STRAIGHT WIRE June 13, 1968

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Under the guise of controlling crime and making our streets safe, Congress has passed a bill that endangers all of us. By overturning certain landmark Supreme Court decisions, this bill undermines the constitutional rights of any citizen suspected of a crime. It leaves him subject to uncertain delays between arrest and arraignment; it leaves him prey to physical and psychological coercion in the extraction of a "voluntary" confession; it deprives him of proper safeguards in any police lineup procedures.

By authorizing wiretapping and electronic eavesdropping on a scale unprecedented in breadth and lack of regulation, the bill puts an ear against every man's wall.

By prohibiting procedures aimed at correction of racial imbalance in law enforcement agencies, the bill weakens existing civil rights laws and makes possible new discrimination in employment.

Its widely heralded gun control provision is a sham. You, Mr. President, have noted how inadequate it is and what a "brutal loophole" it still leaves in our laws.

To suggest as some have that this shabby and vicious bill is a tribute to Senator Robert F. Kennedy is a desecration to his memory.

You once observed, Mr. President, that crime "creates a climate in which a people make choices not out of confidence but out of fear." This bill was written in fear and based on fear. We urge you to help restore the balance of sanity in this country by vetoing this bill and urging Congress to address itself to legislation that will effectively curb crime without destroying constitutional rights. As a free people we are, I believe, capable of dealing forcibly with the threat of crime without threatening our basic freedoms.

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

Walter P. Reuther, President
International Union, UAW

STRAIGHT WIRE June 13, 1968

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

The approval by the United Nations of the treaty to halt nuclear proliferation is an historic landmark in the search for sanity and peace in our troubled world.

I wish to extend my sincerest congratulations to you for without your deep commitment to peace and the patience and persistence you demonstrated in the pursuit of peace this historic agreement would not have been possible. People all over the world owe you a debt of gratitude for your dedication and the untiring efforts which you made in the achievement of this historic step.

My sincerest appreciation and affection.

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

Walter P. Reuther, President
International Union, UAW

THE WHITE HOUSE

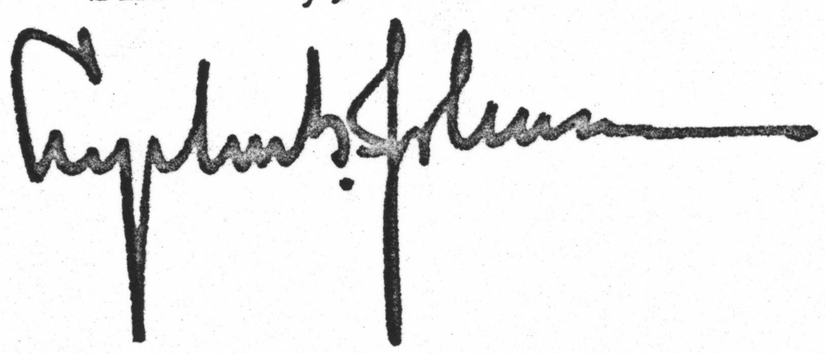
WASHINGTON

June 15, 1968

Dear Walter:

I am delighted that we are in such strong agreement regarding the implications of the new Non-Proliferation Treaty. Be assured that I will continue to devote all my efforts to building on this historic landmark. As always, my purpose is strengthened by your support.

Sincerely,



Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President
International Union of Auto Workers
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1968

Dear Mr. ~~Reuther~~ Walter:

The President has asked me to thank you for your telegram of June 13, 1968 expressing your concern over certain provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, and urging its veto.

The President is aware that the bill now before him has some substantial deviations from the legislation he proposed to Congress after receiving the report and recommendations of the Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice in February, 1967. As a result, the President and concerned federal agencies are now carefully analyzing the bill to determine whether it would truly alleviate crime without unduly circumscribing the freedoms which we as Americans have traditionally preserved.

Sincerely,

Harry

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.
Special Counsel to the President

Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President, UAW
Solidarity House
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

JUN 19 1968

June 26, 1968

Dear Mr. President:

Your efforts to secure effective gun control legislation demands the fullest support of all of the American people who believe in law and order and who are prepared to deal with this problem honestly.

The UAW pledges its fullest cooperation in support of your efforts and we are prepared to mount a major drive to mobilize the broadest possible support among UAW members and their families and the American people.

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the resolution which was unanimously adopted by the International Executive Board of the UAW on June 26, 1968.

I send my warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 3, 1968

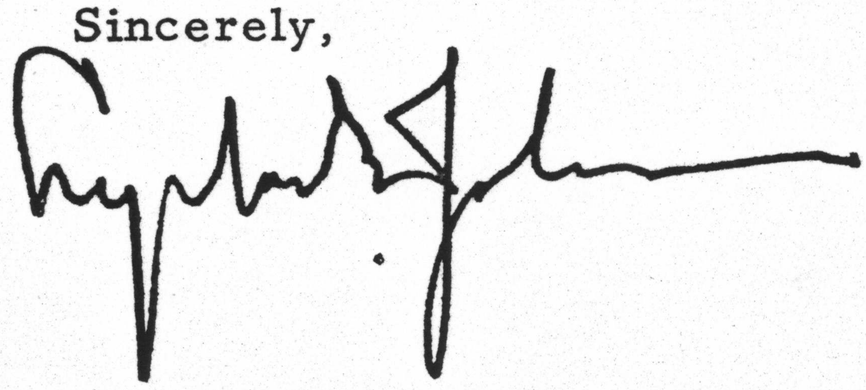
Dear Walter:

I am grateful for your good letter and the strong support it shows for our effort to secure effective gun control legislation.

I intend to concentrate on this matter, in the immediate interest of all our people, using every opportunity to press for the protection our families demand and deserve.

I am enclosing a copy of my Independence Day remarks as an example of my determination. Please accept it as evidence of my appreciation for your own continued partnership.

Sincerely,



Mr. Walter P. Reuther
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Enclosure

FOR RELEASE 12 MIDNIGHT JULY 3, 1968

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON
INDEPENDENCE DAY

This is a day of celebration

-- a day to draw new strength from the proud past,

-- a day to rejoice in the liberty and opportunity that is ours, as citizens of a great Constitutional democracy.

For one hundred and ninety-two years, the words "United States of America" have stood for man's hunger to be free:

-- not just free in theory, but free in fact;

-- not just free from tyranny and oppression, but free to achieve the highest destiny of which he is capable.

Yet there is much to be done before that measure of freedom is fully achieved for all our people.

A child born into poverty, a man who is not able to care for his family by his own efforts, a young person blocked by discrimination against his race or religion or region from meaningful employment, cannot be said to be fully free.

The laws I have proposed to Congress in the field of gun control would not deprive any citizen of any freedom that is rightfully his.

They would go a long way toward restoring to our people the freedoms they are denied today:

-- the freedom to operate stores, banks, and businesses without fear of armed holdups;

-- the freedom to live in their homes and use the public streets without the danger of armed violence;

On this Independence Day -- this day when we celebrate our political freedom as a nation -- let us resolve to take those measures that will insure our individual freedom as American citizens. Let us free ourselves of fear -- so that we may enjoy the blessings that God in His mercy has given us.

Thank you. I wish you a joyous -- and a safe -- holiday.

# # #

JUL 12 1968

STRAIGHT WIRE October 31, 1968

(phoned from WPR's residence)

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Your courageous and compassionate search for a just and honorable peace has earned you the gratitude of people everywhere.

Your patience, your perseverance and your abiding faith in the cause of peace have made possible this further historic step toward peace.

Our prayers are with you and we share the hopes of all mankind that Hanoi will respond to your act of statesmanship by engaging in good faith negotiations so that your effort to achieve peace will be successful.

This is a great day for all of humanity and a great day for you and Mrs. Johnson with Linda's homecoming with your lovely new granddaughter.

We are all so proud and happy for you. Warmest regards and all good wishes.

May and Walter Reuther

STRAIGHT WIRE November 1, 1968

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

The entire nation salutes, in fresh hope and gratitude, your humane and courageous act of statesmanship in terminating the bombing of North Vietnam and laying the basis for an eventual peaceful resolution of a tragic conflict for whose end the peoples of the world have been waiting. You may be assured of the unwavering support of the UAW, its officers and its members through the taxing months ahead in your efforts to bring about a total cease-fire, freedom for all involved from the nightmare of war, and liberation of our national energies for the constructive tasks of peaceful rehabilition.

Respectfully,

Walter P. Reuther

VGR:ob
opeiu 42

NOV 6 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

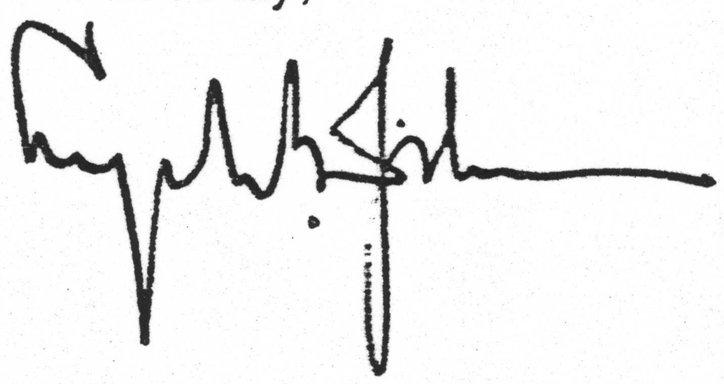
November 2, 1968

Dear Walter:

I was greatly heartened today to receive both of your telegrams endorsing my decision to cease the bombing in Vietnam.

My hopes for peace are higher when they are raised up by your encouragement and UAW support. If we have a long and careful way to go, America will travel quicker and to better purpose when we go together.

Sincerely,



Mr. Walter Reuther
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

August 15, 1968

Dear Joe:

Just a note to let you know I am still working on the Supreme Court matter.

The Detroit newspapers had not been published for more than 260 days because of a labor dispute and they resumed publication on August 10th. I thought you would like a copy of the editorial from the second day's publication of the FREE PRESS which is part of our effort to build maximum support for the President's position and in opposition to the vindictive position of Senator Griffin.

I send my warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

Mr. Joseph Califano
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE DETROIT FREE PRESS, August 11, 1968

As We See It

Sen. Griffin Is Waging An Unfortunate Crusade

SEN. ROBERT GRIFFIN has every right—and maybe even a duty—to oppose the President's nominations to the Supreme Court if he disapproves of them. And if he can persuade a majority of his colleagues to join with him to defeat confirmation of Abe Fortas as chief justice and Homer Thornberry as justice, then the President could only withdraw the nominations and try again.

But what Sen. Griffin proposes to do is not to persuade a majority of senators to oppose the Fortas-Thornberry nomination, but to prevent the majority from acting. A majority of senators would vote for confirmation. Sen. Griffin can do no more than hope to put together a large enough minority to sustain a filibuster.

In this effort he has joined with some of the most bigoted and least responsible members of the Senate. Strom Thurmond's tirade against Mr. Justice Fortas in committee hearings was disgraceful, consisting of nothing more than the spluttering invective the senator from South Carolina spews forth regularly. And when Sen. Sam Ervin says he opposes the nominations because Fortas and Thornberry have shown themselves to be "judicial activists," we all know what he means.

Sen. Griffin has utterly failed to present a persuasive case against either of the two men, both of whom have judicial experience, excellent reputations and a knowledge of the law. Mr. Thornberry is not, to be sure, in Mr. Fortas' class, but then few lawyers are. Mr. Fortas is almost uniquely fitted to be a strong, wise and independent chief justice.

Sen. Griffin first argued that confirmation should be denied because the appointments were made by a lame duck President. This was absurd on its face, since Congress was still in session. We cannot afford to have a President cease to function six months before he leaves office. Then Sen. Griffin said the nominees should be denied confirmation because they are "cronies" of the President. But friendship with the President does not yet constitute a constitutional barrier to public office.

The only grounds on which confirmation might reasonably be withheld is that the nominees are unfit for judicial office. Sen. Griffin has not shown this, and a majority of the Senate obviously does not think it to be true. That majority should be given the chance to work its will as soon as Congress reconvenes in September.

To deny the Senate majority a chance to act is, in the language of the dean of Yale University Law School, to launch "an assault on our constitutional system." Sen. Griffin should drop his plans to lead this unfortunate crusade without further ado and apply himself to more productive enterprises.

Thurmond

Griffin

Marriage of convenience

September 27, 1968

Dear Mr. President:

I am continuing to do what I can to be helpful on the Supreme Court matter for, like you, I consider this to be a matter of the highest importance in terms of the future of our country.

No concerned citizen in the State of Michigan can be proud of the disgraceful behavior of the junior senator of this state. At a meeting of 1,000 UAW Local Union leaders from throughout the State of Michigan last Sunday, they discussed the shabby political behavior of Senator Griffin and adopted the attached resolution expressing their very strong displeasure at his irresponsible conduct.

I send my warmest best wishes.

Cordially,

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

RESOLUTION

We are ashamed and saddened to see the sorry spectacle of a Senator from the great enlightened State of Michigan leading a band of reactionary politicans in an assault on the power of the President to appoint to the Supreme Court and on the independence and integrity of the Court itself.

The system of government of the United States is founded on the Constitutional base of three separate and co-equal branches of government -- the executive, legislative and judicial. The absolute independence and integrity of the Supreme Court are required by the Constitution; they are fundamental to the fulfillment of our democratic procedures. The thrust of the present effort by Senator Griffin, the anti-labor Senator from Michigan, to undermine this fundamental democratic institution is shocking and reprehensible.

Robert Griffin has formed an unholy alliance with bitter racists and reactionaries who would tear up the Constitution of the United States. Griffin and his cohorts have sworn to filibuster to prevent the Senate from exercising its majority will to confirm the President's appointment of Justice Fortas as Chief Justice and Judge Thornberry as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. A list of many of Griffin's companions in this shameful display of political chicanery is mute testimony to the fact that his effort is joined by U.S. Senators who espouse bigotry and hatred, and the most reactionary political posture in modern day America -- men like Senators Eastland, Byrd, Ellender, Stennis, Thurmond and Tower.

There can be no question that both Justice Fortas and Judge Thornberry are superbly qualified for the positions to which they have been appointed. Their integrity, ability and experience have been acclaimed by legal scholars and the American Bar Association. In the circumstances, an unseemly filibuster designed to thwart the will of the Senate would do more than injure the principle of majority rule. If such a vindictive move were to succeed, the spirit and intent of our Constitutional system of government will have suffered a grievous blow.

Narrow partisanship and misplaced emotional vituperation can cast a shadow over the premise of fair play upon which our system is grounded.

In the entire history of Michigan no leader of either party has entered into such an unsavory coalition or embarked on such a cheap political course. The reputation of our State has been damaged by his demagogic champaign. Most of the newspaper editorial comment, even from those newspapers which helped to build the political career of Griffin, has condemned his action.

At this crucial time in our national history when responsible citizens are working to build greater understanding and national unity we must not undergo a destructive internecine struggle between the three co-equal branches of government.

This conference, in agreement with the majority of legal scholars, urges that the outstanding qualifications of the two appointees require confirmation. We are convinced that their legal acumen and judicial temperament will serve the nation well in the years to come. We urge the Senate to perform its historic duty and to confirm Justice Fortas and Judge Thornberry.

RESOLVED:

1. The Michigan Community Action Program Conference goes on record as vigorously opposed to the ugly campaign of the Griffin-Thurmond-Republican-Dixiecrat coalition to prevent the Senate from exercising its right to vote on the issue of the confirmation of the President's appointement of Justice Fortas and Judge Thornberry.

2. The Conference urges the Senate, in the light of the ability, temperament and experience of the appointees, to confirm the President's appointments and to repudiate the shameful Griffin political maneuver.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 1968

Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President
International Union Auto Workers
8000 Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Dear Walter:

Many thanks for your telegram of May 3, 1968, in which you express the deep concern of the UAW over possible cuts in the President's budget.

As you know, the President is very concerned about this problem, and appreciates having your support for his legislative programs.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

MAY 28 1968

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

R Y 515-518 ZXM

White House

MAY 28 1968

MWUA140 BB214 B WWY180 WWZ10
WWZ10 GOVT NL PD
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC MAY 27
WALTER P REUTHER, PRES DONT DWR UNITED AUTO AEROSPACE
AND AGRIC IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AM INTL UNION
8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE DET
THE TIME OF SIGNING S.5. THE TRUTH-IN LENDING ACT,
HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 1:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MAY 29
AT THE WHITE HOUSE. PLEASE EXCUSE ANY INCONVENIENCE AND
CONFIRM ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ATTENDANCE BY RETURN WIRE
JAMES R JONES SPECL ASST TO THE PRES.

1211P EDT MAY 28 68

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

F

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 28, 1968

Honorable Walter T. Reuther
President
International Union, United
Auto Workers
AFL-CIO
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Dear Walter:

The President wanted you to have a copy of the Trade Message he is sending to the Congress today.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

Enclosure

MAY 31 1968

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY TO THE SENATE
OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 28, 1968

NOTICE: There should be no premature release of this message nor should its contents be paraphrased, alluded to or hinted at in earlier stories. There is a total embargo on this message until it has been delivered to the United States Senate or the House of Representatives, which includes any and all references to any material in this message.

George Christian

THE WHITE HOUSE

GREATER PROSPERITY THROUGH EXPANDED WORLD TRADE

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

A nation's trade lines are its life lines. Open trade lines and active commerce lead to economic health and growth. Closed trade lines end in economic stagnation.

Franklin D. Roosevelt recognized these truths more than thirty years ago, when the nation and the world were in the grip of Depression.

On that March day in 1934 when he asked the Congress to pass the historic Reciprocal Trade Act, he pointed to America's declining world trade and what it meant to the nation: "idle hands, still machines, ships tied to their docks."

That Act set in motion three and a half decades of descending tariff barriers and rising world trade. Our producers and farmers found new markets abroad, and American exports multiplied twenty-fold.

This era of commercial progress was capped by the Kennedy Round Agreements reached at Geneva last year -- the greatest success in all the history of international trade negotiations.

When I reported to the Congress last November on the Kennedy Round, I said it would mean new factories, more jobs, lower prices to families, and higher incomes for American workers and for our trading partners throughout the world.

Already, through these Agreements, tariff barriers everywhere are falling, bringing savings to consumers, and opening new overseas markets for competitive producers.

But the problems and the promises of world trade are always changing. We must have the tools not only to adjust to change, but to turn change to our advantage.

To prepare for the era of world trade unfolding before us now, I submit to the Congress today the Trade Expansion Act of 1968. This measure will:

more

-- maintain our negotiating authority to settle -- advantageously -- trade problems and disputes.

-- carry out the special Geneva agreement on chemicals and other products.

-- improve the means through which American firms and workers can adjust to new competition from increased imports.

Our International Responsibilities

The Trade Expansion Act of 1968 will strengthen relations with our trading partners in three ways.

First, it will extend through June 30, 1970 the President's authority to conduct negotiations for tariff reductions. This authority was contained in provisions of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 that have expired.

Most of this authority was used in negotiating the Kennedy Round. The unused portion of that Authority will give the President the flexibility to adjust tariff rates as future developments might require.

For example, the United States might find it necessary to increase the duty on a particular article -- as the result of an "escape clause" action or a statutory change in tariff classification. In such event, we would be obliged to give other nations compensatory tariff adjustments for their trade losses.

Without this authority, we would invite retaliation and endanger American markets abroad.

I recommend that the President's authority to make these tariff adjustments be extended through June 30, 1970.

Second, the Trade Expansion Act of 1968 will eliminate the American Selling Price system of customs valuation. This action is necessary to carry out the special agreement reached during the Kennedy Round.

The American Selling Price system has outlived its purpose. It should be ended.

The generally accepted method of valuing goods for tariff purposes -- which we and all our trading partners employ -- is to use the actual price of the item to the importer.

But many years ago, to protect a few of our fledgling industries, we imposed on competing foreign goods -- in addition to a substantial tariff -- the special requirement that their tariff value be determined by American prices. Today this unusual system often produces tariff protection of more than 100 percent of the import cost of the product.

Such excessive protection is both unfair and unnecessary.

This system is unfair because it:

-- Gives to a few industries a special privilege available to no other American business.

-- Rests on an arbitrary method of valuation which no other nation uses.

-- Diverges from the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

-- Imposes an unjustified burden on the U.S. consumer.

This system is unnecessary because the few industries which it covers no longer need special government protection.

It applies primarily to the chemical industry in the benzenoid field. Yet chemicals, and benzenoids in particular, are among our most efficient and rapidly expanding industries. They have done well at home. They have done well in the international market. They are in a strong position to face normal competition from imports.

A supplementary agreement was negotiated at Geneva which will lower foreign tariffs on American chemicals and reduce certain non-tariff barriers -- road taxes and tariff preferences -- on American automobiles and tobacco. To receive these important concessions, the United States must eliminate the American Selling Price valuation system and thereby give foreign producers of chemicals and a few other products normal access to our markets. This bargain is clearly in our national interest -- good for our industries, good for our workers, and good for our consumers.

I recommend that the Congress eliminate the American Selling Price system to remove inequities in our tariffs and enable us to take advantage of concessions negotiated in the Kennedy Round.

Third, the Trade Expansion Act of 1968 will provide for specific funding of our participation in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

This is the procedure we follow in meeting our financial responsibilities to all other international organizations.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has become the most important forum for the conduct of international trade relations. The Kennedy Round took place under its auspices. Yet since 1947, we have financed our annual contribution to this Agreement through general contingency funds rather than through a specific authorization.

I recommend that the Congress authorize specific appropriations for the American share of the expenses for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Our Needs at Home

When trade barriers fall, the American people and the American economy benefit. Open trade lines:

-- Reduce prices of goods from abroad.

-- Increase opportunities for American businesses and farms to export their products. This means expanded production and more job opportunities.

-- Help improve the efficiency and competitive strength of our industries. This means a higher rate of economic growth for our nation and higher incomes for our people.

Some firms, however, have difficulty in meeting foreign competition, and need time and help to make the adjustment.

Since international trade strengthens the nation as a whole, it is only fair that the government assist those businessmen and workers who face serious problems as a result of increased imports.

The Congress recognized this need -- in the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 -- by establishing a program of trade adjustment assistance to businessmen and workers adversely affected by imports.

Unfortunately, this program has been ineffective. The test of eligibility has proved to be too rigid, too technical, and too complicated.

As part of a comprehensive trade expansion policy, I propose that we make our adjustment assistance program fair and workable.

I recommend that Congress broaden the eligibility for this assistance. The test should be simple and clear: relief should be available whenever increased imports are a substantial cause of injury.

I intend to pattern the administration of this program on the Automotive Products Trade Act of 1965. Determinations of eligibility will be made jointly by the Secretaries of Labor, Commerce and Treasury.

The adjustment assistance provisions of Automotive Product Trade Act of 1965 have been successful. They have well served American automobile firms and their workers as we have moved to create an integrated U.S.-Canadian auto market.

These provisions will expire on June 30.

I recommend that the Congress extend the adjustment assistance provisions of the Automotive Products Trade Act through June 30, 1971.

Trade Initiatives For The Future

The measures I have recommended today will help us carry forward the great tradition of our reciprocal trade policy.

But even as we consolidate our past gains, we must look to the future.

First and foremost, we must ensure that the progress we have made is not lost through new trade restrictions.

One central fact is clear. A vicious cycle of trade restrictions harms most the nation which trades most. And America is that nation.

At the present time, proposals pending before the Congress would impose quotas or other trade restrictions on the imports of over twenty industries. These measures would cover about $7 billion of our imports -- close to half of all imports subject to duty.

In a world of expanding trade, such restrictions would be self-defeating. Under international rules of trade, a nation restricts imports only at the risk of its own exports. Restriction begets restriction.

In reality, "protectionist" measures do not protect any of us:

-- They do not protect the American working man. If world markets shrink, there will be fewer jobs.

-- They do not protect the American businessman. In the long run, smaller markets will mean smaller profits.

-- They do not protect the American consumer. He will pay more for the goods he buys.

The fact is that every American -- directly or indirectly -- has a stake in the growth and vitality of an open economic system.

Our policy of liberal trade has served this nation well. It will continue to advance our interests in the future.

But these are critical times for the nation's economy. We have launched a series of measures to reduce a serious balance of payments deficit. As part of this program, I have called for a major long-run effort to increase our trade surplus. This requires that we push ahead with actions to keep open the channels of trade.

Many of our trading partners have indicated a willingness to cooperate in this effort by accelerating some of their tariff reductions agreed to in the Kennedy Round, and by permitting the United States to defer a portion of our tariff reductions. Furthermore, a number of Western European countries are now taking more active steps to achieve a higher rate of economic growth. This promises to increase the demand for our exports and improve our trade position.

To take full advantage of the expanded trading opportunities that lie ahead, we must improve the competitive position of American goods. Passage of the anti-inflation tax is the most critical action we could take now to strengthen our position at home and in world markets. The tax measure I have recommended will help prevent destructive price increases -- which can sap the vitality and strength of our economy. Continued rapid increases in our prices would mean fewer exports and higher imports.

Second, other nations must join with us to put an end to non-tariff barriers.

Trade is a two-way street. A successful trade policy must be built upon reciprocity. Our own trade initiatives will founder unless our trading partners join with us in these efforts.

The Kennedy Round was an outstanding example of international cooperation. But major non-tariff barriers continue to impede the free flow of international commerce. These barriers now block many U.S. products from competing for world markets.

Some non-tariff barriers violate provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. We will step up our efforts to secure the prompt removal of these illegal restrictions.

Other non-tariff barriers may not be illegal, but they clearly hamper and hinder trade. Such barriers are found in all countries; the American Selling Price system is an example of one of our non-tariff barriers.

We have initiated a major international study to assess the effect of non-tariff barriers on world trade.

We have already begun action in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other international organizations to deal with some of these non-tariff barriers.

Efforts such as these are an important element in our trade policy. All sides must be prepared to dismantle unjustified or unreasonable barriers to trade.

Reciprocity and fair play are the essential standards for international trade. America will insist on these conditions in all our negotiations to lower non-tariff barriers.

Third, we must develop a long-range policy to guide American trade expansion through the 1970's.

I have directed the President's Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to make an intensive study of our future trade requirements and needs.

I would hope that Members of the Congress and leaders of Labor, Business and Agriculture will work with the Executive Branch in this effort. To help develop the foundations of a far-reaching policy, I will issue an Executive Order that establishes a wide basis for consultation and assistance in this important work.

An Expanding Era in World Trade

The proposals in this message have been shaped to one purpose -- to develop the promise of an expanding era in world trade.

We started on this road three and a half decades ago. In the course of that journey, the American farmer, the businessman, the worker and the consumer have benefitted.

The road ahead can lead to new levels of prosperity and achievement for the American people. The Trade Expansion Act of 1968 will speed us on the way.

I urge the Congress to give this important measure its prompt and favorable consideration.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

THE WHITE HOUSE,
May 28, 1968.

# # #

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

JUN 21 1968

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GOVT PDB
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC 21 1050A EDT
MR AND MRS WALTER P REUTHER DONT DWR
(CARE UAW-CIO) WUX DET
THE PRESIDENT AND MRS JOHNSON HOPE YOU CAN JOIN THEM FOR THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF HONORABLE GEORGE W BALL AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND A RECEPTION FOLLOWING HONORING AMBASSADOR AND MRS ARTHUR J GOLDBERG AND AMBASSADOR AND MRS GEORGE W BALL ON MONDAY JUNE 24 1968 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK THE WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PRESENT THIS TELEGRAM AT THE SOUTHWEST GATE RSVP BY RETURN WIRE OR TELEPHONE AC 202 456-2511
THE SOCIAL SECREGARY THE WHITE HOUSE

24 1968 5:30 AC 202 456-2511
(1146).

QQTPWP EDT JUN 21 68

RA 139 ZXM

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

JUL 8 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1968

Honorable Walter T. Reuther
President
International Union,
United Auto Workers
AFL-CIO
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Dear Walter:

The President asked me to pass along his deep appreciation for your support of his nominations of Justice Fortas and Judge Thornberry.

He appreciated your thoughtfulness in sending us a copy of the telegram you have sent out and wanted you to know that your support has been a source of great strength to him.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

July 10, 1968

Dear Joe:

Thank you for your kind note of July 2nd. I am continuing to work on the matter of the Supreme Court nominations and the response I am receiving is most encouraging.

I spoke to a number of top business executives in Michigan who I thought could be helpful in at least slowing up Senator Griffin. I am enclosing a copy of a telegram that Walker Cisler, Chairman of the Board, Detroit Edison Company, sent following my meeting with him. He also followed up his telegram with a phone call to Bob Griffin.

Please keep me posted and if there is anything further I can do, I shall be most happy to cooperate.

I send my warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

Mr. Joseph Califano
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

JUL 8 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1968

Honorable Walter T. Reuther
President
International Union,
United Auto Workers
AFL-CIO
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Dear Walter:

The President asked me to pass along his deep appreciation for your support of his nominations of Justice Fortas and Judge Thornberry.

He appreciated your thoughtfulness in sending us a copy of the telegram you have sent out and wanted you to know that your support has been a source of great strength to him.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

THE DETROIT EDISON COMPANY

GENERAL OFFICES

2000 SECOND AVE., DETROIT 26, MICH.

JUL 9 1968

TELEGRAM

CLASS OF SERVICE			
DOMESTIC		INTERNATIONAL	
TELEGRAM		FULL RATE	
DAY LETTER		CODE	
NIGHT LETTER	X	NIGHT LETTER	
RADIO MESSAGE TO SHIPS AT SEA			

CHARGES PAID		COLLECT	
DICTATED BY			
TIME			
TYPED BY			
DEPT.			
DETROIT EDISON			
PERSONAL		PR #	

DE FORM MS 55

DATE July 8, 1968

SEND FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

The Honorable Robert P. Griffin
United States Senator
353 Old Senate Office Building
Washington D C 20510

DEAR BOB

BECAUSE OF MY CONFIDENCE IN YOU AND YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL, I AM CONCERNED THAT OPPOSING THE SUPREME COURT NOMINATIONS MAY BE HURTFUL. JUSTICE FORTAS I HAVE KNOWN, THOUGH NOT CLOSELY, FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS. HIS QUALIFICATIONS ARE EXCELLENT. JUDGE THORNBERRY I DO NOT KNOW. I AM MINDFUL THAT THE INTEGRITY OF THE COURT IS MANDATORY. I HOPE THAT THE WHOLE MATTER WILL BE DEALT WITH IN A STATESMAN LIKE MANNER AND THAT DELAYS WILL NOT UNNECESSARILY OCCUR. OUR COUNTRY IS DESPERATELY IN NEED OF FEWER CONFLICTING ISSUES IF WE ARE TO REGAIN OUR STABILITY AND BALANCE, AND THUS I URGE YOU TO CONSIDER FULLY THE IMPACT OF ALL THIS IN THE SUPREME COURT MATTER. I BELIEVE THE NATION WOULD BEST BE SERVED IF THE OPPOSITION, HAVING BEEN VOICED, COULD NOW BE RESOLVED BY A SWIFT, FAVORABLE SENATE DECISION. MY BEST WISHES TO YOU,

SINCERELY

WALKER CISLER

Pres. Johnson

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

JUL 22 1968

TWUY608WUA234 SYA167 SY WWY100 WWZ4 GOVT NL PDB
WUX THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC 20
HON WALTER P REUTHER, DONT DWR
UNITED AUTO WORKERS 8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE DET
BECAUSE OF AN UNAVOIDABLE SCHEDULING PROBLEM THE PRESIDENT REGRETS THAT THE BUSINESS MEETING AND LUNCHEON SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1968, AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE WHITE HOUSE HAS BEEN CANCELLED
THE SOCIAL SECRETARY, THE WHITE HOUSE

844A EDT JUL 22 68

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

phone
regrets

July 23

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

WUY531 WUB087 SYB122 SY WWY105 WWZ7 GOVT NL PDB
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC 18
HON WALTER P REUTHER, UNITED AUTO WORKERS, DONT PHONE
8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE DET
THE PRESIDENT INVITES YOU TO A BUSINESS MEETING AND LUNCHEON
WITH MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN,
THE URBAN COALITION AND THE KAISER COMMISSION ON TUESDAY,
JULY 23, 1968, AT 12:30 P.M., THE WHITE HOUSE.
PLEASE PRESENT THIS TELEGRAM AT THE SOUTHWEST GATE.
RSVP BY RETURN WIRE
THE SOCIAL SECRETARY THE WHITE HOUSE

23 1968 12:30

846A EDT JUL 19 68

JUL 19 1968

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

Regret

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

RB265 ZXM

JUL 30 1968

V
GM

WUY518 WUB059 SSE108 DE LLT027 NL GOVT PDB
THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC 29
WALTER REUTHER, SOLIDARITY HOUSE
8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE (TL-ZXM) DET
ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
ATTEND THE SIGNING OF S. 3497, THE HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968, TH BE HELD IN THE OUTDOOR PLAZA
OF THE NEW HUD BUILDING LOCATED AT 451 7TH ST., S.W.,
WASHINGTON, D.C. AT 11:30 .M., THURSDAY
AUGUST 1, 1968. PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE BY RETURN
WIRE TO THE UNDERSIGNED AT THE WHITE HOUSE, AND BRING
THIS TELEGRAM WITH YOU FOR ADMITTANCE
JAMES R JONES SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

S. 3497 1968 451 7TH 11:30 1 1968.

909A EDT JUL 30 68

Aug 1

JUL 30 1968

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

You are cordially invited
to attend the ceremony at which the Honorable Howard Jenkins, Jr.
will take the oath of office as a Member
of the National Labor Relations Board for a second term.

Thursday, August 1, 1968
11:00 a.m.

Federal Building, Room 2010
17th and H Streets, N. W.

Please present this invitation as you enter.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20570

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President
United Auto Workers
8000 East Jefferson Boulevard
Detroit, 14 Michigan

August 9, 1968

Dear Mr. President:

I am advised that L. N. D. Wells, Jr., is under consideration for appointment to the bench of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

The UAW supports Mr. Wells and hopes you will give him favorable consideration. He has tremendous experience, great integrity and ability and the requisite judicial temperment. We believe his appointment is in keeping with the tradition you have established of appointing strong, capable and liberal Federal judges.

Sincerely,

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

AUG 9 1968

Inter-Office Communication

August 8, 1968

To Walter P. Reuther - President

From Stephen I. Schlossberg - Legal Department

Subject

Dear Walter:

Once before, at my request, you were good enough to write the President to urge the appointment of L. N. D. Wells, Jr. to a judgeship on the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. That seat was filled by Judge Homer Thornberry.

Now there is a new vacancy on that court and many unionists, labor lawyers and liberals are supporting Mr. Wells again. Senator Yarborough has once more submitted his name.

The Teamsters' lawyer called me today to ask for another letter from you in Nat Wells' behalf. I believe his appointment would be a tremendous plus for labor liberalism and civil rights in the South, and, on the assumption that you are willing to write the President, I enclose a suggested draft letter. If you decide to write the letter, I would appreciate a copy.

Fraternally,

SIS:vak
opeiu42

ok

August 8, 1968

Draft:

Dear Mr. President

I am advised that L. N. D. Wells, Jr., is under consideration for appointment to the bench of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

The UAW supports Mr. Wells and hopes you will give him favorable consideration. He has tremendous experience, great ability and the requisite judicial temperament. We believe his appointment is in keeping with the tradition you have established of appointing strong, capable and liberal Federal judges.

Sincerely,

SIS:vak
oepiu42

Walter P. Reuther
President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 21, 1968

Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President
International Union of Auto Workers
8000 E. Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Dear Walter:

Many thanks for your note of August 15, 1968 enclosing the editorial from the Detroit FREE PRESS. As you know, we deeply appreciate your support on this one.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

AUG 23 1968

AUG 29 1968

cc: Steve

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

AUG 26 1968

Mr. Walter Reuther, President
United Auto Workers
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mr. Reuther:

We have been asked to acknowledge your letter to the President in behalf of Mr. L. N. D. Wells, Jr. for appointment to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

We are pleased to have the views of the United Auto Workers regarding Mr. Wells' qualifications and you may be sure he will have our careful attention.

Sincerely,

Ramsey Clark

Attorney General

ret
WLR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 9, 1968

Dear Walter:

Attached is the breakdown you requested. I hope you can be of help.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Walter Reuther
Solidarity House
8000 E. Jefferson Street
Detroit, Michigan

SEP 12 1968

Cloture Vote

FOR (59)	LEANING FOR (3)	LEANING AGAINST (6)	AGAINST (31)
Aiken	Bible	Allott	Baker
Anderson	Cotton	Fulbright	Bennett
Bartlett	Hayden	Jordan	Byrd, Va.
Bayh		Lausche	Byrd, W. Va.
Boggs		Young, N. D.	Carlson
Brewster		Gruening	Curtis
Brooke			Eastland
Burdick			Ellender
Cannon			Ervin
Case			Fannin
Church			Fong
Clark			Griffin
Cooper			Hansen
Dirksen			Hickenlooper
Dodd			Hill
Dominick			Holland
Gore			Hollings
Harris			Jordan, Idaho
Hart			Long, La.
Hartke			McClellan
Hatfield			Miller
Hruska			Mundt
Inouye			Murphy
Jackson			Russell
Javits			Sparkman
Kennedy			Spong
Kuchel			Stennis
Long, Mo.			Talmadge
Magnuson			Thurmond
Mansfield			Tower
McCarthy			Williams, Del.
McGee			
McGovern			
McIntyre			
Metcalf			
Mondale			
Monroney			
Montoya			
Morse			
Morton			
Moss			
Muskie			
Nelson			
Pastore			
Pearson			
Pell			
Percy			
Prouty			
Proxmire			
Randolph			
Ribicoff			
Scott			
Smathers			
Smith			
Symington			
Tydings			
Williams, N. J.			
Yarborough			
Young, Ohio			

September 18, 1968

Dear Joe:

I thought you would like a copy of the statement which I have released today with respect to car prices.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

WPR:ob
opeiu 42

Mr. Joseph Califano
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 18, 1968

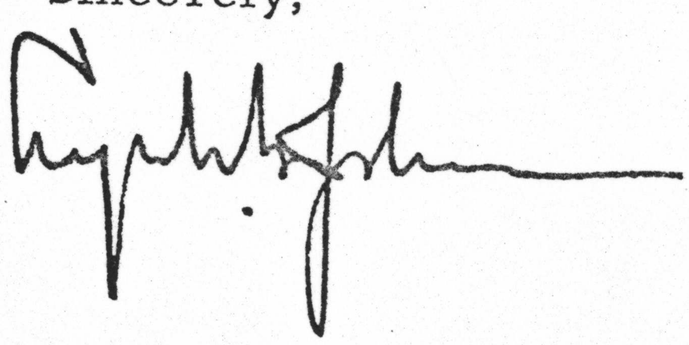
Dear Walter:

Thank you for sending me your statement on the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Your support for a matter of this urgency is needed, welcome, and heartening.

I hope that all responsible Americans will help us secure early ratification of the treaty.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President, International Union
of Auto Workers
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1968

Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President
United Auto Workers
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

Dear Walter:

Many thanks for your note of September 18 enclosing a copy of the press release on the Chrysler price increase. As always, we deeply appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
Special Assistant to the President

SEP 23 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE

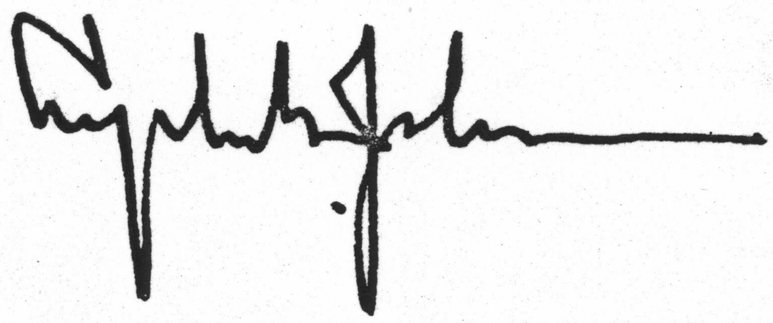
WASHINGTON

October 1, 1968

Dear Walter:

I was heartened by your kind letter and the strong Resolution passed by your local leaders in Michigan. It is always reassuring to know that we share fundamental convictions and high purpose.

Sincerely,



Mr. Walter P. Reuther
President
United Auto Workers
Solidarity House
8000 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48214

NOV 11 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 5, 1968

Dear Victor:

I am heartened to know that you and Mrs. Reuther support my decision to cease the bombing in Vietnam. Your partnership and prayers will continue to sustain me in the difficult but hopeful days that face us now. God bless you both and assist us all in our merciful course.

Sincerely,

Mr. Victor G. Reuther
1126 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036