

EISENHOWER, DWIGHT D.: Records as President (White House Central Files)

Official File: Box 474

Folder: OF 113-I Drought Disaster 1953 (1)

United States Senate  
Office of the Democratic Leader  
Washington, D. C.

June 25, 1953

Dear Mr. President:

As I know you are aware, the cattlemen in the drought-stricken areas of Texas and other Southwestern States are facing a desperate situation. The drought in that area has been characterized as the most critical since the dust bowl days of 1934 to 1936. On the one hand prices for their cattle have steadily declined, on the other hand they must buy at high prices, all the feed consumed by their cattle.

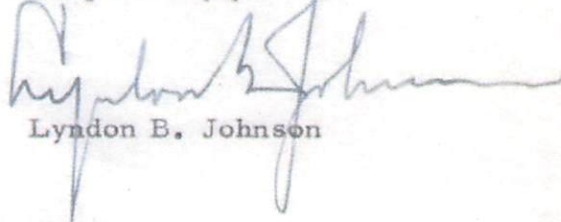
They need help -- badly and at once.

I respectfully suggest that monies from the President's Emergency Fund be used to buy feedstuffs where they are plentiful, to subsidize the transportation of these feeds to the distressed areas, and to make the feeds available to the cattlemen at reasonable prices.

I further suggest that the facilities of the Farmers Home Administration and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation be used to extend credit to cattlemen standing in need of financial assistance to buy feed, even though offered at reduced prices.

These steps are urgently needed to save the Texas and national cattle industry. Your consideration of them will be deeply appreciated by me and by the people of my State.

Respectfully yours,



Lyndon B. Johnson

The Honorable,  
Dwight D. Eisenhower,  
President of the United States,  
The White House.