

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE  
REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS CALLED FOR WEDNESDAY,  
JANUARY SEVENTEENTH, 1968, AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE CAPITOL  
OFFICE (S-230) OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE  
EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Present:

Chairman Bliss  
Senators Kuchel, Hickenlooper, Young, Murphy, Scott  
Congressmen Ford, Arends, Laird, Rhodes, Smith, Wilson,  
Goodell, Poff, Cramer

Guest: Governor Reagan

Absent:

Senators Dirksen, Smith

Also Present:

John Fisher, Bryce Harlow, Robert Hartman, Harry Brookshire,  
J. Mark Trice

Chairman Bliss called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M. and welcomed Governor Reagan to the meeting.

The Chairman then recognized Congressman Ford who also welcomed the Governor and spoke of the unselfish service which he had given to the Party.

Congressman Ford also said he had received a telegram from NBC in regard to their participation on next Tuesday evening. The telegram stated that they would communicate further on Thursday or Friday after hearing the message. No word had been received from ABC.

The Chairman recognized Governor Reagan who spoke of the chaotic financial condition of the State of California when he assumed the Governorship and he said that he hoped after the next election the Republicans would have control of the California Assembly.

He also spoke of his recent travels and stated there was a great determination on the part of the Republican Party to be unified. He

spoke of the increased activity on the part of young people and what he described as a "fresh air" approach.

In response to a question by Congressman Wilson, he said that he found the main issue to be the domestic crisis:

1. Money - inflation
2. Morality gap - law and order
3. The way welfare is being run
4. The credibility gap

He said that his present speaking engagement would be his last because the California legislature is now in session.

The Chairman thanked the Governor for his cooperation and the big help that he had rendered the Party in the area of campaign funds.

The Chairman recognized Senator Murphy to give a progress report on the Republican State of the Union meeting. Senator Murphy stated they would use the auditorium in the new Senate Office Building if it was o.k.'d by CBS. He was still working on the program in general. As yet it had not jelled.

It was suggested that another meeting be held and it was agreed that the Leadership meet tomorrow, Thursday, at 2:00 P.M. in H-202.

The Chairman spoke of a documentary which is being made by NBC and said they would like some silent footage of the Leadership meeting. It was thought that this could be done at the meeting tomorrow.

Congressman Ford raised a question concerning a television film on Vietnam which would be shown within a short time on the Educational channels. He said that the film had been produced by Felix Greene and it was his understanding it was a Viet Cong propaganda movie and should be protested. Several of the Leadership took the same position in regard to the showing. After discussion it was decided that the burden should be

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put on the White House as they had information in regard to Mr. Greene's background. It was thought that a statement might be worked out within a day or two by the Leadership.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:07 A.M.

*J. Mark Trice.*  
Acting Secretary