Dear:

While I was anxious to see Senate approval of an aid to depressed areas bill and did submit and secure a vote on a substitute measure which I thought adequate for all purposes, I did oppose Senate 1 because I felt it went too far in a number of directions.

That, of course, is now history in view of the fact that it was approved by both Senate and House and is now before a conference committee to work out the differences between House and Senate versions.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
... 1961

... ...

Dear ...:

I presume a limited distressed area program can be justified like that which President Eisenhower suggested and which I introduced in the last Administration.

It seems, however, that there are those who would go over the deep end with a huge program which doubtless would take on a permanent character and embrace areas that should by themselves, or with state aid, solve their own problems. But, as you know, the tendency of government is to become larger and larger and more intrusive into the affairs of the people, and it becomes a difficult job indeed to keep it in line.

I appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear ........

Thank you for your comments relating to S. 2180. This is pending before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and although hearings have been held, no further action is scheduled at the moment.

The progress in the development of fantastically destructive weapons should certainly stimulate as nothing else can do the desire of all mankind and the leaders of all nations to find a practical, progressive, gradual method in the field of disarmament and for the relief of all peoples from the armament burden which the world today carries.

To be sure, the world is beset with fever and hostility, and we cannot afford to diminish our security and national defense unless and until there are adequate guarantees by other nations that they will join in this effort and permit the necessary inspection and surveillance which would necessarily attend such a program.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

United States Senate
Minority Leader