



“Just Merely to Tell You I Loved You”

Date: 1964-08-04
Conversation: WH6408-05-4698
Participant: Lyndon B. Johnson
Participant: Lady Bird Johnson
Start Time: 20:35
Duration: 00:40
Place: Oval Office

SCENE SETTER: While working late and attempting to reach Republican presidential nominee Sen. Barry M. Goldwater Sr. [R–Arizona] with a brief on impending air strikes against North Vietnam, President Johnson took a moment to speak with Lady Bird Johnson.

White House Operator: There you are.

President Johnson: Darling?

Lady Bird Johnson: Yes, beloved.

President Johnson: Did you want me?

Lady Bird Johnson: I just wanted to see you whenever you're all alone.

President Johnson: All right.

Lady Bird Johnson: Just merely to tell you I loved you. That's all.

President Johnson: Well, I'll be over there. The Russells [Robert L. and Betty Ann Russell] still there?

Lady Bird Johnson: No, they left at 3:30 this afternoon, dear.

President Johnson: I'll be darned. Well, I . . . Why didn't they tell me good-bye?

Lady Bird Johnson: Uh . . . Because I guess they just—they figured you just didn't have a moment.

President Johnson: I'll be darned. Well, any other news?

Lady Bird Johnson: [*chuckling*] Nothing in comparison to yours, darling.

President Johnson: I'm trying to get Senator [Barry M.] Goldwater [Sr.] [R–Arizona], and I'll come over just as soon as I get through.

Lady Bird Johnson: Honey?

President Johnson: Yeah?

Lady Bird Johnson: Bring anybody who's a bachelor or who wants to eat or who would otherwise be doing without supper until real late with you, will you?

President Johnson: OK.

Lady Bird Johnson: Bye.

End of excerpt.

CITATION: "Lyndon B. Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson on 4 August 1964," Conversation WH6408-05-4698, *Presidential Recordings Digital Edition* [Election of 1964, vol. 1, ed. Kent B. Germany, Guian A. McKee, and Marc J. Selverstone] (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2014–). URL: <http://prde.upress.virginia.edu/conversations/4006333>

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Full information about this conversation: ["Just Merely to Tell You I Loved You"](#)