

FOR THE SENATE

Everett M. Dirksen, *Leader*
Thomas H. Kuchel, *Whip*
Bourke B. Hickenlooper, *Chr.*
of the Policy Committee
Leverett Saltonstall, *Chr.*
of the Conference
Thruston B. Morton,
Chr. Republican
Senatorial Committee

PRESIDING OFFICER
The Republican
National Chairman
William E. Miller

THE JOINT SENATE-HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP

Press Release

Issued following a
Leadership Meeting

January 28, 1964

FOR THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Charles A. Halleck,
Leader
Leslie C. Arends, *Whip*
John W. Byrnes, *Chr.*
of the Policy Committee
Gerald R. Ford, Jr.,
Chr. of the Conference
Clarence J. Brown,
Ranking Member
Rules Committee
Bob Wilson,
Chr. Republican
Congressional Committee

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT BY REP. WILLIAM E. MILLER:

In America one of the roles of the opposition party is to keep the political spectrum in balance:

-- by pointing out truths that otherwise might go unmentioned by the party in power,

-- by bringing submerged facts into sharper focus that the people may better grasp them.

The Congress has just received President Johnson's State of the Union message, his economic report and his budget. This is an election year and it is perfectly evident from the tone of these messages that the White House knows it. That is why, as presiding officer of the Joint Senate-House Republican Leadership and as Republican National Chairman, I am participating in this press conference today -- to provide some general political observations while Senator Dirksen and Representative Halleck provide the specifics.

To put it in a nutshell, the wheeling and dealing has started, with the most accomplished wheeler-dealer Washington has ever seen, Lyndon B. Johnson, running the show. The New Dealers and Fair Dealers are only memories. Now we have the Wheeler Dealers.

The big come-on was in these three Presidential messages:

-- the world is rosy; it just needs more and better coexistence,
-- the economy is booming if you'll just overlook 4 million unemployed, and

-- the budget is pretty as a picture, give or take a few billion in juggled figures and a hard-to-cover-up increase in the national debt to \$317 billion or more.

The plain truth is that not a single new idea was presented; most of them are three to thirty years old. Only the sales pitch was new. We, as Republicans, have had to put truth squads into the field in the last three Presidential campaigns so fact could catch up with fast talk. And it is plain that this year we will have to do it again, from now until election day. So let's start today.

(Dirksen statement, pg. 2; Halleck statement, pg. 3)

This nation has now had three years of foreign policy shaped by Democratic Presidents and it is time a frank accounting of the world picture was rendered. Here are the facts:

In Southeast Asia, American fighting men are losing their lives in South Viet Nam; Cambodia, a former friend, has severed economic and military relations and is making friendly gestures to Red China; Indonesia's determined friendship with Peking was rewarded by American acquiescence in that nation's annexation of Dutch Guinea; Burma, Laos and Thailand all suffer from Communist infiltration and build-ups and internal anti-American campaigns. Even Pakistan has signed trade and airline agreements with Red China.

In Africa, Ghana and Zanzibar have gone Communist, while Algeria and Morocco carry on more than friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

In Europe, the NATO structure has deteriorated; the Berlin wall has been built and France has recognized Red China. The insistence of the Administration for authority to sell wheat to the Soviet Union on our taxpayers' credit amounted to an open invitation to Britain to sell buses and airliners to Cuba. Spain is also negotiating the sale of fishing vessels in a further rupture in the slowly-disappearing economic blockade around Cuba.

In Latin America, Cuba has gone Communist and become the first Soviet base in this hemisphere; Panama has completely severed diplomatic relations in a threat to the Panama Canal; Communists promote increasing strife in Venezuela, British Guiana, Brazil and Bolivia; military coups have occurred in the last two years in Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Honduras.

There is the three-year record. It is a losing record, a grim record. It has reduced American prestige. It certainly does not justify any American embrace of Moscow-sponsored "coexistence" or White House talk of "peace offensives." It is high time our government recognized that Communist aggression never stops and never will until we formulate policies to meet the realities presented by a cold, relentless and inhuman enemy.

January 28, 1964

When the three-year domestic record of the Democrat Administration is examined in the light of promise versus performance, no amount of window-dressing in Presidential messages can alter the fact that little has actually been achieved. And when the increased cost of government for those three years is considered, it has been an expensive experience for the American taxpayer, to say the least.

President Johnson boasts that in three years the Gross National Product has increased \$100 billion, or 16 percent. He overlooks the fact that the GNP increased 44 percent in the Eisenhower years, when the cost of government averaged 22 percent less than today. Likewise, Mr. Johnson tiptoes around the fact that, by his own budget calculation, the Democrats will have added \$31 billion to the national debt since they took office. That's a huge amount of red ink in times supposed to be so prosperous.

Despite the sunshine terms used to disguise the fiscal mess in Washington, two groups of Americans -- our workers and our farmers -- know how little Federal deficit spending accomplishes. Unemployment stays grimly above the 4 million mark, while the parity ratio between the prices of what a farmer buys and what he sells has dropped to 78 percent, the lowest figure since the depression of the 1930's.

Then there are all the 1960 campaign promises that still await fulfillment -- massive aid to education, medical care under social security, youth camps, lower interest rates, etc. etc. And civil rights, promised as the first order of business for January three years ago, but not even sponsored in Congress by the Administration until six months ago when bloodshed and violence forced the hand of the executive department.

Now we are told we are going to get all these things bigger and better at less cost. Well, if anybody believes this, and few do, all they need to do is examine the record. The last Democrat President who ever cut the cost of anything was Grover Cleveland and he went out of office in 1897.