

November 6, 1953.

Honorable Dwight D. Eisenhower  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

My dear General:

Recently I have been hearing of some attempts being made to embarrass Oswald Ryan, Republican Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, and I understand he is now being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, on the assumption that the order comes from the Executive Office.

I believe you will recall that I once spoke to you in Mr. Ryan's behalf and that he is the only person for whom I have so spoken since you took office. Incidentally, I have never at any time made a request or even a suggestion to Mr. Ryan regarding the actions of the C.A.B., or any of its policies.

You have many problems and I don't wish to take up your time with unnecessary details. However, in the event that anything detrimental should develop that would indicate a change for Mr. Ryan, I would appreciate having the opportunity of discussing the matter with you personally.

The problems in the C.A.B. would be less if the three majority members should work together as a team, instead of letting the minority members divide them. In the Railroad Commission of Texas, where there are three members, they have worked out a plan of rotation for the chairmanship each year on the basis of seniority. This plan eliminates the possibility of friction which, unfortunately, sometimes interferes with a harmonious, constructive program.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,