

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH MEETING OF
THE JOINT SENATE-HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP CALLED FOR
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY SECOND, 1966, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE
CAPITOL OFFICE (S-230) OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER,
THE HONORABLE EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Present:

Chairman Bliss
Senators Dirksen, Kuchel, Hickenlooper, Saltonstall
Congressmen Ford, Arends, Laird, Smith, Wilson, Goodell

Absent:

Senator Morton
Congressman Rhodes

Also Present:

William Hatch, Bryce Harlow, Arthur Peterson, William Pendergast,
Harry Brookshire, Mark Trice

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M. and asked that a previously-prepared statement be read by Senator Dirksen. The proposed statement dealt with the resumption of bombing in North Viet Nam. After a pro and con discussion it was suggested that the issuance of the statement be deferred for a week in order that the Members could sleep on it. A question was raised as to whether or not we should take the initiative now. There was general agreement among the Members to think the matter over and defer any statement at this time.

The Chairman asked the opinion of the Members present as to whether the Coordinating Committee meeting on March 28 should be postponed because of the absence of Senator Goldwater, Vice President Nixon and Congressman Rhodes because of previous engagements. It was the consensus of those present that the meeting should not be postponed.

The Chairman also raised a question as to whether or not a Task Force should be established on the subject of Education. The consensus was that there was not too much to be said on this subject and there would not be too much advantage to establishing one. The question also was raised about a paper on Inflation. It was said that this subject was already a part of a paper on the Budget and it was thought that the matter might be handled by having a special paper on Inflation at the meeting on the 28th.

A question was also raised about whether a Task Force on Mass Transportation might be helpful. It was decided that one would be and if the new Task Force worked with the Congressional group now working on the subject there would be no objection. It was suggested that Fred Gurley, formerly with the Santa Fe, and Sims of the Pennsylvania Railroad might be asked to serve.

The Chairman also said that after the recent meeting it looked as though the Republicans were closing ranks for the first time and that they were forgetting '64.

The Chairman asked if there were any suggestions as to what Bill Hatch might work on now and it was agreed that Inflation might be the best subject at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

J. Mark F. Price
Acting Secretary