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NOTES ON LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST - SEPTEMBER 5, 1968

Those attending:

The President
The Vice President
Senator Mansfield
Senator Long
Senator Byrd
Speaker McCormack
Congressman Albert
Congressman Boggs
Barefoot Sanders
Mike Manatos
Joe Califano
George Christian *gc*

Main Topics of discussion:

1. International Development Association. The President asked the Senate Leadership to bring the bill out of Foreign Relations at the earliest possible date, and asked the House Leadership to help obtain a rule. Congressman Albert said he thought a rule could be obtained, but he was not sure about chances of passage of the bill. The President asked if the opposition was mostly from the Republicans and Southern Democrats. Speaker McCormack said there was this opposition plus a number of others.

Barefoot Sanders said the problem will be to head off a Republican amendment to hold IDA to the present level. He said Bob McNamara got an extension of his funds from June 30 to September 30, but is pessimistic about another extension and will be out of money on September 30.

2. Consumer Items - Deceptive Sales, Door to Door Sales, Home Improvement - Deceptive Practices and Mutual Fund Reform.

These four bills have passed the Senate and are languishing in Harley Staggers' Commerce Committee. If the House Leadership could prevail on Staggers to report them in the next few days and place them on the House suspension calendar September 16, it would be clear that the Administration and the Democratic Party have done all that they can to secure enactment of these bills.

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The President asked if Harley Staggers could be urged to report these bills from the Commerce Committee. They have already passed the Senate. The desire was expressed to have them on the House suspension calendar September 16. Carl Albert said there was considerable opposition to the Mutual Fund Reform bill. The President urged that the Leadership determine what we can get out of committee and have a vote .

3. Expenditure Reductions. Pointing out that increased outlays for Commodity Credit Corporation and for public assistance will require deeper expenditure reductions in civilian programs, the President asked the views of the Leadership on whether these two items should be exempted. Senator Long said he believed everything possible should be exempted. The Vice President said he thought the Administration could get by with exempting these items. He said it would be bad to cut another billion dollars from civilian programs.

The President said he would favor exemptions rather than see this happen.

4. Fortas and Thornberry Nominations. The President and the Leadership reviewed the 16 bills in conference or disagreement, the 7 bills needing Senate action, and the 16 bills needing House action.

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