

MR. VALENTI'S NOTES

March 14, 1965 - ~~Cabinet Meeting~~

Meeting in Cabinet Room

Sunday 5:00
Nov. 14, 1965

VP	Walter Boyce
The Speaker	Albert
Manfield	Kutzenbrock
Durkin	McPherson
Huebel	Lechwhite
Pres McCulloch	R. Clark
O'Brien	Amesbury Sanders
Valenti	Harold Reis

- Pres summarized the voting situation.
If all people, except those in mental institutions,
could register and vote, troubles are over.

- After election began to work on voting rights bill.
Put VP in charge of all civil rights programs.
Asked Durkin Manfield McCulloch
to work on bill - get with Kutzenbrock.

- Talked to Wallace
Wellman's
King

- Humphrey called his Civil Rights Council
together: 1) Serious barriers to registration
recognized
2) Preservation of law and order
3) Right to petition preserved.

1. Put 77 people to Selma (Confrontation between
Pres. forces could be bad)
2. Not alone in justice Dept recommended
troops)

2. Went along in lawsuit - as part of the court.

(Sunday brutality occurred.)

People don't understand what we have been doing.

We will take a bill from anyone - we have no pride of authorship.

(Told the group what he asked Wallace to do)

W: Well follow court orders.

✓ Unversine suffering.

✓ Bi-racial commission.

MANSFIELD

Make one suggestion - send up bill Tuesday.

DICKSEN

Send up Tuesday afternoon.

Policy meetings Demo and Report on Tuesday.

Better to have than people go over it

McCULLOUGH

Join with these suggestions.

McCORMACK

Suggested that Pres. go over to Joint session - tell about bill - also bring statement on Viet Nam.

Have you thought about this?

DIRKSEN

Don't cut
congress

Don't panic now.
This is deliberate govt.
Don't let these people
say "we scared him into it."

PRES

I wouldn't think about
that.

People do not know the
facts — that we are doing
everything we can to
solve this. We must tell
the people to give us time
to work this out.

(Dirksen and Mansfield are against
joint personal speech)

Hampden

Logic is what you are saying.
But emotions are running
high. A message of what
this govt is doing — simply —
is what is needed.

I told my council they had
to go on record with their
views. They believed
unanimously in you going
on TV.

PRES

I intend to tell the
country what we recommend.
Either I do it on TV or
newspapers — or the Congress

ALBEN I don't think your coming before the Congress would be a sign of panic I think it would help.

Mc CONNELL It would show bi partisanship - also it would show the world.

PRES Probably come down Mon or Tues. night - about 9:00 - and send the bill up Wednesday.

KUCHER Repub leaders - Dem leaders - stay here - work together - Wallace is going himself a trapdoor - "all eligible voters".

PRES I put my stamp of approval on a voting bill and my state of the union speech. We intend to minimize eligibility - age, for example is alright. We suggested the word "eligible" rather than "qualified".

Mc CONNELL 24 to 48 hours given us to study bill - Pres. go before Congress - then have the bill on Wednesday.

PRES: I've had two girls sleeping with me - you made the WH fireproof but not sound proof.

McBarnes Do you want to address a Joint Session?

KOZLENB This would put the problem and the solution before the country.

PRES. Let's say TUES nite. and send the bill up Wednesday.

Durbin, you started this ain't twisting label - I don't aim to twist anybody.

HUMPHREY Isn't Tuesday the day for the march?

KAS Don't think King would do anything until court order - but he is unpredictable.

AH Think we ought to calm the waters - If march is scheduled for Tues - we ought to have guidelines.

6 25 pm sun 3/14/68 Leadership meeting
Cabinet Room

Dem & Rep

this afternoon

The leadership of the Congress, ~~both Democratic and Republican,~~

A

~~have~~ invited the President to address a Joint Session of the Congress on

Monday evening to present the President's views and outline of a voting rights

bill *and any other matters the Pres may desire to discuss*

The President has accepted this invitation and will address a Joint Session

Monday, March 15

at 9:00 pm in the House of Representatives.

present
~~present~~

When the following members of the Cong. this appearance was suggested were —

TRANSFERRED TO HANDWRITING FILE

Voting Rights
Bill Speed

The ~~Democratic and Republican~~ leadership of the Congress this afternoon invited the President to address a Joint Session of the Congress on Monday evening to present the President's views and outline of a voting rights bill and any other matters the President may desire to discuss.

The President has accepted the invitation and will address a Joint Session at 9:00 pm, Monday evening, March 15, in the House of Representatives.

The following members of the Congress present when this appearance was suggested were:

The Vice President
The Speaker of the House

Malice
Senate Majority Leader Mansfield

Everett
Senate Minority Leader Dirksen

Carl
House Majority Leader Albert

Thomas
Senate Minority Whip Kuchel

Hale
House Majority Whip Boggs

Rep. William McCullough *och*

Presidential advisors present were: Attorney General Katzenbach,

Burke Marshall, Larry O'Brien, Lee White and Deputy Attorney General Clark.

JACK VALENTI

5:00 / 6:30

Senate

The leadership of the Congress - Speaker McCormack, /M ajority Leader, Mike Mansfield, Senate Minority Leader, Everett Dirksen, Congressman Bill McCullough representing House Minority Leader, Gerald Ford, invited the President to address a Joint Session of Congress on Monday evening to present the President's views and outline of a voting rights bill.

The President has accepted this invitation and will address a Joint Session of the Congress at 9:00 pm in the House of Representatives.