

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOURTH MEETING OF
THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS CALLED FOR
WEDNESDAY, JUNE SEVENTH, 1967, AT 1:30 P.M. IN THE
CAPITOL OFFICE (S-230) OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER,
THE HONORABLE GERALD R. FORD

Present:

Chairman Bliss
Senators Dirksen, Kuchel, Hickenlooper, Smith, Young,
Murphy, Scott
Congressmen Ford, Arends, Laird, Rhodes, Wilson, Goodell,
Poff, Cramer

Absent: Congressman Smith

Also Present:

John Fisher, Robert McCormick, Robert Hartman,
Harry Brookshire, J. Mark Trice

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:42 P.M. and said it had been arranged to take pictures of the Leadership group for publicity purposes.

After the pictures had been taken the Chairman said there was no agenda for the meeting today but it was his understanding that Senator Dirksen and Congressman Ford might want to discuss the Middle East situation.

Chairman Bliss recognized Senator Dirksen who said that in his opinion it was premature at this time to issue a statement. He briefed the group on information which he had on the subject and spoke of possible confiscation of oil and the need of help by all sides, sooner or later. He also spoke of the refugee situation.

Congressman Ford asked if there was any thought regarding the Panama Canal and it was said that Bob Anderson was working on the subject as a troubleshooter. Senator Scott said that the Commerce Committee had reported an authorization bill today carrying funds for the new Canal.

No action of any kind was taken and the meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

J. Mark Trice
Acting Secretary