

form letter to answer those writing about Senator Goldwater being barred from leadership meetings.

Dear

The press account of leadership meetings and the question of having the Congressional and Senatorial Campaign Chairmen attend such meetings was, I am afraid, a somewhat slanted estimate of the whole situation.

The leadership meetings which are carried on follow precisely the pattern developed many years at the White House and it was the general inclination to avoid the possibility of giving these meetings a political flair that attendance was limited to those who have always been considered the party leaders, namely Chairman of the Policy Committee, Chairman of the Party Conference, the Minority Floor Leader and the Assistant Leader. To depart from this format could invite other repercussions and I believe thus far the leadership conferences have worked out quite well. There was not the slightest thought of selling anyone short.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen