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July 16, 1949.

Mr. Amon G. Carter,
President and Publisher,
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM,
Fort Worth, Texas.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Thank you for sending me a tear sheet from the STAR-TELEGRAM of July 7, containing its editorial "Tidelands Should Be Free of Politics." I agree with you that "The state's policy on the tidelands issue should not be decided on the basis of what is good for somebody's political candidacy." I might even go farther, and say that "The Nation's policy on the tidelands issue should not be decided on the basis of what is good for the tidelands states, but on what is best for the Nation." At the same time, I cannot but admire the shrewdness of those who propose that the tidelands states agree that the Nation shall have some of its tidelands oil in consideration of the Nation's giving to those states a vastly greater oil potential in the Continental Shelf, extending far beyond the low water mark.

Anyhow, it is a pleasure to hear from you, even if cryptically.

Sincerely yours,

Harold L. Ickes
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