, which visitors see at the entrance to the exhibit (above) becomes the center of world attention on December 7, 1941, with the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (left). Letters from and memorabilia of servicemen who the day before their deaths had been part of peacetime America are among the most poignant items in the display.

Visitors study a mock-up of desert tank action.





Lifesize figures add interest to the exhibit, such as the draft-age American man reading about the approach of the war; the G.I. being forced into the Bataan death march by his Japanese captor; A German soldier; a thirsty British infantryman and a Soviet serviceman on the Eastern front.





The famed photograph of a sailor kissing a nurse in Times Square, which became the visual symbol of the nation's jubilation on V-J day, is dramatically represented at the end of the exhibition, against a backdrop montage of peace.



Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. and Mrs. Zalman Shovo, being given a tour of the museum by Curator Gary Yarrington, pause in front of an exhibit of special interest.

Library Co-hosts Conference On Legal Services To Poor

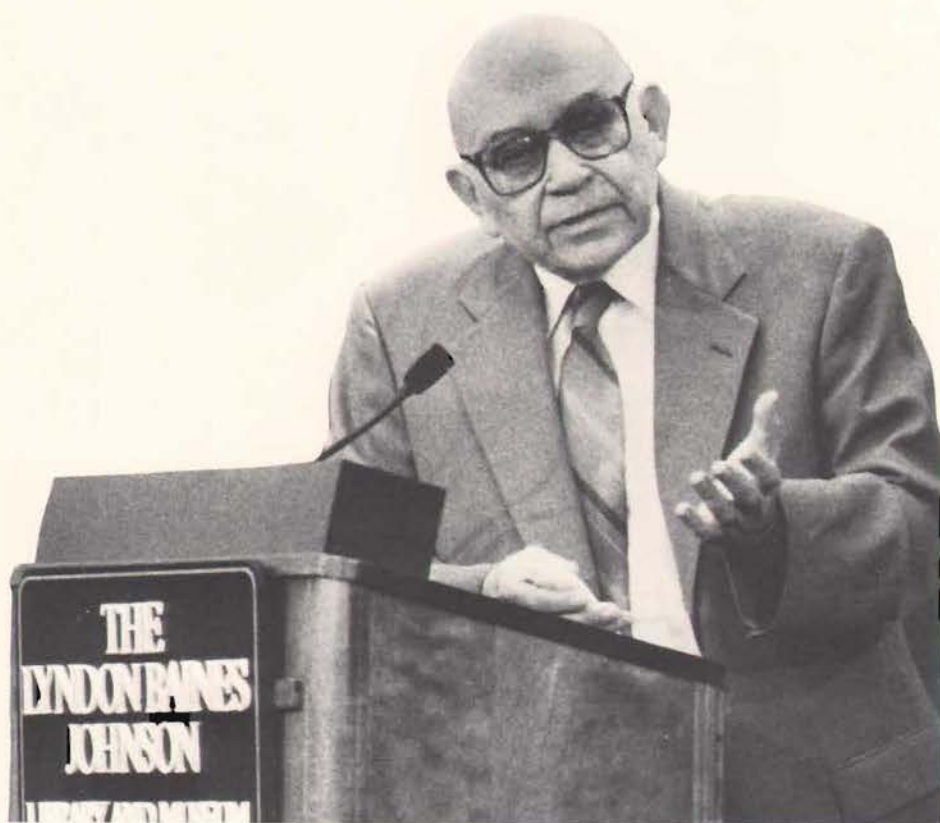


Legal services to the poor is one of the durable programs of the Great Society. In April, the LBJ Library and LBJ School of Public Affairs joined with the Texas Young Lawyers Association and the Texas Bar Foundation in a conference held at the Library to survey the status of the program.

Panelists Dan Morales, Texas Attorney General; Iris Lav, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; Jon Powell, American Civil Liberties Union; Jude Filler, Texas Alliance for Human Needs, and Joseph Higgs, Industrial Area Foundation



Presidential Library Directors held their annual meeting at the Library at the time of the opening of the World War II exhibition. Standing are: Ralph Bledsoe, Reagan Library; John Taylor, Nixon Library; Ben Zobrist, Truman Library; Richard Norton Smith, Hoover Library; John Fawcett, Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries; Verne Newton, Roosevelt Library; Clarence Lyons, Nixon Project; Chuck Daly, Kennedy Library; Pat Borders, National Archives; Martin Elzy, Assistant Director, Carter Library. Seated: Dan Holt, Eisenhower Library; Harry Middleton, Johnson Library; Don Wilson, Archivist of the United States; Claudine Weiher Deputy Archivist; and Frank Mackaman, Ford Library.



Three writers enlivened the spring season at the Library with evening presentations. Philip Bobbitt (above), currently a counselor on international law at the U.S. Department of State and author of several books including the recently published *Constitutional Interpretation*, gave a thoughtful reminiscence of his experience. Martin Blumenson (above right), noted military historian with 17 books to his credit, considered the leading expert on General George S. Patton, Jr., spoke on "The Generals and Flag Officers of World War II." David McCullough (right), spoke just before publication of his massive and widely acclaimed biography of President Harry S. Truman, titled *Truman*; in introducing him, Library Director Harry Middleton said, "In David McCullough, President Truman has found for posterity a biographer who understands and respects him."



Los Angeles Riots and

"The Great Society is back in the news," said the *Washington Post*. The occasion, of course, was the contentions of some national officials that the social programs of the 1960s were in some way responsible for the Los Angeles riots. "As a reminder of what the Great Society was about, and of how another president approached the issues that recurred...in Los Angeles," the *Post* printed excerpts from a speech President Johnson delivered at Howard University in June 1965. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was already law and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 would be passed in a few weeks when LBJ spoke. Some of his remarks, printed by the *Post*, were:

...The barriers to...freedom are tumbling down...but freedom is not enough. You do not wipe away the scars of centuries by saying, "Now you are free to go where you want, and do as you desire, and choose the leaders you please."

You do not take a person who, for years, has been hobbled by chains and bring him up to the starting line of a race and then say, "You are free to compete with all the others."

This is the next and the more profound stage of the battle for civil rights. We seek not just freedom but opportunity. We seek not just legal equity but human ability, not just equality as a right and a theory but equality as a fact and equality as a result.

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, who as assistant Secretary of Labor wrote the first draft of LBJ's speech, inserted the *Washington Post* article into the Congressional Record, saying, "I am told that young staffers at the *Post* were astounded by the speech. They had not known that a President had ever talked to the American people in such terms."

Here at the Library it evoked the memory of another speech by President Johnson. The date was December 9, 1972. LBJ was concluding speaker in a symposium on Civil Rights which had assembled some of the giants of the movement—Earl Warren, Roy Wilkins, Clarence

Mitchell, Hubert Humphrey, Vernon Jordan, Julian Bond, Arthur and Mathilde Krim, and such then rising young stars as Barbara Jordan and Yvonne Burke.

The President had suffered a heart attack the year before and another would take him off a month later. He ascended the steps to the stage of the LBJ auditorium with some effort, slipped something into his mouth which was later revealed to have been a nitroglycerin tablet, and began slowly to speak. Those who were there are not likely to forget it.

Here are excerpts of what he said on that occasion:

"I don't speak very often or very long. My doctor admonished me not to speak at all this morning, but I'm going to because I have some things I want to say to you.

"Of all the records that are housed in this Library, it is the record of this work which has brought us here that holds the most of myself within it and holds for me the most intimate meanings. In our system of government, honorable men honestly differ in their perceptions of government and what it's really all about. And today I can speak only of my own perception.

"I believe that the essence of government lies with unceasing concern

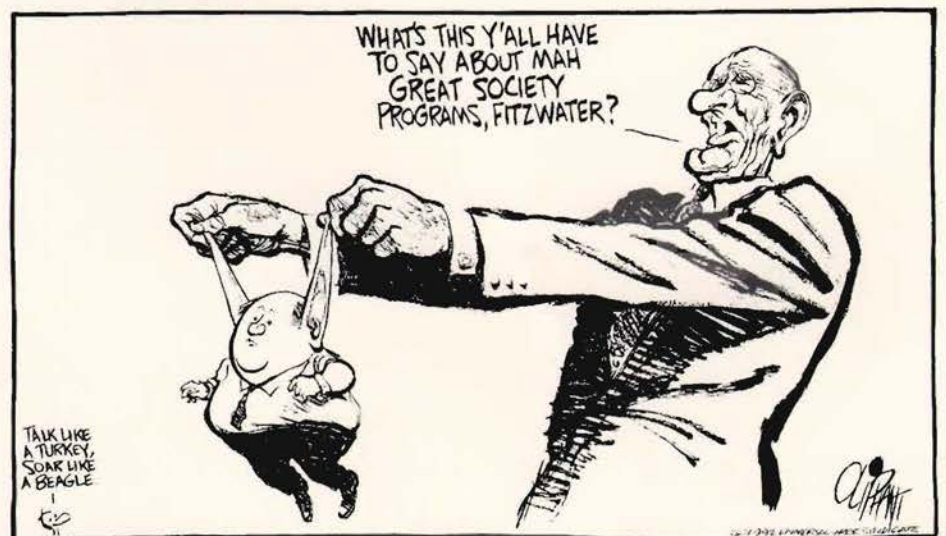
for the welfare and dignity and decency and innate integrity of life for every individual.

"I do not say that I've always seen this matter, in terms of the special plight of the black man, as clearly as I came to see it in the course of my life and experience and responsibility. Now, let me make it plain that when I say 'black,' I also mean brown and yellow and red and all the other people who suffer discrimination because of their color or their heritage. Every group meets its own special problems, of course, but the problem of equal justice applies to us all.

"Black Americans are voting now where they were not voting at all ten years ago. Black Americans are working now where they were not working ten years ago. Black Americans, brown Americans—Americans of every color and every condition—are eating now, shopping now, going to the bathroom now, riding now, spending nights now, obtaining credit now, giving now, attending classes now, going and coming in dignity where and as they were never able to do in years before.

"[But] the progress has been much too small; we haven't done nearly enough.

"So let no one delude himself that his work is done. By unconcern, by



This cartoon by Pat Oliphant ran in a number of newspapers following White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater's effort to link the Los Angeles riots with Great Society programs. Oliphant is represented exclusively by Susan Conway Galleries, Washington, D.C. and is syndicated by Universal Press Syndicate.

The Great Society

neglect, by complacent beliefs that our labors in the fields of human rights are completed, we of today can seed our future with storms that would rage over the lives of our children and our children's children. Yesterday it was commonly said that the black problem was a Southern problem. Today it is commonly said that the black problem is an urban problem, a problem of the inner city. But as I see it, the black problem today, as it was yesterday and yesterday, is not a problem of regions or states or cities or neighborhoods. It is a problem, a concern and responsibility of this whole nation. Moreover, and we cannot obscure this blunt fact, the black problem remains what it has always been, the simple problem of being black in a white society. That is the problem which our efforts have not yet addressed.

"To be black in a white society is not to stand on level and equal ground. While the races may stand side by side, whites stand on history's mountain and blacks stand in history's hollow. We must overcome unequal history before we overcome unequal opportunity. That is not, nor will it ever be, an easy goal for us to achieve.

"Individuals and groups who have struggled long to gain advantages for themselves do not readily yield the gains of their struggles or their achievements so that others may have advantages or opportunities. But that is just the point, now and always. There is no surrender, there is no loss involved. No advantage is safe, no gain is secure in this society unless those advantages and those gains are opened up to all alike.

"Where we have been concerned in the past for groups as groups, now we must become more concerned with individuals as individuals. As we have lifted from groups the burdens of unequal law and custom, the next thrust of our efforts must be to lift from individuals those burdens of unequal history.

"Not a white American in all this land would fail to be outraged if an opposing team tried to insert a twelfth man in the line-up to stop a



black fullback on the football field. Yet off the field, away from the stadium, outside the reach of television cameras and the watching eyes of millions of their fellow men, every black American in this land, man or woman, plays out life running against the twelfth man of a history he did not make and a fate he did not choose.

"In this challenge, our churches, our schools, our unions, our professions, our trades, our military, our private employers, and our government have a great duty from which they cannot turn. It is the duty of sustaining the momentum of this society's effort to equalize the history of some of our people so that we may open opportunity for all our people.

"Some may respond to these suggestions with exclamations of shock and dismay. Such proposals, they will say, ask that special consideration be given to black Americans. I can only hear such protest through ears attuned by a lifetime of listening to the language of evasion.

"All that I hear now I have heard before for 40 years, in many forms and many forums. Give them the vote? I saw a murder almost commit-

ted because I said that in '37. Most people said, unthinkable! Give them the right to sit where they wish on the bus? Impossible! Give them the privilege of staying at the same hotel, using the same restroom, eating at the same counter, joining the same club, attending the same classroom? Never! Never!

"Well, this cry of 'never' I've heard all of my life. And what we commemorate on this great day is some of the work which has helped in some areas to make never now.

"This is precisely the work which we must continue. It's time to leave aside the legalisms and euphemisms and eloquent evasions. Its time to get down to the business of trying to stand black and white on level ground.

"For myself, I believe it's time for all of us in government and out to face up to the challenge. We must review and reevaluate what we've done and what we're doing. In specific areas we must set new goals, new objectives, and new standards. Not merely what we can do to try to keep things quiet, but what we must do to make things better.

"Now how much are we giving for

that in this meeting? How much are we going to give in the days ahead? How are we going to employ that time? Who is going to bring our groups together? Who is going to select that leadership? And what is that leadership going to do?

"I don't have a great staff, and little I can contribute in the way of leadership. But [to] those of you who do make up a great staff and who served as my staff, I want to suggest a few thoughts.

"1. Are the federal government and the state governments, the foundations, the churches, the universities, doing what they can and all they should to assure enough scholarships for young blacks in every field?

"2. Are our professions such as law, medicine, accounting, engineering, dentistry, architecture taking the initiative, sounding the call to make certain that their educational programs are so planned and so conducted that blacks are being prepared for the leadership courses and are given the support that they must have if they are to complete the courses and to have genuine opportunities to establish themselves in positions of leadership, professional careers, and things of that matter after their college days?

"3. Are our trade unions and all those concerned with vocational occupations doing the same to open up apprenticeships and training programs, so that the blacks and the groups I spoke of have a fair chance at entering and a fair chance of succeeding in these fields that are so vital to the future of our nation and our country at this very moment?

"4. Are our employers, who have already made a start toward opening jobs to the blacks, doing what they can and should in order to make certain that blacks qualify for advancement on the promotion ladder, and that the promotion ladder itself reaches out for the blacks as it does for the others in our society?

"We cannot take care of the goals to which we've committed ourselves simply by adopting a black star system. It is good, it is heartening, it is satisfying to see individual blacks

succeeding as stars in the fields of politics, athletics, entertainment, and other activities where they have high visibility. But we must not allow the visibility of a few to diminish the efforts to satisfy our real responsibility to the still unseen millions who are faced with our basic problem of being black in a white society.

"Our objective must be to assure that all Americans play by the same rules. And that all Americans play against the same odds. Who among us would claim that that's true today? I feel this is the first work of any

society which aspires to greatness. So let's be on with it.

"We know there's injustice. We know there's intolerance. We know there's discrimination and hate and suspicion. And we know there's division among us. But there is a larger truth. We have proved that great progress is possible. We know how much still remains to be done. And if our efforts continue and if our will is strong and if our hearts are right and if courage remains our constant companion, then, my fellow Americans, I am confident we shall overcome."



LBJ at Howard University, June 1964.



President Johnson surveying results of Washington riots, 1968.

Library Co-Sponsors Space Symposium In Washington, D.C.



Photo by Jerry Thompson, National Archives.

Some early participants in the creation of the U.S. Space Program assembled at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. for a conference co-sponsored by G.W.U.'s Space Policy Institute and the LBJ Library to preserve the recollections of that adventure. They are: Paul Dembling, Gerald Siegel, Willis Shapley, Eilene Galloway, H. Guy Stever, George Reedy, Glen P. Wilson, and John Logsdon, of the Space Policy Institute, moderator.

PRESIDENTIAL GRANDDAUGHTER WEDS



The Library served as the setting for Austin's Mayor Bruce Todd to inaugurate a project aimed at revitalizing Austin's inner-city neighborhoods. The project, a first-of-its-kind effort to mobilize various elements of public and private sectors, was initiated by Walt and Elspeth Rostow.



Photo by Rebecca McEntee of the Austin American-Statesman.

New bride Nicole Nugent with her grandmother Lady Bird Johnson and her bridegroom, Brent Covert. Nicole, daughter of Luci Johnson Turpin and Pat Nugent, is the second Johnson grandchild to go to the altar. Her brother, Lyn, was married in Germany last fall.



At the annual volunteer luncheon, Mrs. Johnson meets with those volunteers who have given ten years of service to the Library. They are Mary Townsend, Nita Snyder, Milly Han, Sarah Phillips, Velma Lee Guinn, Connie Schultz, Dottie Blank, Barbara Jackson, Betty Creamer, Barbara Wagner, Irene Borawski, and Bobbie Krus.

Library Receives 10 Millionth Visitor, 5 Thousandth Researcher



In June, Juan B. Sessions of Mabank, Texas, became the 10 millionth visitor to enter the Library's doors in the 21 years the building has been open. He was a member of Texas Boys State, meeting in Austin. Over the same period of time, 5,000 scholars have come to the research room to use the Library's collections. (A more reliable measure of the use of the papers is research visits, which amount to about 2,500 a year.)



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