

No press reports

MINUTES OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE JOINT SENATE-HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP CALLED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1965, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE CAPITOL OFFICE (H-202) OF THE HOUSE MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Present:

Chairman Ray C. Bliss
Congressmen Arends, Laird, Rhodes, Goodell
Senators Dirksen, Hickenlooper, Morton

Absent:

Congressmen Ford, Brown, Wilson
Senators Kuchel, Saltonstall

Also Present:

Bryce Harlow, Harry Brookshire, William Pendergast, Arthur Peterson,
Mark Trice

Chairman Bliss called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M. and stated that there was nothing in particular in the way of an agenda. He said that he understood that some questions were to be raised concerning the task force reports.

Senator Dirksen made inquiry as to what reports would be ready for the Coordinating Meeting on June first and was told that the one on Human Rights and Foreign Policy on Viet Nam were ready for submission. Three others were in the preliminary stage and preliminary reports would be made concerning them.

Inquiry was made as to whether or not Section 14-B of the Taft-Hartley Act would be mentioned. Dr. Peterson replied that the present report carries no mention of it. Hope was expressed by several Members that the subject be kept out of any report.

Senator Dirksen suggested that for the meeting on Tuesday there be drawn up a single page of recommendations and that the reports submitted not be released.

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Congressman Goodell spoke of a meeting at the White House this morning and raised a question if Congressman Ford might be asked for his recommendations concerning Cuba. Senator Dirksen suggested that if the subject were raised that it would be necessary first to receive the latest CIA information in regard to Cuba.

Dr. Peterson presented to the committee the highlights of the various reports to be presented. It was suggested that the Coordinating Committee accept the reports submitted as "advisory opinions" and in that way they would not have to be released.

The Chairman stated that all former Presidential candidates would be present at the Tuesday meeting, with the exception of Governor Landon.

On the subject of the creating of more task forces, it was decided that the matter could best be discussed on Tuesday by the members of the Coordinating Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.


Acting Secretary