

November 26, 1963

1:25 p. m.

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TELEPHONE CALL TO  
H. BUSBY FROM THE PRESIDENT

LBJ: Buzz, tell me what these last two pages are. ✓

HB: Yes sir

LBJ: Buzz, tell me what these last two pages ... we've got them all but two, what are they on... international affairs?

HB: Yes sir

LBJ: If not, we've got to put a good deal of that in it, you see.

HB: Oh, yes.... is that satisfactory?

LBJ: Yes, this is real good, what we've got. I've got to get that thrift and frugality in international affairs in it..

HB: I want to get thrift and frugality in there... I want to question whether or not this legislative program talk is what you want to say...

LBJ: Yes, yes. I want just what you've got in there up to now. I don't want a new program, I just want to get the one passed we've got and we'll come up there...

HB: I meant whether you should talk about it this way at all or tell them that they can't ... don't expect them to do it for the first year... explicitly tell them that.

LBJ: I'd just leave it like you've got it.

HB: O.K. Well I didn't trust that. I didn't think that would be what you wanted.

LBJ: No, I think I'd leave it like that. I don't think .. we can go any further and we'll see but I've got to wrap it up now because I ... would make the report... I would say that in the last five days... (Bill, go out there and meet him)... apparently an interruption... last five days that I've got to adhere to what I've seen and hear to... talk to... hear the developments in international relations. We're scheduled to meet with

LBJ  
(Cont'd)

the Erhardt, DeGaulle...

HB: What about Home... did you talk to Home?

LBJ: And Home... these three, we're all going to see... and just say the many problems we have in the world... but we're working in unity and the way the world is working with us... we're grateful to them.

HB: Against the business about you going to see Khrushchev somewhere... would you like to say anything about... maybe not leaving the country... or something of that sort...

LBJ: No. ...

HB: I think that that might be rather popular with the country... because of the succession...

LBJ: Well, we might say while some of them are coming here... uh... with all the problems that we have... and getting acquainted with them... and the remaining year of this Administration... don't have... it's obvious that I can't be away or something like that...

HB: I was thinking about saying something such as that the office of the American President has become a world office... but in these times I believe that the place of the American President is at home...

LBJ: Well, you might... (is heard to say to someone in the room with him "what do you think about that Abe?" ... repeats the above... "the office of the American President has become a world office but in these critical days the place of the American President is at home... he thinks we ought to say in view of the Khrushchev feelers and his letters in wanting to get together... and he thinks in view of the McCormack  
...  
He says no.....

HB: He says now... O.K... very good.

LBJ: Now, we've got to have something in there, you know, on the Alliance for Progress... Buzz... O.K. well you'd better hurry now because I'm gonna have to work on it... and all the

LBJ  
Cont'd           time I'm going to have is between now and 4 o'clock  
                  ... cause I go into this Latin American thing at 4 o'clock  
                  and then I'm going to be stuck and I've got to get this on  
                  the mimeograph... we've got a clear ringing endorsement  
                  of the Alliance for Progress cause we're making that  
                  at 4 o'clock... and maybe Dick Goodwin maybe get a  
                  sentence of what we're saying then... I guess you don't  
                  want to repeat, though.

HB:               No.

LBJ:              Well, Walter can call you and read it to you if you want  
                  him to read it to you... or do you have time?

HB:               Well, I can get somebody to....

LBJ:              What I'm saying is this afternoon at 4 o'clock...

HB:               All right.

LBJ:              Walter.... call him as soon as you can. ....  
                  And, I don't believe I want to say that the old program is  
                  my program ... I want to say on foreign policy that we're  
                  going to have a continuity and not confusion and that I  
                  embraced steps that've been taken but I don't want every  
                  time they want to see what Johnson's program is. go look  
                  and see what Kennedy said..

HB:               Well, I'm concerned about ... about you not saying anything.

LBJ:              Well, wait a minute, Buzz... that might.... you mean you  
                  think if I don't say it... that they'll say that we're not  
                  carrying on.

HB:               Yes sir... and I just don't know what else you can honorably do  
                  except to say that you're carrying on.

LBJ:              As for our programs... the program of this Administration  
                  ... is already before you and I urgently commend action on it....  
                  I've got that of the thrift and that of the frugality and I've to have  
                  that stuff for Abe (or Dave?) and the other fellows I've got there  
                  and I've got to have that in it and the international thing.. I don't

LBJ  
(Cont'd)

know whether you're going to be able to get that in two pages or not, but, anyway, I'll let you go and Walter will call you on the other cause I've got to run.

HB: All right.

LBJ: Bye