

C O P Y

OSWALD RYAN
5511 Chevy Chase Parkway
Washington, D.C.

May 2nd '53

Dear Amon,

I was delighted to receive your wire which bore every evidence of your progress toward complete recovery.

The conflicting claims that swirled around the chairmanship of this Board involved a lot of important political personalities on all sides and caused quite a delay in the President's decision but I am convinced that what you and Sid Richardson did in your quiet and effective way turned the tide in my favor. Indeed, the President told me himself that I had "some very strong friends in Texas" and that he "had had a message only that day from one of them". I guessed, and he said "You are right. I did hear from Amon Carter but he had talked with many others in Texas." I cannot express to you my gratitude; nor will I ever be able to forget it.

And I cannot forget also that over a period of fifteen years you have given many evidences of your friendship for me by many personal remembrances and favors and have never asked a single favor of me. I underscore this because it is underscored in my experience and has done much to keep alive my faith in human nature when the flame at times has burned low.

I can understand the universal regard in which you are held as revealed at the recent dedication of the great airport that bears your name. It was clear beyond doubt that the people of Ft. Worth sensed that unselfish quality which has distinguished your life. Let me add that one of the impressive incidents at the dedication ceremony was your son's appearance in the reading of the message from you. As he spoke my mind went back to that time when he was missing in action and you told me about the desperate efforts that were being made to locate him. In him you have a worthy successor to carry on your work.

One last favor I ask of you, Amon. Please take care of yourself.

Sincerely,

/s/ Oswald.

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