

MINUTES OF THE NINETY-THIRD MEETING OF THE JOINT
SENATE-HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP CALLED FOR THURSDAY,
MARCH 4, 1965, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE CAPITOL OFFICE
(H-202) OF THE HOUSE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE
GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Present:

Congressmen Ford, Arends, Rhodes, Laird, Brown, Wilson
Senators Dirksen, Kuchel, Hickenlooper, Saltonstall, Morton

Absent:

Chairman Burch

Also Present:

Robert Humphreys, Bryce Harlow, Harry Brookshire, Mark Trice

In the absence of the Chairman, Dean Burch, Congressman Ford
called the meeting to order at 9:12 A.M. and the agenda is as follows:

Vietnam policy implementation

"No concession - no deal"

Discussion

2nd income plan

Coordinating Committee Agenda

Legislative Matters

It was agreed that the reading of the fact sheet be waived.

VIETNAM POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Senator Dirksen then read the previously-prepared press statement on
this subject.

"NO CONCESSION - NO DEAL"

It was agreed that Congressman Ford would then read the previously-
prepared statement on this subject in order that discussion might be
had on both topics.

After several minor changes both statements were approved and
copies are attached hereto.

Congressman Ford raised a question as to whether or not a task force might be created on Southeast Asia with membership to include Senate and House or whether it should be set up individually. A question was raised as to whether or not it would be better if the Coordinating Committee set up the task force and that perhaps it would be best for the matter to wait until March 10 when that group is to meet.

Congressman Laird thought that the study should be basically historical in order that the members would have some material to use in the next campaign.

Senator Hickenlooper suggested that the matter be held up until there could be a meeting of the Senate Policy Committee as the general subject had been previously discussed and he was awaiting a decision from his group.

Senator Dirksen also raised a question as to whether or not a task force should be set up on international balances.

Congressman Brown stated that we should be careful not to be placed in the position of pushing the President into a war. He also referred to situations in the past where bad economics had led to the alternative of war in order to cover up bad economic situations.

2ND INCOME PLAN

Because of the time taken up in discussing the previous matters, it was suggested that this topic be taken up at the next meeting.

Bob Humphreys informed the membership of the replies which he had received from two economists.

Congressman Ford thought perhaps it would be a good thing to turn the matter over to the Coordinating Committee for further study.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE AGENDA

Bob Humphreys informed the membership of the agenda of the Coordinating Committee which would meet for the first time next Wednesday at 9:30 A.M. at the Willard Hotel.

It was recommended that a meeting of the Joint Leadership be held next Monday morning at 9:00 A.M. to give consideration to any release which the Coordinating Committee might make on Wednesday.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.



Acting Secretary