

REF

April 6, 1967

Mr. C.W. Vincent
1817 Guilderland Avenue
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Vincent:

Thank you for your thoughtful comments on the recent vote in the House to deny Representative Adam Clayton Powell his seat.

As you may know, I have been speaking out and have introduced legislation to provide for a Committee on Standards and Conduct. I am pleased to be able to tell you that my bill providing for such a committee is soon to be ready to come to the Floor of the House for consideration. I feel that a code such as this will serve to eliminate such unfortunate situations as we have recently witnessed in the House.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

Schenectady, New York 12306
1817 Guilderland Ave.

March 19, 1967

Hon. Daniel Button
Albany Times-Union
Albany, New York

Honorable Sir:

Herewith is an editorial clipped from the Schenectady "Gazette" of March 18th, the subject and conclusions of which are most disturbing.

Most people, I believe, have been completely sympathetic to the proceedings against Powell, agreeing that remedial steps must surely be taken to stop this flagrant form of graft by our elected legislators.

And most people have wholeheartedly agreed that the issue was by no means one connected with race. I have counted myself as one of these.

But...if the implications of this editorial are soundly based, I'm not at all sure that the cry of "persecution of the negro" is not justified. If, as the editorial suggests, no meaningful reform of Congress in this regard comes out of this case, then it seems patent that present race relations will be greatly exacerbated. How could we defend against the persecution charge?

I find it hard to believe that "something effective" will not be done by our Congress. And I gravely doubt that the citizenry will soon "be able to forget all disturbing thoughts about the ethics" in this matter.

Will you please consider the urgent necessity for Congressional action here? Thank you.

Very truly,

C.W. Vincent

C.W. Vincent

S

ANNA C. HUME, Vice-President
Schenectady, N.Y.

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Schenectady, N.Y.

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The Associated Press is entitled exclu-
sively to the use for republication of all the
local news printed in the newspaper as well
as all (AP) dispatches.



Reform Unlikely

Christian Science Monitor corre-
spondent wrote, "The members of Con-
gress will be making a grave mistake
if they think they can score a lot of
points with the voters by doing prac-
tically everything to Adam Clayton
Powell and practically nothing to re-
form the system which made Powell's
offenses possible."

Mr. Drummond asked whether Con-
gress is actually going to do anything
about the following:

"1. Widespread nepotism which
wastes public money and pads the fam-
ily income at government expense.

"2. Loose and unscrutinized han-
dling of funds by committee chairmen.
This is what made it so easy for Powell
to take travel vouchers for scores of
personal trips.

"3. Failure to disclose annual per-
sonal income by members and employes
of Congress, as urged by Senators Case
of New Jersey and Miller of Iowa and
others in order to guard against a con-
flict of interest.

"4. Unethical and lax fund-raising
techniques and the acceptance of taint-
ed contributions . . ."

It would be nice to think that some-
thing effective would be done about
such practices, but there is little rea-
son to expect it. When the Powell case
blows over, Congress and the public
probably will be able to forget all dis-
turbance about ethics. Human
nature doesn't change and certainly the
nature of Congress, and of congress-
men, is not changed by a controversy
of this sort. If anyone expects any
meaningful reform of Congress, he can
forget it.

Gazette
3/18/67

U. S. House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

Adam Clayton Powell
letters - Albany County.

- ① Pro D.E. B. position
- ② Pro establishment of Ethics
Committee.

ACP

March 15, 1967

Mr. Sol D. Zimmerman
136 Grove Avenue
Albany, New York

Dear Sol:

That was a very thoughtful letter that you wrote concerning my vote and position on the Powell matter. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me your views, along with your commendation. In this regard you may be interested in part of the text of a letter which I have just received from a clergyman whose views I respect:

"As to the Powell situation - what a mess! We certainly cannot approve the antics of Mr. Powell, any more than we can approve similar practices by other Congressmen, but it seems to me that he does have a Constitutional right to be seated, and until Congress is ready to agree on a set of ethics and enforce it equally on all Congressmen, I agree with the report of the special committee that a censure and penalty are more reasonable."

I am looking forward to hearing from you again, and I do hope that I will have the opportunity of seeing you soon.

With every good wish.

Most sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

Address
136 GROVE
GRENZ AVE -
ALBANY - N.Y.

March 3, 1967

Hon. Daniel Button
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

MAR 6 1967

Dear Dan:

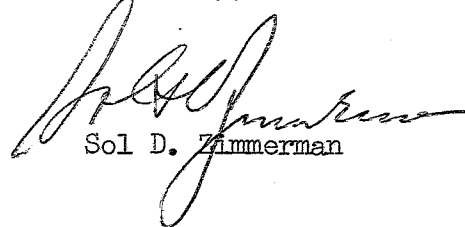
Thank you very much for your kind remarks in your letter of the 27th. I was very happy to see that you have a mind of your own and you do not follow the mob; I am proud of you.

Although I am not an authority on constitutional law, I think the constitutional statement with respect to each house judging its members means the members which were elected to that particular house for that particular term of office. That does not mean that they can go back and judge the conduct of a member of previous congresses.

I don't condone Powell's conduct, but the people that voted for him, knew of his conduct, and yet they voted him to represent them in the congress. If his conduct in the 90th congress is not up to snuff, then that congress can remove him for his conduct while a member of the 90th congress.

If they wanted to ^{to} punish him, I think that what they should have done was to have ~~them~~ reimburse the monies taken under questionable circumstances and not punish him with a fine of \$4,000. I am sure that the southern democrats wouldn't have done this to their own kind.

Sincerely,


Sol D. Zimmerman

ACT

March 15, 1967

Mr. Joseph L. Weininger
809 Karenwald Lane
Schenectady, New York 12309

Dear Mr. Weininger:

What a thrill it was to have your very understanding letter concerning the Powell vote -- and even more significantly your thoughtful comments about the background.

I have been so inspired by the fine text of your letter that I have taken the liberty of quoting its contents at a few places. I can assure you that it does much for any Congressman to have such a letter as yours reminding him that voting the conscience (after adequate inquiry into all the circumstances) is really not out of style.

To answer your question, "Is this a fair thing to ask one's Congressman?", I want to tell you that we are in complete agreement and I hope that you and other responsible citizens will never let me, or other legislators for that matter, forget the importance of it. And, as you say, "...if it is to be only two years in Congress, what two years they could be!"

Again, my gratitude for your very fine letter.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

Joseph L. Weininger
809 Karenwald Lane
Schenectady, N.Y. 12309

Hon. Daniel Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

MAR 4 1967
March 2, 1967.

Dear Congressman,

This is to tell you how much I appreciate your vote yesterday regarding the censure but seating of Adam Clayton Powell. I know how difficult this decision must have been for you and would like to encourage you in every way possible, particularly concerning civil rights legislation.

Of course the Powell case has a dampening effect on civil rights so that one can only hope that this will get out of the way soon. Conversely, the recent and continuing killing of Negroes in the South should make it easier to put more teeth into the Federal protection of Negro citizens.

May I be so presumptuous as to tell you how that situation looks from where I stand (sit)? Most white Liberals, like myself, Reform-Democrats, Reform-Republicans, Reform-anythings, are fence-sitters at best on the Powell issue. All too often they are only fair-weather friends of civil rights. If help is required beyond a small donation or the signing of a petition, then the Negroes are essentially on their own. Here in Schenectady we have a fairly tranquil situation, maybe the problem is managable because of the small Negro population. The local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. (of which I am a board member) seems to be quite effective, at least in terms of presenting a strong front against discrimination (there is enough of it even here, particularly in housing and jobs). It is trying to reach a larger number of Negro residents, but so far most of them are lethargic, here as elsewhere.

I mention this because a cool appraisal of the political climate at home would indicate that there are not many votes for you in civil rights. And yet I ask you to continue to vote your conscience. In fact, I am afraid, that if you continue to do that, or more specifically, if you would vote in Congress the way I would like you to (let us hope these are not the same things, for your sake), then you could not be re-elected.

Is this a fair thing to ask one's Congressman? I believe so. Apparently being a Congressman entails a great deal of physical, emotional, and financial sacrifice. If so, it must be expended for a commensurate cause. And if it is to be only two years in Congress, what two years they could be!

With best wishes from one of your more pessimistic constituents,

Sincerely yours,

J. Weininger

ACP

March 15, 1967

Rev. Lee A. Howe, Jr.
Executive Director
The Schenectady County Council
of Churches
271 State Street
Schenectady 5, New York

Dear Reverend Howe:

I am grateful for your thoughtful letter, particularly with your insightful words of support on Selective Service and the Powell matter. It is encouraging to know of your backing on such issues -- ones on which I assure you support is far from universal.

The opponents on such issues tend to become rather emotional, and so it was particularly heartening to read the quietly understanding tone of your final paragraph relating to the Viet Nam conflict. On this, as a matter of fact, I ought to tell you that you and I probably are not nearly as far apart as your words intimate. I hope we will have an opportunity to talk this over one of these days soon; meanwhile, please accept my very best wishes and appreciation.

Most sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

The Schenectady County Council of Churches

271 STATE STREET SCHENECTADY 5, NEW YORK Telephone FRanklin 2-1548

LEE A. HOWE Jr.
Executive Director

Hon. Daniel Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Button:

March 9, 1967

MAR 11

It has been good to have a chance to visit with you, however briefly, on two recent occasions. I appreciated your "formal" remarks each time.

I want to add a word of support to you on two matters where my own convictions coincide with yours - the draft and the Powell case. It has long been a conviction with me that conscription is not the way to secure men for the armed services. I oppose it on ideological grounds as tending to militarize a nation, indoctrinating all those who are conscripted and placing the seal of approval by our nation on the military method of trying to solve international problems. And, of course, it does lead itself to unfair administrative procedures, so that the most disadvantaged of our people become most probable inductees. For whatever your reasons, I am glad that you support the idea of voluntarism for recruiting men. Service then becomes truly patriotic in the sense of a person doing something for his country out of his own conviction and as an expression of his loyalty.

As to the Powell situation - what a mess! We certainly cannot approve the antics of Mr. Powell, any more than we can approve similar practices by other Congressmen, but it seems to me that he does have a constitutional right to be seated, and until Congress is ready to agree on a set of ethics and enforce it equally on all Congressmen, I agree with the report of the special committee that a censure and penalty are more reasonable.

As soon as time permits, it is my intention to write both Senators Kennedy and Javits supporting their position on the cessation of bombing in North Vietnam. Having become convinced that you are a reasonable and intelligent man, as well as having ability and courage, I am confident that one of these days I will find you sharing their position. In the meantime, congratulations on the fine way you are fulfilling the responsibilities of your office.

Yours truly,



Lee Howe.

P. S. I am hoping to attend the March 17, 3:30 P. M. meeting at Holiday Inn.

2-

SCHENECTADY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

THIRTY-SEVEN STEUBEN STREET
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12307

DONALD S. SMITH
DIRECTOR

459 State Street
Schenectady, N. Y.

March 3, 1967

Mr. Daniel Button
Congressman, New York State
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

MAR 6 1967

Dear Representative Button:

Though your vote earlier this week on the question of seating Congressman Adam Clayton Powell was a lost vote, I did want to express briefly my reaction to you.

I heartily approved of your vote. Indeed, I would welcome the opportunity to vote against some of those who voted to oust Mr. Powell. But, I am happy that you did not swing with the tide. I am sure Mr. Celler is correct: that this action will come back to haunt both the parties and the House.

Your vote required some courage and I heartily support it!

Sincerely,



John J. Waggy, Jr.
Administrative Ass't

J. LESLIE TOOHER
1450 VALENCIA ROAD
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12309

March 3, 1967

MAR 6 1967

The Honorable Daniel E. Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I write only to express my strong approval of ~~your vote on the Powell issue, and to counterbalance what I understand was a heavy demand from other constituents for the heavier penalty imposed, which may have been deserved but which was a most inept tactic.~~

This was probably the worst error (as it will presently be seen) which the House has committed since Thaddeus Stevens and his willful coterie attempted to upset the balance of constitutional government just a century past.

Yours very truly,

J. L. Toohar

MAR 6 1967

#2 Pleasant Street
Yoorheesville, New York
March 3, 1967

Congressman Daniel Button
Longworthy House Office building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Button:

The Women's International League want me to convey to you the appreciation they felt for our recent meeting, and to compliment you on your stand on the Powell issue. We feel it is not in the jurisdiction of Congress to try a member for his criminal acts and that until a code of ethics is adopted which shall apply to all members, it is wrong to single out individuals to punish for capricious and immoral behaviour. We shared our views on this, of course, and have followed the voting with interest.

We would appreciate being placed on your mailing list if your office sends out informative materials.

Thank you again for your courtesy.

Sincerely,



(Mrs.) Julia Van Cleve
Sec., Albany branch

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Albany Branch Officers:

Mrs. Theodore Adams, Chairman, 112 Chestnut St., Albany

Mrs. Elizabeth Millard, Treas.

Mrs. Helen Ott, Legislative Chairman

Edward H. Clarke
244 Morris St.
Albany, N. Y. 12208

Dear Mr. Button

Congratulations ^{MAR 6 1967} on your vote
against exclusion of Mr. Powell.

I am sure it took much
courage and clear thinking to
vote with a minority of eleven.

The Powell affair is un-
fortunate on several counts:

① Although he is probably
guilty of illegal use of funds,
and certainly guilty of unprincipled
use of funds; almost a majority
of the House participate in these
practices, at least to some extent.

It was, therefore, unfair to pick just one person for investigation; and it was a disaster that he was the only powerful Negro in Congress.

② By denying his seat pending investigation, the House was in effect saying "guilty until proven innocent."

③ By ram-rodding through the harshest possible penalty with such little thought, and such blatant disregard of the House leader's thought, the Representatives further lowered their respectability.

④ When Powell goes to court, and the issues of due process and constitutional rights are investigated; the Supreme Court may be pitted against the House of Representatives, and respect for the House and government in general will reach rock bottom.

Government in general is suffering a credibility crisis; and I feel the root of this lies in murky moral and ethical standards and practices within government.

The House over it to
the negro race to investigate
all members of the House; and
I feel this is an excellent
time for ambitious reform.

I hope other forthright,
clear thinking, and honest
representatives will join
you in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Clarke

DR. WALTER P. ZENNER
86 HAWTHORNE AVENUE
ALBANY, N. Y. 12203

MAR 6 1967

Cong. Daniel Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

March 2, 1967

Dear Rep. Button;

I would like to praise your stand on the Powell case. While I am not a Negro nor a sympathizer with Mr. Powell, it does seem to me that rejection of the Celler Committee report was as highhanded as any of Mr. Powell's actions. This case shows the need for procedures and rules, rather than ad hoc acts like the expulsion of Powell and the censure of McCarthy.

The way in which the House handled this issue weakens Americans when they argue about the treatment of minorities elsewhere in the world. For instance, when we criticize the Soviet Union with regard to its ignoring the national rights of its Jewish minority (which are legally guaranteed), they can turn to our double standard regarding the Congressmen from Mississippi and Mr. Powell.

Sincerely yours,

Walter P. Zenner
Walter P. Zenner

DANIEL F. HALLORAN
716 PARK STREET
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22901

March 3, 1967

Dear Dan,

MAR 6 1967

I was very pleased and proud yesterday to read in the Washington Post that you were among the Republicans who ~~voted for the resolution to seat and censure Adam Powell~~ and I hope you were among those who voted against expulsion. In my opinion, the recommendation of the committee was fair and reasonable and definitely not motivated by racism while the move to expel Powell was a product of mass political hysteria in which racial prejudice was not absent, even if it was not a primary factor.

I am very much afraid the action taken by the Congress on Powell is going to have an extremely detrimental effect on racial relations. Many Negroes will take it as a symbolic denial of their aspirations by the white majority, and white bigots may see this as Congressional approval of their desire to turn the clock backward and deny to Negro citizens what gains they have made in the past few years.

Incidentally, I have just written to Senator Kennedy to commend him for his speech yesterday advocating that the U. S. take the initiative in seeking peace negotiations.

Best regards,



Copy
of this
(ACT)

February 1, 1967

Mr. and Mrs. Ray T. Karis
24 Windsor Drive
Scotia, New York 12302

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Karis:

I am in receipt of a copy of your letter to Congressman Carl Albert, the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives. Since I succeeded Congressman Leo O'Brien at the first of the year, the copy was directed to my attention.

I think that virtually all Members of the House of Representatives share your concern about the reputation of the House and of the individual Members. There certainly is a great deal of evident distress to the unfortunate incidents which have compromised in many ways the high regard which I think all of us Americans traditionally had for the Nation's Legislature in which it is now my great privilege to be able to serve you. Certainly the Members of the House with whom I have talked regard the Powell matter as a most distressing tragedy and one which, hopefully, will lead us rather promptly to the creation of a suitable committee on ethics and an adoption of an appropriate code.

I, too, read that article in Parade on the same day that I left Albany to come to Washington to take my seat in Congress. I must say that I regard it as a masterpiece of alarmist statement and exaggeration which fails to do credit to the principles and motives of the hundreds of fine men who serve in Congress. Your letter observes, partly as a result of that unfair article, that "Most Congressman are probably honest," and I wish to assure you that I am confident by far the overwhelming majority, and indeed very possibly virtually unanimously so, are not "probably honest", but absolutely so.

Again, my thanks to you for your interest in this very important subject.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

Copy for Mr. Leo O'Brien

24 Windsor St.

Scotia, N.Y., 12302

January 21, 1967

Honorable Carl Albert
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D.C.

JAN 25 1967

Copy

Dear Mr. Albert:

In the recent goings-on over Rep. Adam Powell and his statements regarding the facts that he was acting no differently from his colleagues in regard to using money and travel finances freely, but that since he was a Negro they were trying to lower the estimation of the people of his race.

We are not questioning your suspending him from his seat while investigating him, but what strikes us is his remarks to the effect that he was acting no differently from the other men in the government.

We have also read an article in "Parade" of Jan. 8, 1967, "Crack Down on Cheaters", which has alarmed us greatly. We think very highly of our representatives in our government and expect them to live up to this ideal!

It would be a good idea if all members and top congressional staff were to make an annual report covering their income, gifts, assets, and liabilities, and all transactions in property, and that names be selected at random each year to be checked into. It is being shown that men are weak and cannot fight off the temptation to spend the easily-obtained money. (Like all that money Mr. Powell is sending to his separated wife - under the name of "wages") How many others are doing this type of thing? There should be a policing committee to check up!

Most Congressmen are probably honest, but as Jack Anderson in his article, "The New Congress must Crack Down on Cheaters", "... the time has come for honest Congressmen to band together and bring in checks their less honest colleagues."

yours truly,

Mr. and Mrs. Ray T. Karis

Dear Rep. Burton

MAR 7 1967

Thank you so much for not listening to some of the REPUBLICAN Leadership and voting for the exclusion of Adam Clayton Powell. At present there is no real code of ethics and over the years there have been many who deserved censure and more. That he was more bltant in what and how he did things is, to my mind, no excuse for not going along with all or a goodly part of the committee's suggestions.

No doubt the others did not realize that on account of his color they have created a MARTYR and probably a FRANKENSTEIIAN situation. In this day and age one must do the best that he can and what he believes isright, but only after some real thoght as to the longe range result of his vote will be....He now has a perfect excuse to go to court. I dread to think of the repercussions...all around

I truly hope that I am wrong when I say that I feel that the Republican Party has been badly hurt and that many colored people who have on the fence politically will make this a racial issue and in the future will vote for anyone who is not a Republican, because as far as I can tell this would not have happened without the Rep. vote .

Thank you again for thinking and doing what I feel, at this time, was the only proper course.

Please show this to the others (Republicans only of course) who were in your corner

Sincerely,

Mrs. Arthur E. Haid
6 "Q" Street
Hull, Mass. 02045

A very disturbed Republican

P.S. Am not in favor of more Rus. Consulates, their interpretation of Englis Language too different
P.P.S. Why not fire on NO.V. plnes when on ground?
Do they or would they wait for us? H A HA



January 24, 1967

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Lindblad
35 Sutherland Drive
Scotia, New York

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Lindblad:

Thank you for your letter concerning the vote in the House of Representatives on the seating of Adam Clayton Powell.

It seems to me that it was against a backdrop of admitted short-comings that most of the members of the House found it necessary regrettably and sorrowfully, to consider the case of Representative Powell.

I voted with 364 Members of the House who joined in saying that he should stand aside until the very serious charges against him are inquired into. There were six times as many Members voting this way as there were voting contrary.

One of the Members stated during the debate: "We who are charged with helping to write the laws of the land must, I think show respect for those laws, show a willingness to obey them and more importantly, a respect for that independent branch of the Government the judiciary, which is charged with interpreting and enforcing those laws".

It was in that spirit that the House finally was moved to look into the charges against its Member. May I point out that, while awaiting the disposition of the inquiry, Mr. Powell will receive all his pay, allowances, and emoluments; he is deprived only of his vote.

On the issue of depriving constituents of representation let me point out that this is by no means a unique case. Whenever a Representative resigns or dies in office, or as in the case of Mr. Powell, is asked to stand aside, for whatever period of time - his constituency is unrepresented. It is an unfortunate occurrence whenever it happens, but it is not discriminatory by nature.

A Code of Ethics is badly needed in the House. I am firmly on record to this effect, and I expect and intend to do all within my power as a Member of the 90th Congress to see that this serious lack is corrected.

I do believe that this is something which many of my colleagues are aware of, and they share with me the desire to see it corrected.

I join you in hoping that one of the outcomes of the need for an inquiry will prove to be the installation for a general set on standards at this time, and I am personally pledged to work toward such a development.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

JAN 20 1967

35 Sutherland Drive
Scotia, New York 12302
January 17, 1967

Congressman Daniel Button
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We wish to advise you of our support for the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. We feel that Rep. Powell is being punished more for breaches of white social etiquette than for any crimes he has committed against the House of Representatives. The flair with which he does what other congressmen also do, namely use his position and seniority for personal enjoyment, is offensive but hardly grounds to deny representation to his district.

Perhaps he is not a good representative for that district, but that is a question for them not for the House to decide. For the House to deny Rep. Powell his seat would indeed be hypocrisy. As former residents of Washington, D.C. we know that personal power and enjoyment of that power is for many the name of the "game" in Washington. To punish an overt sinner and let the sneaky ones get by would be unfortunate, particularly in view of the resulting damage that has and will be done in the area of race relations.

We also wish to express our support for the Poverty program and our opposition to moves to cut appropriations for it. We are particularly concerned about financial support for Community Action Programs. Schenectady has an excellent community action program and other communities have also proved the worth of this strategy in the "war".

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lindblad
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lindblad

293 Washington Ave.
Albany, New York 12206

ACS /
The Hon. Daniel E. Button
U.S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

JAN 18 1967

Dear Congressman Button:

One hoped for more than an automatic party-line vote from an individual who campaigned as an independent, thoughtful candidate for Congress. Yet as soon as you took your seat in the House you joined the Republican solid vote to deny Adam Clayton Powell his seat. This despite the fact that no charges were directly brought against Mr. Powell, nor was he permitted to reply to his accusers.

The action in which you participated may be constitutional, but to many of us it is repugnant that the House took it upon itself to repair its image by denying Mr. Powell a seat because of actions he took outside his capacity as a Congressman, while it has willingly tolerated obstructionism which blocks the change of progressive legislation for years. All rationalizations to the contrary cannot cover the fact that Mr. Powell was singled out because he is a symbol, and the people - black and white - know it.

In a television interview prior to your going to Washington you said that you believed Mr. Powell had a right to take his seat and that the people of his district had the right to their duly elected representative. That was a sound and reasonable statement. I urge you to return to the position of that statement and work for the seating of Adam Clayton Powell.

Sincerely,

John M. Reilly
John M. Reilly

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. MCFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

LLA195 KQPLSYA132

SY ABA349 NL PD ALBANY NY 14

HON DANIEL BUTTON

1967 JAN 14 PM 10 36

WASHDC

WE ARE DEEPLY DISTURBED BY THE ^{HYPOCRISY} ~~HYPOCRACY~~ OF THE ACTION TAKEN IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNING CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL. THIS ^{MANNER} ~~SELECTIVE AND DISCRIMINATORY MANNER~~ IN WHICH THE HOUSE APPLIED MORAL SANCTIONS TO ONE OF ITS MEMBERS RAISES AN ISSUE THAT OVERRIDES THE ISSUE OF THE SINGLE CONGRESSMAN'S BEHAVIOR. THE EVIL OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION APPEARS ONCE AGAIN TO HAVE FOUND A LEGAL GUISE TO INFLICT INJURY ON THE NEGRO COMMUNITY OF OUR NATION. WE CALL FOR AN IMMEDIATE ADOPTION OF A CODE OF ETHICS TO BE APPLIED UNIVERSALLY TO ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS THE RACIAL IMPERATIVES OF THE POWELL CASE DICTATE THAT THERE BE NO FURTHER POLITICAL DAWDLING OVER A CONGRESSIONAL CODE WE CALL UPON YOU AS OUR REPRESENTATIVES TO INITIATE AND

(R2-65)

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. McFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
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1967 JAN 14 PM 10 36

COOPERATE IN IMMEDIATE STEPS TO THIS END
THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMITTEE THE PRESBYTERY OF ALBANY
NY THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON THE USA
(45).

*Rev. Gerald Platz - chmn
(assoc minstr) Westminster Presby church, 45 Chestnut St
Albany*

*Rev. Geo Morgan - gen presbyter
Presbytery office
601 Fifth Ave
Wateroliet*

*Rev. John R. Sharp - assoc minstr
Madison Park
Presby church
704 Park Ave*

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. McFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International
Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

1967 JAN 9 PM 8 08

NFA177 (44)SYA381

SY ABB419 NL PD 6 EXTRA ALBANY NY 9

HONORABLE DANIEL BUTTON

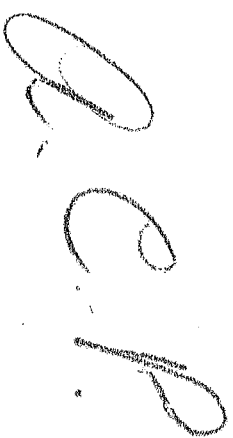
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHDC

NO PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO IS UNWILLING TO ANSWER CHARGES BROUGHT UP AGAINST HIM IN A CIVIL ACTION CLAIMING CONGRESSIONAL IMMUNITY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK STATE IN CONGRESS.

REQUEST YOU VOTE AGAINST REPRESENTATIVE ADAM CLAYTON POWELL TAKING A SEAT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RICHARD F VOLK 538 MORRIS ST ALBANY NY 12208.

February 10, 1967



Dr. Joseph B. Robinson
392 Loudonville Road
Loudonville, New York

Dear Dr. Robinson:

Thank you for your letter of February 3rd concerning the vote in the House of Representatives on the seating of Representative Adam Clayton Powell.

It seems to me that it was against a backdrop of admitted shortcoming that most Members of the House found it necessary, regretfully and sorrowfully, to consider the case of Congressman Powell.

I voted with the 364 Members of the House who joined in saying that he should stand aside until the very serious charges against him are cleared into. There were six times as many Representatives voting this way as there were voting contrary. The decision to take the present action against Representative Powell is entirely unrelated to racial discrimination and those who carelessly raise it as an issue are doing a disservice not only to the minority they profess to serve, but also to the cause of reasonable and pacific human relations and civil rights in this country.

Representative Udall, who has argued vigorously and eloquently for seating Mr. Powell before an inquiry, ended up voting with the 364, with this explanation: "If there is a chance for him (Mr. Powell) to prove his case, to have a hearing to get his seat back, we should pass the substitute resolution and have the committee appointed. If the committee should find that he should be seated and recommends that he be seated, then a resolution could be prepared and submitted for that purpose." Of course, there never was any question throughout the entire debate as to whether Mr. Powell's conduct was a fit subject for inquiry--the issue was simply when this should be done. Indeed, Mr. Udall, as the chief protagonist for seating Mr. Powell before the inquiry deplored Mr. Powell's conduct. No matter which resolutions passed on January 10th, Mr. Powell's conduct would have been investigated.

One of the Members stated during the debate: "We who are charged with helping to write the laws of the land, must, I think show respect for those laws, show a willingness to obey them and more importantly, a respect for that independent branch of the Government, the judiciary, which is charged with interpreting and enforcing those laws."

It was in that spirit that the House finally was moved to look into the charges against its Member. May I point out that, while awaiting the disposition of the inquiry, Mr. Powell will receive his pay, allowances and emoluments; he is deprived only of his vote.

On the issue of depriving constituents of representation, let me point out that this is by no means a unique situation. Whenever a Representative dies in office or resigns or--as in the case of Mr. Powell is asked to stand aside for whatever period of time--his constituency is unrepresented. Thus, for example, the death of Representative John Fogarty of Rhode Island on January 10th will leave his district unrepresented for several weeks until after March 29th. It is an unfortunate occurrence whenever it happens, but it is not discriminatory by nature.

The Minority Leader, Representative Gerald R. Ford, said: "I feel strongly--and I know every Member on this side of the aisle feels--that Mr. Powell should have his day in court, that he should be given equal justice, even treatment."

"We would establish the forum and give him the opportunity to come in and answer those allegations that have been made--allegations that the press have made, allegations in various committees, statements of one sort or another by some Members here in the Chamber."

"We feel that there should be a prompt determination, but in the interim while Mr. Powell is standing aside the committee should conduct a full investigation with Mr. Powell having his day in court."

Persuasive in the debate undoubtedly was the statement that precedent seemed to exclude from consideration any acts by Mr. Powell (or any Member in similar circumstances) prior to the seating; therefore, according to this view, the committee of inquiry could not have considered, as a basis for possible disciplinary action, anything done prior to January 10th, if Mr. Powell had been seated on this day.

A code of ethics is badly needed in the House of Representatives. I am firmly on record to this effect, and I expect and intend to do all within my power as a Member of the 90th Congress to see that this serious lack is corrected forthwith.

I do believe that there is a growing realization on the part of many of my colleagues as to this shortcoming and a desire to see it corrected. There was, as you may know, a Select Committee on Standards and Conduct, created in the 89th Congress, which recently submitted a report and I have introduced a resolution giving the Committee power to investigate complaints of violations of standards by Members of the House and power to recommend censure to the House. The Republican Policy Committee has taken a stand in favor of the Committee which would thus develop applicably fair standards.

I join you in hoping that one of the outcomes of the need for an inquiry at this time, will prove to be the installation of a general set of standards, and I personally pledged to work toward such a development.

Again, I thank you for your thoughtful letter.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M. C.

JOSEPH B. ROBINSON, M. D.

392 Loudonville Road
Loudonville, New York

February 3, 1967

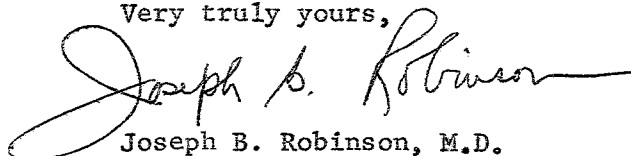
FEB 6 1967

Congressman Daniel Button
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman Button:

You are among the few Republicans for whom I have voted during the past 35 years. I rejoiced both in your candidacy and your election. However, I am afraid that I have made a mistake, since one of the first major votes which you were called upon to make showed none of the idealism for which I had given credit. You must know that I refer to your vote along with 100% of the Republicans who voted against the seating of Representative Adam Clayton Powell. In no way is this to be taken as a defense of Mr. Powell's behavior. However, I feel that any vote cast on this ballot would have to be considered hypocritical unless it is part of the movement of getting on with the job of cleaning out the real corruption which has been charged to many in our House of Representatives. I feel that if there are any other Congressmen who are suspected of malfeasance that these matters should be investigated and should not stop with the unseating of Mr. Powell. I hope that you will be able to inform me that you have such a course of action in mind.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph B. Robinson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Joseph B. Robinson, M.D.

ACP

January 16, 1967

Mr. Perry D. Westbrook
RD # 1
Vorheesville, New York

Dear Mr. Westbrook:

Thank you for your letter concerning the vote in the House of Representatives on the seating of Representative Adam Clayton Powell.

on the part of the House staff
X
It seems to me that it was against a backdrop of admitted short-comings that most members of the House found it necessary, regretfully and sorrowfully, to consider the case of Representative Powell last Tuesday.

X
I voted with the 364 Members of the House who joined in saying that he should stand aside until the very serious charges against him are inquired into. There were six times as many Representatives voting this way as there were voting contrary. The decision to take the present action against Representative Powell is entirely unrelated to racial discrimination, and those who carelessly raise it as an issue are doing a disservice not only to the minority they profess to serve, but also to the cause of reasonable and pacific human relations and civil rights in this country.

X
Representative Morris Udall, who has argued vigorously and eloquently for seating Mr. Powell before an inquiry, ended up voting with the 364, with the following explanation: "if there is a chance for him (Mr. Powell) to prove his case, to have a hearing to get his seat back, we should pass the substitute resolution and have the committee appointed. If the committee should find that he should be seated and recommends that he be seated, then a resolution could be prepared and submitted for that purpose." Of course, there never was any question throughout the entire debate as to whether Mr. Powell's conduct was a fit subject for inquiry - the issue was simply when this should be done. Indeed, Mr. Udall, as the chief protagonist for seating Mr. Powell before the inquiry deplored Mr. Powell's conduct. No matter which resolutions passed on January 10, Mr. Powell's conduct would have been investigated.

X
One of the Members ^{who} stated during the debate:

"We are charged with helping to write the laws of the land, must, I think show respect for those laws, show a willingness to obey them and more importantly, a respect for that

X independent branch of the Government, the judiciary, which is charged with interpreting and enforcing those laws."

X It was in that spirit that the House finally was moved to look into the charges against its Member. May I point out that, while awaiting the disposition of the inquiry, Mr. Powell will receive his pay, allowances and emoluments; he is deprived only of his vote.

X On the issue of depriving constituents of representation, let me point out that this is by no means a unique situation. Whenever a Representative dies in office or resigns or - as in the case of Mr. Powell is asked to stand aside for whatever period of time - his constituency is unrepresented. Thus, for example, the death of Representative John Fogarty of Rhode Island on January 10, will leave his district unrepresented for several weeks. It is an unfortunate occurrence whenever it happens, but it is not discriminatory by nature.

X The Minority Leader, Representative Gerald R. Ford, said: "I feel strongly - and I know every Member on this side of the aisle feels - that Mr. Powell should have his day in court, that he should be given equal justice, even treatment.

X "We would establish the forum and give him the opportunity to come in and answer those allegations that have been made - allegations that the press have made, allegations in various committees, statements of one sort or another by some Members here in the Chamber."

X "We feel that there should be a prompt determination, but in the interim while Mr. Powell is standing aside the committee should conduct a full investigation with Mr. Powell having his day in court."

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X A Code of Ethics is badly needed in the House of Representatives. I am firmly on record to this effect, and I expect and intend to do all within my power as a Member of the 90th Congress to see that this serious lack is corrected forthwith.

X - I do believe that there is a growing realization on the part of many of my colleagues as to this shortcoming and a desire to see it corrected. There was, as you may know, a Select Committee on Standards and Conduct, created in the 89th Congress, which recently submitted a report, and on the first day of the new Congress a resolution was introduced giving the Committee power to investigate complaints of violations of standards by Members of the House and power to recommend censure to the House. The chairman of that Committee asked for support for this resolution and the effective continuation of the Committee, and I have told him that I am firmly committed to that end.

X I join you in hoping that one of the outcomes of the need for an inquiry at this time, will prove to be the installation of a general set of standards, and I personally pledge to work toward such a development.

Again, I thank you for your thoughtful letter. Please write again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

R.D.1
Voorheesville, N.Y.
January 12, 1967

Mr. Daniel Button:
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure of supporting you in the recent election, not only by my vote but by more substantial means. I congratulate you, even this belatedly, on your success.

I am, however, distressed by your first vote as Representative. The unseating of Adam Clayton Powell, though perhaps only temporarily, constitutes a prejudgment that is contrary to the supposed spirit of Anglo-Saxon law. When his guilt is established by a properly appointed body it will be time to decide -- on non-partisan grounds -- as to whether he should be permitted to continue in Congress.

Fully as serious as this ignoring of the spirit of fair play, is the fact that the Negro community in general will take this as a further instance of white oppression of their aspirations. Nor will they, unfortunately, be totally wrong in so taking the incident. If Powell is a scoundrel, he is far from the first or the only one ever to sit in the House. But the other scoundrels have not been unseated -- apparently because they were, or are, not black. May I add that the alignment of Southern Democrats and most Republicans on this issue bodes nothing but ill for the future of race relations in this country. Remember that Mr. Powell has been a very popular figure with his constituency; to slap him down is a slap in the face of this constituency. Our large cities are already in a state of endemic insurrection with repeated and continuous rioting all through the summer months. This most recent action will only exacerbate an already desperate situation. I urge you to do whatever you can to see that Mr. Powell gets a fair hearing and that he be reelected unless his misdoings are felonious indeed. I am all for ethics in Congress, but self-righteousness nauseates me.

I might add that I am very much opposed to Mr. Johnson's proposal of a six percent increase in income taxes to carry on the Vietnamese war. There are too many important things to do at home; the gravest dangers to our country are within our own borders. Communism seems pretty well contained in Asia as it is, and no matter how much money we spend in the Vietnams there will doubtlessly be continuing slaughter there for decades to come. It is too good a thing for the Russians and Chinese; they will not let it die out for some time.

Respectfully yours

Perry D. Westbrook

Perry D. Westbrook

ACP

May 11, 1967

Mr. A. H. Nelson
607 Broadway
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Thank you for your letter concerning the F.B.I.'s investigation of Representative Adam Clayton Powell.

I share your concern for the conduct of this investigation since I have already urged the Department of Justice to conduct a full-scale inquiry into the activities of Mr. Powell. I am continuing to follow the action of the Justice Department closely since the results of the investigation could have an effect on his seating in the House of Representatives.

I appreciate your interest in this matter and I am glad to have your views and comments.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

May 3 1967

My dear Rep Dan Button

I am enclosing a clipping
from World Journal Tribune Tribune

Rep. J B. Curtis is correct and
the FBI should investigate

all phases of Rep C Powell's
indiscretions and make them

Public and Rep Powell should
be dealt with as far as the

law is concerned if I done
some of these things for a private

employer I'm sure I'd be in jail

May I wish you all success as a
Republican in this too Democratic

City
Yours respectfully
A H Nelson

607 Bway
Albany NY

Charges Justice Dept. Tied FBI Hands in Powell Case

World Journal Tribune Special

WASHINGTON, May 4.—The Justice Department has limited the FBI's investigation of Rep-elect Adam Clayton Powell to only those issues raised at public hearings, congressional sources revealed today.

Rep. Thomas B. Curtis R.-Mo., accused the department of handcuffing the FBI to "cover up" what he said is its apparent intention to take no action in the Powell case.

The Justice Department is supposed to clean up, not cover up," Curtis said.

He said department officials ordered the FBI "specifically" to look into only three areas of Powell's activities, all covered by a report of a special House

committee headed by Rep. Emanuel Celler, D.-N.Y.

The three areas are:

- Powell's employment of his wife, Y. Marjorie Flores Powell, on his congressional office staff from July 31, 1965, to Jan. 1, 1967. The Celler committee found Mrs. Powell had done no work in his congressional office during that period and that Powell had diverted her pay to his own account.

- The misuse of education and labor committee funds for personal travel.

- The use of an education and labor committee staff member as a domestic at his Bimini retreat.

Curtis said these restrictions were placed on the FBI al-

though the Celler committee has sent Justice officials information about other Powell activities it developed privately and never made public.

He said the department didn't really need the FBI to look into those issues raised at the committee's public hearings. The facts were already developed, he said, and could have been handed over to a federal grand jury immediately.

ROUTINE CHECK

Other congressional sources said the FBI's investigation of Powell has been one of "routinely" checking many of the witnesses who appeared before the Celler committee. The purpose, they said, was to see if there is strong enough evidence to take to a grand jury.

These sources reported the investigation has been slowed

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These sources reported the investigation has been slowed because of the reluctance of witnesses to be interviewed by FBI agents.

"Justice really is doing nothing and they apparently intend to keep it that way," said Curtis, who made the original motion to exclude Powell from his House seat in March.

He said if "this goes along" Congress is "going to have to investigate the Justice Department."

papers

I can't say as I approve of Mayor Lindsay's tactics here period a M

World Journal Tribune, New York, Thursday, May 4, 1967

Procaccino Hits 'Pork Barrel' Grab of Hospital Posts

By ARA PIASTRO
World Journal Tribune Staff
Comptroller Mario A. Procaccino charged today that the Lindsay administration would create a \$2 million blueprint for a "colossal pork-barrel" and would deal a death blow to Civil Service if it approves a plan to make "non-competitive" 88 high-salaried jobs in the Hospitals Department.
The comptroller made the charges in remarks prepared

for delivery before the New York State Civil Service Commission hearing on the Hospitals Department's request for new positions in the non-competitive class. He said the exempt job bid would open the door to massive political patronage.
Procaccino said that in his opinion the resolution adopted by the City Civil Service Commission placing a number of Hospitals Department jobs in the non-

competitive class would mean that the Mayor—and future mayors—through the hospitals commissioner, would have the power to appoint top hospital personnel "without examination, without competition."
He told the commission that the proposed new positions included 25 assistant commissioners, 25 deputy assistant commissioners, 19 managers of building services and grounds.

He said the figures were contained on a letter from the president of the State Civil Service Commission inviting him to express his views on the resolutions.
Procaccino, a frequent critic of the Hospitals Department, said the new titles called for salaries which total up to nearly \$2 million a year. He also said the jobs would be placed in the hands of the commissioner of hos-

pitals to dispense as he sees fit.
The comptroller contended that in a few of the new positions called for, non-competitive examinations might prove impractical.
"But to put all positions asked for on a non-competitive basis is a little more than a hint for a colossal pork barrel," he said.
Procaccino stressed that

he considered the "most crucial part" of the question being discussed at the hearing—that of Civil Service, and how the mayor's and hospital commissioner's proposal could deal "a death blow to our system of Civil Service."
He urged the state Civil Service Commission to reject the resolutions adopted by the city's Civil Service Commission, saying, "They are bad for the Civil Service system. They are bad for our

hospitals. They are bad for the people of the City of New York."
Procaccino said the Civil Service system was conceived and developed over the years for the very purpose of avoiding and prohibiting top jobs in governmental agencies from becoming items of political patronage.
Procaccino's opposition to the Lindsay proposal was first revealed by the World Journal Tribune last month.

At that time, the comptroller said "if the applicants think they are qualified, let them compete in civil service examinations and prove it."



PRO
POWELL
VOTE

ANSWERED

Dear :

I'm most appreciative of your thoughtful message about my vote on Congressman Powell. I think you would be gratified to know, as I have been, that the letters and calls of support have outnumbered those critical of my position. It was good to hear your understanding words. Perhaps the enclosed statement which I issued after the vote will additionally explain my reasoning.

Again, my thanks.

Most sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

ACP

January 13, 1967

Mr. Robert J. Brown
318 Sullivan Road
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

I have just read your letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share with you, a deep concern for this most difficult situation.

As you may know by now, I voted with the very large majority to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before seating him. To me the entire episode is a tragic and unfortunate one. As I am sure you realize, the very fact that a member of the United States House of Representatives must be investigated is most disheartening.

However, Mr. Powell personally acted in a manner so as to bring serious questions concerning his integrity as a Congressman. It was ~~his~~ ^{his} situation that caused me to vote to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending an investigation. I can assure you that the investigation into the charges, by his colleagues, will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision and recommendations of the investigating committee.

I would also like to add, that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell, we should at the same time, closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House with the thought of establishing a code of ethics for all elected officials. It seems to me, that a system that allows the present difficulties to occur, is somewhat to blame, but, I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges brought against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

318 Sullivan Rd
Schenectady, N.Y.
Jan 10, 1967

The Honorable Daniel E. Burton
Congressman, 29th District, New York State
House Office Bldg. Washington D.C.

Dear Congressman,

Thank to the House
membership for clipping the wings of
Adam Powell. Can it be a first stand
against any who by their position of
influence wantonly place themselves
above the law of the land?

It is sad indeed that Adam
Powell as a duly elected leader of a
depressed minority took the path of
demagoguery and thus brought injury to
their cause.

I hope the coming investigation
brings out the full truth of the matter
and that he be fairly judged on his
activities. In the meantime his sulking,
arrogant, and insolent manners and
outright disregard of the law is enough

to disqualify him from responsible
government activity.

"Two wrongs a right does not make" -
it is past time we as a nation took
this stand in the place of government
regardless of the political impact. I
think you have made a start.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Brown

ACP

January 18, 1967

Mr. C.P. Markae
849 Londonderry Road
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Markae:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me your thoughts concerning Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary action.

As you know, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated, at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House while, sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, also were saddened at the thought that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Ford - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All this is related further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

849 Kona Derry R9

Ahewestady
ny.

Jan 9 - 1967

Hon Dan Burton

Dear Sir

Frankly, I am disgusted with the Adam C Powell episode, it is time for our lawmakers to stand up and be counted. Either you are for or against crime especially by our representatives. If as has been indicated in the papers, Radio etc that this representative has willfully and deliberately defied the laws of our land, and the courts, then he must pay the penalty for wrongdoing. If as has been reported his family and friends have received money or other gifts they are not entitled to they should be prosecuted. No person should hold office who flagrantly defies the laws of our land. The threats by any person should be suspended immediately by those members of religious groups and who say he is being persecuted by reason of his color if Powell is deprived of his seat in office. This is broquash. Now is the time for Republicans to stand up and uphold the laws of our land and punish those who defy the courts. If you expect Powell, ^{it} you will only prove the lack of courage, and the lack of confidence by the voters of our nation.

Sincerely

VOX PO'PU'I VOX DE'I

C. P. Marshall

Please
encure carbon
copy.

Good luck on your new venture

January 18, 1967

Mr. William V. Wateman, Jr.
427 State Street
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Wateman:

Thank you for your letter concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquiry into it with a view to possible disciplinary action.

As you perhaps know, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House, while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, also were saddened that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe that can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that - in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Ford - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This is surely required, no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All of this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of the Congress, and I am firmly on record to continuing the effort to establish such a Code.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

427 State Street

Albany, New York 12203

December 22, 1966

Mr. Daniel Burton
Ten Eyck Hotel
87 State Street
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Burton:

The time is late indeed to congratulate you on your splendid election victory. My family was so interested and enthusiastic about your campaign because my father ran for the same seat in 1940.

I write now also to urge you as strongly as I can to do all that you are able to prevent the seating of Adam Clayton Powell.

To have in Congress a lawmaker who doesn't himself believe in the law and openly and publically flouts it, is a terrible

reflection on the United States. What
on a priori other nations must have of
our government when they read about
the contemptuous and illegal actions of
Mr. Paerell! And what an example he
sets for our young people — especially
those of his own race!

Please do all that you can to
help restore the good name of Congress
by taking a stand against Paerell!

Very truly yours,
William V. Waters, Jr.

act

January 16, 1967

Mrs. Sara C. Howard
18 Coolidge Avenue
Troy, New York

Dear Mrs. Howard:

Thank you for your letter concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

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I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, also were saddened that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that - in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Ford - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required, no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

Adams

18 Coolidge Avenue
Troy, New York 12180
January 9, 1967

Daniel Button, Representative
New York
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Button:

May I ask you to thoughtfully read an article in the
December '66 Reader's Digest titled, "Are We a Nation of Hoods?"
condensed from Waterloo, Iowa Sunday Courier, page 127.

This is not Iowa's or New York's problem alone, but the whole
Nation's problem.

Right now I am thinking hard of our United States Congress
problem of facing it's responsibilities in regard to it's conduct.

Is one of the Congress members right?

When Adam Clayton Powell, says, "I have done nothing that all
members of Congress do not do".

Is he telling the Truth?

What is an ordinary citizen like myself to think, if there is
no censoring by the Congress?

I do not like to bring race into this, but just for the record,
I really love the Negro people.

Sincerely,

Sara C. Howard

Mrs. Sara C. Howard

January 16, 1967

Mr. Richard F. Volk
508 Morris Street
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Volk:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me your thoughts concerning Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary action.

As you know, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated, at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, also were saddened at the thought that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

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I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

act

January 16, 1967

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598 Morris Street
Albany, New York

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I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

ACP

January 16, 1967

Mr. James R. Conway
Conway, Alan & Daly
1692 Western Avenue
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Conway:

Thank you for your letter concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

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I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Danië E. Button, M.C.

CONWAY, ALLAN & DALY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1692 WESTERN AVENUE

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12203

TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 518) 489-4771

JAMES E. CONWAY

HARRY A. ALLAN

JOHN G. DALY

January 12, 1967

Honorable Daniel E. Button
United States Representative
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Representative Button:

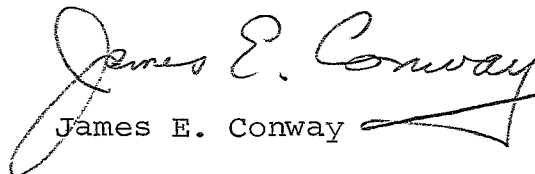
As a resident of the State of New York, I would like to express my very strong feelings with respect to the seating of Adam Clayton Powell in our Congress. I strongly oppose this matter and recommend that all appropriate steps be taken to make the present arrangement permanent.

It seems to me, that as a professional, and several rules apply to other professions, actions similar to Mr. Powell's would certainly result in disbarment or loss of license, etc. Should not the same standards be applied to our representatives in Congress?

Further, if Mr. Powell is denied his seat, and a new election decreed, I feel that it should be a condition of his candidacy, which is sure to be an issue, that he purge himself of his contempt and of his actions.

These are my personal views, but I wish to bring them to your attention and urge your careful consideration of the matter.

Respectfully,


James E. Conway

JEC/li

act

January 16, 1967

Miss Nura D. Turner
11 South Lake Avenue
Albany, New York

Dear Miss Turner:

Thank you for your telegram concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

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I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

TELEGRAM

R. W. MCFALL
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

NFA182 KEILSYA378

SY ABA541 POM PD ALBANY NY 9 NFT

1967 JAN 9 10 41 8 07

CONGRESSMAN DANIEL BUTTON

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHDC

VOTE AGAINST SEATING POWELL HE'S OUTRAGED DECENCY REPEAT VOTE

AGAINST SEATING POWELL HE'S OURTAGED DECENCY

NURA D TURNER 11 SOUTH LAKE AVE ALBANY NY.

mis

act

January 16, 1967

Mr. Ferris F. Copper
224 Union Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Copper:

Thank you for your telegram concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

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All this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for members of Congress, and I firmly am committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

TELEGRAM

R. W. McFALL
PRESIDENT

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1907 JAN 9 PM 9 00

NFA2 0 (15)SYA397

SY SNA228 NL PD SCHENECTADY NY 9

DANIEL L BUTTON

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHDC

SEATING ADAM CLAYTON POWELL AS MEMBER OF CONGRESS WILL BE A TRAVESTY OF THE CHARACTER OF YOUR AUGUST BODY. HIS FLAUNTING OF OUR LAWS MAKES HIM UNWORTHY TO MAKE THE LAWS GOVERNING OUR COUNTRY STAND UP AND BE COUNTED. VOTE TO BAR THIS MAN FROM CONTINUING IN OFFICE

FERRIS P COPPER 224 UNION STREET, *Schuyler*

this is correct

act

January 16, 1967

Mr. Harry E. Veeder
Harry E. Veeder & Sons, Inc.
29 Hialeah Drive
Albany, New York, 12205

Dear Mr. Veeder:

Thank you for your telegram concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

As you perhaps know by now, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made possible his being seated at this time.

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All this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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PRESIDENT

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NFA171 (38)SYA379

1967 JAN 9 10 PM 8 09

SY ABA542 POM PD ALBANY NY 9

REPRESENTATIVE DANIEL BUTTON

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHDC

STRONGLY URGE THAT YOU VOTE AGAINST SEATING REPRESENTATIVE

ADAM C POWELL

HARRY E VEEDER PRESIDENT HARRY E VEEDER AND SONS INC 29 HIALEAH
DRIVE ALBANY 12205 NY.

ACP

January 18, 1967

Mr. C.B. Tomlins
McCormack's Highway Transportation, Inc.
151 Erie Blvd.
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Tomlins:

I have just read your letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share with you a deep concern for this most difficult situation.

As you may know by now, I voted with the very large majority to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before he is seated. To me, the entire episode is a tragic and unfortunate one, as I am sure you realize. The very fact that a member of the United States House of Representatives must be investigated is most disheartening.

However, Mr. Powell personally has acted in a manner so as to bring serious question about his integrity as a Congressman. It was this situation that caused me to vote to deny Mr. Powell his seat pending an investigation into the charges, by his colleagues. I can assure you that the investigation will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision and recommendations of the investigating committee.

I would also like to add, that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell, we should at the same time closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House with the thought of establishing a Code of Ethics for all elected officials. It seems to me that a system that allows the present difficulties is somewhat to blame, but I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges brought against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

McCormack's **HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION, INC.**

INCORPORATED IN 1924

TRANSPORTER OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AND
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT OVER IRREGULAR
ROUTES IN 27 STATES EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

151 ERIE BOULEVARD • SCHENECTADY, N. Y. 12305
518/474-4174

January 6, 1967

The Honorable Daniel Button
House of Representatives
United States Post Office Building
Schenectady, New York

Dear Sir:

I am appalled when I read and listen to the affairs of Adam Clayton Powell and then think this man has a voice in the molding of my future.

I am disgusted when I read and listen to political figures weigh the political significance of unseating Adam Clayton Powell.

You, as my elected representative, have no other choice but to judge Powell on his performance only. Powell's race, creed or skin pigment have no bearing on the problem.

Please use your influence in removing the stigma of Powell from your group.

Very truly yours,

MC CORMACK'S HIGHWAY
TRANSPORTATION, INC.

C B Tomlins

C. B. Tomlins,
Secretary

CBT/cag

ACP

January 17, 1967

Mrs. Laurence R. Lee
810 Riverside Avenue
Scotia, New York

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Thank you for your letter concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

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I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button

810 Riverside Ave.
Scotia, New York
January 11, 1967

Congressman Dan Button
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Button,

RE: Adam Powell case.

Your quote: "However Powell had been elected by his district with the facts in front of the voters."

We do not agree with your reasoning that the above should excuse Adam Powell for his conduct in disregarding the law, having a responsibility for good morals, honesty and integrity in his dealings.

I do not believe that all, or even many, of Mr. Powell's constituents were aware of, or could understand the scope of his conduct. How can we be worthy of a democracy if we allow rabble-rousers to influence our government representatives? The Schenectady President of N.A.A.C.P., Ralph Boyd said, "I am ashamed of the actions of Congressman Powell."

As a last thought, would you not concede that the taxes squandered by Mr. Powell's dishonesty, as well as by others who have probably committed the same offense, were supplied by all of us and not just by his constituents?

We hope you will take your stand as leader, Mr. Button, and try to clean up the "mess in Washington."

Very truly,



Mrs. Laurence R. Lee

A CP

January 16, 1967

Mr. J.M. Sudolnik
RD #1 Droms Road
Rexford, New York

Dear Mr. Sudolnik:

Thank you for your letter concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

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I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

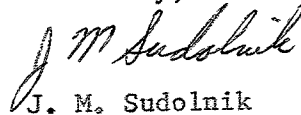
RD #1 Droms Road
Rexford, New York
January 13, 1967

The Honorable Daniel Button
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20013

Dear Mr. Button:

I would like to take this opportunity to voice my opinion concerning the seating of your colleague, Representative Adam Clayton Powell. Any man who seeks a public office should display traits of honesty and moral integrity. Unfortunately, Mr. Powell does not fall into this category. I hope that since this is your first session in congress, you will be an example to your colleagues and will do everything in your power to support the ouster of this individual. In these trying times, this country can not afford to have anything but the best men as its leaders. Our future demands it.

Sincerely,


J. M. Sudolnik

A e F

January 13, 1967

Mr. & Mrs. Paul H. Holloway
1346 Lawn Avenue
Schenectady, New York, 12306

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Holloway:

I have just read your letter concerning Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share your concern for this most difficult situation.

As you may know, by now, I voted with the very large majority to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before seating him. To me the entire episode is a tragic and unfortunate one. As I am sure you know and realize, the fact that a member of the United State House of Representatives must be investigated is most disheartening.

However, Mr. Powell personally has acted in a manner so as to bring serious question about his integrity as a Congressman. It was this situation that caused me to vote to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending an investigation. I can assure you that the investigation into the charges, by his colleagues, will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision and recommendation of the investigating committee.

I would also like to add that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell we should, at the same time closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House, with the thought of establishing a Code of Ethics for all elected officials. It seem to me that a system that allows the present difficulties to occur is somewhat to blame. Yet I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges brought against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

With all good wishes

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

1346 Lawn Avenue
Schenectady, New York 12306
January 5, 1967

Honorable Daniel Button
29 Jay Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Sir,

I find it hard to remain silent when a supposed "lawmaker" and a person whose title a position which should and does command respect (in most instances) flagrantly and arrogantly defies the constitutionally backed law representative. Putting myself in a position of direct authority, I would find it very difficult to vote against against a motion to keep Adam Clayton Powell from being seated; difficulty stemming from his ignoring a legal court order.

Failing in this endeavor, I would join any Democratic member of congress which it could corner to relieve Mr. Powell of any power which it would be his if his conduct could qualify himself. I could justify this on his court record, his apparent mismanagement of public funds (i.e. wife illegally employed by his office, illegal use of civil servants hired by the government, illegal falsification of travel records and expenditures, etc.), and his shameless attempts to use racism to cover for misdeeds. Maybe this "guiding light" for the Negro

should be held responsible for some of the division between the white and colored people.

These are my views - I hope you will consider my reasons and will justify them with action.

Turning to congressional issues, I would like to ask you to examine proposed "Great Society" legislation before giving your approval. In particular, unless the "War on Poverty" is made more efficient and can trim dead weight, I feel it should be slowed down considerably. I would urge you to vote such that federal government is not expanded unless absolutely necessary. I would urge you to reject any "civil rights" legislation which would compromise everyone's guaranteed rights (i.e. "fair housing act").

Thank you for your kind attention to my views. I believe you will give them just consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul H. Holloway
Bette L. Holloway

ACP

January 17, 1967

Mr. Angelo Goulio
1247 Crane Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Goulio:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me your thought concerning Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary action.

As you know, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated, at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, were also saddened at the thought that a member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Ford, - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will serve all of us in the great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

Mr Angelo Soudio
1247 Crane St City Resid.
of Sedy N.Y.

Dear Sir in the great Respect of
Being Citizen of this great land of ours
I personally Believe; the time and
the hour have Ripened for the
Premodol powerful law-Breaker; Adam
Clayton Powell; unfaithful to the
State Department; to his Country and
the public; are well Agrardate over his
activities specially in the lead of
his Black Panther; an Civil Rights
and laws; unjust social Reform
law; which have set great complication
in our free society; tis which will counts
for Mr Johnson and his fore of Click's
thank you

We Believe freedom Rights
for each individual
free to choose to be free to
Refuse

Any Courtesy of you
Cooperation will be
Gravely Respected throughout
City which I live

Thank you again
Angelo Gaudio

ACG

January 13, 1967

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Office of the Minority Leader
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jerry:

It occurs to me that in your need to designate Republican Members of the committee to investigate Mr. Powell, you might possibly be able to make use of a member from his State who happens to have the status of a freshman uninvolved in any of the previous House considerations of the Powell matter.

With that in mind, I am taking the liberty of mentioning to you that if my presence on the committee could serve any purpose including the above factors, I would be willing enough to serve.

With very best wishes, and in anticipation of the forthcoming term under your leadership, I am.

Most Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

A. C. P.
(Admiral C. Powell)

February 1, 1967

Mr. Angelo Gaudio
1247 Crane Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Gaudio:

Thank you for your letter of January 26.

Your views were interesting and I will keep them in mind whenever I am considering any relevant legislation.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

VSB

JAN 1967

Mr Angelo Gaudio
1247 Crane St
Scheny NY
1/20/67

Dear Sir I have Received your letter and I was Mitty Glad to hear from you; concerning Adams Clayton Powell; We Certainly appreciate for Responding our point a viewe and fine work you have performet in the Powell Case + we will waith with all our hope that our New Congress Will Bring Back America, to the free people; Which the party in power has taken away our freedom Right; of each individual; I Believe ~~to~~ free to association free integration; free to Choose has Wel to Refuse; free to sell or Rent your property; Bring Back Owner Rights, Return Right to all state; cut Down all the ~~unnecessary~~ spending speaking to you has Good Citizen I Do hope that you will trust my judgement I am not one of those who are Critical; I feel that our Good Lord; has Given Right; for each individual Right Choose and Right to Refuse; and these should have Ben left lone; let people enjoy freedom; those Rights of association; that are Basically moral issues; Can not Be Resolved By passing federal laws; I am Sure that the public of this Nation are agravadated over the Civil Right and inessary social Reform Laws; Which Brought in creose in Crime Ri + social unrest; all over America, under

all these Messy social Dis' order I sure
that the public, of this Nation, last Water
fact have left; to their Democratic system
Government, the Black power; and the party
in power, they are shifting the most
strangest political policie which we never
have known, under these strange social
Reforme laws; which never did by any
mean's; create Beneficial effects; open Moral
in the American people; it is causing
considerable emotional we labeled serious
Violation of the Consitution of free Citizen
Rights

Many thank you, from our Bottom
our hearts!

Any Courtesy and
Go. operation extended.
Will Be Kindly Appreciated
Devote Citizen

Angelo Garcia
1247 Crane St
City Schedy NY

Received a visit from a:

Mr. John Centofanti

1356 Santa Fe

July 11/4

Wanted to press his compliments to Dan
on his Powell vote.

This should be acknowledged. Mr.
Centofanti is a "high echelon" GE
Manager -

Joe Powell.

ACP

January 13, 1967

Mr. Percy H. Angle
10 Halcyon Street
Scotia, New York

Dear Mr. Angle:

I have just read your letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share with you a deep concern for this most difficult situation .

As you may know by now, I voted with the very large majority to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before seating him. To me the entire episode is a tragic and unfortunate one. As I am sure you realize, the very fact that a member of the House of Representatives must be investigated is most disheartening.

However, Mr. Powell personally has acted in a manner so as to bring serious question about his integrity as a Congressman. It was this situation that caused me to vote to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending an investigation. I can assure you that the investigation into the charges will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision and recommendations of the investigating committee.

I would also like to add, that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell, we should at the same time closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House with the thought of establishing a Code of Ethics for all elected officials. It seems to me that a system that allows the present difficulties to occur is somewhat to blame, but, I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges brought against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

Copies to:
Jacob J. Javits
Robert Kennedy

10 Halcyon Street
Scotia, New York 12302
December 27, 1966

Mr. Daniel Button
U S House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I would like to encourage you to support the efforts to deny Adam Powell his seat in Congress. From all that we read he is about as undesirable in Congress, especially as Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, as anyone that could be found. I hope you will take the necessary steps to, not only deny him his seat, but any income. Also, charges should be brought against him to recover the past payments made to his wife as an employee of his committee, all payments made to his female traveling companion, and the costs of the so called business "cruises" he has so often made. To allow such a person, regardless of color, to represent any remaining honest American, is unthinkable.

A second item that should be curbed is the urban renewal projects. By now they have proven a failure from most points of view, altho some areas ~~some areas~~ have ultimately been improved. However, private enterprise could accomplish the same at much less cost to the taxpayer. There is little or no consideration shown the individuals who are displaced, with the result that many of the small businesses never surviving the transition.

A recent incident where the powers of the director of the urban renewal project allowed and ordered a historical site to be removed, occurred in Mechanicville, N. Y. Different groups were interested. A neighboring church for the land, a historical society for the building, and the urban renewal director ~~xxx~~ to clear the area. A solution was found where all parties were satisfied. Then the local director ordered the property bulldozed. A letter was dispatched to the interested parties on Friday, too late to contact anyone in Albany or Washington. Early Monday morning the bulldozer removed the historical property without disturbing any other buildings for a period of several days. The property was cleared and the director had displayed his authority. The value of such projects is indeed questionable.

My recommendation is to have the Government get out of Urban Renewal, let local communities handle their own projects.

Respectfully yours



Percy H. Angle

ACP

January 18, 1967

Mr. Peter E. Noonan, Jr.
P.O. Box 467
Albany, New York, 12201

Dear Mr. Noonan:

This is in further response to your letter of December 1. Since you have shown such an interest in this matter I felt that it was my duty to inform you of what action has been taken.

As you know, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat pending an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated at this time.

I want you to know that I found my colleagues in the House while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, were also saddened at the thought that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe that we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Ford - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code of standards that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

12-10
Adams

December 8, 1966

Mr. Peter E. Noonan, Jr.
P. O. Box 467
Albany, New York 12201

Dear Mr. Noonan:

Thank you for your letter concerning the status of Representative Adam Clayton Powell.

I assure you that I will watch with much interest whatever effort may be made to deny the seat to Congressman Powell and will weigh objectively and fairly all the matters which may be presented pro and con.

At this time I have not made up my mind as to my own possible action since the form of the question is as yet unclear. Certainly I would hardly try to defend Congressman Powell's behavior and his attitude toward the law, but I am sure that the question of denying a seat to a man who has been duly elected is not a simple one. It seems to me that impeachment might have to be the answer. Beyond this, it does seem to me that the burden then falls on the Democratic members of the House who presumably have it somewhere within their power to try to deny Mr. Powell's chairmanship and perhaps other prerogatives that we grant to him solely because of seniority.

Again, I thank you for your interest as shown by writing to me and I assure you that I will give the matter the fullest study and consideration, and not in a narrowly partisan manner.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

December 1, 1966

Mr. Daniel E. Button
107 South Pine Avenue
Albany, N.Y.

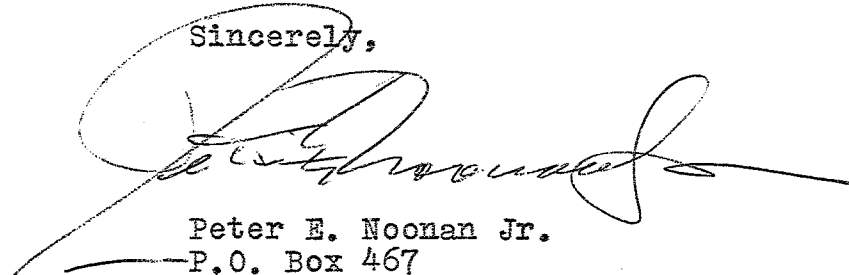
Dear Sir,

As Congressman-Elect for my District, may I urge that upon assuming your office you immediately join the effort being made in Congress to unseat Congressman Adam Clayton Powell.

Coming from a Democrat that is probably an odd request. I assure you however that such action will be the finest service you can render to this country, its Legislature, and the Democratic Party as a freshman legislator.

I am sure you will find many willing backers in this move, and you can look to me for any assistance I might render you in this matter.

Sincerely,



Peter E. Noonan Jr.
P.O. Box 467
Noonan Lane
Albany, N.Y. 12201

Exec. Vice President
Aurora, Inc.
10 So. Pearl St.
Albany, N.Y. 12207

1450 Valencia Rd.
Schenectady N.Y. 12309
January 11, 1967

The Honorable Daniel E. Button
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

ACP

Dear Sir:

I am a white citizen, a faithful Republican throughout my over forty years of voting experience, and an inveterate letter writer to those who represent me in the Congress.

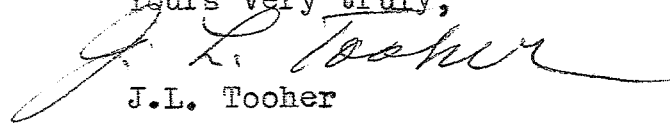
It is with dismay and disenchantment that I survey one of the first acts of the 90th Congress, the barring (temporarily, it may develop) of Representative Adam Powell. I am not naive, I do not for a moment, condone the irregularities with which Powell has been charged. On the contrary, it is my nature and in accordance with my personal code of ethics, to vigorously condemn them, but I condemn, just as strongly, the House action as being unusually hasty and, in comparison with past action, harsh and smacking of discriminatory taint.

I defend this viewpoint on the following grounds; first, in the long history of the United States there have been men of low character and lower attributes, coupled with complete lack of ability. Few, if any, were ever banished from their seats in the Congress. They have been ignored, despised, but not removed.

Second, this move was accomplished by a coalition of Republican and Southern Democrat votes. On the part of the latter, it is possible that racial considerations may have affected the votes, and were I a northern Republican, the last move I would ever make would be to align myself with southerners on any matter such as this. I believe in civil rights; more precisely, in the innate dignity of man, regardless of color, and many southerners have yet to embrace this concept. They are fighting a rear guard battle, just as they have since Appomattox and the Reconstruction era to "keep the negro in his place" and to keep the highest calibre of negro subservient to, and dominated by the lowest class of white.

Third, the courts would have eventually disposed of the contempt and money damage cases against Powell, and the House could have tightened up its own rules on travel and expense monies, which rules, I have no doubt whatsoever, have from time immemorial, been outrageously and flagrantly violated by certain members, of which I think it may be interesting to hear soon from Powell.

Yours very truly,


J.L. Toohar

January 18, 1967

Mr. J. I. Toohar
1450 Valencia Road
Schueneady, New York

Dear Mr. Toohar:

Thank you for your letter concerning the vote in the House of Representatives on the seating of Adam Clayton Powell.

It seems to me that it was against a back drop of admitted short-comings that most members of the House found it necessary, regretfully and sorrowfully, to consider the case of Mr. Powell.

I voted with the 364 Members of the House who joined in saying that he should stand aside until the very serious charges against him are implied into. There were six times as many Representatives voting this way as there were voting contrary. The decision to take the present action against Representative Powell is entirely unrelated to racial discrimination and those who carelessly raise it as an issue are doing a disservice not only to the minority they profess to serve, but also to the cause of reasonable and pacific human relations and civil rights in this country.

Representative Morris Udall, who had argued vigorously and eloquently for seating Mr. Powell before an inquiry, ended up voting with the 364 with this explanation: "If there is a chance for him (Mr. Powell) to prove his case, to have a hearing to get his seat back, we should pass the substitute resolution and have the committee appointed. If the committee should find that he should be seated and recommends that he be seated, then a resolution could be prepared and submitted for that purpose".

One of the Members stated during the debate: "We who are charged with helping to write the laws of the land must, I think show respect for those laws, show a willingness to obey them, and more importantly, a respect for that independent branch of the Government, the judiciary, which is charged with interpreting and enforcing those laws".

It was in that spirit that the House finally was moved to look into the charges against its Member. May I point out that, while awaiting the disposition of the inquiry, Mr. Powell will receive

all his pay, allowances and emoluments; he is deprived only of his vote.

On the issue of depriving constituents of representation, let me point out that this is by no means a unique situation. Whenever a Representative dies in office or resigns, or as in the case of Mr. Powell is asked to stand aside for whatever period of time - his constituency is unrepresented. Thus for example, the death of Representative John Fogarty, of Rhode Island on January 10, will leave his district unrepresented for several weeks. It is an unfortunate occurrence whenever it happens, but it is not discriminatory by nature.

The Minority Leader, Representative Gerald R. Ford, said: "I feel strongly - and I know every Member on this side of the aisle feels - that Mr. Powell should have his day in court, that he should be given equal justice, even treatment.

"We would establish the forum and give him the opportunity to come in and answer those allegations that have been made, allegations in the press, allegations by various committees, statements by some Members here in the Chamber.

"We feel that there should be a prompt determination but the interim while Mr. Powell is standing aside the committee should conduct a full investigation with Mr. Powell having his day in court.

Persuasive in the debate undoubtedly was the statement that precedent seemed to exclude from consideration any acts by Mr. Powell (or any Member in similar circumstances) prior to the seating; therefore, according to this view, the committee of inquiry could not have considered, as a basis for possible disciplinary action, anything done prior to January 10, if Mr. Powell had been seated on that day.

A Code of Ethics is badly needed in the House of Representatives. I am firmly on record to this effect, and I expect and intend to do all within my power as a Member of the 90th Congress to see that this serious lack is corrected.

I join you in hoping that one of the outcomes of the need for such an inquiry will prove to be the installation for a general set of standards, and I am personally pledged to work toward such a development.

-3-

Again , I thank you for your thoughtful letter. Please write again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

AKP
January 24, 1967

Mr. John Centofanti
1356 Sante Fe
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Centofanti:

I was informed by Joe Parillo, of my Schenectady office, that you had stopped in to pass on your views concerning the vote on Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue.

As you know, I voted for the resolution for denying Mr. Powell his seat, pending an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House while, sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's conduct, were also saddened that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official action and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable.

I believe that we can be sure that the inquiry will be fair, and that in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Gerald R. Ford, Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will be given equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required, no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All of this is further realized to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of the Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

Thank you for your interest, and I appreciate the thought behind your message.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

ACP

January 24, 1967

Mr. William G. Disser
545 Dawson Road
Delmar, New York

Dear Mr. Disser:

Thank you for your letter concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was long overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary steps.

As you perhaps know by now, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House, while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, also were saddened that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that - in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Gerald R. Ford - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will be given his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required, no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All of this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of the Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

~~Malibu~~

ACP

January 4, 1967

My dear Mr. Button;

My belated congratulations on breaching the O'Connell wall. It is my hope that as time goes on you and your colleagues can entirely crush it.

As my elected representative from the 29th district, I am asking that you do everything in your power to oust one of your members - namely Adam Clayton Powell. He is a disgrace to our country and an extremely poor example of what a Congressman should be. How long have we had his type of person in positions of authority?

Also I would like to know what your views are on the war in Viet Nam. I am sure there are many citizens that feel as I do regarding costs, length of the engagement and when are we going to develop a sensible line of action and stay with it. I would be very pleased to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,
W. G. Dissler

Dear Dan ^{MAR 4 1967}

I was pleased
with your
vote on
Powell.

^{HARRIS}
(Art) Harris
157 Front St

Schere Dady

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr. Dan Burton, M.C.
U.S. Congress
Room 1513
House office Bldg -
Washington DC

ACD

January 24, 1967

Mrs. D.M. Schneider
44 Van Schorck Avenue
Albany, New York

Dear Mrs. Schneider:

Thank you for your letter concerning the vote in the House of Representatives on the seating of Adam Clayton Powell.

It seems to me that it was against a backdrop of admitted shortcoming that most of the members of the House found it necessary to consider the case of Representative Powell.

I voted with the 364 Members of the House who joined in saying that he should stand aside until the very serious charges against him are inquired into.. There were six times as many Members voting this way as there were voting contrary.

One of the Members stated during the debate: "We who are charged with helping to write the laws of the land, must I think, show respect for those laws, show a willingness to obey them, and more importantly, a respect for the independent branch of the Government, the judiciary, which is charged with interpreting and enforcing those laws"

It was in that spirit that the House finally was moved, sorrowfully and regretfully, to look into the charges against its Member. May I point out that awaiting the disposition Mr. Powell will receive all his pay, emoluments; and allowances, he is deprived only of his vote.

On the issue of depriving constituents of representation let me point out that this is by no means a unique case. Whenever a Representative dies or resigns from office, or, as in the case of Mr. Powell, is asked to stand aside, for whatever period of time, his constituency is unrepresented. It is an unfortunate occurrence whenever it happens, but it is not discriminatory by nature.

A Code of Ethics is badly needed in the House. I am firmly on record to this effect, and I expect and intend to do all within my power as a Member of the 90th Congress to see that this serious lack is corrected.

I join you in hoping that one of the outcomes of the need for an inquiry will prove to be the installation for a general set of standards at this time, and I am personally pledged to work toward such a development.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

ACP

January 24, 1967

Mr. William Boehm
1417 Rugby Road
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Boehm:

I gather from Joe Parillo that you are interested in seeing that the federal Head Start program is expanded to include activities in the home. I am passing your thought along to my special assistant for federal programs and funds, Mrs. Posner, and you can expect to hear from her.

Also, I want to comment about the vote concerning Representative Adam Clayton Powell, as I appreciated very much hearing of your interest in this matter. I can only say that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue.

As you know, I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House, while sharing a revulsion at Mr. Powell's conduct, also were saddened that a Member had wilfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible disciplinary steps were unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe that we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair- and that in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Gerald R. Ford, Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required no matter how disgusted some of his fellow-citizens may feel.

All of this is further related to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of the Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I appreciate the thought behind your message, and hope you will express our views often.

Sincerely

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

Barney:

MR Wm BOEHM
1417 RUSBY ROAD
SCHENECTADY, N.Y

WANTED TO PASS ALONG THE FOLLOWING:

1. HE WAS HIGHLY PLEASED & WANTED
TO CONGRATULATE DAN FOR HIS COURAGEOUS STAND
ON POWELL.

2. FELT THAT THE YOUNG MARINE WAS
NOT TREATED FAIRLY. I CUT OUT A UNION-STAR
LETTER TO THE EDITOR FOR DAN'S INFO. PLEASE
RETURN CLIPPING FOR OUR FILES.

3. FELT THAT THE FEDERAL HEAD START
PROGRAM SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE
ACTIVITIES IN THE HOME AS WELL AS THE
SCHOOL. 128-6165 Reg. 1-16-elyp

4. IF YOU NEED MORE INFO ON NUMBER
2 - LET ME KNOW.

Please acknowledge his request.

Thank
JL

ACP

February 13, 1967

Mr. Deino Z. Stageman
1920 Dean Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Stageman:

I have just read your letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share with you a deep concern for this difficult situation.

As you may know by now, I voted with the very large majority to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before seating him. To me the entire episode is a tragic and unfortunate one. As I am sure you realize, the very fact that a member of the House of Representatives must be investigated is most disheartening.

However, Mr. Powell personally has acted in a manner so as to bring serious question about his integrity as a Congressman. It was this situation that caused me to vote to deny him his seat, pending an investigation. I can assure you that the investigation into the charges will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision of the investigating committee.

I would also like to add, that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell, we should at the same time closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House with the thought of establishing a Code of Ethics for all elected officials. It seems to me that a system that allows the present difficulties to occur is somewhat to blame, but, I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges brought against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

2/1/67

Congressman Button,

FEB 6 1967

I want to commend you on
your stand in voting to refuse Rep.
Powell his seat in Congress. No
one should be permitted to ignore
court orders. Keep him out until he
has paid in full all awards, penalties,
& interest.

Delno J. Stageman
1920 Dean St.
Schenectady, New York
12309

Delno Stageman

ACP

January 18, 1967

Mr. John S. Oakley
2336 Western Avenue
Ginilderland, New York

Dear Mr. Oakley:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me your thoughts on Adam Clayton Powell. I certainly concur with you that it is a sorry affair, and one in which responsible action by the House of Representatives was overdue. The public was understandably outraged by the seeming unwillingness or inability of the Congress to react to his conduct and to inquire into it with a view to possible disciplinary action.

As you know I voted for the resolution to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending such an inquiry, and earlier I had voted against a resolution which would have made it possible for him to be seated, at this time.

I want you to know that I found that my colleagues in the House while sharing your revulsion at Mr. Powell's flagrant and blatant conduct, also were saddened at the thought that a Member had willfully brought himself to this almost unprecedented obloquy, where official inquiry and possible discipline were virtually unavoidable. It is truly a tragedy in every sense.

I believe we can be assured that the inquiry will be fair, and that in the words of the Minority Leader, Mr. Ford - Mr. Powell will have his day in court, and will have equal justice, even treatment. This surely is required no matter how disgusted his fellow-citizens may feel.

All this is related, further, to the absence of a real Code of Ethics for Members of Congress, and I am firmly committed to working to help create the machinery to produce an effective Code that will govern us all in this great legislative body.

I am appreciative of the thought behind your message, and I hope to hear from you again.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

2336 Western Avenue
Hempstead, New York
December 20, 1966

Dear Mr. Button,

I feel that Congressman Adam C. Powell is a disgrace to Congress for many of his actions in regard to hiring of individuals and use of expense funds as mentioned at various times in the news media.

Several years ago I was an employee of the federal Department of Agriculture, G-5-7 and had to make out expense accounts every item of which is subject to justification before reimbursement. I see no reason why any congressman even though at a higher salary and much greater need for an extensive expense account should not be subject to the same justification.

I have lost faith in Congress because of the actions of Mr. Powell as an individual and also because the Congress has failed to properly regulate its own membership. I feel the same about any congressman who acts as has Mr. Powell.

I feel that a citizen should accept honest errors
but not deliberate subterfuge, evasion or dishonesty
from elected representatives in their various dealings.

Respectfully yours
John S. Oakley

ACP

January 13, 1967

Mr. Erwin R. Summers'
PO.Box 1157
Scotia, New York, 12302

Dear Mr. Summers:

I have just read your letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share with you, deep concern for this most difficult situation.

As you may know by now, I voted with the very large majority, to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before seating him. To me the entire episode is a tragic, and unfortunate one.

However, Mr. Powell personally acted in a manner so as to bring serious question about his integrity as a Congressman. It was this situation that caused me to vote to deny Mr. Powell his seat, pending an investigation into the charges by his colleagues. I can assure you that the investigation will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision and recommendations of this investigation.

I would also like to add, that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell, we should at the same time closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House, with the thought of establishing a Code of Ethics for all elected officials. It seems to me that a system that allows the present difficulties to occur is somewhat to blame, but, I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

MR. AND MRS. ERWIN R. SUMMERS

POST OFFICE BOX 1157

SCOTIA, NEW YORK 12302

December 7, 1966

Hon. Daniel E. Button
House of Representatives Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Button:

~~I am writing to urge you to join in a movement to deny a seat in the House of Representatives to Adam Clayton Powell. We should not have as a law maker any man who flouts the laws of the land, shows contempt for our courts, and who must remain away from his district to avoid being arrested and placed in jail where he rightfully belongs.~~

For a long time Mr. Powell has been hurting the image of Congress by committing one abuse after another, such as padding expense accounts, having his wife on the government payroll while she lives in the West Indies and does no work, and slandering people.

In recent years the prestige of Congress has been falling because it does not enforce a decent standard of ethics among its members, and also because it has abdicated its responsibility and has become a subservient body that merely rubber stamps bills that are written by various bureaus in the Executive Branch.

As a new member of Congress, I hope that you will try to breath some higher morals and character into this body and fight to prevent it from drifting lower as a haven for law evaders and plunderers of public funds.

Very truly yours,

Erwin R. Summers

Erwin R. Summers.

ACP

February 27, 1967

Mr. John R. Finch
37 Greenway North
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Finch:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. You may be sure that I share with you, a deep concern for this most difficult situation.

As you may know by now, I voted with the very large majority to investigate the charges brought against Mr. Powell before seating him. To me this entire episode is a tragic and unfortunate one. As I am sure you realize, the very fact that a member of the United States House of Representatives must be investigated is most disheartening.

However, Mr. Powell personally acted in a manner so as to bring serious questions concerning his integrity as a Congressman. I can assure that the investigation into the charges, by his colleagues, will be both speedy and fair. I will be awaiting the decision and recommendations of the investigating committee.

I would also like to add, that I feel that while we are examining the record of Mr. Powell, we should at the same time, closely scrutinize the mechanics of the entire House with the thought of establishing a Code of Ethics for all elected officials. It seems to me that a system that allows the present difficulties to occur is somewhat to blame, but, I must reiterate that Mr. Powell needs to answer the present charges brought against him.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

37 Greenway North, Albany, NY 12208 - Feb 9, 1967.

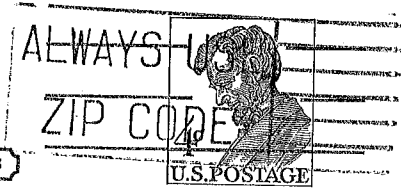
Dear Congressman Button:

The past few days our television has been full of the sickening spectacle of Adam Clayton Powell. If this man has misused one dollar of ~~his~~ funds or has been dishonest in any way let us not show him off - let's prosecute and get rid of him. I think Congress and our schools should try to show the American people that honesty, hard work, and thrift made our country great - not corruption, misused welfare, anti-poverty funds, mass Gov't spending etc.

Respectfully

John R Finch

John R Finch
37 Glenway North
Albany Ny 12208



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Rep. Daniel E. Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

ACP

February 28, 1967

Mr. Arthur A. Kehrler
181 Lake Hill Road
Burnt Hills, New York 12027

Dear Mr. Kehrler:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the issue of Representative Powell and the entire question of standards and ethics for elected officials.

I think the enclosed material will be interesting to you since it is very similar to your proposal.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

Enclosures

B/F/pam

Feb. 18, 1967

181 Lake Hill Rd.
Burnt Hills N.Y. 12027

Hon. Daniel E. Burton
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Doug

FEB 21 1967

Dear Congressman Burton;

I see by the papers that Rep. Clayton Powell will receive a slap on the wrist, requested to refund the monies he has misappropriated and regain his seat in the House.

I believe a non-elected employee of the government found guilty of similar crimes would end up in jail and rightly so. Are members of Congress above the law?

Couldn't you introduce a law that would prevent a recurrence of similar scandal with our government leaders whereby they (are allowed) or can not be removed if elected again and again by their constituents are barred from office.

If we don't we could have members of the Mafia in Congress.

Please advise what action you are going to recommend in the present situation & future.

Respectfully

Arthur A. Kehres

my ethics pedo
supporting
pretenses

Standard Form 63
November 1961
GSA Gen. Reg. No. 27

MEMORANDUM OF CALL

Date *3/2/67*

Time *4:45 PM.*

TO- *Congressman D.E. Burtor*

YOU WERE CALLED BY- YOU WERE VISITED BY-

Mrs. B.O. Buckland

1711 Randolph Road

TELEPHONE: Number or code *FR 49216* Extension

- PLEASE CALL WAITING TO SEE YOU
 WILL CALL AGAIN WISHES AN APPOINTMENT
 RETURNING YOUR CALL
 IS REFERRED TO YOU BY:

LEFT THIS MESSAGE:

*Agrees completely with you
views on postal service and
thinks you are doing an
excellent job. - Mrs. Buckland was
a Burtor contributor (#) - contacted by
P. Alger.*

Received By

J. Parilla

Schenectady District Office
March 4, 1967

ACP

Dan:

I received a call from Mrs. B.O. Buckland, of 1711 Randolph Road, FR 4-9216, and she wanted to pass the along to you her comments that she thought you were doing a GREAT job as Congressman, and that she was in complete agreement with ~~xxx~~ you on your stand about the Post office "pay as you go". She apparently was one of Phil's Algiers contacts for financial contribution to your campaign. She said that Phil had contacted her for the contribution and she was happy she did.

She sounds like a very pleasant women to talk to, and certainly was high on YOU.

Joe Parillo

*Perhaps for the file.
Mrs. Buckland called me 3/4
to express thanks for the Powell vote.
She did that night.*

U. S. House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

Dan:

A:

Mr. Henry Trager - Sedy -
called 3/2 - Said he just
wanted to pass on his approval
of your vote on the
seating of Powell,

1349 Wemple Lane

Sedy

U. S. House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

~~W. A. A.~~ - Dan

Mrs. Norman Lindblad ^{Sedy}

Called to congratulate you
on your vote against the
~~exclusion of Powell~~

She said they would be
writing you a letter.

→

35 Autherland Drive
Sedy

CON
VOTE OF
A.C. POWELL

ANSWERED

Dear :

Thank you for your comments concerning my vote on the question of seating Representative Adam Clayton Powell in the 90th Congress.

As you may know, I voted with the leadership of both parties to discipline Mr. Powell according to the recommendations of the Select Committee under the Chairmanship of Congressman Emanuel Celler. These recommendations of the Committee were rejected by a narrow margin. The question, then became a matter of expelling Mr. Powell from the House of Representatives. I could not vote for exclusion of Mr. Powell for several reasons. Exclusion of a duly elected Member of Congress is a most severe penalty and is an extreme measure that needs more than an hours debate and deliberation, which was the case in this instance. The action taken by the House of Representatives is also of doubtful constitutionality and may later be struck down by the Supreme Court. Finally, the punishment given to Mr. Powell is not based on any code or standards by which all Members are judged equitably.

I have consistently supported and introduced legislation to establish a code of conduct and ethics for all Members of Congress. It is my hope that such a code of ethics will now be established.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

LAURENCE MCKINNEY

927 BROADWAY

ALBANY, N. Y.

12201

March 6, 1967

Congressman Daniel Button
House Building
Washington, D. C.

MAR 8 1967

Dear Dan:

I have followed your continuous publicity here in Albany with interest and some apprehension. You certainly made the front pages talking and walking. In today's paper however, there was a bad break which, if this were reported correctly you said that Adam Clayton Powell was lynched and another quote that he was kicked out because he was a negro. You are, of course, adopting a certain negro point of view which is not altogether appreciated even by negroes. Frankly, Powell was kicked out because he was a crook and it is to be hoped that other congressmen or senators will receive the same punishment.

I am getting fed up with being a negro gives you a job whether you deserve it or not. The NAACP is trying to reopen the Lola Johnson case which was thoroughly examined by Commissioner Conway of the State Commission for Human Rights. Those who I have spoken to here who know her in the school and Ben Becker, that she was not worthy of tenure because of her poor teaching record. It had, of course, nothing to do with being a negro although she and the NAACP are trying to make it that she is just a poor creature with other attributes which made her even worse.

I think I know the negro situation reasonably well. I know Cohen of the NAACP and I am on the local council of the State Commission for Human Rights. I would put on negroes in my plant if they were good workmen and not because they are negroes. I have checked into this and there are plenty of good negroes regardless of their being negroes. I am also vice president of the Urban League.

I think in your search for headlines you have overlooked your real job in congress which is to get us out of this miserable and tragic and unnecessary war in Viet Nam. Typical of our ineffectiveness ~~is~~ using 25,000 troops

Page Two

Congressman Daniel Button
March 6, 1967

to kill fifty Viet Cong and the next thing killing one hundred Vietnamese with our planes. You may not like Robert Kennedy but his speech the other day was extremely well done. Rusk's answer was the same old stuff and the President still wants to be the big man from Texas. I would suggest that you put your real attention on this important matter instead of making statements which, I hope, were incorrect around Albany. Otherwise, good luck.

Sincerely yours,



Laurence McKinney

LMCK:m

344 Furman Street
Schenectady, N.Y. 12304
March 6, 1967

Mr. Daniel Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

MAR 8 1967

Dear Mr. Button:

~~I was greatly disturbed by your votes on the A.C.Powell business.~~

I have helped- and will continue to help-- negroes and their supporters who believe in moderation and reason. A.C.P. has gone far beyond both. He's not helping the negro, really. By brazenly flaunting his contempt of social standards and the law, he's arousing the wrath of the large majority of whites. And, if you support him and his ilk I believe you will get a 'backlash' loss of voter support, yourself.

If you support the Constitution, you must accept Art.I Sec.5 in its explicit meaning as at least equal in weight and application to any other Section or its interpretations.

If Powell runs again, please note Art.I Sec.2 requiring that "a representative when elected shall be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen"

I worked, as you know, to help in your election. If you show any softness hereafter for Powell (or any other official from any party who is as clearly unfit to be in office) I shall be very hard to convince in the matter of supporting your candidacy the next time around.

You may be interested in the attached verbatim copy of a letter I sent to Repr. Emmanuel Celler about ten days ago. Carbon copies went to Time magazine and to Gerald Ford.

Sincerely yours,

George F. Duncan
George F. Duncan, Member,
Schenectady County Republican
Committee

COPY

COPY

344 Furman Street
Schenectady, New York
February 24, 1967

Emangel Celler, Chairman
Special House Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

It is shameful, and a serious reflection on the character of each member of your committee that you have not recommended the exclusion of Adam Clayton Powell from your house membership.

His deficiencies, as evidenced by facts, make him clearly unfit to be a lawmaker in this great nation. Your group's lack of courage and willingness to excuse his unforgivable conduct - both personal and official - will increase voter cynicism and loss of faith in their chosen representatives and in our form of government.

I have supported negro efforts for betterment - but I (with many of my acquaintances) are thoroughly disgusted with the cowardice you and your group have shown in failing to take a firm stand for better moral and ethical standards in government when you had a great opportunity to do so. Does ACP really "have something on you?"

Your group action has practically confessed your own ~~un~~fitness for responsible public office. Our next election will show you how the American people feel about your flabby lack of character!

George F. Duncan

March 6, 1966

The Honorable Daniel P. Burton
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

MAR 7 1967

Dear Mr. Burton

When I voted to send you to
Washington I did so in the hope
of improving our representation in Congress.

How in the name of decency
can you justify voting to seat an
arrogant fugitive from justice to
sit beside you in the House of Representatives?

Sincerely
Ewart G. Smith

EWART G. SMITH
7 LA GRANGE RD.
DELMAR, N.Y. 12054

E. C. TURNER
1458 VALENCIA ROAD
SCHENECTADY, N. Y. 12309

March 2, 1967

MAR 4 1967

Honorable Samuel S. Stratton,
House Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sam:

Congratulations on your vote not to seat
Adam Clayton Powell. It has seemed to me for
years that the Negroes have been unfortunate in
having such a man as their representative. How-
ever, no matter what he does, apparently he is a
hero to some of them (he certainly is so far as
New York City is concerned), and may well be re-
elected to Congress.

There are not many things that I can disagree
with you about, but one of them is Viet Nam. We
have always belittled the other guy by saying he
wants to "save face", but we who could well afford
to give and to lose a little face, apparently
have decided not to lose any face but to continue
to carry on an undecided war, with little sympathy
from other nations of any great consequence.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

E. C. Turner
E. C. Turner

Copy to:

H onorable Daniel Button, ✓
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

MRS. BART J. CARROLL • 1136 SUMNER AVENUE • SCHENECTADY, N. Y. 12309

Feb. 23, 1967

The Hon. D. Button

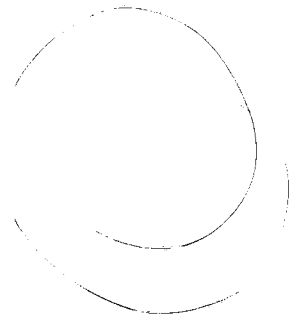
Dear Sir:

FEB 27 1967

I am amazed to hear that any Congressman would vote to seat Adam Powell, who is a thief, a cheat, a liar, a defier of our laws. Should such a man be allowed to sit in our Congress.

He must be unseated and I hope and pray you will help to do so.

Very respectfully,
Elice R. Carroll



James D. Gayle, Sr.,
415 Partridge Street,
Albany, N. Y. 12208

FEB 27 1967

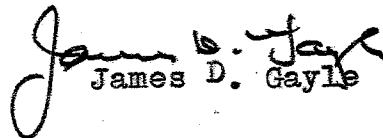
February 23, 1967.

Congressman Dan Button,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Button,

The action of a number of the members of Congress on the "Powell" case does not speak well for the moral integrity of our form of government. I regret to say that continued nepotism and the current image of Congress is lowering the general respect for our form of government. The overall image is easily corrected but it requires Congressmen of real stature who ask "Not what can my country do for me but what can I do for my country,"

Sincerely,


James D. Gayle

2/24/67

CONGRESSMAN D. E. BUTTON:

REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF CONGRESS-
MAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL,

BASED ON WHAT I HAVE OBSERVED
THROUGH THE NEWS MEDIA IT IS MY OPINION
THAT IF CONGRESSMAN POWELL HAS ILLEGALLY
USED OR DIVERTED TAXPAYERS DOLLARS FOR
HIS PERSONAL USE THEN HE SHOULD STAND
TRIAL THE SAME ~~AS ANY OTHER CRIMIN-~~
AL.

HIS ATTITUDE, CONTEMPTUOUS ACTIONS
AND ALLEGED DIVERSION OF FUNDS ARE
THE REASONS FOR MY DECISION. MY DECISION
WOULD BE THE SAME TOWARD ANY OTHER
PUBLIC OFFICIAL REGARDLESS OF COLOR.

I URGENTLY RECOMMEND THAT
YOU INSTIGATE AND SUPPORT ANY ACTIONS
TO PREFER CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST
MR. A. C. POWELL OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC
OFFICIAL WHO FLAUNTS THE TAXPAYERS,
CONGRESSMEN AND LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY.

RESPECTFULLY
W. F. Bernadt Jr.
SCH'DY N.Y.

Wm F.
38 Lauri Avenue

Campbell Mansion Apartments
RD#3
Schenectady, New York
February 27, 1967

Representative Daniel E. Button
United States Congressman
87 State Street
Albany, New York

Congressman Button:

Having been disillusioned and disappointed by recent actions concerning Adam Clayton Powell; I feel I must state my feelings on these affairs. I appeal to you as a new member of Congress with an ability to approach public problems with a fresh viewpoint. You can influence legislation necessary to combat flagrant misuse of tax money by public officials.

I am sadly disappointed that Congress has taken no steps to oversee the use of public funds. They must punish those among them who misuse funds through devious expense maneuvers, misrepresentation of administrative needs, and inclusion of non-working family and friends on the government payroll. Personally, I feel that the violations mentioned are criminal and should be dealt with as theft and extortion, pure and simple. Conviction on these counts should be accompanied by immediate removal from office.

~~Mr. Powell has served to emphasize the need for congressional action.~~ Rather than catalyze the needed action, he seems to have intimidated many Congressman who go completely out of line to excuse his criminal acts.

I trust that you will give serious consideration to voting against the seating of Mr. Powell. Also, I sincerely hope that now and in the future you will endeavor to improve Congressional Policy and Rules concerning use of public funds and facilities.

Sincerely,


Joseph L. Verneuil

Campbell Road
RD#3
Schenectady, New York
February 27, 1967

Representative Daniel E. Button
United States Congressman
87 State Street
Albany, New York

Dear Congressman Button,

I have never before written a letter to an elected official even though on many occasions I should have taken the time.

I can procrastinate no longer! ~~Mr. Powell must go!~~
It has been greatly distressing to me as I have followed the political processes which have been utilized to water-down the crimes against the public of which A.C. Powell is guilty. Even though the recommendations of the special committee have been presented in a manner which is intended to make same appear harsh, they do not serve justice in this matter.

It is an unworthy rationalization for the committee to conjecture that if Powell is not seated, he will only be returned to office in the next election. They are hedging their appointed responsibility by succumbing to the obvious irresponsibility of Powells' constituents. If Powells' mis-conduct calls for his removal, remove him. If he is then re-elected, the onus will be properly placed within his district, rather than be borne by the entire nation.

I will be most interested in knowing how you vote on this matter. I pray that as you embark on your public service career you will not immediately begin to "play the game" by "falling into line" for this vote. Please do not compromise your judgement of knowing the difference between right and wrong.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Peter P. Houlihan

Peter P. Houlihan

ACP

March 14, 1967

Mr. Edward R. Smitkin
80 North Manning Boulevard
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Smitkin:

As I stated in our telephone conversation the other day, I am most distressed that the letter which you addressed to me recently has somehow gone astray. Please accept my apologies for whatever possible inadvertency here may have contributed to this oversight.

Without having seen your letter, of course, I cannot respond directly to your views on the Powell matter, but I am, in any event, taking the liberty of sending you now a copy of my statement following the vote, the week before last. You may also be interested in the following paragraph excerpted from a letter received today from a clergyman:

"As to the Powell situation -- what a mess! We certainly cannot approve the antics of Mr. Powell, anymore than we can approve similar practices by anyother Congressman, but it seems to me that he does have a Constitutional right to be seated, and until Congress is ready to agree on a set of ethics and enforce it equally on all Congressmen, I agree with the report of the Special Committee that a censure and penalty are most reasonable."

I hope to be hearing from you on many occasions in the future and I assure you that you will hear from me much more promptly than has been the case this time. I am grateful for your interest and past support.

With every best wishes

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

ACP

March 9, 1967

Mr. John J. Leary
Executive Editor
ALBANY TIMES UNION
Albany, New York

Dear Jack:

I thought you might be interested in the enclosed clipping from the Congressional Record.

I was very impressed with your comments on the "Powell Case" and I took the liberty of inserting your recent editorial with my brief introduction.

With best regards, I am.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Sutton, M. C.

Enclosure

B/L/pam

REP

March 16, 1967

Mr. Cecil T. Walker
Via Torquato Tasso 6
Milano, Italy

Dear Mr. Walker:

I was surprised to find that a letter postmarked in Milano, Italy was from a constituent. It is good to know that you are following the political developments in the United States, with such thoughtfulness and concern.

As you may know by now, on opening day, I voted with the very large majority (364-64) to investigate Mr. Powell and the charges brought against him before seating him. Congressman Emmanuel Celler was named chairman of the Select Committee to investigate Mr. Powell. When the Select Committee brought its unanimous recommendations to the Floor of the House which called for discipline and censure of Mr. Powell, I voted with the leadership of both parties but, the measure was defeated (222-202).

When the question turned to exclusion, I voted against the measure for several reasons. I voted to seat Mr. Powell to avoid all the resulting furore and publicity which only keeps Adam Clayton Powell in the headlines. Exclusion of a duly elected Member of Congress is a most severe penalty and is an extreme measure that needs more than an hours debate and deliberation, which was the case in this instance. The action taken by the House of Representatives is also of doubtful constitutionality and may later be struck down by the Supreme Court. Finally, the punishment given to Mr. Powell is not based on any code or standards by which all Members are judged equitably.

I have consistently supported and introduced legislation to establish a code of conduct and ethics for all Members of Congress. It is my hope that such a code of ethics will now be established.

It was good to hear from from a constituent in absentia and I look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,



GENERAL ELECTRIC

COMPAGNIA GENERALE DI ELETTRICITÀ S.p.A.

Via Torquato Tasso, 6
Milano, Italy
March 7, 1967

Direzione

Rep. Daniel Bittou
Washington, D.C.

MAR 11

Dear Sir:

I congratulate the House of Representatives on expelling Adam Powell and hope your vote helped bring this about.

I also hope you and your colleagues will continue to consistently keep Powell out of the U.S. Congress until he has conformed to the laws and court decisions of New York State and has shown he merits consideration for such a position in Congress. The spectacle of a genuine bum flaunting his misdoings as a Congressman has damaged not only the image of Congress but the image of the U.S. in other parts of the world.

Sincerely yours,
Cecil T. Walker
(ex-Schervetady)

P.S. Belated congratulations on your win in November, certainly a major - and pleasant - surprise of the last elections.

PER VIA AEREA
PAR AVION
BY AIR MAIL

REP. DANIEL BUTTON
HOUSE OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

S.A.



ACP

March 20, 1967

Mr. G. C. Williams
1526-6th Avenue
Watervliet, New York

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for your comments and clippings to illustrate the difference in the treatment of two individuals.

In answer to your question concerning why the Justice Department has failed to act in the Powell case, I have asked the Justice Department for a statement of its inquiry into Mr. Powell's activities since the Select Committee referred some of the charges to the Justice Department.

The problem of the double-standard which you have pointed out is the result of a lack of a code of ethics for all elected officials I have consistently supported and introduced legislation to establish a code of conduct and ethics for all Members of Congress. It is my hope that such a code of ethics will be established.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

Bronx: If I signed my wife's name to her checks and cashed them, I'd be a forger. If I mis-used government funds, I'd be a thief. If I thumbed my nose at the courts and cavorted all over the globe, I couldn't be a minister of God. But then, I'm not Adam Clayton Powell.

• STEPHEN JERHASE.

SENTENCED IN THEFT
ALBANY (AP) — Edward Weiss, 29, of Rochester, was convicted Monday on a charge of first degree robbery in which \$4 was taken and sentenced to Clinton Prison at Dannemora for 20 to 40 years.

March 8, 1967.

MAR 11 1967

Hon. Dan Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing 2 clippings to illustrate the difference in treating civilian criminals and Congressional criminals. Why has the Justice Dept failed to act in the Powell case? Is this the kind of Democracy that the boys are dying for in Viet Nam? The Civil Rights leaders (so called) who are backing such unethical acts place themselves on the same level, and thereby forfeit any serious consideration of their sincerity and fitness, when they are acting as a cover up for such law breakers. At least it has brought them out in their true light, showing that they will back any law breaker when he is one of their group. Any sympathy for such a group is very much wasted.

Very truly yours
G.C. Williams
G.C. Williams
1526-6th Ave.
Watervliet, N.Y 12189

7
Needs something more than ACP letter

March 8, 1967

*Powell
Case*

Mr. Frances R. Hollendonner
Editor
THE UNION STAR
211 Clinton Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Hollendonner:

I thought you might be interested in the enclosed
clipping from the Congressional Record.

I was very impressed with your comments on the "Powell
Case" and I took the liberty of inserting your recent editorial
with my brief introduction.

With best regards, I am.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton
Member of Congress

ACP

March 15, 1967

Mr. John Hall Blackburn
304 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12203

Dear John:

Of course I was disappointed to find that you were disappointed in me as a result of the Powell vote. This is a very complex situation and one on which I wish I might have the privilege of explaining more adequately to you my views.

Perhaps that will be possible one of these days; meanwhile, permit me to quote from a letter I have just received from a clergyman whose views I respect:

"As to the Powell situation - what a mess! We certainly cannot approve the antics of Mr. Powell, any more than we can approve similar practices by other Congressmen, but it seems to me that he does have a Constitutional right to be seated, and until Congress is ready to agree on a set of ethics and enforce it equally on all Congressmen, I agree with the report of the special committee that a censure and penalty are more reasonable."

I am more than in full agreement with you about the utter desirability of establishing a suitable, workable, and enforceable code of ethics for all Members of Congress. This is an area to which many of us are giving our attention right now, you will be glad to know.

Best regards, as always.

Most sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

DEB/pam

My dear Dan MAR 7 1967 Mabel's

I wouldn't ~~pride myself~~ on your vote
to retain Powell. It may have had some
practical reasons [avoiding a second, such instance
as Leo O'Brien brought up] but it had no
moral justification, considering his
FLAGRANT CONDUCT - especially for a clergyman

This editorial indicates the follow-up
action now required *John*

(P.S. Don't take the time to acknowledge this)

Meaning of the Powell case

For every reason and from every point of view, the Adam Clayton Powell case points squarely in one direction. It points toward the absolute obligation on Congress's part to move with equal vigor and decisiveness against any and all ethical lapses within it.

Only thus can Congress assure American Negroes that the action against Representative Powell was impartial and not racially inspired.

Only thus can Congress lay legitimate and reasonable claim to be the final authority over its own membership.

Only thus can Congress satisfy the rising popular chorus for higher ethical standards on the part of its elected representatives.

In this way the Powell case is simple and straightforward. The House of Representatives, in refusing to seat the Negro congressman by the overwhelming vote of 307 to 116, has set up a standard of action from which it can withdraw in the future only at the peril of its standing in the country's eyes.

In other ways, of course, the Powell case is anything but simple and straightforward. In whichever direction it now moves, it seems certain to produce complexities in which Representative Powell's complex nature is sure to delight.

If appealed to the Supreme Court, the case could end in one of the most important constitutional decisions in United States history. Heretofore it has been assumed that Congress had the widest powers in determining the conditions of its own membership. But does it? The Powell defenders — as well as some congressmen who voted against his exclusion — hold

that he had met all of the constitutional requirements for membership and was therefore ineluctable under the Constitution. A Supreme Court decision on this question would clearly be full of the deepest meaning and possible significance in the future.

If Representative Powell decides, as seems most likely, to run in the special election which must now be held, it is widely assumed that he will be reelected, probably overwhelmingly. What happens then? Does Congress again bar him, and does he thereafter run a third time for the 90th Congress? Since the House cannot forbid his running, one can visualize the possibility of a farcical situation in which Harlem reelects and the House excludes in a series of increasingly-bitter and absurd contretemps.

Such an outcome must be avoided. Also there must be avoided the possibility that Negro Americans will continue to feel (misguidedly but as millions of them apparently now do) that they themselves are being deliberately struck at through the action against Representative Powell. It cannot be denied that some elements of prejudice entered into and intensified the vote. But the overwhelming count in the vote, the clear record of misuse of funds and defiance of the courts, and the flamboyance of Mr. Powell's actions were the decisive elements. We hope that the latter will use the period ahead to purge himself of the conditions which brought about his exclusion. We hope that Congress will make it crystal clear that the Powell case marks a turning point in its own overlaxity towards all ethical shortcomings.

Open-door policies?



ALP

Mr. Allan J. Barry
University Christian Movement
Room 758
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Barry:

Thank you for your letter of March 17th, concerning the vote on Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I am in full agreement with your statement pointing out the need for a code of ethic by which all members of the Congress can be judged.

I appreciate your expression of support and thank you for you thoughtfulness in writing.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

ACP

Mr. Allan J. Burry
University Christian Movement
Room 758
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Burry:

Thank you for your letter of March 17th, concerning the vote on Representative Adam Clayton Powell. I am in full agreement with your statement pointing up the need for a code of ethics by which all members of Congress can be judged.

I appreciate your expression of support and thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing.

With every good wish.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

UNIVERSITY
CHRISTIAN
MOVEMENT

ROOM 758 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10027 TELEPHONE: (212) 870-2366

*V.V.V.
The case*
March 17, 1967

MAR 1967

The Honorable Daniel E. Button
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Congressman Button:

✓ At its meeting in New York City on March 12, 1967, the Political Committee of the University Christian Movement voted unanimously to commend you for your vote against the exclusion of Congressman Adam Clayton Powell of New York's Eighteenth Congressional District. We do so because we believe that the Powell case points both to the need for a Congressional code of ethics which judges all members impartially, and to the widespread racism in American society which was reflected in the action of the Congress.

We concur with the National Committee of Negro Churchmen in their analysis of the Powell affair as a "crisis of morals and faith" as well as one of law, inasmuch as white Americans continue to expect conduct from Negroes different from that expected of white citizens. Certainly there is no question but that a basic issue is the right of a racial minority to participate with power in the political and economic decisions affecting our destiny as a nation. For these reasons, your vote was, and will continue to be, crucial, and we express our appreciation and support.

Sincerely yours,

Allan J. Burry

Allan J. Burry
Chairman, Political Committee
University Christian Movement

Thanks

ACP

April 6, 1967

Mr. Stanley A. Fry
Calvary Methodist Church
Balltown at River Road
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Fry:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing me your thoughts on the recent vote in the House to deny Representative Adam Clayton Powell his seat.

As you may know, I have been speaking out and have introduced legislation to provide for a Committee on Standards and Conduct. I am pleased to be able to tell you that my bill providing for such a committee is soon to be ready to come to the Floor of the House for consideration. I feel that a code such as this will serve to eliminate such unfortunate situations as we have recently witnessed in the House.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

Calvary Methodist Church

BALLTOWN AT RIVER ROAD
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12309

MAR 15 1967

PARSONAGE:

2533 BALLTOWN ROAD
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12309
TELEPHONE: FRANKLIN 4-5731

CHURCH OFFICE:

2530 BALLTOWN ROAD
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12309
TELEPHONE: FRANKLIN 7-4765

STANLEY A. FRY - PASTOR

March 10, 1967

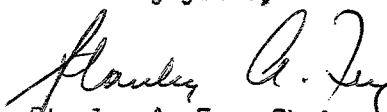
The Honorable Daniel E. Button
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Button:

The Department of Social Education and Action of the Schenectady Area Council of Churches wishes to commend you for your integrity in taking the minority position in the vote to unseat Representative Adam Clayton Powell. We are very much concerned about both Mr. Powell's conduct and the action of the House of Representatives.

While we are not unanimous in all our opinions on the situation we do regard with admiration the strength of the stand which you took.

Sincerely yours,



Stanley A. Fry, Chairman
Department of Social Education
and Action
Schenectady Area Council
of Churches

SAF:ac

~~March 22 1957~~
MAR 22 1957
Although I am in Florida
for a few months I still know what
you are in Albany, NY and although
you are a freshman representative I
hope you are on the anti Powell side
also. The \$5 a vote issue should
be solved in Albany also I think
some part of ethics legislation should
be passed also financial status
of members of Congress. What
are your views on these subjects
also would you care to comment
on why landlords keep the interest
on the extra month rent I have to
pay due to the tight problem
of renting in Albany due to the
Wall dispossessing 3000 families
with no place to go

also shows advertising an article and
when you go to buy it - its
gone and try to steer you to
higher priced merchandise etc

So well sign off and hope
the Republicans are on the
way to unseating Corning &
the corrupt Democratic machine
in Albany - that doesn't mean
the Republicans are all clean

either. So cheer an
Albanian (still a voter in Albany)
wishes you success

A. H. Nelson
Port Hotel
505-6 1/2 South Delaware St

~~AC~~
ACP

April 6, 1967

Mr. A.H. Nelson
Rex Hotel
505 6th Street
St. Petersburg, Florida

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in commenting on several important issues that are of great concern to all Americans and Albanians no matter where they may be.

As you may know, I have been speaking out and have introduced legislation to provide for a Committee on Standards and Conduct. I am pleased to be able to tell you that my bill providing for such a committee is soon to be ready to come to the Floor of the House for consideration. I feel that a code such as this will serve to help eliminate such unfortunate situations as we have recently witnessed in the House.

As for the other comments you made concerning the \$5 vote and the practice of landlords retaining interest on tenant's deposits, you may be sure that I am working to eliminate the inequities inherent in both situations.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

ACP

April 24, 1967

Mr. Rodger B. Bouck
R.D. 5, Old State Road
Schenectady, New York 12306

Dear Mr. Bouck:

Thank you for your letter regarding the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. I of course share your deep concern in this matter and am anxiously awaiting the pending verdicts in the courts and the action which the Justice Department may decide to take.

I am in sympathy with your criticisms of Mr. Powell and as you may know I have taken steps in the House to guarantee that there is not a repetition of this incident.

Thank you for being good enough to give me the benefit of your views.

I remain,

Schenectady, N.Y.
April 20, 67

Hon. Daniel Button
House Office Bldg.
Wash. D.C.

APR 24 1967

Dear Sir: -

I am a non-segregationist,
I have many friends among the
colored people.

I am strictly opposed to the
seating of Adam Clayton Powell
this man is a Crook, Thief,
swindler, a rabble-rouser.

Thousands of decent citizens
will be watching your vote on
this particular question.

Respectfully Yours

Rodger B. Bowek
R#5 Old State Rd.
Schenectady, N.Y.
12306

THIS CARTOON ECHOS OUR SENTIMENTS.
WE SINCEKELY HOPE YOU VOTE TO OUST THIS MAN
WE VOTED FOR YOU TO BRINE HONOR & DIGNITY TO
SCHENECTADY GAZETTE, MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1967 CONGRESS GAZ

THE DIEHER FAMILY

Has Color Influenced His Case, Congressman?

APR 24 1967
UNDOUBTEDLY! IF HE WERE
WHITE HE'D HAVE BEEN
PENALIZED LONG AGO!



McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

ACP

April 26, 1967

Mr. Roger B. Bouck
R.D. 5
Old State Road
Schenectady, New York 12306

Dear Mr. Bouck:

Thank you for your letter concerning the seating of Adam Clayton Powell. I naturally share your deep concern in this matter and am anxiously awaiting the pending verdicts in the courts and the results of the Justice Department's current investigation of Mr. Powell.

In order to avoid a repetition of this affair I have urged adoption of specific standards of conduct, and establishment of a Committee with power to report to the Congress its findings in individual cases. In view of the fact that expulsion is the most severe penalty that Congress can impose on one of its members, I could not support such a punishment for any member unless it was pronounced by such a Committee.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Daniel E. Burton, M.C.

ACS

May 3, 1967

Mr. A. Nelson
607 Broadway
Albany, New York

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Thank you for your comments on the seating of Adam Clayton Powell and the establishment of the a code of ethics for Congress.

As I am sure you know, Mr. Powell has already been denied his seat in the 90th Congress. What the course of action of the House will be in ~~regard~~ of his re-election is a matter of conjecture. I am appreciative of your views on the matter of his seating should he again attempt to be admitted to the 90th Congress.

You will be glad to know that the House of Representatives recently approved, by a vote of 400-0, the establishment of a Committee on Standards and Official Conduct. This move was especially significant to me since I had introduced a bill to provide such a committee.

The new committee at the urging of many of my colleagues and me is now working on a code of ethics which will fairly govern all Members of Congress. In my opinion the establishment of such a code will do much in preventing situations like the one we have recently witnessed in the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M.C.

ACP

May 10, 1967

Mr. Frank DeMasi
202 Edward Street
Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. DeMasi:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Powell affair. I want you to know that I am in complete accord with your opinion that there are many distressing aspects of Congressional conduct. In this regard, I sponsored legislation which supported the formation of the recently organized Select Committee on the Standards and Conduct of House Members.

This Committee will, I trust, establish and enforce a code of ethics which will prevent repetition of the Powell affair.

In this connection, I am enclosing statements outlining my position on this matter which I believe you would be interested in seeing.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

Enclosures (4)

MW/pam

GOD HELP US !! WITH REPRESENTATIVES LIKE THESE, WHO NEEDS, ENEMIES OR COMMUNISTS, OR MAFIA MEMBERS?

CONGRESS *continued*

and company have pretended not to see the alterations.

The Public Works Committee—after a pilgrimage to New York City to “investigate Long Island, N.Y., beach erosion”—sent Burleson ten Hotel Commodore bills with each congressman’s “Mrs.” carefully scratched out. The same sort of editing was found in bills from another congressional group which stopped at Miami’s Biscayne Terrace Hotel “to study Miami harbor.”

The expensively tailored Burleson is in no position to challenge other vouchers too closely, since his own bills wouldn’t always stand scrutiny. During one shopping trip in Abilene, for instance, he

charged the public for a \$30 Thermos carafe set, a \$30 Sheaffer pen set, a \$19.50 calendar pad holder and a \$5.95 door sign. He billed them to his House Administration Committee—the one overseeing ethics.

He also hit up the committee for \$12 a day per diem for 84 of the 88 days from Oct. 1 to Dec. 27, 1958, plus 10 cents for each of the 1128 miles he drove throughout his district. Thus, while other congressmen were campaigning for reelection at their own expense, during the height of the campaign, in October, Burleson collected from the taxpayer for investigating “election matters.” Indeed, he received payment for

“investigative” work on holidays.

Already, the House has had second thoughts about entrusting its ethics to the likes of Burleson and Hays. Even after voting them \$50,000 ethics money, the House, feeling the hot breath of public indignation, took steps to create another special ethics committee.

WHAT IS NEEDED

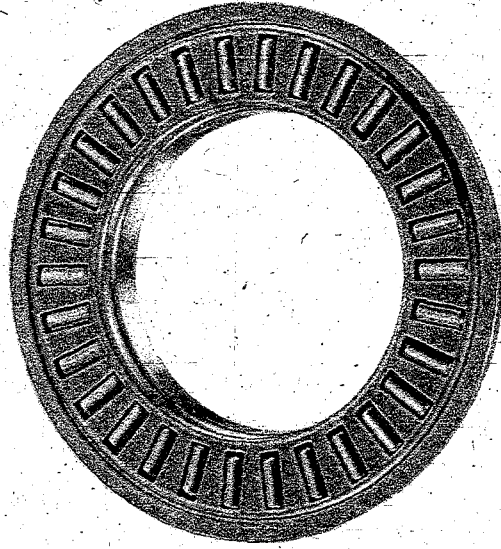
But it will take even stronger measures to bring Congress—the vast majority of whose members are scrupulously honest—up to the ethical standards of the other federal branches. I offered my own thoughts in the statement Burleson and Hays refused to hear four years ago.

All that has happened in the meantime has strengthened my convictions. Here is what I tried to say:

“The only way to restore public confidence in Congress, in my earnest opinion, is to repeal the unwritten code against exposing congressional wrongdoers. I urge you to do away with double standards. Open up the vouchers on congressional overseas spending, publish your private holdings, identify your law clients, make public your oral and written communications to the other branches of government, live by the same code you demand of other officeholders.”

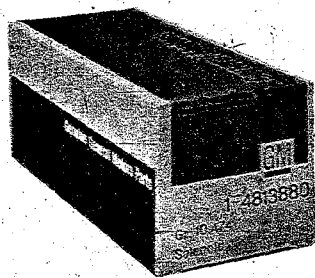
Congress needs reminding that public office is a public trust.

NOW THAT CONGRESS HAS GONE THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF PUNISHING POWELL BY SLAPPING HIS WRIST, HE WILL STILL COME UP SMELLING LIKE A ROSE !!! I SUSPECTED THIS FROM THE START! NO BACK BOWE!
HOW CAN A MAN REPRESENT HIS CONSTITUENTS WHEN HE IS NEVER IN HIS DISTRICT? THIS RUCING SHOULD BE AS NECESSARY AS HIS AGE, AND CITIZEN STATUS !!



**This is a GM Replacement:
It's just as shifty.**

placement:
e identical.
this needle
in it down.
re available



ARTS



CHEVROLET • PONTIAC • OLDSMOBILE United
BUICK • OPEL • CADILLAC • GMC TRUCKS Delco



Parade • Apr. 16, 1967

ARE THESE THE ETHICS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

YOU HAD IN MIND WHEN YOU PROPOSED YOUR
RESOLUTION IN FEB, 1967??

IS THIS "KEEPING THE FAITH" FOR THE CONSTITUENTS?

raised the ante to \$100,000 to get his support for the New York state ticket in 1958.

My statement would also have given the details of a deal between Rep. John McMillan (D., S.C.) and Senate aide Bobby Baker to get the performance bond on Washington's \$21 million sports coliseum for insurance agent Don Reynolds. The grateful Reynolds gave Baker \$4000 and bought a \$5100 Cadillac for McMillan, who belatedly repaid him after the *Washington Post* began investigating. I had also been prepared to name names and cite the facts on a dozen other examples of congressional cheating.

After the committee refused to listen to my statement, *PARADE* published its highlights ("Is Congress Protecting Its Members Who Cheat?", May 5, 1963).

Not until the public protest grew too loud to ignore, however, did Hays direct his subcommittee to investigate charges I had published four years ago.

Thus the public was treated to the spectacle of the modern Marco Polo investigating the travels of the Harlem globetrotter. Indeed, Hays broke off the Powell probe to lead a junket to Paris. This was not his first junket there; he had gone in 1963, taking along the House restaurant's headwaiter—at the taxpayers' expense, of course. "I thought he was a nice guy and deserved a break" explained Hays. People questioning the incident, he snorted, were "cheapskates."

FROM NATO TO OHIO

Another charge against Powell was that he had used committee funds for personal purposes. Watchdog Hays, who investigated this contention, once billed the NATO Parliamentarians Conference account \$115.89 in long-distance calls between his Washington office and Ohio district, five one-way trips from Washington to Ohio and 30 one-way plane fares from Washington to airports serving his hometown of Flushing, O. The NATO Parliamentarians Conference, it should be noted, has absolutely no interest in Ohio.

Perhaps the most damaging complaint against Powell was his defiance of the courts, his attitude that he was above the law. While Hays has never defied the courts, he has shown the same arrogance. Buried in the police records of the little town of Uhrichsville, O., is an incident worth relating. On the evening of Feb. 16, 1966, the congressman was clocked driving 39 miles an hour down Uhrichsville's narrow Deersville Avenue. The speed limit was 25.

Patrolman Frank Barker gave chase, red light flashing, but Hays kept going. Not until the policeman began blinking his headlights did Hays finally pull over. "What's your big problem?" he demanded impatiently of Barker, the patrolman later related. Hays, according to the

record, announced that he was a U.S. congressman and wrongly claimed immunity. Unimpressed, Barker asked for his license. Hays handed over a section of his billfold and told the patrolman to fish it out for himself.

After Barker located the license, he directed Hays to follow the police car to the station. The congressman snapped, "I'll do no such thing!" and sped away like a hotrod kid. This time Barker opened up his siren and roared off after him. Every time he caught Hays' car, the cowboy congressman snaked away through traffic. Once the patrolman thought he had Hays sandwiched between the patrol car and a parked car, but Hays shot into reverse like the runaway in a Keystone Cop comedy. After four similar near grabs, Barker decided it would be more in the interest of public safety to end his pursuit.

Hays was charged with speeding, reckless driving and failure to obey a policeman's lawful order. The following Sunday an aide arrived at Uhrichsville courthouse to post \$69 bond and to pick up the billfold section Hays had left the officer holding. Hays failed to appear at the hearing and forfeited the \$69.

Hays' subcommittee is part of the House Administration Committee, which approves all congressional expense vouchers. The past practice has been to accept all vouchers and requests that are submitted, only polite questions asked. One curious exception was the curt rejection recently of a request from House Banking and Currency Chairman Wright Patman (D., Tex.) for \$14,000 to investigate banks. Normally this would have received routine approval. But Hays, the subcommittee chairman, vetoed the request. He was upheld as usual by Burleson, chairman of the full committee.

Significantly, Hays is board chairman of the Citizens National Bank of Flushing and St. Clairsville, O. Indeed, he served on the House Banking and Currency Committee while the bank's charter was pending in the early 1950's. Burleson, too, had a financial interest in sidetracking Patman's investigation; he is a director of Abilene's Bank of Commerce.

Yet Burleson and Hays are now supposed to be keeping their colleagues on the straight and narrow. It should be fascinating to watch what they do about conflicts of interest. Certainly their past record should be comforting to the congressional chiselers.

Congressmen who take their wives on official trips, for instance, are not supposed to charge the taxpayers for distaff expenses. Yet repeatedly many have turned in hotel bills with the "and Mrs." crudely inked out—and Burleson, Hays

WRITE FOR THESE UNIQUE AWARD-WINNING TRAVEL GUIDES

Shell Oil Company
Fodor-Shell Travel Guides, U.S.A., Box 12391
North Kansas City, Missouri 64116



Dear Shell: Yes, I want a really complete guide. One that gives the scenic and special sights.

Plus tips on tours, sports,

continued on page 14

SOMETHING TO BE PROUD ABOUT FOR H OF REP

"KEEPING THE FAITH" FOR THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER

New Seat

HONESTY ?
INTEGRITY ?

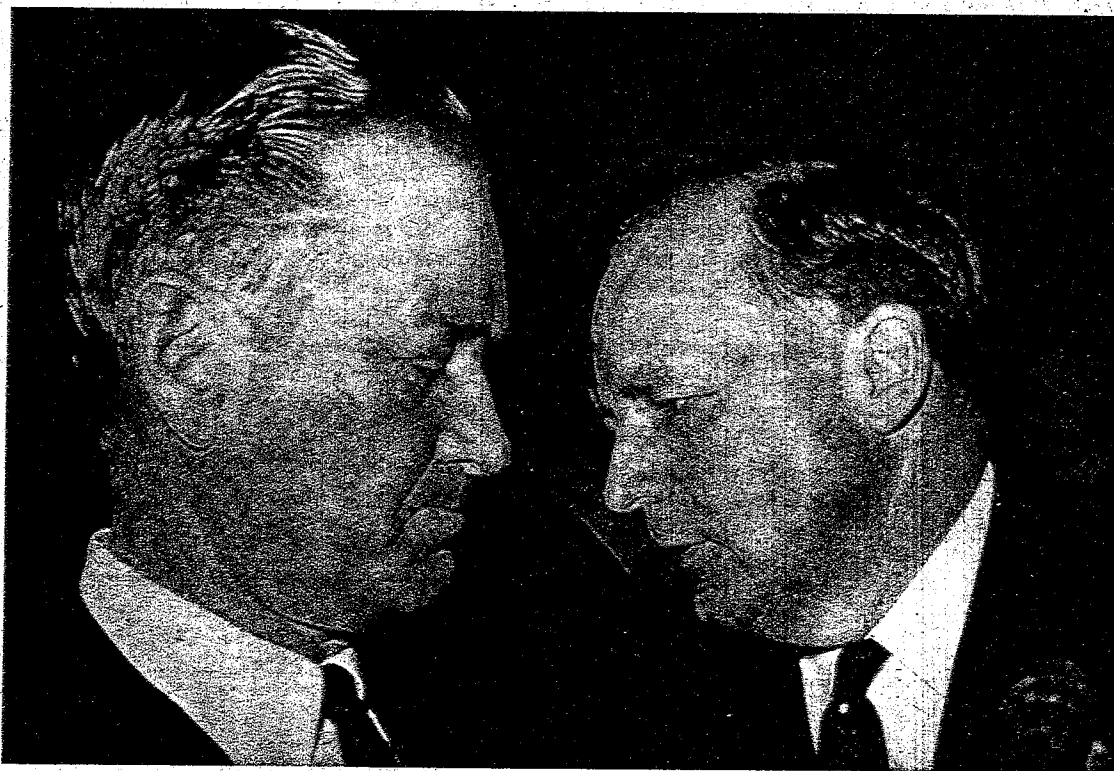


THIS MAKES ONE
PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN.
PROTECTING ONE ANOTHER IS SELF-
PRESERVATION.

©1967 HERBLOCK
THE WASHINGTON POST

LOOK WHO'S INVESTIGATING CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS!

by JACK ANDERSON



Watchdogs of ethics: Rep. Omar Burleson (D., Tex.) and Wayne Hays (D., O.) put heads together at House Administration Committee meeting. Their own records aren't unblemished.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Goaded by the public outcry against congressional misconduct, the House of Representatives voted an extra \$50,000 earlier this year to police the morals of its members. The house cleaning was turned over to the tired and timid House Administration Committee, whose broomsweeps in the past have always aimed under the rug.

The chosen watchdogs are Rep. Omar Burleson (D., Tex.), the committee chairman who once contrived to charge the taxpayers for most of his reelection campaign and Rep. Wayne Hays (D., O.), the hot-tempered, trigger-tongued subcommittee chairman who traveled so much at the taxpayers' expense that he has been called the "Marco Polo of Congress." Both have covered up congressional improprieties in the past, including their own.

Four years ago, for example, I tried to tell these two about the payroll padding and global gallivanting of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D., N.Y.), but they refused to listen. PARADE had published an article of mine about "Congressmen

Who Cheat" (March 24, 1963). Next day Burleson seized the House floor and cried out: "We invite Mr. Anderson or anyone else who can support these charges to come before us in public hearings and reveal all or any part of the allegations in the article."

I accepted the challenge and came before Burleson's committee with a 14-page statement. He refused to let me read it. All he wanted was identification of the congressman who had given me information.

POWELL EXPOSE

I had intended to testify that Representative Powell had placed his wife, Yvette, on the public payroll under her maiden name; that her most pressing business with his congressional office had been a request for instructions in Spanish on how to play dominoes; that two beds, purchased with House funds, had been shipped to her in Puerto Rico at the taxpayers' expense; that Powell had collected \$50,000 in "campaign expenses" to support the Republican ticket in 1956, and that the Democrats had

Act

June 23, 1967

Mr. Daniel F. Halloran
970 New Scotland Road
Albany, New York

Dear Dan:

I was glad to have your views regarding the current Senate Ethics Committee investigation pertaining to the activities of Senator Dodd.

In comparing the Powell and Dodd cases, I am enclosing herewith remarks by the National Council of Churches, which I had inserted in the Congressional Record on June 20th, with which I am in full agreement. I think the analysis of this situation is quite astute and know you'd be interested in reading it. As I have said in the past, and as I now reiterate, what is needed is the adoption by the Congress of a code of ethics by which a Member could be judged. This would guarantee uniformity and equalization as to the standards of such investigations.

As always, Dan, I appreciate having your views and welcome the opportunity to discuss such with you.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Button, M. C.

Enclosure

This is Dan Halloran,
who used to be heard
from in Charlottesville Va.

Let's give him a note
of thanks accompanied
by a tearsheet of my
insertion in the Record (6/20)
of a Natl Council of
Churches statement on the
contrast between the cases.

JUN 20 1967

970 New Scotland Road
Albany, New York
June 18, 1967

Dear Dan,

AS a member of the Catholic Interracial Council and as a concerned American citizen, I should like to express my strong disapproval of the gross inequities evident in the handling of Congressman Powell's and Senator Dodd's cases.

Adam Clayton Powell, a black man whose conduct could hardly be termed exemplary, was condemned and dismissed from his Congressional seat with a degree of efficiency and dispatch seldom found in our legislative branch of government. The treatment of Thomas Dodd's iniquities has differed remarkably. Extolled as a pillar of virtue by President Johnson's favorite columnist, William S. White, he has actually been defended on the Senate floor by a Senator who would have him completely exonerated despite clear evidence of misconduct. The Senate investigating committee chose to totally ignore some of the charges against Senator Dodd. And, at best, if he is disciplined at all, his punishment will be far less severe than that accorded Congressman Powell.

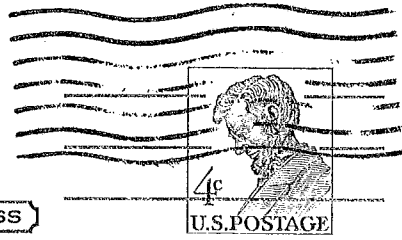
I am fully aware of the differences in both degree and nature of the conduct attributed to Mr. Powell and Mr. Dodd. I am also aware of the fact that the personal behavior of other members of Congress, such as that of Mendel Rivers, is felt to be irrelevant to their Congressional careers. In summary, the theme comes through clearly that a double standard exists in the Congress of the United States.- that a far more rigid standard is to be applied when evaluating the conduct of a Negro who proves offensive and intractable than that applied to the ethical behavior of other Congressmen and Senators.

Sincerely,



Dear Sir: I enclose post card would
like to express my opinion ^{APR 14 1967}
regards to Clayton Powell an
arrogant conceited woman chaser
at 59 years of age and am asking
you to vote against his reating
I also approve of A Nelson
Genevieve Paul (60) Bway Albany NY 12207

AHNELSON
607 D way
Albany NY



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Rep Dan Button of NY
Washington
House Office Bldg DC