

November 23, 1963

1:15 pm

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. FRED KAPPEL, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF AT&T

LBJ: Ejust wanted to say that I rely on you, and want your advice --also wanted to have a chance to visit with you the first time you're down this way but in the meantime to share your thinking with me.

FK: All right, sir, I'll be more than glad to do what I can and I want you to know

LBJ: Well. I wish you'd take your group, your committee, and leaders of it and others that you associate with and tell them of our talk and give me the benefit of their wisdom.

FK: You, sir, don't have anything right now -- at the moment -- in mind, do you?

LBJ: No, no, no, I'm going to probably have a Joint Session in which I'll talk about carrying on and trying to get out probably the tax bill this year, if it is at all possible.

FK: Well, we're all going to be in town on the 4th of December -- the Texas committee and make some public observations in line...

LBJ: I think that would probably be good -- let me see what the situation is and I will get right back to you. Who did you leave this with?

FK: I left it with Larry O'Brien -- I guess that's all right. We're going to be there anyway on that date. Be there late afternoon and also the next day. December 4th.

LBJ: I would think that we'd probably just have them all over for some coffee and have a meeting in the East Room and talk over the situation. You might have them meet there and pick out two or three that you think could makesome worthwhile observations

for about two or three minutes and I might come in and speak for five or ten minutes and then you all could take over and select your spokesman. I'll be back to you, Fred.

FK: All right.

LBJ: I didn't know it, though, I was just thinking of you. They haven't told me.

FK: Well, I think it is wonderful of you and all my confidence is with you.

LBJ: Well, we've got to preserve this system, my friend, and there's a good deal more to ...

FK: You have a great responsibility and your leadership is an inspiration to us all...

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PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
MR. FRED KAPPEL NOVEMBER 23, 1963

President Johnson told Mr. Kappel that "I rely on you, and want your advice....and wanted you to share your thinking with me."

Mr. Kappel answered: "...All my confidence is with you.. You have a great responsibility and your leadership is an inspiration to us all...."