JULY 20, 1945

TO: CHARLES ROSS
FROM: ROSENMAN

YOUR MESSAGE MR-IN-91 RECEIVED AND CONSIDER MYSELF ALERTED WITH PLEASURE. HOWEVER THE HOUSE HAS ALREADY VOTED TO RECESS TOMORROW SATURDAY UNTIL OCTOBER EIGHTH. THE SENATE EXPECTS TO DO THE SAME AS SOON AS THEY PASS THE CHARTER WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE THE END OF NEXT WEEK.

THERE WILL THEREFORE BE NO CONGRESS IN SESSION TO WHICH TO REPORT WHEN THE PRESIDENT GETS BACK. THE RESOLUTION PROVIDES THAT THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CAN CALL BOTH BODIES BACK EARLIER. THE CONGRESS COULD THEREFORE BE CALLED BACK BUT THE MEMBERS ARE SO ANXIOUS TO GET AWAY NOW THAT I THINK SUCH ACTION WOULD BE UNWISE. AS AN ALTERNATIVE THE PRESIDENT COULD MAKE A RADIO REPORT TO THE NATION EXPLAINING THAT HE WOULD HAVE REPORTED TO THE CONGRESS DIRECTLY IF IT HAD BEEN IN SESSION. I DISCUSSED THIS WITH SPEAKER RAYBURN AND SENATOR BARKLEY AND THEY BOTH AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO TRY TO CALL THE CONGRESS BACK AND THAT THE SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE VERY PROPER.
House Sets Recess Until October 8

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House Speaker can call both bodies back earlier when and if the majority and minority leaders in both houses ask.

In the first year of American participation in the war, 1942, the House took no adjournment, but allowed most of its members to get away for a brief summer vacation by the practice of three-day recesses.

In 1943, the House was in actual adjournment from July 8 to Sept. 14; and last year it adjourned from July 8 to September 14; and last year it adjourned from June 23 to August 1 for the primaries and Presidential conventions; and then again from September 21 to November 14 for the elections.