

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE JOINT
REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1963, AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE
CAPITOL OFFICE (H-202) OF THE HOUSE MINORITY
LEADER, THE HONORABLE CHARLES A. HALLECK

Present:

Members: Senators Dirksen, Saltonstall, Kuchel, Morton
Congressmen Halleck, Arends, Brown, Byrnes, Ford, Wilson

Absent: The Presiding Officer, Congressman William E. Miller
Senator Hickenlooper

Also Present:

Guests: Governor Clifford P. Hansen of Wyoming, accompanied
by Douglas Baldwin of the staff of Senator Pearson

Staff: Robert Humphreys, Bryce Harlow, Harry Brookshire,
Robert Allett, Mark Trice

In the absence of the Chairman, Senator Dirksen called the meeting
to order at 9:33 A.M. and announced the agenda for the meeting as follows:

Truth in Government Statements

Discussion with Governor Hansen

Legislative Matters

Truth In Government Statements

Senator Dirksen read the previously-prepared statement on this subject,
immediately followed by Congressman Halleck who read his previously-prepared
statement on the same subject in order that there might be discussion on
both statements at the same time. There was general discussion on the two
statements and several suggestions as to minor phraseology changes. Both
statements were approved.

Senator Kuchel raised a question as to whether or not the statement
implied that we would be for a blockade and Congressman Halleck responded
by saying that if the question is raised at the press conference he would
reply that the statement did not say we should have a blockade now.

There was brief discussion concerning the removal of missile bases from Turkey and Congressman Ford stated that recent testimony showed it would cost as much to bring them back to this country as it would cost to maintain them for a year. The consensus of opinion was that it was illogical for the Administration to argue that their removal was logical and that for missiles to remain in Turkey would mean one less missile fired at the United States.

Discussion with Governor Hansen

Congressman Halleck welcomed Governor Clifford P. Hansen of Wyoming to the meeting. He stated that because of the desire to broaden the base of the Joint Leadership Meetings the Governor had been invited to the meeting today and to participate in the press conference as well. Congressman Halleck stated that he hoped that Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen might attend a future meeting to participate in Education and Labor statements. Also, he stated that the Governor of Oklahoma was expected in the City the latter part of April and it was stated also that perhaps a number of Governors would be present for the Goldwater dinner.

Governor Hansen stated that he was very happy to participate in the meeting today and that it was his opinion that the Leadership Meetings were rendering a great service to the country. He then proceeded to read his prepared statement. It was the opinion of the Members that the statement was a good one and it was unanimously approved.

Legislative Matters

Senator Dirksen stated that the Senate would consider the Mass Transit and Youth Opportunities Bills before Easter and raised a question as to what might be before the House of Representatives for consideration.

He was informed that the House would probably consider three appropriation bills, namely, Interior, Treasury and Supplemental Appropriations. It was stated that the House Committee had cut the Interior bill by \$94 million and a further effort would be made to cut it when the bill was before the House.

Congressman Byrnes stated that there was an apparent effort to drag the tax bill until June and there was a brief discussion concerning the new business regulations to be put out by the Treasury Department.

The Clay Report was briefly discussed and it was suggested by Senator Dirksen that Clay and others should be called before the proper committee.

Bryce Harlow suggested that perhaps some consideration should be given to the build up for a power play prior to the taking up of the Interior Appropriations Bill.

Congressman Halleck spoke of a letter he had written to General Eisenhower on the subject of cuts and that he had just received a reply but had not been able to analyze it. He expected to have a meeting of the Task Force group tomorrow morning and discuss the matter there.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

J. Mark Trice
Acting Secretary