MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE JOINT REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1964, AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE CAPITOL OFFICE (H-202) OF THE HOUSE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE CHARLES A. HALLECK

Present:

Members: Senators Dirksen, Morton, Hickenlooper

Congressmen Halleck, Arends

Absent:

The Presiding Officer, Congressman William E. Miller

Senators Saltonstall, Kuchel

Congressmen Brown, Byrnes, Ford, Wilson

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

Mark Trice

The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

Test Ban Commitments
Inflation and the GOP Task Force
Other Legislative Matters

Senator Dirksen called the meeting to order at 9:40 A.M. and before he read his prepared statement on Test Ban Commitments Bob Humphreys informed the Members concerning publicity which had evolved from a dinner which he had arranged with Ray Henley on the budget at which Bob Merriman was present.

Test Ban Commitments

Senator Dirksen then read the prepared statement on this subject and it was suggested that the last sentence be omitted. It was suggested that one copy be sent to Secretary McNamara, one to the President and one to the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. Senator Hickenlooper spoke briefly on the NASA subject in general and expressed the belief that more basic research was needed. The statement was then approved and a copy is attached.

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Inflation and the GOP Task Force

Congressman Halleck read the prepared statement on this subject and after several changes the statement was approved. A copy is attached.

Other Legislative Matters

Congressman Halleck raised a question as to what might happen in regard to the Pay Bill and he expressed the opinion that the bill would best be revived on the Senate side. Senator Morton said that the Senate Committee was still thrashing the matter around and that it was his opinion that Senator Johnston felt that some definite assurance must come from the House that action would be taken there if the Senate approved the measure.

Congressman Halleck expressed the opinion that the President did not give strong leadership in support of it. The argument concerning higher pay for State officials was beginning to sink in, however.

No conclusions were reached.

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

Acting Secretary