

November 23, 1963

10:17 a.m.

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**TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
MR. GEORGE MEANY**

GM: Mr. President

LBJ: George, you know how tragic this whole thing is and I just called you to tell you that you have been of inestimable help to this Administration and to your country and I need you as we never needed you before.

GM: Well, I'm still in a state of shock. I just can't fathom a thing like this. And I can tell you, we'll go down the line and you've done a tremendous job and I know you can do it.

LBJ: Well, I know I'm totally inadequate, George, but maybe with friends like you, and if you'll be candid and frank with me and the phone is always close, I'm just as close as it is, if you'll just let me know and come over and let's try to put our country at close ranks and pull it out of this terrible situation in which we find ourselves.

GM: Well, I think we can. I think that with your ability and leadership and training and everything else, as President you can do it and you have me and all of our gang right back behind you.

LBJ: I know that. And I have great respect to your patriotism and I want your counsel and your friendship. I know I've had it, but I want it more than ever now.

GM: Well, you have it.

LBJ: Thank you, my friend.

GM: Thank you very much.

LBJ: Goodbye.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NOTES ON CONVERSATION WITH
MR. GEORGE MEANY NOVEMBER 23, 1963

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President Johnson told Me. Meany that: "you have been of inestimable help to this Administration and to your country and I need you as we never needed you before."

Mr. Meany said: "I think that with your ability and leadership and training and everything else, as President you can do it and you have me and all of our gang right back behind you."