



22 August 1966

JSW

SUBJECT: H. R. 15750--Foreign Affairs Assistance Act of 1966

Want to be sure that you are aware that the Senate adopted Senator Robert Kennedy's amendment pertaining to the study of foreign aid for future programs. The amendment as is set forth is contained in Chapter 3 starting on Page 53 (clipped). Section 303 on Page 55 provides for the establishment of a "Foreign Aid Planning Committee" consisting of 12 members, four appointed by the President from private life and four each from the Senate and House Foreign Relations Committee. Subsection 303 (f) on Page 58 (clipped) provides that each department and agency shall furnish the Committee such information to enable it (the Committee) to carry out its functions.

One of the functions of the Committee is to formulate and submit to Congress proposals relating to foreign aid assistance for political or contingency purposes (for reference see Subsection 302 (a)(3)).



Sen . Robert Kennedy's amend to Foreign Aid Bill

..... was acted upon as a floor amendment and not considered by Committee was considered on floor on the 25th of July as Kennedy/Clark amend, but modified on 26th as Kennedy/Mundt amendment to provide a bipartisan membership for the Commission, and adopted by a vote of 74 to 17, 9 not voting.

..Voting against were Russell, Smith, Stennis and Young. Hayden not voting and Saltonstall and Symington for...However, Saltonstall made a call that the Congressional membership come from Appropriations, Armed Services and Foreign Affairs. That's where Sen McCarthy came in..

..... Although not considered by Committee this year, similar proposal was passed last year by the Senate but was lost in Conference

.....Conferees

Messrs.
Fulbright,
Sparkman,
Mansfield,
Morse,
Gore,
Hickenlooper,
Aiken, and
Carlson
(Senate Reps.)

Messrs.
Morgan,
Zablocki,
Mrs. Kelly,
Hays,
Adair,
Mailhard, and
Frelinghuysen.
(House acts first.)

I make this further observation: Here we propose a study commission to consist exclusively of members of one committee of the Senate; and yet inherently, and in a broad and a very deep way, there are at least two very extensive fields that this amendment gets into and contemplates besides that of foreign relations. One of those fields is appropriations, and the other is the military, the field of the Armed Services Committee, because there are embraced in the amendment an assessment, a study, investigation, and recommendations with reference to military assistance in the role of foreign aid.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. I simply call to the Senator's attention, and also to the attention of the Senator from New York, whose amendment this is, that on the original military assistance bill, when it was before us for the first time, the Foreign Relations Committee took over the hearing, and it was agreed at that time, rather than to have a joint hearing—I think the first one was a joint hearing, and then it was agreed that the Foreign Relations Committee should take it over, and if there was any military question, it should be referred to the Committee on Armed Services thereafter.

For 1 or 2 years, the matter was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and then I think it was the feeling of those who were on the Armed Services Committee that it really would be better to have it come directly to the floor; so that arrangement was not carried on.

But I wonder, in that connection, if the Senator from Nebraska will permit me to say so, whether the Senator from New York and the Senator from South Dakota, whose amendment this is, would agree to a modification of subsection (2) on page 4, line 18, to read, instead of just four members of the Committee on Foreign Relations, "four members chosen from the Committees on Foreign Relations, Armed Services, and Appropriations of the Senate."

In other words, leave the statement "to be designated by the Vice President" unchanged, and not change anything else, except that the four members be chosen from the three committees, which all three have something to do with the matter, rather than just the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. MUNDT. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. HRUSKA. I am happy to yield to the Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. MUNDT. I can see some merit, perhaps, in bringing in the Appropriations Committee in some way, if it can be done, but why bring in the Committee on Armed Services? Because we have taken the military section out of the bill, and this deals only with economic assistance.

Mr. HRUSKA. On the contrary, if the Senator will yield, we have, on page 3 of the pending amendment subsection (4), which reads:

(4) Military assistance to be furnished for purposes that serve the military defense of the United States as recommended by the Secretary of Defense, subject to approval by the Secretary of State.

That is part of the study the commission would make.

Mr. MUNDT. Yes, but it is attached to the economic aid part of the bill. If we are to have a Commission with only that many committee members on it, no committee will have adequate representation to provide any cross section of views at all.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. If the Senator from Nebraska will permit me to say so—

Mr. HRUSKA. Certainly.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. I did not intend to increase the number at all. I simply said the Vice President should be able to choose from members on the three committees, rather than merely the one.

Mr. MUNDT. I think it is important to increase the size of the committee if that is to be done, because, for example, on the Foreign Relations Committee, as the Senator knows, each of us is more or less typed as having certain ideas on economic aid. If the Vice President were to select one member from each of the committees, the decision could be predetermined in advance. By increasing the number, it could be expected that there would be some pros and some cons.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. HRUSKA. I yield to the Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. President, I think the supporters of the amendment failed to read it carefully. I see the possibility that, under the amendment, the committee might investigate the CIA, in which case it would be most dangerous to have four members of the Committee on Foreign Relations on it. We might wish to take that into account, because section 3, on page 2, reads:

Assistance for political or contingency purposes, to be extended to a limited number of countries or areas

That might very well involve the CIA. It would be most dangerous to have four members of the Foreign Relations Committee on such a committee.

Mr. HRUSKA. That is a very interesting observation, particularly in view of the recent debate on the floor on that general subject which had an unfortunate termination so far as the viewpoint just expressed is concerned.

Mr. ELLENDER. Mr. President, in addition to what the senior Senator from Massachusetts just said about the Committee on Foreign Relations, I point out that in 1964, food for peace provided 33 percent of our foreign aid. In 1965 it was 28 percent. In 1966 it was 20 percent. Considering these facts, why should not the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry have a berth on this committee?

Mr. HRUSKA. I see no reason why not. To narrow this committee down for a study and investigation of such monumental scope and to limit the committee to four members of only one committee seems to me to make it a little bit off balance, in fact very ill balanced. I point that out as an added reason why I do not propose to vote for the amendment.

Mr. HOLLAND. Mr. President, I should like to address a question to the junior Senator from New York.

I note that in subsection (1) of section 201, on page 2, of the pending

amendment reference is made to the inclusion of title II of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, as amended.

That is the title that has to do with famine relief.

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. The Senator is correct.

Mr. HOLLAND. And that comes under this heading, "Assistance Intended Primarily for Humanitarian Purposes."

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. The Senator is correct.

Mr. HOLLAND. Do I understand from that that the only research that this committee would make, looking to suggestions or changes of programs lying in the field of agriculture would be in that field covered by title II of the Food for Peace Act?

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. The Senator is correct. As I said to the Senator yesterday, and as I said to the Senator from Louisiana today, they would certainly take into consideration the fact that these other programs exist and how they operate and how much is expended each year while they are determining what should be done under this program, rather than under the foreign aid program.

Mr. HOLLAND. The study commission, however, would not take up matters arising under titles I, III, and IV of the Food for Peace Act. Title I, for instance, deals with the sale of food commodities or agricultural commodities for soft currencies; title III, as I recall it, for barter; and title IV, the sale for dollars on the installment plan or credit terms. All such details would still be left exclusively to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. It would be left to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. Obviously the Senator from Florida understands that the planning committee would be aware of that and would take into consideration what was being done under those programs, while considering the foreign aid program.

Mr. HOLLAND. No provision would be made for suggested changes in titles I, III, and IV of the Food for Peace Act.

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. The Senator is correct. I emphasize to the Senator from Florida and to the Senate that all we have been talking about over the period of the last day or so is a study. After the study has been made—and there will be eight Members of Congress on the study committee—the committee will make its report back to the Senate and to the House of Representatives. Everybody will have an opportunity to consider that study and to make his own judgment as to its validity.

Mr. HOLLAND. And the appropriate committees having jurisdiction of the specific subject matter would still have the responsibility of examining and reporting upon suggested legislation.

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. They would examine and report upon any suggestions they might make. Some suggestions might be made to other committees. But each Representative would have to pass on the matter and each Senator would have to pass on it.

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