4-15-1969

Senator James O. Eastland to Bryce N. Harlow, 15 April 1969

James O. Eastland
April 15, 1969

Honorable Bryce N. Harlow
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Harlow:

Thank you for your letter of April 12 concerning my communication with the President on the Illinois Central Railroad strike. I do appreciate your information on this matter.

I continue to be very interested in the situation even though the strike is now settled. I would appreciate it if you would keep me informed on any activity in this regard.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

U. S. S.
Dear Senator Eastland:

This will acknowledge your telegram to the President urging the full utilization of this office in an effort to settle the strike against the Illinois Central Railroad by the switchmen and brakemen represented by the United Transportation Union.

The current dispute is the result of the inability of the parties to reach an accord after the recommendations of a Presidential Emergency Board were issued several months ago. The issue is the number of employees to be used on train crews and the parties have been negotiating directly since the Board report in an effort to resolve the matter. All of the available procedures under existing law have been exhausted in this particular dispute.

The National Mediation Board re-entered the dispute, in the public interest, on Thursday, April 10, 1969. Their mediator reports that much progress toward a settlement was made during an all night meeting with the parties and is hopeful that a complete agreement will be reached by this weekend.

Be assured that every continuing effort is being made to bring this dispute to a quick conclusion.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Bryce N. Harlow
Assistant to the President

Honorable James O. Eastland
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510