TRADE WITH COMMUNISTS (ROBO)

April 18, 1967

Dear :

In January when the President referred to the building of East-West trade in his message to Congress, Congressman Ford, the Republican Leader in the House, and I were provided with time on the television networks to make a response. Enclosed is a copy of our statement and your attention is called to what we had to say about East-West trade.

There will be extended hearings on any such proposal before it reaches the Floor of the House and Senate for action and it will have the most thoroughgoing and painstaking consideration.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen

Enclosure
October 3, 1967

Dear:

In view of the Communists' apparent unwillingness to make such gestures a two-way venture, I feel that any efforts on our part to build "bridges" between East and West will be futile at the present time, if not foolhardy. When the Vietnam problem has been settled and the Reds have proved themselves to be reliable partners in peace, there will be time enough to begin "bridge building".

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen