

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE  
REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS CALLED FOR TUESDAY,  
APRIL SECOND, 1968, AT 3:30 P.M. IN THE CAPITOL OFFICE (S-230)  
OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Present:

Chairman Bliss  
Senator Murphy  
Congressmen Ford, Arends, Laird, Rhodes, Smith, Wilson,  
Goodell, Cramer

Absent:

Senators Dirksen, Kuchel, Hickenlooper, Smith, Young, Scott  
Congressman Poff

Also Present:

John Fisher, Bryce Harlow, Robert Mc Cormick, Robert Hartman,  
Harry Brookshire, J. Mark Trice

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:48 p.m.

After being informed that Senator Dirksen could not be present due to a press conference and commitments at the TV studio, the Chairman asked Mr. Fisher to explain the reason for the meeting. Mr. Fisher stated that a statement had been prepared but after talking with the two Leaders they did not think it timely to issue one at this time. Therefore, a question was raised as to whether or not a press conference should be scheduled for Thursday and merely have it open for questions.

After discussion the general consensus of those Members present was that it would be better not to have a press conference. However, the Chairman stated that if after Mr. Fisher explained the situation to Senator Dirksen, advising him that it was the consensus of those Members present not to have a press conference this week, and Senator Dirksen still wanted a press conference, it would be satisfactory.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

*J. Mark Trice*  
Acting Secretary