

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE

OF

RON ZIEGLER, PRESS SECRETARY
TO THE PRESIDENT, AND SENATOR
HUGH SCOTT AND CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD

AT 11:22 A.M. EST

MR. ZIEGLER: There was a Leadership Breakfast this morning, as you know. The President and Mrs Nixon invited the Republican Leaders and their wives to have breakfast in the State Dining Room this morning. It last from 8:30 until about 10:45.

A number of things were discussed in the Leadership meeting. Congressman Ford and Senator Scott are here to cover those items with you.

MR. FORD: First, Merry Christmas.

SENATOR SCOTT: The Senate concurs.

MR. FORD: That is unusual.

SENATOR SCOTT: Did the President veto that one, sir?

MR. FORD: I might say that it was a very delightful meeting this morning. We had a considerable increase in pulchritude and some stimulating suggestions coming from some new additions to the joint Leadership meeting.

I will make a comment or two about one issue and Senator Scott will follow it up with the other major problem that came before us.

The President reiterated his strong, strong feeling against the rider that was put on the supplemental appropriations bill, which would, in effect, according to the Secretary of Labor and to the Attorney General, one, knock out the Administration's strong effort to enlarge equal job opportunities for minority or non-white groups; and secondly, the rider would raise some very, very serious constitutional questions.

Secretary Shultz, with the Assistant Secretary, Arthur Fletcher, pointed out that we had gone through the first phase of the civil rights effort with voting rights legislation, the civil rights bills generally, aiming at eliminating discrimination.

But the second major phase was an attempt to provide job opportunities for non-white citizens throughout the country.

MORE



And the impact of this rider on the appropriations bill will be to eliminate or certainly seriously curtail the effort of the Nixon Administration to provide these job opportunities for minority groups.

We in the House are going to try and defeat the agreement that was reached in the conference with the House and the Senate. We are taking on some pretty powerful lobbying groups. I understand that some of the labor leaders are against the Philadelphia Plan, and are going to try and get the Congress to agree to the rider.

We have picked up at least one ally in the civil rights group. I have in my hand a statement by Mr. Whitney Young, who has said that the Philadelphia Plan is badly needed throughout the country to provide job opportunities for minority groups, and he is urging the Congress or the House of Representatives today to defeat the conference agreement, which would eliminate the Philadelphia Plan.

Of course, this is another issue, the constitutional one. The Attorney General believes that the rider imposed by the Senate and agreed to by the conferees would place the Attorney General and the Executive Branch in the government in a disadvantageous position and would put far too much authority in the General Accounting Office and the Comptroller General.

For these reasons, we are going to take a strong position on our side of the aisle and are going to attempt to defeat the conference report in this particular instance.

SENATOR SCOTT: And I may add that unless this amendment is changed, the President has serious concern as to whether he can accept the second supplemental, because the rider goes much further than perhaps some people intend, in that it appears to confirm the right of the Comptroller General to pass on substantive legislation and if he happens not to like civil rights legislation, I don't know whether he does or not, this is a very grim and gruesome portent and therefore, I think, that all of those people, whether they be leaders of labor unions, of civil rights groups or not, ought to now stand up and be heard just as boldly in defense of this Administration as they often did in the defense of other Administrations.

And I am glad to add to what Gerry Ford has said about Whitney Young. I am told that Roy Wilkins has also made a statement which will shortly be on the wires also supporting the Republican position and the Republican demand for a vote in the House on this issue.

On another matter, HEW-Labor appropriations bill, as you know, there was a change of signals on half a dozen items on the House side Saturday. But I believe the latest is to go ahead with HEW-Labor on the House side. Isn't that right, Gerry?

MR. FORD: It is on the floor right now.

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SENATOR SCOTT: On the Senate side, Senator Mansfield has indicated that the Senate will allow the report to lie on the table without action until January. But I wish to correct any impression that this is done at the request of the White House.

This is done because many people meeting together, including party leaders of both sides of the Senate, reached such an agreement the other night.

The President's position is that if the HEW-Labor appropriation bill is to come down here, and if the Congress wishes to send it down, all he asks is ample notice, as early notice as possible, so that he may take suitable action on it in the hope that final disposition can be had, veto or not, before Christmas.

But if not, if it is sent down and is delayed too long, maybe some of you gentlemen and ladies will be here after Christmas.

Q Good. (Laughter)

Q Mr. Ford, what is the significance then of this statement by the President saying that the amendment need not be stricken, the one having to do with the rider on the Philadelphia Plan, but that it should be modified?

MR. FORD: The President thinks there can be a modification of the Senate rider so that the Secretary of Labor can implement the Philadelphia Plan, which provides for equal job opportunities for minority groups.

The President would prefer that the whole rider be stricken. Then there would be no question about the opportunity of the Nixon Administration to open up job opportunities for the minority groups. But the parliamentary situation is a bad one and if we cannot possibly get the rider stricken, a modification is absolutely crucial, if we are to give these new job opportunities to provide economic opportunity for minority groups in this country.

Q In what form will the change take?

MR. FORD: As I understand it, during the consideration of the supplemental in the Senate, there were several amendments that were offered, one or two were by a close vote, that would take off the worse aspects of the rider.

SENATOR SCOTT: The right of judicial review, as pushed by Senator Griffin and myself at the end there -- and that lost only by 48 to 44, and actually, the vote was 41-43 -- so within a change of one vote on the right of judicial review, I think we might be able to manage that, if the House sends it to us this time.

MORE



Q Ron, can you give us some indication of what the President himself has been doing personally to try to get this rider stricken or modified? For example, has he been talking to civil rights leaders, has he been talking to labor leaders, has he been talking to some of the people in Congress who are pushing this rider?

MR. ZIEGLER: The fact that Secretary Shultz on Thursday, Secretary Shultz again on Friday, Secretary Shultz again on Saturday met with the President to discuss the Philadelphia Plan, then met with members of the press to convey this point of view, that the President has issued a statement, I believe on Friday, expressing his concern about the rider, he is issuing a statement again today expressing his concern about the rider, I think is very indicative of the action the President has been taking.

Members of his staff have been actively involved in contacting civil rights leaders across the country. Art Fletcher, from the Department of Labor, has been working almost 24 hours a day contacting civil rights leaders across the country to express the President's concern about the rider.

The President, both in the Leadership meeting this morning, and in phone calls and individual discussions with Congressional leaders, has also expressed this concern.

Q Can you tell us to whom he has talked over the telephone?

MR. ZIEGLER: No, I can't give you a breakdown. There are a great number of individuals that the President has talked to.

Q Will the President veto the overall measure, if it gets neither the rejection nor the modification?

MR. ZIEGLER: I can't anticipate Presidential action. The President, I think, on this particular rider, has expressed his view in a statement we are issuing this morning. It is a matter which is going to be considered by the House, I believe, in the next few hours.

Q Ron, could you straighten us out at least to this extent or maybe the leaders could: Yesterday, I heard a report that he had said that he was considering vetoing this and calling the Congress back into session after Christmas to re-enact it, and I would like to know if that is accurate, and if he has in fact discussed that possibility?

MR. FORD: I think based on the statement made by the President a week or so ago, that unless action was completed on all appropriations bills, he would call the Congress back December 26. That is a very likely development.

There was an arrangement worked out with a continuing resolution concerned with the HEW-Department of Labor appropriation bill. But this new stumbling block, I think, may change the situation.



The President feels very strongly about the opposition to this rider. Of course, with that new development, he may very well veto this bill. I think Senator Scott and I could reveal here that if the Congress keeps the rider and puts the President in the position of having to perhaps veto the supplemental, then Senator Scott and I intend to introduce simultaneously a simple continuing resolution, which would, if passed, avoid the necessity for a special session.

Let me put this rider in this context: And I thought Art Fletcher, the Assistant Secretary of Labor, did it most dramatically. Speaking as a Negro, he said the Congress and the courts have given to the minority groups equal opportunity in the purchasing of a home, equal opportunity across the board, but unless they have a job, where they can earn the money to go into restaurants and to buy a home and do the other things, all of those other rights are really not available to them.

And for this reason, we, the Republicans acting for the Nixon Administration, are going to make the biggest effort we can to give this new phase to the minority groups in this country, the right to have a job where they can earn the money to achieve those things that have been given to them by the courts and by the Congress.

Q What do you mean by the continuing resolution? That would call Congress back after Christmas?

MR. FORD: No, a continuing resolution which would permit departments to continue to spend under the ground rules they have.

SENATOR SCOTT: Under that continuing resolution, you see, if it is an entirely separate one, then the President is free, a little freer, to veto the supplemental, or such other measures as he sees fit to veto, without imperiling the salaries, for example, of the employees in those departments.

I would like to add on the tax bill: The President intends to take his full ten days or most of it before he decides whether to sign or not to sign.

Q Mr. Ford, would you address yourself to the substance of the modification? Are you talking here about writing in an instant declaratory judgment or what?

MR. FORD: I must say that I have not seen the precise language. I presume it would be one or several of the amendments which were offered in the Senate, which I understand came from the department or the departments, the Attorney General or the Secretary of Labor.

SENATOR SCOTT: An automatic right of immediate court review, which would probably take the form of a request by the Attorney General for a declaratory judgment.



Q Do you need legislation for that?

SENATOR SCOTT: You don't need the legislation to do it, but without the legislation, 14 existing contracts under the Philadelphia Plan are immediately cancelled, which causes a tremendous amount of injustice, unfairness, in the construction field.

Q Why are they cancelled? Doesn't the government have standing to move immediately for declaratory judgment?

SENATOR SCOTT: The President says in this statement that they have to be cancelled.

Q Mr. Ford, who was responsible for attaching a rider?

MR. FORD: I frankly can't tell you. It was done in the Senate and I think in the Senate Committee on Appropriations and confirmed on the floor of the Senate.

Q Which interests were responsible? You mentioned only some labor unions. Were there other interests involved?

MR. FORD: Since it is a Senate matter --

Q Senator Scott?

SENATOR SCOTT: I will add that toward the end of the session, we have gotten into all sorts of jurisdictional and prerogativeshemozzl.

Q How do you spell that?

SENATOR SCOTT: One of those, as you know, in this foreign aid thing, is a dispute between the Foreign Relations Committee, which is loaded to the gunwales with prerogatives, including especially the Chairman, and the Appropriations Committees. That was responsible for that foul-up.

Then the other argument is between the Appropriations Committee, a strong defender of the Comptroller General, and a number of people who didn't agree with the Appropriations Committee in the Senate and who felt that the Comptroller General was being given too much power. But he is a good bit of a house pet of the Appropriations Committee.

Q Senator Scott, did the President at all comment on the Senate's action on the Foreign Aid bill and whether the Congress does not approve that, that would be enough justification for his calling a special session?

SENATOR SCOTT: He didn't indicate anything about a special session. I did tell him that Senator McGee had said on the floor that he did not intend to ask the conferees to meet on foreign aid until January, but this then leaves in the air certain questions like the Taiwan jets. And I mentioned that it simply eliminates the blocking of funds or the earmarking of funds for certain countries, but the Administration can give such aid to those countries within the rest of the bill as it sees fit to do.



Q Senator Scott, are the southerners in both Senate and House opposed to the Philadelphia Plan?

SENATOR SCOTT: I don't think it is really basically a regional question. This is more an appropriations committee reaction. I think the southerners would have been included in their having some skepticism about the plan, but it was a somewhat broader situation than that.

Q Could we clear up one thing? You have a situation where Mr. Ford says that -- harks back to the President's statement -- that unless the appropriations bills are completed, he would call Congress back into special session. You say the continuing resolution may make a special session unnecessary.

SENATOR SCOTT: Congressman Ford also made that point.

Q Does this leave us in a situation where you as the leaders do not anticipate the President calling a special session?

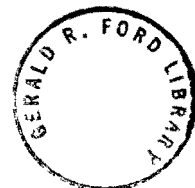
SENATOR SCOTT: It does not. It leaves us in the situation where, first of all, the elimination of the rider might eliminate a special session. Delay in sending the HEW-Labor bill might eliminate the danger of a special session. I use the word "danger" advisedly. And if matters proceed from bad to worse, then the passage of a separate continuing resolution could eliminate the danger of a special session.

Is that right, Gerry?

MR. FORD: Yes. I might say in reference to the question over here, I think you will get the best answer when we have a roll call vote on the floor of the House of Representatives today when there will be a decision as to whether or not we in the Congress are really going to back up what has been said so many times, there will be an equal opportunity for jobs for all Americans. That is what the vote ought to mean this afternoon.

Q Mr. Ford, you mentioned before that some labor unions are opposed to the Philadelphia Plan. Now, are there other groups that have made their objection known to Congress?

MR. FORD: I don't know of any. But it is my understanding, that Andy Biemiller, who represents the AFL-CIO up on the Hill, has been furiously telephoning people all weekend in support of the rider in the Senate.



If that is true, I just can't understand the position, because this is a civil rights vote this afternoon, because it means either equal opportunity for jobs, or it means no such opportunities.

I just can't understand Mr. Biemiller, if my report is accurate, trying to preclude equal job opportunities for minority groups.

MORE

Q Senator Scott, if I could come back to the question that Herb Kaplow asked, it seems to me a little bit strange that we cannot find out who initiated this rider, who the person was. Wouldn't you know or perhaps Mr. Ford?

SENATOR SCOTT: If you had been up on the floor in the last few days, you would not find that or anything else strange. But I don't know. Back in the committee, there were Senators on the Appropriations Committee, I believe 20 out of 24, that means representing both parties, who sat there and talked about the Comptroller General's prerogatives and they decided to keep him in his prerogatives. I don't know who first said in the meeting, "Gentlemen, let's do something for Elmer Staats."

Q Is my recollection correct that it was Senator Dirksen who first asked?

SENATOR SCOTT: Your recollection is correct in the Leadership meeting, Senator Dirksen first suggested an opinion by Elmer Staats. Subsequently, the request was made by Senator McClellan and if that helps to clarify it, the opinion comes as a result from a letter or a request from Senator McClellan.

Q Senator Scott, could you tell us on the tax bill, after talking to the President today, what the odds are on the signing of it? What is the latest outlook?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think it became, as I said yesterday, a good deal more palatable to the President, because the budgetary impact now over an 18-month period is \$9-1/2 billion lighter than it was under the Senate passed version.

And I think that it is fair to say that the chances of approval here have improved, but I could not say that the President has given any indication at all whether he will or will not sign it.

Q When you said that you expect him to take the full ten days or almost the full ten days, that precludes the possibility of a special session to extend the surtax or ask an investment credit repeal or if he vetoes, doesn't it?

SENATOR SCOTT: Nearly, it is exclusive, let's say, because that carries you into January and we will be back the 19th anyway and there is no time limitation on when the Congress can vote to sustain or override the veto.



Q Senator Scott, on the President's threat to call Congress back, if all appropriations bills are not passed are the labor and the foreign aid appropriations bills now excluded from that category?

SENATOR SCOTT: No bill is excluded, but some would be covered under the continuing resolution which is general and that would amount to the passage of an appropriation bill in that category, at least until January 30. It is an appropriation bill over this period.

Q Senator Scott, at this point in time, how do you assess prospects for a special session?

SENATOR SCOTT: I don't know. I am wearing a holiday vest today in the presumption that I can continue to wear it. If he calls a special session, I will take it off. But I think I can take the vest off. In other words, I don't think we will have a special session, if Congress delivers on its responsibilities and has a chance to do it.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 11:45 A.M. EST)



HOUSE ACTION, PERIOD DECEMBER 4 THROUGH DECEMBER 23, 1969

Thursday, December 4, 1969

NATIONAL BANKS -- TAXES

The House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to H.R.7491, to clarify the liability of national banks for certain taxes, and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Patman, Barrett, Sullivan, Reuss, Widnall, Brock, and Del Clawson were appointed as conferees.

Monday, December 8, 1969

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 330 yeas to 33 nays, the House passed H.R.15090, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.

Prior to passage the House agreed to the Reuss amendment by a voice vote; this amendment prohibits use of funds for publicity or propaganda purposes not authorized by Congress.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to Senate amendments to H.R.14751, making appropriations for military construction for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to the conference requested by the Senate. Representatives Sikes, McFall, Patten, Long of Maryland, Mahon, Cederberg, Jonas, Talcott, and Bow were appointed as conferees.

Tuesday, December 9, 1969

STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.12964, making appropriations for the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, the judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.



FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS

RULE

The House adopted H.Res.742, the rule waiving points of order, by a voice vote.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 200 yeas to 195 nays, with two voting "present", the House passed H.R.15149, making appropriations for foreign assistance and related programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.

Prior to passage, on a demand for a separate vote, the House passed the Conte amendment as amended by the Broomfield amendment by a record vote of 250 yeas to 142 nays, increasing military assistance to the Republic of Korea by \$50 million and retaining \$54.5 million for aircraft for the Republic of China. This was agreed to earlier while in the Committee of the Whole by a division vote of 119 yeas to 82 nays as a substitute for an amendment seeking to eliminate the funds for Republic of China aircraft purposes.

Also prior to passage the House agreed to the Gross amendment prohibiting economic assistance to any country furnishing economic assistance to Communist China, by a division vote of 83 yeas to 54 nays.

Finally, the House adopted the Conte amendment eliminating the section prohibiting transfer of loan repayment receipts to the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, by a division vote of 91 yeas to 19 nays.

RECOMMIT

By a voice vote, the House rejected Mr. Bow's motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment reducing by \$282,000 funds for assistance to refugees in the United States.

Wednesday, December 10, 1969

EXPORT CONTROL

By a record vote of 157 yeas to 238 nays, the House rejected the conference report on H.R.4293, to provide for continuation of authority for regulation of exports.

The House agreed by voice vote to recede and concur to Senate amendment with an amendment, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.



NATIONAL BANKS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.7491, to clarify liability of national banks for certain taxes, and sent the measure to the Senate for further action.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.13763, making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970. The House receded from its disagreement to Senate amendments and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

REAL ESTATE DISPOSAL

The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R.9163, to authorize the disposal of certain real property in the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, Georgia, under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, thus clearing the measure for the White House.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT

RULE (OPEN)

The House adopted H.Res.714 by voice vote, providing for three hours of debate.

Thursday, December 11, 1969

VOTING RIGHTS ACT Continued

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 234 yeas to 179 nays, the House passed H.R.4249, to extend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 with respect to the discriminating use of tests and devices.

FORD SUBSTITUTE

On a demand for a separate vote on an amendment in the form of a substitute that established a nationwide suspension of literacy tests, extends nationwide the Attorney General's authority to monitor elections and initiate voting rights lawsuits, establishes uniform residency requirements for presidential elections, and establishes a Presidential commission to study voting practices, the House agreed to the Gerald R. Ford amendment by a record vote of 208 yeas to 203 nays. While in the Committee of the Whole, the substitute was agreed to by a teller vote of 189 yeas to 165 nays.

The House rejected an amendment to the substitute amendment designed to remove the nationwide suspension of literacy tests.



SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

PASSAGE

The House passed by voice vote H.R.15209, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.

A point of order against language permitting use of clerk hire allowance for student congressional intern salaries was sustained.

The House agreed to an amendment that provides for an increase of \$9,168,172 to pay a judgment rendered on behalf of the Delaware Indian Tribe.

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 142 yeas to 243 nays, the House rejected Mr. Gross' motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report it back forthwith with an amendment to eliminate \$7.5 million for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; this was rejected earlier while in the Committee of the Whole by a division vote of 22 yeas to 55 nays.)

TAX REFORM

The House disagreed to Senate amendments to H.R.13270, Tax Reform Act of 1969, and agreed to the conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Mills, Boggs, Watts, Ullman, Byrnes of Wisconsin, Utt and Betts were appointed as conferees.

POVERTY

RULE (OPEN)

The House agreed to H.Res.734, an open rule providing for consideration of, and three hours of debate on, H.R.12321, to provide for the continuation of programs authorized under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Friday, December 12, 1969

POVERTY Continued

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 276 yeas to 117 nays, the House passed H.R.12321, to provide for the continuation of programs authorized under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

The House insisted on its amendment and asked a conference with the Senate. Representatives Perkins, Green of Oregon, Pucinski, Brademas, O'Hara, Carey, Hawkins, William D. Ford, Hathaway, Mink, Meeds, Clay, Ayres of Ohio, Quie, Reid of New York, Erlenborn, Scherle of Iowa, Dellenback, Esch, and Steiger of Wisconsin were appointed as conferees.



POVERTY Continued

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 163 yeas to 231 nays, the House rejected Mr. Ayres' motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and Labor with instructions to report it back forthwith with an amendment in the form of a substitute to the committee bill, as amended, making the antipoverty act into a State program; this was rejected while in the Committee of the Whole by a teller vote of 166 yeas to 183 nays.)

D. C. APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to Senate amendments to H.R.14916, making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Natcher, Giaino, Patten, Pryor of Arkansas, Mahon, Davis of Wisconsin, Riegle, Wyatt, and Bow were appointed as conferees.

PASSENGER VESSEL CONSTRUCTION

The House cleared for the President H.R.210, to eliminate requirements for disclosure of construction details on passenger vessels meeting prescribed safety standards, by agreeing to the Senate amendment thereto.

HOUSING ACT

The House agreed to the conference report on S.2864, to amend and extend laws relating to housing and urban development, clearing the measure for the White House.

FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION

The House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to H.R.14580, to promote the foreign policy, security, and general welfare of the United States by assisting peoples of the world to achieve economic development within a framework of democratic, economic, social, and political institutions. The House agreed to the conference asked by the Senate and appointed Representatives Morgan, Zablocki, Hays, Fascell, Adair, Mailliard, and Frelinghuysen as conferees.



Monday, December 15, 1969

ADDITIONAL CONFEREES

Representatives Stokes and Ashbrook were appointed as additional conferees to the conference on S.3016, to provide for the continuation of programs authorized under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Also appointed was Representative Bell in lieu of Representative Steiger of Wisconsin.

CONSENT CALENDAR

SUSPENSIONS

The House voted to suspend the rules and pass the following bills:

- H.R.15095 To amend the Social Security Act to provide a 15% across-the-board increase in benefits under the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program; passed by a record vote of 397 yeas.
- H.R.14646 To grant the consent of Congress to the Connecticut-New York Railroad Passenger Transportation Compact; passed by a record vote of 352 yeas to 49 nays.
- H.R.10124 To extend the time for filing tort actions by certain persons, by a voice vote.
- H.Res.661 Commending the American serviceman and veteran of Vietnam for his efforts and sacrifices, by a voice vote.
- H.Con.Res.454 Calling for the humane treatment and release of American prisoners of war held by North Vietnam and the National Liberation Front; passed by a record vote of 405 yeas.
- H.R.14789 Foreign Service Act Amendments of 1969, by a voice vote.
- S.J.Res.90 To enable the U. S. to hold a conference to negotiate a Patent Cooperation Treaty, by a voice vote.
- H.R.15166 River Basin Monetary Authorization of 1969, by a voice vote.
- H.R.14464 To insure that certain facilities are accessible to the physically handicapped, by a voice vote.
- S.3169 Atomic Energy Act of 1954, amended by a voice vote.

Tuesday, December 16, 1969

SUSPENSIONS

The House voted to suspend the rules and pass the following bills:

- S.740 To establish the Cabinet Committee on Opportunities for Spanish-Speaking People; passed by a record vote of 314 yeas to 81 nays, with two voting "present."
- H.J.Res.757 To authorize appropriations for the Office of Intergovernmental Relations, by a voice vote.
- H.J.Res.506 Consenting to an extension and renewal of the interstate compact to conserve oil and gas, by a voice vote.



SUSPENSIONS Continued

- H.R.14086 Community Mental Health Centers Amendments of 1969,
by a voice vote.
- H.R.14790 To extend the authority to make formula grants to
schools of public health, by a voice vote.
- H.R.14733 To extend the program of health services for domestic
migrant agricultural workers, by a voice vote.
- H.R.14289 To place the counties of El Paso and Hudspeth, Texas,
in the mountain standard time zone, by a voice vote.
- H.R.13448 To authorize the exchange of lands at New Orleans,
Louisiana, by a voice vote.
- H.R.13630 To extend certain expiring provisions of law relating
to vocational education, by a voice vote.
- H.R.6971 Vessel Bridge-to-Bridge Radiotelephone Act, by a voice
vote.
- H.R.9366 To change the number of apprentices authorized to be
employees of the Government Printing Office, by a voice
vote.
- H.R.14213 To provide for additional Regents of the Smithsonian
Institution; passed by a record vote of 273 yeas to
119 nays.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to Senate amendments to H.R.15090, making appropriations for the Department of Defense and related agencies for fiscal year 1970, and agreed to the conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Mahon, Sikes, Whitten, Andrews of Alabama, Flood, Slack, Addabbo, Lipscomb, Minshall, Rhodes, Davis of Wisconsin, and Bow were appointed as conferees.

D. C. APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.14916, making appropriations for the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part to the revenues of said District for fiscal year 1970.

EXPORT CONTROL ACT

The House insists on its amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R.4293, to provide for continuation of authority for regulation of exports, and agreed to the conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Patman, Barrett, Sullivan, Reuss, Widnall, Mize, and Brown of Michigan were appointed as conferees.



SERVICEMEN'S ALLOWANCES

The House considered by unanimous consent and passed the following bills as amendments to section 37 of the United States Code, relating to military pay and allowances:

- H.R.110 To provide that a family separation allowance shall be paid to a member of a uniformed service even though the member does not maintain a residence or household for his dependents, subject to his management and control.
- H.R.386 To provide that a family separation allowance shall be paid to any member of a uniformed service assigned to Government quarters provided he is otherwise entitled to such separation allowance.
- H.R.8021 To authorize a dislocation allowance under certain circumstances, certain reimbursements, transportation for dependents, and travel and transportation allowances under certain circumstances.
- H.R.8022 To authorize travel, transportation, and education allowances to certain members of the uniformed services for dependents' schooling.

PRIVATE CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 17, 1969

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE PAY

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R.13000, to implement the Federal employee pay comparability system, to establish a Federal Employee Salary Commission and a Board of Arbitration, and asked a conference with the Senate. Representatives Dulski, Henderson, Olsen, Udall, Corbett, Gross, and Button were appointed as conferees.

CIVIL SERVICE FUNDS

The House agreed to the Senate amendment, with an amendment, to H.R.9233, to amend title 5, United States Code, to promote the efficient and effective use of the revolving fund of the Civil Service Commission in connection with certain functions of the Commission; the House returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

RAILROAD SAFETY

The House concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R.8449, to amend the act entitled "An Act To Promote the Safety of Employees and Travelers Upon Railroads by Limiting the Hours of Service of Employees Thereon," approved March 4, 1907, thus clearing the measure for the President.



MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R.10105, to amend the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1970, 1971, and 1972, and asked a conference with the Senate. Representatives Staggers, Moss, Murphy of New York, Blanton, Springer, Keith, and Harvey were appointed as conferees.

COAL MINE SAFETY

By a record vote of 333 yeas to 12 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on S.2917, to improve the health and safety conditions of persons working in the coal mining industry of the United States.

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 83 yeas to 258 nays, the House rejected Mr. Erlenborn's motion to recommit the conference report to the committee on conference with instructions to the managers on the part of the House to insist on House provisions on section 110B.

INTEREST RATES

RULE (OPEN)

The House adopted H.Res.755, providing two hours of debate, by a voice vote.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 259 yeas to 136 nays, with three voting "present," the House passed H.R.15091, to lower interest rates and fight inflation, to help housing, small business, and employment.

Prior to passage, the House agreed to the following committee amendments on demands for separate votes on each:

An amendment striking provisions authorizing the Federal Reserve Board to purchase federally guaranteed mortgages and stating that it is the intent of Congress that this authority be used to assist in meeting national housing goals; this amendment was agreed to by a record vote of 231 yeas to 171 nays.

An amendment striking provisions authorizing the purchase of up to \$6 billion in federally guaranteed mortgages by the Federal Reserve board, which was agreed to by a record vote of 233 yeas to 170 nays, with one voting "present."



INTEREST RATES Continued

The House insisted on its amendments and asked a conference with the Senate. Representatives Patman, Barrett, Sullivan, Reuss, Widnall, Brock, and Stanton were appointed as conferees.

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 193 yeas to 206 nays, the House rejected Mr. Widnall's motion to recommit the measure to the Committee on Banking and Currency with instructions to report it back forthwith with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu portions of S.2577, a similar Senate-passed bill that would provide authorization for purchase of \$3 billion in federally guaranteed mortgages by the Federal Reserve Board.

Thursday, December 18, 1969

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to Senate amendments to H.R.14794, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Boland, McFall, Yates, Mahon, Minshall, Conte and Bow were appointed as conferees.

LAND CONVEYANCE

By a voice vote, the House passed H.R.12535, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to release certain restrictions on a tract of land heretofore conveyed to the State of Texas in order that such land may be used for the city of El Paso north-south freeway.

NATIONAL GUARD LAND

By a voice vote, the House passed S.59, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to adjust the legislative jurisdiction exercised by the United States over lands within the Army National Guard Facility, Ethan Allen, and the U. S. Army Materiel Command Firing Range, Underhill, Vermont, clearing the measure the the President.

VETERANS' MEDICAL PROGRAM

The House concurred to the Senate amendments to H.R.9634, to amend title 38 of the United States Code in order to improve and make more effective the Veterans' Administration program of sharing specialized medical resources, thus clearing the measure for the President.

COAST GUARD RESERVE

The House passed H.R.13716, to improve and clarify certain laws affecting the Coast Guard Reserve.



VETERANS' TRAINING ASSISTANCE

The House concurred to the Senate amendment, with an amendment, to H.R.11959, to amend various chapters of the United States Code to increase the rates of vocational rehabilitation, education, educational assistance, and special training allowance paid to eligible veterans and persons under such chapters, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.15090, making appropriations for the Department of Defense and related agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.

WHITE HOUSE, EMBASSY PROTECTION

RULE (OPEN)

The House agreed to H.Res.754, by a voice vote, providing for one hour of debate.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 394 yeas to 7 nays, the House passed H.R.14944, to authorize an adequate force for the protection of the Executive Mansion and foreign embassies.

INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITY

By a record vote of 224 yeas to 153 nays, the House agreed to H.Res.572 amending H.Res.200, 91st Congress, authorizing the Committee on Education and Labor to conduct certain studies and investigations.



FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R.15149, making appropriations for Foreign Assistance and related programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to the conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Passman, Rooney of New York, Hansen of Washington, Cohelan, Long of Maryland, McFall, Mahon, Shriver, Conte, Reid of Illinois, Riegle and Bow were appointed as conferees.

LABOR - HEW APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R.13111, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, and Health, Education and Welfare, and related agencies, for the year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Flood, Nathcer, Smith of Iowa, Hull, Casey, Mahon, Michel, Shriver and Reid of Illinois were appointed as conferees.

Subsequently, the House instructed the House conferees to agree to the Senate language dealing with the Whitten amendment.

A motion to table the motion to instruct conferees was rejected by a record vote of 180 yeas to 216 nays.

Friday, December 19, 1969

TAX REFORM

The House gave unanimous consent to the request by the majority leader that two hours will be allowed for consideration of the conference report on H.R.13270, to reform income tax laws, when the report is brought to the floor.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.14751, making appropriations for military construction for the Department of Defense and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.

FOREIGN AID

By a record vote of 208 yeas to 166 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R.14580, to promote the foreign policy, security, and general welfare of the United States by assisting peoples of the world to achieve economic development within a framework of democratic economic, social, and political institutions.

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.14794, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for fiscal year ending June 30, 1970. The House insisted on its disagreement to Senate amendments Nos. 2, 14, and 15, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS

The House passed with an amendment S.2325, providing for additional positions in grades GS-16, GS-17, and GS-18, and returned the measure to the Senate.

ADDITIONAL MORTGAGE CREDIT

By a record vote of 358 yeas to 4 nays, with two voting "present", the House agreed to the conference report on S.2577, to provide additional mortgage credit, thus clearing the measure for the President.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to Senate amendments to H.R.15209, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to the conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Mahon, Whitten, Rooney of New York, Boland, Flood, Steed, Hansen, Bow, Jonas, Cederberg and Rhodes were appointed as conferees.



Saturday, December 20, 1969

FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS

By a record vote of 181 yeas to 174 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R.15149, making appropriations for foreign assistance and related programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 137 yeas to 220 nays, the House rejected the motion by Mr. Conte to recommit the bill to the committee of conference with instructions to House conferees to support Senate amendment No. 25 (deleting \$54.5 million for military assistance to the Republic of China.)

POVERTY BILL

By a record vote of 243 yeas to 94 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on S.3016, to provide for continuation of programs authorized under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, and to authorize funding of such programs.

The House agreed to S.Con.Res.51, authorizing the Secretary of the Senate to make certain corrections in the enrollment of S.3016.

Monday, December 22, 1969

LABOR - HEW APPROPRIATIONS

By a record vote of 261 yeas to 110 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R.13111, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor and Health, Education, and Welfare and related agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970.

The House receded from its disagreement and concurred to various Senate amendments, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.



TAX REFORM

By a record vote of 381 yeas to 2 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R.13270, to reform the income tax laws, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

TARIFF REGULATIONS

The House considered by unanimous consent and passed the following bills:

- H.R.15071 To continue for 2 additional years the duty-free status of certain gifts by members of the armed services in combat zones.
- H.R.14956 To amend the Tariff Act of 1930 -- to extend the duty-free treatment of certain dyes.

FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to the insistence by the Senate on its amendments to H.R.15149, making appropriations for foreign assistance and related programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and agreed to a further conference asked by the Senate. Representatives Passman, Rooney of New York, Hansen of Washington, Cohelan, Long of Maryland, McFall, Mahon, Shriver, Conte, Reid of Illinois, Riegle and Bow were appointed as conferees.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

The House agreed to the conference report on H.R.15209, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970. It receded from its disagreement and concurred to various Senate amendments; on Senate amendment No. 32 the House agreed by a record vote of 276 yeas to 99 nays.

By a record vote of 156 yeas to 208 nays, with one voting "present", the House rejected the motion to recede from its disagreement to Senate amendment No. 33 that would limit application of the so-called Philadelphia plan to eliminate job discrimination; the House agreed to insist on its disagreement and returned the measure to the Senate.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The House agreed to the conference report on S.1075, to establish a national policy for the environment, to authorize studies, surveys, and research relating to ecological systems, natural resources, and the quality of the human environment; and to establish a Board of Environment Quality Advisers, thus clearing the measure for the White House.

Tuesday, December 23, 1969

NOTIFICATION OF PRESIDENT

The House agreed to H.Res.768, providing for a committee to notify the President of the completion of all business before Congress. Subsequently, the Speaker appointed Representatives Albert and Gerald R. Ford on the part of the House.



EXPORT CONTROL ACT

The House agreed by a voice vote to the conference report on H.R.4293, to provide for continuation of authority for regulation of exports.

ADJOURNMENT AND RECONVENING OF CONGRESS

The House agreed to H.Con.Res.475, providing for the sine die adjournment of Congress (first session), and passed H.J.Res.1041, establishing that the second regular session of the 91st Congress convene at noon on Monday, January 19, 1970.

File
W. Leadership
meeting notes

GRF at White House
Dec 22, 1969

Last January, Mr. President, when I took my solemn oath to preserve, protect and defend the Nixon Administration's program in the 91st Congress, I didn't realize I was running a risk of missing Christmas Eve with my family.

So I am deeply grateful, as I know all of us are, that you have invited our wives and sweethearts here this morning so that we might have a few moments together during the holidays. Now, it is my duty to offer the official alibi as to why we have been so busy all through 1969 and have accomplished so little.

Well, ~~just here~~ in the family circle, the reason is simple. There are a few too many Democrats in this Congress. It is a whole lot better, believe me, than in 1965 when ~~I~~ had only ¹⁴⁰~~139~~ Republican colleagues in the House, and 295 Democrats. It is a whole lot better, too, to have a strong and sympathetic friend at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

But I must speak frankly and I don't think I need any charts or percentages to prove what we all know after a year of working together. We need a few more votes on our side of the aisle. Like the old song about Kansas City, Mr. President, we've "gone about as fur as we can go" to put your programs on the statute books.

I'm proud to report for the House Leadership that we have marched with your Administration out of the Wilderness and into the Promised Land, upholding the hand of our President all the way.

Well, almost all the way. The one time we did get our signals mixed, what we call Rummy's Rebellion, WE got thrown for a loss --- but YOU, Mr. President, didn't get a cleat mark on you.

The important thing, though, is that we did manage to pull off some small miracles and we did win more than a minority's share. When we first gathered around ~~this~~ ^{The cabinet} table about 30 of these meetings ago, Mr.



President, the top items on our agenda were Reorganization Authority renewal and Anti-Crime measures.

We should have seen the handwriting on the wall. Nobody was really opposed to the Reorganization Authority extension and it eventually won 334 votes to 44, but we had to prod and prod to get ^{this political} ~~it~~ ^{replese} to ^{bill} the floor.

As for Anti-Crime measures, despite mounting public demand, despite your comprehensive message last January 31, despite all our prodding and protesting, in private and in public, we are about to recess with no less than 18 separate Crime bills sponsored by the Nixon Administration languishing in five different House committees.

I would have to call this the greatest single disappointment of this session, and the greatest single failure of the Democrat majority in this Congress. And I intend to call it that, early and often, next year.

But, back to the good news.

In February came your request, Mr. President, to raise the national debt ceiling. All through our exile, this rollcall had become a symbol of fiscal responsibility for Republicans. In 1967, 161 Republicans voted "No" and not a single one supported President Johnson's request.

But for you, Mr. President, 139 Republicans in the House did a graceful about-face and voted "Aye" in 1969 -- and we hope everybody but you has forgotten it.

By March and April it became clear that some of the Democratic chairmen like Carl Perkins of Kentucky were testing an audacious gamble -- one that could, if it succeeded, result in putting the Great Society's spending programs in a sort of deep freeze throughout the whole Nixon Administration. He moved in his Labor and Education Committee, inherited from the "everend Adam Clayton Powell, to extend the popular Elementary and Secondary Education



assistance program first for five, then for three years.

With the ^{//}right of the new Administration to redirect domestic programs ^{//}at stake, we made common cause for this showdown with Mrs. Democrat Edith Green, of Oregon, whose substitute combining a two-year extension with some hopeful starts toward block grants prevailed over Perkins' ploy.

This alliance with the gentle-lady from Oregon taught us never to underestimate the power of a woman, ~~and~~ ^{but} I have to add that later on we learned never to overestimate it, either.

omit [When the Administration had a little difficulty making up its mind on Electoral College Reform, Mr. President, we in the People's House took the lead and by a 339 to 70 rollcall sent a Popular Election amendment to the other body with your blessing.]

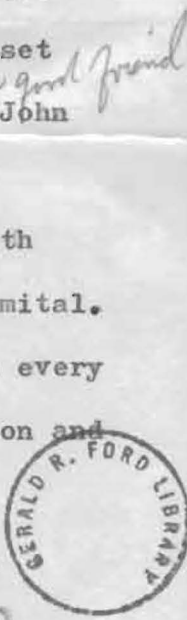
These weekly meetings with the leaders of the other body develop a lot of good political intelligence. I recall back in May that Senator Scott told us of a visit from a very wrathful Indian who demanded that we move the capital to the center of the country -- as if Pennsylvanians weren't mad enough the first time they moved it.

Well, we ignored the clear ultimatum of Hugh's angry Indian and now see what has happened -- they ^{Indians} have occupied Alcatraz Island and set up their own government with a Bureau of Paleface Affairs headed by John ^{our good friend} Saylor.

The House gave a clear bipartisan verdict on the ABM issue with the high water mark of the doves being 93 votes against 270 on recommital. In support of the President's efforts to win a just peace in Vietnam every Republican in the House, except five, co-sponsored the Wright resolution and it too won resounding ^{6 to 1} bipartisan support on the floor, 333 to 55.

But we had our cliffhangers -- and may have a few more, ~~and~~

The scariest came on the last day of the fiscal year, June 30, when the House agreed to extend the income tax surcharge by 210 to 205.





That was the night of the sore arms -- we lost only 26 of our Republicans while the Democratic leadership, publicly committed to support the President, could only deliver 56 of theirs.

And just since our last meeting, Mr. President, we have had a ^{close} 200 to 195/squeak on foreign aid appropriations and a 208 to 203 victory on my voting rights substitute embodying your ~~Administration's~~ recommendations for a truly national law.

What all this adds up to is that divided government won't work, ^{Democrat} (without the two Texas/leaders) even as well as it did during the last six years of ^{General} ~~President~~ Eisenhower's Presidency. We've "gone about as far as we can go," as a minority, but what we really need is a Republican Congress for the last six years of President Nixon's Era of Good Feelings.

How would you ladies like it if you sent your husband to the market with a long list and all he brought home was razor blades, Playboy magazine, cigars and booze? That's how the President feels after sending 60 major reforms and requests to Congress and getting only one fourth of them -- only those the Democrat Congress likes.

Indee
this
How would you like to be bawled out by your husband for overdrawing the checking account by \$5, and then he goes out with the boys and overdraws to an inside straight. That's what the Democrat Congress that voted a spending ceiling on the Administration in the springtime has done when it got around to appropriating money in December.

Thank you again, Mr. President, for including in our meeting today the best political brains of the Republican Party. ^{our wives who} ~~I wouldn't want you to~~ ~~select all of us~~ get all your 1970 campaign advice from the Cabinet wives.

We are all proud and ^{gr}ateful for your superb leadership and the example which the First Family has set for our country throughout this year. May I on behalf of my House colleagues and our ladies wish you, Mr. President, and Mrs. Nixon every good thing for 1970. And to all of you/Betty and I want to say "Merry Christmas" -- the World's first and best Peace Demonstration.