

November 27, 1963

2:31 p. m.

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**TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND RUSSELL WIGGINS  
(to Mr. Wiggins)**

**LBJ** I wanted to tell you these have been pretty trying days and I'm awfully grateful for your good approach in your editorial and all the help that you have been giving me and I never needed it as much in my life... I probably could get by a lot better and easier if Phil was here.. but he's not and I'm going to have some help.. and lean on you and tell me anything you think I need to know.

**RW** Well you're mighty marvelous to call. I haven't bothered you because I knew you would call me if you wanted anything and I just wish to say Mr. President that nobody could have delivered that speech any better.. nobody could have said the things that were more right, correct and proper and nobody could have said them in a better way... it was just absolutely perfect and not a word in it could have been changed except to its disadvantage. It was a great, great, great beginning.

**LBJ** Well we struggled with it until 2:30 and I'm not.. it is not my field but I used to have Phil and I used to have Mr. Rayburn and I used to have a President and I had a good many people I could check with... but my crowd is kind of thinning out and not many of us left so we're going to have to be a little closer together.

**RW** Well, it is so nice of you to call and you call me. I'm at your service .. any hour of the night or day... if there's anything I can do... this newspaper can do to further the cause in which you have embarked... you just let us know.

**LBJ** Well, we've got a program. We've got to carry out.. for the good of the world and we're going to do it with God's help and yours, why we'll get it done. Thank you.

**RW** Thank you so much

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH  
RUSSELL WIGGINS NOVEMBER 27, 1963

The President said: "I wanted to tell you...I'm awfully grateful for your good approach in your editorial and all the help that you have given me and I never needed it as much in my life...."

Mr. Wiggins said: "...Nobody could have delivered that speech any better...nobody could have said things that were more right, correct and proper and nobody could have said them in a better way...it was just absolutely perfect...It was a great, great, great beginning....I'm at your service any hour of the night or day...if there's anything I can do...this newspaper can do to further the cause in which you have embarked...you just let us know."