

New York City,
April 30, 1942.

President Roosevelt,
WASHINGTON.

Dear Mr. President:

The West Texas Chamber of Commerce, the largest regional organization of its character in the nation, has a petition before Secretary Wickard, about which some of my friends have been communicating with me and which I have reluctantly agreed to call to your attention. I do so only because this petition deals with a situation necessary to our war program. It is the cotton allotment.

The Secretary of Agriculture has urged the full planting of the allotted acreage, estimated at 27,400,000 acres. The West Texas Chamber of Commerce believes that, based on past results, the full allotment will not be realized unless the unplanted acres are allotted to territories which can successfully produce cotton after June 1.

The vast area known as West Texas, produced 1,532,502 bales of cotton, 60 per cent of the State's crop, last year, much of it after two or three plantings, due to unseasonable Spring rains, and some plantings as late as July 1. This region has a cotton allotment of 4,355,341 acres out of a potential of 19,000,000 acres. Due to rainfall conditions, the entire territory is suitable for cotton and not as susceptible to diversification as other territories. I think it has been proven that cotton can be produced at less cost in West Texas than in any other cotton growing region in the nation.

I believe this program has a great deal of merit. I know that Secretary Wickard will give it serious consideration; and, if you should see fit to indorse it, I believe it would be a strong factor in meeting the situation which Secretary Wickard has in

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mind, and likewise of benefit to growers in
a large region.

With admiration for the great job you
are doing and every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,