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FOR THE SENATE:

Everett M. Dirksen, *Leader*
 Thomas H. Kuchel, *Whip*
 Bourke B. Hickenlooper, *Chr.*
of the Policy Committee
 Leverett Saltonstall, *Chr.*
of the Conference
 Thruston B. Morton,
Chr. Republican
Senatorial Committee

PRESIDING OFFICER:

The Republican
National Chairman
 Ray C. Bliss

THE JOINT SENATE-HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP

FOR THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Gerald R. Ford,
Leader

Leslie C. Arends, *Whip*

Melvin R. Laird,
Chr. of the Conference

John J. Rhodes, *Chr.*
of the Policy Committee

Clarence J. Brown,
Ranking Member
Rules Committee

Bob Wilson,
Chr. Republican

Congressional Committee

Press Release

Issued following a
 Leadership Meeting

June 24, 1965

STATEMENT BY SENATOR DIRKSEN:

IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND ON THE SENATE FLOOR

It is now clear that the United States has lost its fight to keep Article 19 of the United Nations Charter alive. The fight was waged with neither skill nor vigor.

No sophistry can mask the fact that the United Nations has been weakened and that the present Administration has suffered a serious defeat.

Article 19 prescribes the penalty of loss of voting rights in the General Assembly for any Member nation in arrears by two years or more in the payment of its contributions to the United Nations.

A decision of the World Court in 1962, ratified overwhelmingly by the General Assembly, removed any doubt that the Soviet Union and some other nations are now subject to the penalty of Article 19.

The Administration at first loudly announced its intention to insist on the application of Article 19. It even threatened to withhold its contributions for some U.N. activities if the Soviet Union failed to pay up.

Because of the issue raised by Article 19, the last session of the General Assembly was a tragic farce with no voting at all until February 18. In effect, the delinquent members of the United Nations deprived the nations that had lived up to their obligations (including the United States) of their right to vote.

On February 18, a vote was taken. The acquiescence of the representative of the United States in that action constituted an abandonment of the position which he had taken until that time. On that day the position of the Administration was exposed as a bluff, and a staggering blow was dealt to the structure of the United Nations.

We regret the backdown of last February. Further action to make Article 19 a dead letter will further weaken the United Nations.

Until the nations that are in arrears in their payments to the United Nations manifest interest in preserving the international organization by moving to make up their deficit, the United States should make no voluntary additional contribution. Once this nation embarks on a policy of paying the debts of other countries to the United Nations, there will be no end to the process. It will help neither the world organization nor the cause of peace.

Room S-124 U.S. Capitol—Capitol 4-3121 - Ex 3700

STAFF CONSULTANT: Robert Humphreys

More --

We salute the United Nations with a mixture of satisfaction and apprehension on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary.

Republicans (notably the late Senator Arthur Vandenberg) helped to bring this organization into being. They have loyally supported its every effort to attain the noble goals set forth in its Charter.

There is some encouragement in its accomplishments in keeping the peace in certain troubled areas and there is reason for satisfaction in its social, economic, and humanitarian activities.

Yet the United Nations today is in difficult straits. It is bankrupt. It has been used as nothing more than a propaganda forum by many nations. It has violated its Charter. The General Assembly was unable to take a vote on any substantive issue in its last session.

The survival of the Organization as an effective agency is in doubt.

To save it, the United States and its other leading members must move to deal with its problems instead of permitting them to fester and grow.

One problem is posed by the separation of power and responsibility. A two-thirds majority of the 114 Members of the General Assembly can be put together by nations representing 10 per cent of the population of U.N. Members and 5 per cent of the contributions to the U.N. budget. Clearly, these small states cannot enforce big decisions, and situations can easily arise in which big states will be unwilling to follow the orders of smaller Members.

Another problem is the relationship of the United Nations to regional organizations such as the Organization of American States. In the Dominican Republic representatives of the U.N. have in fact worked at cross purposes with the representatives of the inter-American organization.

Finally, there is the problem of finance. For more than 3 years, the U.N. has teetered on the brink of bankruptcy. At present it is \$108 million in the red.

The problems are formidable. Solving them calls for determined action on the part of the Administration.

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