

MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE JOINT REPUBLICAN
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CALLED FOR JUNE 28, 1961, AT
1:30 P.M. IN THE OFFICE OF THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER,
THE HONORABLE EVERETT MC KINLEY DIRKSEN

Members Present:

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

Also Present:

Robert Humphreys, Mark Trice, Harry Brookshire, Robert Allett

The Presiding Officer, Congressman William E. Miller, called
the meeting to order at 1:37 P.M.

The agenda presented for consideration is as follows:

Red China

Aid to Education

Berlin - JFK Press Conference

The Chairman presented for consideration of the members the first item on the agenda, Red China, and recognized Senator Dirksen. A background sheet had been prepared together with a suggested statement on the subject which Senator Dirksen read. Both statements are attached hereto. Senator Dirksen said that a restatement should be made now on the subject because the Red China resolution pending in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee would not receive prompt action because the State Department apparently was opposed to it. He stated that he would follow up the matter with an amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill when it was before the Senate, that apparently some action re admission would be taken by the United Nations General Assembly in September, and that a firm statement should be made now. After general discussion of the matter the opinion was expressed that by reason of

Administration pressure Red China would be admitted to the General Assembly but by abstentions Red China would not become a member of the Security Council.

It was also discussed that several Members had been contacted in regard to the possibility of Chiang Kai-shek's son and his wife being invited to this country.

The Chairman then called for consideration of the second item, Aid to Education and recognized Congressman Halleck. Mr. Halleck stated that he and Bryce Harlow were to fly up to see General Eisenhower this morning but were prevented from doing so by the weather. He read a letter which he had sent to General Eisenhower in regard to Aid to Education. He then read a prepared statement, a copy of which is attached, which embodied General Eisenhower's view on the subject. After discussion of the matter as to primarily a matter of timing, it was generally agreed that this would be a good time to release a statement in order to generate more opposition to the legislation.

The Chairman stated that without objection the statement would be presented to the Press. There was no objection.

The Chairman then presented for consideration the third item, Berlin - JFK Press Conference.

As the President's Press Conference was held at 10:00 A.M. there was no prepared statement but it was generally agreed that a statement would be made to the Press with the Republicans supporting the historic position previously taken and that they generally upheld Kennedy's firm stand on Berlin.

The Chairman suggested the question be asked as to why a question was not raised at the Press Conference as to the President's position on the previous speech made by Senator Mansfield on the subject. Also, it should be emphasized that any treaty made by Russia with East Germany would really be a treaty made with itself.

The Chairman raised a question concerning a meeting next week. It was decided that because of the July fourth period it would be better to omit the meeting and have the next one in two weeks.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:33 P.M.



Acting Secretary

Approved by the
Presiding Officer
June 30, 1961