

ALBEN W. BARKLEY  
KENTUCKY

*United States Senate*  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Paducah, Kentucky  
December 8, 1955

Mr. Carl D. Swanson, Chairman  
Mock Democratic National Convention  
Washington and Lee University  
Box 918  
Lexington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Swanson:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 29th inviting me to key-note the Mock Democratic National Convention to be held at Washington and Lee next spring.

I have received a number of such invitations and I have been compelled to advise all of them that I cannot at this time accept any invitation for a date that far in the future. If I were compelled to give a definite answer now, I would have to say no because I do not now know what my situation may be next April, but if you can wait until sometime after the first of the year, I will be glad to give you a definite answer although it would be necessary to attach a string to the effect that if, at the last moment some legislative matter arises, that would make my absence from Washington impossible, I shall have the right so to advise you.

If you can await a definite answer until after the first of the year, I shall be glad to give the matter my earnest consideration. Since I am returning to Washington in a few days, I suggest that further correspondence be sent there.

Thanking you for the honor of your invitation,  
I am

Cordially yours,

*Alben W. Barkley*

Alben W. Barkley

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