

May 26, 1957.

Senator Lyndon B. Johnson,
Office of the Democratic Leader,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Lyndon:

Thanks for sending me a copy of your address in the Senate, entitled "Economy In Our Budget." I read the entire bulletin, from start to finish. It is amazing what Ike's planners are calling for. 500 planners, designing a 1125 page book to outline the governments forthcoming expenses at the cost of the taxpayer.

You know what my comments are, since you already have something to that effect from me in answering a recent questionnaire. I still contend, as do you, that expenses should be cut wherever possible, barring, of course, any necessary military expenditures which might involve the safety or security of our country.

If you get the Houston Chronicle, get one of your office help to clip the article entitled "Aid ~~is~~ Cost to City Bigger Than Debt," published in State final edition, Saturday, May 25th. This article is indicative of the way people all over the country, editor's, mayors, county judges, etc., are getting pretty fed up on the way our government is spending money, and especially overseas "aid." Somebody in Washington seems to be doing some planning for the benefit of others, overseas, but I believe the time has come to call a halt. Our taxpayers can't possibly carry the load for everybody, all over the world.

I have been reading some in the "Citadel" and find it very interesting. However, Booth Mooney's book about you has my attention at present. I did not previously know that you had had those experiences in WWII in a B-17 over in the Pacific theatre until I read it in this book.

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My brother and his crewmen were very fond of their B-17 and I, too, had taken an interest in it since I helped give their particular plane the name "Sky Queen." The B-17 was a beautiful plane and all the pilots seemed to like it and most preferred it to another 4-motor plane much in use at that time. You can real-

ize how I felt when the Sky Queen failed to return, although there are so many questions, still in my mind, that appear strange indeed with that final mission and its failure to return. All I do know is that my brother's plane took the lead when the Colonel of that unit turned back while crossing the channel, and they were

going further into the continent that day than any previous mission, unattended (without fighter escort) and at that time without front turret guns.

Last week-end I drove down to the Mansfield Dam, thence back to Marble Falls, to Roy Inks dam and Buchanan; took pictures at or underneath the dams at each place, some of which appeared in this week's RadioPost and Harper Herald, others to appear next week. Had a letter from Mr. Gideon of LCRA commenting on

my editorial the previous week with regards to flood control and the LCRA lakes, etc. I marvel at the way the flood waters are placed under control now on the Colorado and believe the time will
in Texas
come when all major streams/will have similar structures (dams) and lakes.

I was happy to see an article in the Austin Am. the other day where you and Sen. Thornberry will help to get the Army Eng. to make a flood control survey of the Pedernales R. Very good!

Regards to everyone, to Walter and George,

Respectfully yours,

Norman J.