

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE JOINT  
REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR  
MARCH 22, 1962, AT 8:30 A.M. IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SENATE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE EVERETT  
MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Members Present:

Senators Dirksen, Saltonstall, Kuchel  
Representatives Halleck, Brown, Byrnes

Members Absent:

Senator Hickenlooper  
Congressman Hoeven, Arends

Also Absent: The Presiding Officer, William E. Miller

Also Present: Robert Humphreys, Bryce Harlow, Harry Brookshire,  
Mark Trice

In the absence of the Presiding Officer, the Honorable Everett  
McKinley Dirksen called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

The following agenda was presented for consideration:

British weakening on inspection

Pressure against U. S. resumption of testing

Legislative matters

BRITISH WEAKENING ON INSPECTION

Senator Dirksen suggested that the prepared fact sheet be read prior  
to reading and discussing the proposed press release on the subject.  
Before the statement was amended in several minor particulars, Senator  
Dirksen stated that he had said something about this matter at the  
Republican Policy meeting this week and that if any agreements were to be  
reached in the matter they would have to be in treaty form which the  
Senate would have to vote on later.

Congressman Halleck stated that both statements up for consideration  
today had been checked with Congressman Van Zandt and other members of the  
House. Copy of approved statement attached hereto.

PRESSURE AGAINST U. S. RESUMPTION OF TESTING

Congressman Halleck read the suggested statement previously prepared on this subject. After brief discussion two minor changes were made and the statement approved. Copy of approved statement attached.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Congressman Halleck asked that Mr. Byrnes report with regard to the tax bill soon to be brought before the House for consideration. Congressman Byrnes spoke of possible proposed amendments to be submitted by Chairman Mills but it was impossible for him to say as to what they might contain. He thought that the 8% figure for investment credit might be cut to 6% which would cut the revenue loss to around \$700 million. No action was expected to be taken on the bill by the House until next week, consequently, Congressman Byrnes spoke of the action the House Rules Committee might take on the measure and Congressman Brown then stated that there would be no rule until the House Ways and Means Committee presented a perfected bill. He said that some sections of the bill had merit and definite procedure had not been worked out in regard to amendments or to a motion to recommit.

Congressman Byrnes suggested that some constructive proposal should be presented by the Republicans to counteract the recent messages of the President regarding emergency tax reductions and recession legislation. His idea was that Congress pass some legislation on the subjects but not have them effective until the Congress again passed legislation putting the law into effect when the emergency arose.

Senator Dirksen raised a question concerning submitting an amendment to the tax bill with regard to an across-the-board tax cut.

Congressman Brown informed the members of the action taken last October by President Kennedy which secretly stopped funds in regard to

houses being constructed with G. I. loans. At the present time there was not enough money to complete 800 houses. Congressman Brown stated that in recent testimony it was revealed that by mid-summer \$75 million would be released in order to complete the projects by election day.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

  
Acting Secretary

Approved by the  
Acting Presiding Officer  
March 22, 1962