October 9, 1943.

Honorable Jesse H. Jones,
Secretary of Commerce,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Jesse:

I just started out to write you a note on the Midway Airport and when I commenced reviewing the bidding it was almost impossible to curtail the letter to a reasonable length. Although it is an imposition to ask you to read a long letter of this kind, I hope you will find time to do so.

I am sending a wire, copy of which I enclose, to the chief censor in New York. Also, enclosed is a copy of my letter to Norman Davis of the American Red Cross. You may think the wire is a little severe, but when I am confronted with the red tape and regulations which have been imposed on these youngsters in the prison camps in Germany, it almost makes my blood boil and I am ready to fight.

Enclosed is a copy of Amon Junior's last letter which shows the inconsistencies and lack of coordination between the Censors, the Economic Warfare Board and the Red Cross. This, you can gather from reading Amon's letter concerning the sizes and weights of packages received and some of them without Government labels, which shows that the censors passed these things and still they come along and pilfer my package to Amon Junior by removing less than six ounces of smoking tobacco. It is a damned outrage.

Again, they permit as many people as care to do so, to send Christmas packages, one a week not exceeding five pounds, to as many overseas boys in the armed forces as they want to. Still, we have no opportunity to send our boys who are prisoners of war, (Americans) in Germany an extra Christmas package. We are fighting for our freedom and the elimination of Hitlerism - still these autocratic rules are in line with Hitlerism. The Germans do not object to how many packages of food and clothes we send. So, the fault lies in our own Government regulations. I suggested to Norman Davis that they should get together with the proper authorities and iron
out these rank injustices. Why treat an American soldier overseas different than an American soldier in a prisoner of war camp?

Incidentally, the sentiment expressed in my telegram to the Chief Censor is the sentiment that is growing very rapidly in this country. And, while we are on this subject, these same haywire restrictions and regulations are strangling the oil business and giving us a shortage of meat with a cattle surplus. It looks like it is going to take an act of Congress to give the independent oil operator some measure of protection which evidently Messrs. Vinson, Brown and Pike do not feel they are entitled to.

Notwithstanding all of this we are delighted that Texas went over the top on the Third War Loan drive. Incidentally,

Fort Worth’s quote was $21,866,000.00
and we sold $33,253,225.00

worth of bonds or 52.6% over our quote. While the entire 59 counties in West Texas in Fort Worth’s district raised $77,000,000.00 on a $64,000,000.00 quota. Fort Worth raised more than half of the quota of the 59 counties. Your home town, Houston, did a great job but don’t forget that our money was raised in the corn bread area, so-to-speak, where we have very few rich people.

Hoping you are fine and with best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

AGG, KD