Dear ...:

Over and over I have said that there are a variety of approaches to the problem of halting inflation, but the first and foremost should be to trim the budget and if necessary, put the country on a semi-austere basis. Once this is accomplished we can then examine whatever else must be done, such as tax increases, in order to bridge the gap.

We Republicans have consistently spoken out on the dangers of inflation, especially the hardships faced by those living on fixed incomes. We will continue to urge the Administration to reduce federal spending by cutting back or even eliminating programs which may be desirable but which are not vitally necessary at the present time.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
Dear:

I really appreciate your letter. Inflation is here and it is here in a big way particularly as it affects food costs, clothing costs and other items which are such a large part of the budget of the average family.

There are two hard answers. One is to cut spending. The other is to increase taxes. I much prefer reducing government spending in order to hold the line. It occurs to me that the President could well direct a very firm and unequivocal statement to the Congress insisting that his budget limits be observed and for that matter even reduced in order to hold a firm line on any further increase in prices. I will cooperate to the full.

Sincerely, 

Everett McKinley Dirksen