

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE JOINT REPUBLICAN
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1964, AT
9:00 A.M. IN THE CAPITOL OFFICE (S-230) OF THE SENATE
MINORITY LEADER, THE HONORABLE EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Present:

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

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

Also Present: Congressmen Melvin R. Laird, Charles E. Goodell,
Glenard P. Lipscomb

Robert Humphreys, Bryce Harlow, Robert Allett, Mark Trice

Senator Dirksen called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M. and stated that the meeting had been suggested at the last Joint Leadership meeting with the idea in mind to invite Congressman Melvin R. Laird, Chairman of the Platform Committee of the Republican National Convention, for the purpose of discussing in general the membership format and matters of interest involving the 1964 Republican Platform.

Senator Dirksen stated that the Platform was a matter of major interest to both the House and Senate Republican membership. He stated that there had been prepared the statements released by the Joint Leadership since 1961 and presented the compilation to Congressman Laird.

Congressman Laird said that the membership of the Platform Committee, which was not yet complete, would comprise 17 Members of the House, 4 Members of the Senate and 2 Governors. He spoke of the informal meetings which had taken place around the country in regard to military, foreign policy, economic and other major topics, for the purpose of analyzing various policy papers on those subjects. He spoke of the Party to People program and of contacts made with Governors, Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.

He stated that he had named Congressman Glenard P. Lipscomb and Congressman Charles E. Goodell as Assistants to the Chairman, as Staff Director of the Committee he appointed Bill Pendergast who is Research Director of the Republican National Committee and as his Assistant, Bill Barody, Jr., a member of his staff. To assist in the writing of the Platform, Bryce Harlow, Carl Hess and Malcolm Moos had been appointed.

Congressman Lipscomb spoke of the various meetings which had been arranged for the 6th and 7th and of the breakdown into groups and various panels which would analyze the presentations and report back to the full committee. He also stated that all candidates had been invited to appear and that Senator Goldwater and Governor Rockefeller had accepted.

Congressman Halleck raised a question as to when the House of Representatives should recess in order that Members could attend and spoke of his conversation with the Speaker regarding a recess from July 3rd until July 20th. Congressman Halleck said that the Speaker stated that the Civil Rights bill must be passed before a Congressional recess for the Convention.

Congressman Brown expressed his concern over the possibility of CORE and other groups putting on demonstrations, particularly at the site of the Convention.

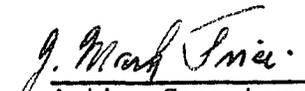
Congressman Halleck stated that he understands that Senator Hickenlooper would represent the Senate and that if it was all right with Congressman Byrnes he would get a compilation of the House Policy Committee statements over the last year and submit them to Congressman Laird. Congressman Byrnes suggested a meeting of the House Republican Leadership to discuss the matter.

After general discussion of the Civil Rights bill, it was the general consensus that it would be better to have the legislation out of the way before the Republican National Convention.

The length of the Platform was discussed and Congressman Laird expressed the general opinion that it should be brief. He stated that there is no guarantee that it will be brief. It was stated that influence might be used on the Members of the Platform Committee in the hope that a brief Statement of Principles might succeed.

Congressman Laird said he would hold one or two press conferences before the San Francisco meeting and spoke of four TV appearances to take place in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 A.M.


Acting Secretary