

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE JOINT  
REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 27, 1964, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE CAPITOL OFFICE  
(S-230) OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE  
EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Present:

Members: Senators Dirksen, Morton, Hickenlooper, Kuchel  
Congressmen Halleck, Arends, Byrnes

Absent: The Presiding Officer, Congressman William E. Miller  
Senator Saltonstall  
Congressmen Brown, Ford, Wilson

Also Present: Robert Humphreys, Harry Brookshire, Robert Allett, Mark Trice

The meeting was called to order by Senator Dirksen at 9:10 A.M.

The agenda was as follows:

Foreign Policy Enigma  
Foreign Policy Contradictions and Vacillations  
Other Legislative Matters

Senator Dirksen suggested that a few minutes be given to Mr. Bob Humphreys in order that he could inform the members present of the recent conversation in regard to Japanese trade. Mr. Humphreys spoke of a recent conversation he had had on the subject and read several articles from a recent issue of the Japanese Times. It was suggested that this matter might be the subject of future consideration by the Joint Leadership.

FOREIGN POLICY ENIGMA

Senator Dirksen called attention to the two recent editorials from the New York Times which he did not read and then he read his previously-prepared statement on this subject. The Dirksen statement was approved.

FOREIGN POLICY CONTRADICTIONS AND VACILLATIONS

Congressman Halleck read for the information of the members present his prepared statement on this subject. After a slight change was made in the statement it was approved.

OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Senator Hickenlooper, in response to an inquiry by Senator Dirksen, gave his reasons for the recent resignation of Robert Hilsman, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs.

Congressman Arends was recognized and expressed the opinion that manned bombers should remain in the Military Authorization Bill now pending before the Senate.

The subject of Viet Nam was discussed briefly. Congressman Halleck said that Secretary McNamara's coming visit there would probably have something to do with conclusions to be reached by the Administration.

Congressman Halleck stated that the task force on the budget was operating and doing a good job.

There was general discussion as to the Cotton-Wheat Bill which is shortly to be brought up in the Senate. Congressman Halleck said that Congressman Hoeven would object if the Senate attached wheat to the legislation. He said that a rule would then be necessary if the House is to consider the measure. The general consensus was that this bill should be stalled by the Senate as long as possible.

The subject of Civil Rights was discussed briefly. Letters are being received pro and con since passage of the House measure.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

*J. Mark Tince.*  
Acting Secretary