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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *MR*

THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1974

MR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Progress Report on Trade Bill and Recommendations
for Further Action

Status of TRA

The Senate floor debate is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, December 10, following the scheduled 3:00 P.M. vote on the Rockefeller nomination. With so little time left before adjournment, enactment of the bill is highly uncertain without daily direct intervention by yourself.

There is broad support for the bill by all major industry, agriculture, and consumer groups. The only opposition is organized labor, primarily the AFL-CIO, which has started a drive to delay the bill so it will die without action. For this purpose, they will seek to attach tax amendments to the bill. Senator Hartke has sent a dear colleague letter outlining the four tax amendments he will propose. Each will probably take extended debate. Senator Long will propose de-regulation of natural gas to offset the tax amendments. Senators Jackson, Proxmire and Ribicoff have indicated it will take extended debate to oppose de-regulation of natural gas.

Senator Byrd announced at the Finance Committee session Wednesday his intention to offer a floor amendment to the trade bill imposing a ceiling (presumably \$300 million) on annual Eximbank credits to the Soviet Union. We are hopeful of working out a compromise on this issue in the Eximbank bill. We will keep you advised.

Further Action Requested

There remain several further steps which can be taken to speed and smooth Senate passage and minimize issues for the Joint House-Senate Conference. I recommend:

1. That you contact Senator Long and the Senate Leadership to press for a unanimous consent agreement limiting time for debate and floor amendments (excluding

nongermane amendments), and setting a time for final vote. (Note: Senator Mansfield is expected to leave the country December 6 and not be present during this debate.)

2. After debate starts, you may want to have a Leadership breakfast meeting to solve any problems.

3. That you contact influential Senators in small groups or individually to persuade them that passage of the trade bill requires their active help and that they should withhold or withdraw possible floor amendments. A list of proposed Senate contacts, noting individual Senators' concerns, is attached.

W.D. Eberle

cc: Secretary Simon
Mr. Seidman
Mr. Marsh
Mr. Timmons

Attachment

Senators Warranting Personal Presidential Contacts
(Individually or in Groups)

Leadership

- R. Byrd -- Crucial in Mansfield's absence to consent agreement limiting debate and amendments. Position on TRA uncertain; staff has declined Administration offers of informational assistance.
- H. Scott -- Support essential for consent agreement. Solidly for TRA, but does not want to get "out front" because of Pennsylvania labor problems; position on consent agreement unknown.
- Griffin -- Solidly and actively for TRA and consent agreement limitations on time and amendments. Should be Administration workhorse and whip. However, feels time running against bill, and outlook dim.

Other Key Members

- Long -- Floor manager, Has raised cargo preference as well as Hartke foreign source income tax amendments and gas deregulation in connection with consent agreement. Support for consent agreement essential.
- Humphrey -- Support for tightly limited consent agreement could be critical. Willing to play active role; reportedly leaning toward tight consent agreement.

- Curtis -- Leading Minority agriculture spokesman for TRA; but strongly opposed to cargo preference, against which he plans to lead floor fight. Position on consent agreement could be affected by this position.
- Jackson -- Leaning toward consent agreement; could be helpful in this regard. Strongly opposed to gas dereg (would filibuster against); willing to oppose Hartke tax amendments but wants assurances of Administration support for tax reform, including closing of foreign source income tax "loopholes" early next year.
- Kennedy -- For TRA, but reported toying with idea of domestic anti-recession domestic tax amendments. Support for debate limitation could sway other liberal Democrats. Reportedly receptive to Administration request for advice and help on floor strategy.
- Buckley -- Willingness to keep gas dereg off TRA uncertain; support important to that end.
- Javits -- Leaning toward sponsoring some germane floor amendments. Support for consent agreement important.
- Talmadge -- Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee with influence on other Southern Senators, and with the textile industry. Supports the TRA.

Baker -- Reportedly has problems with the bill.

Fong -- Probably would be helpful to Administration in getting bill through the Senate.

Dole -- Key farm state Senator who serves as member of Finance Committee. His active support on the floor would be useful.

Muskie -- Influential democratic Senator who will resist AFL-CIO pressures according to his staff.

Proxmire -- A supporter of the bill who has threatened to filibuster the de-regulation of natural gas amendment. Important dairy state Senator, next chairman of Banking Committee.

Bentsen -- Finance Committee member whose support for a clean bill is important.

Percy
and Taft-- Solidly for TRA, but plan to offer amendments sweetening trade adjustment assistance provisions. Support for debate limitation could be influential on other Senators.

H. Byrd
and Allen-- Threaten to filibuster TRA unless ceiling placed on Eximbank Soviet credits. Byrd reported leaning otherwise for TRA; Allen against.

Goldwater
and Tower Support of conservatives for debate limitation could be important. Both for TRA, but position on consent agreement uncertain.

Sparkman -- Influence as Southerner and leader on foreign relations and banking.

Pastore, -- Reportedly leaning against debate limitation.
Magnuson,
Schweiker
and
Weicker