

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Illinois

United States Senate ROBO: RADIO AND TV
Minority Leader FILMS AND TAPES (NEW)
December 1959

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Dear

For several years a very substantial number of radio and television broadcast stations in Illinois have carried a program called "The Senator Reports". It was usually scheduled by the stations for presentation toward the end of the week. The report was recorded on film and tape, was 13½ minutes in length and was entirely a solo presentation of some pertinent current matter which I thought would be of interest to the people back home. Every effort was made to be very careful in these programs not to offend or take advantage from the standpoint of politics or partisanship.

The response has been beyond our fondest hopes, and perhaps one best measure of the program lies in the number of stations that carried it heretofore who have asked to be served again when the Second Session of the 86th Congress begins on January 6.

These tapes and films are prepared in a studio in the Capitol Building which is under the jurisdiction of the Senate Sergeant at Arms. The programs are ordinarily prepared early in the week and forwarded without delay so that they arrive at the stations in ample time.

I would be grateful if you care to make the facilities of your station available for this purpose. We handle the expense of having the films and tapes prepared. May we hear from you at your convenience so that we can gear the program as soon as the new Session gets under way?

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

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United States Senate
Minority Leader

ROBO: RADIO AND TV
PREVIOUSLY SERVICED
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Dear:

On January 6 the Second Session of the 86th Congress will convene. You were kind enough to make your station facilities available during the last Session for the weekly 13½ minute report which I prepared on tape and film in the Senate studio.

I would be most happy to reinstate this program which, you recall, was generally referred to as "The Senator Reports". I found this to be a most constructive way of keeping in touch with folks back home and at the same time keeping them advised in a non-partisan, non-political manner of the developments on the Washington scene. In times past, I have undertaken to be careful and circumspect in these reports so that they could not be offensive from a political or partisan standpoint.

We should like to know at your early convenience whether you can carry the report again in 1960, so that suitable arrangements can be made with the studio here in Washington and we can get the whole program in good order before the Session begins in January.

I am grateful for your past kindnesses and do hope that through your facilities this service to your viewers and my constituents can be resumed.

With every good personal wish,

Everett McKinley Dirksen