

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE JOINT REPUBLICAN
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR MARCH 2, 1961, AT
8:30 A.M. IN THE OFFICE OF THE HOUSE MINORITY LEADER,
CONGRESSMAN CHARLES A. HALLECK

Present:

Representatives Halleck, Arends, Byrnes, Brown, Hoeven
Senators Morton, Bridges, Saltonstall, Dirksen, Kuchel

Also present: Harry Brookshire, Rollis Nelson,
Bryce Harlow, Mark Trice

The Presiding Officer, Senator Thruston B. Morton, called the meeting
to order at 8:32 A.M.

The agenda for the meeting as previously agreed to by Senator Dirksen
and Representative Halleck is as follows:

1. Staff - Staff Director
2. Legislation:
 - (a) Minimum wage
 - (b) Farm
 - (c) Judges
3. President's Press Conference

In regard to the first item on the agenda the Presiding Officer
stated that Bob Humphrey was available if the Leaders desire his services.
He expressed the opinion that Humphrey knows the Hill and Congressman
Halleck stated that he knew him to be a good man. The Presiding Officer
stated that he had been informed that Mr. Humphrey would like to talk
with Senator Dirksen and Representative Halleck as well as Bryce Harlow
before making a decision in the matter. The Presiding Officer was authorized
to pursue the matter further and work out the necessary details of his
employment.

Senator Bridges raised a question concerning the attendance of
Senator Goldwater and Congressman Miller at the meetings. After dis-
cussion of the matter once again it was agreed that they be invited to

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the next meeting as it was time for a political meeting of the group in the light of the recent Lincoln Day speeches around the country and various reports being received. The consensus of opinion was that they are not to be made regular members of the group.

Congressman Halleck spoke of the recent action of the Republican Policy Committee of the House and their discussion on the pending minimum wage bill. He stated that the consensus of opinion of their members was for a 15¢ increase, the same as last year's bill, and to hold fast to the interstate commerce concept. He also stated that there should be stressed to the press the possibility of unemployment caused by the enactment of the new legislation as well as the possible disadvantage to small business.

Senator Dirksen spoke about the general legislative situation in the Senate, particularly the contemplated action on minimum wage, feed grains and distressed areas legislation. He stressed particularly the pending judges bill and stated that he intends to move to postpone action thereon until March 16 in order to obtain a report by the Judicial Conference which meets on the 14th. He spoke of the politics involved in making new appointments and he stated that a statement should be made to the press that by reason of the admitted delay on the part of the Democrats that they had gambled in delaying the legislation, with great loss to litigants.

Representative Hoeven spoke concerning the feed grains legislation which he said would probably be before the House next Tuesday. He stated that Section 3 of the bill in regard to the dumping of surplus stocks should be stricken and that if it were the bill would not be too objectionable. It was stated that the Senate Committee had eliminated Section 3.

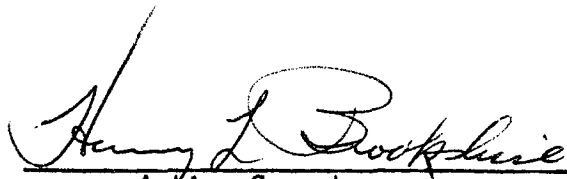
Representative Hoeven also stated that the legislation should be augmented to keep the parity concept of 75% in the bill.

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Representative Hoeven also stated that the legislation should be augmented to keep the parity concept of 75% in the bill.

It was suggested that a statement be made to the press raising questions concerning the recent statement by Secretary Rusk in regard to atomic versus conventional weapons. Inquiry should be made as to what shifts are planned and make requests for the documents in the case. Also stated was that if a shift was made to conventional weapons the cost would be \$14 billion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 A.M.


Acting Secretary

Approved by the
Presiding Officer
March 8, 1961