

Edna

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Illinois

United States Senate
Minority Leader

BERLIN

July 25, 1961

Dear :

There is little doubt about the present mood and attitude with respect to the maintenance of a firm and unequivocal policy in dealing with the Berlin problem. Psychologically, it would appear almost calamitous if we retreated on this issue after the debacle in Cuba and the failure in Laos.

An all-German plebiscite to cover the issue of reunification for Berlin is the proper approach but obviously the Soviet Union and the East German leaders would never concur in such a suggestion. All this but implements the case for remaining firm.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

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Illinois

United States Senate
Minority Leader

BERLIN (STAND FIRM)

Oct. 9, 1961

Dear :

The Berlin situation is sticky and perilous, to say the least, but both branches of Congress have been vigorously supporting the policy of a firm stand. What the unfoldments are remains to be seen but I am confident we shall not retreat from our rights in this area.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen