



National Republican Heritage Groups(Nationalities) Council

Materials
for the Testimony in Behalf of
National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council
before
The Republican Platform Committee
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Chairman of the N.R.H.G.(N.)C.
Resolution and Platform Committee

NATIONALITIES PLANK

The Americans of the Heritage groups believe that it would be important to include in the Republican Platform that the Republican Party is the "Party of the Open Door" for Americans with many cultural heritages. We believe that the wealth and diversity of American culture is importantly sustained by these groups who came to this country by choice. They have invested their futures in the United States and have brought with them a wealth of diverse cultures and wisdom which they will pass on to future generations of Americans. The Republican Party recognizes the importance of the ethnic mosaic to life in America. As the Party of the Open Door, we welcome the following positions which reflect the needs and perceptions of many Americans with ethnic heritages in the United States today.

Domestic Policy

* We honor and value contributions of the ethnic mosaic in the United States and to enhance its vitality we pledge that we will support programs for ethnic cultures, including support for the arts, cultural centers and language instruction in appropriate schools.

* Many ethnic Americans have brought to our attention the fact that many retired persons living on earned social security benefits receive less support than persons receiving welfare who do not work. We pledge to eliminate such injustices, and persons on welfare will be given incentives to go to work, if possible.

* Ethnic Americans have expressed their concern over the indiscriminate use of busing in schools. They want their children to receive education of the highest quality and we share this wish. We oppose busing as a means of achieving racial balance or economic balance unless such busing would result in the qualitative improvement of education for both the recipient school and the students affected.

* We have noted that ethnic Americans are distressed by the extent to which the mass media in the United States reflects political bias almost to the point of censorship on certain issues. We share the concern of ethnic Americans who are disturbed by the extent of the media's opposition to the President and to the American system in general. Ethnic Americans point out that such bias is much akin to censorship and propaganda from which they fled in their former homelands. The Republican Party believes that such one-sided news coverage demeans America's view of itself, especially among its youth, and that it injures the United States before the rest of the world. Americans should be able to depend on the mass media for either objective reporting or editorials which are appropriately identified as such.

* We pledge to seek the removal of the requirement that naturalized American citizens list the place of their birth on United States passports. We recognize that such a requirement could prove dangerous or at least inconvenient for naturalized American citizens travelling in certain parts of the world. We will work to have this requirement modified so as to be optional to the passport holder of naturalized citizenship.

* An overwhelming majority of ethnic Americans has called for the continuation of support for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. They were outraged by the high-handed efforts of Democrat senators to destroy these radios, which are the sole carriers of news to oppressed people in Europe and Asia. We pledge to continue our fight on behalf of the two radios and will seek to improve their performance and quality.

* A large number of ethnic Americans chose U.S. citizenship after their former homeland fell before the advance of Soviet Imperialism in Europe, Asia and, more recently, the Caribbean. These people are concerned that this country must sustain its will to remain strong. They remember the cost of being weak in the face of Soviet Russia's willingness to use force and political disruption. They call upon us to keep America strong and just. We agree. Although we seek peace and development for the world, we still recognize that one price of these goals is the necessity for strength. The Republican Party pledges that the United States will continue to have military strength second to no nation on earth.

Foreign Policy

* Americans with ethnic heritages are concerned that recent moves toward arms limitations might weaken America's resolve to be strong in the face of the Soviet Union's strategic and political challenges. They are concerned at the extent to which certain Democrat elements in Congress have ignored or forgotten the true character of the Soviet Union. We hereby affirm that we recognize the imperialistic ambitions of the Soviet Union to be the greatest existing threat to world peace. Although we will pursue policies of peace with the U.S.S.R., we will do so from a position of strength. Americans who left Europe after the Second World War have no doubts about the opportunistic nature of the Soviet Union and neither do we. We pledge ourselves to continue our affirmation of the right of self-determination for all nations and nationalities, including those oppressed nations of Europe.

* Americans of ethnic origin have strongly indicated their support for the policies of President Nixon in the Vietnam War. They recognize that the war was begun under Democrat Presidents and is being ended honorably by President Nixon. Ethnic Americans believe in the importance of national self-determination. They believe that the people of Vietnam must be given the chance to select their own government, even if such a government does not conform to current Democrat Party stereotypes of "Peoples Democracy".

* We are reminded by many Americans who believe in the importance of keeping the Western Hemisphere free from European or Asian influences,

that the Government of Fidel Castro has virtually become a pawn of the Soviet Union. We are also reminded that the principles of the Monroe Doctrine, as affirmed by our Latin American neighbors eighteen years ago at Caracas, have been discarded by the Democrat Party. We note that Cuba has recently become a member of COMECON, the Soviet-Communist economic system. We believe that the combination of Russian economic domination of Cuba and the presence of Russian military personnel and bases in Cuba constitute an increasingly grave threat to the principle of hemispheric freedom from extra-hemispheric interference. We believe that these factors violate principles of non-intervention and the Monroe Doctrine. We urge that effective steps be taken to preserve the sanctity of this hemisphere from permanent Russian military presence. We also urge that the Armed Forces and Law Enforcement Agencies of the United States desist from interfering with the activities of those Cubans who fight for a free Cuba on the high seas and foreign soil, so long as their efforts are not directly in violation of the Neutrality Act.

* Americans with European heritages are concerned that Germany's "Ostpolitik" could acknowledge the status quo of Soviet Union's interests in Europe. We believe that the German people must eventually be given the right to re-unite. We also believe that stability in Europe will arise from the achievement of mutual, balanced force reductions, not from the enshrinement of borders shaped by the force of Russian arms after the Second World War.

* We share the concern of ethnic Americans for the on-going commitment of the United States to the principle of national self-determination. We pledge to continue to support America's international commitments in the context of the Nixon Doctrine. We recognize that the greatness of the United States will endure only as long as we remain willing to stand by our international friends in the face of strong adversaries. We know from history that no nation, not even the United States, can stand alone in a world system which is being drawn even closer together by the achievements of technology.

RESOLUTIONS

Further, it could be of interest to the Platform Committee that the full membership of the National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council at the general meeting in Chicago on May 7th, 1972 unanimously approved the following Resolutions:

Domestic Policies

A. SOCIAL SECURITY VERSUS WELFARE

The Council deplors the fact that people living under Social Security for which they worked and which they paid for are often in a less favorable financial position than people on welfare. We strongly recommend that such injustices be eliminated.

B. BIAS IN MEDIA

The Council strongly supports the admirable fight carried on by Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew for elimination of bias in the media.

C. SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES CONTROL BOARD

We strongly support the executive order of the President which authorizes the Subversive Activities Control Board to conduct appropriate hearings to determine whether any organization is subversive. We request the Attorney General to cause the investigation of such organizations which subvert and terrorize our youth and deprive them of their academic and civil rights in our universities and colleges.

D. BUSING

We believe that compulsory busing of children in order to achieve racial balance in schools should be eliminated, because it not only infringes on the rights and freedom of individuals and communities, but also endangers the quality of education and physical well-being of children by unnecessary waste of time on buses.

E. FEDERAL AID TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS

We strongly support President Nixon's proposals to give, within Constitutional limits, Federal aid to non-public schools in order to provide a quality education for all.

F. U.S. PASSPORTS

Currently the U.S. Passport shows the birthplace of its holder. Such an identification, while totally unnecessary and superfluous, could easily deprive naturalized Americans who were born in countries presently under Communist control of the protection to which they are entitled as American citizens. Therefore the Council urges the proper authorities that such identification be deleted.

Foreign Policies

1. EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE

On the European Security Conference, which is being considered, the Council wishes to make a strong appeal to the United States Government not to recognize the "status quo" in Europe because it violates the rights of self-determination of the peoples and nations of Central and Eastern Europe.

2. RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY

The Council strongly supports the continuation of broadcasts by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. We also strongly recommend that an independent organization appointed by the President and Congress be entrusted with the direction of the two radio stations. Further, we strongly recommend that a thorough screening of personnel and an overhaul of the present operation of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty be undertaken. We also recommend that the Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty broadcast in all languages of the Captive European Nations, without discrimination.

3. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE FOR CAPTIVE NATIONS

We strongly urge the President to support and Congress to undertake the establishment of a Congressional Committee of Captive Nations and other Nations under Communist rule.

4. VIETNAM

The United States should not withdraw from South Vietnam without a guarantee that the South Vietnamese people will have the right of self-

determination, and on the condition the the Communist invasion troops in Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam have been withdrawn. We also support the President's action as expressed in his speech of April 24th and May 8th, 1972, without reservations and as a main point stress the need for safe return of all prisoners of war.

5. CUBA

We regard the Soviet Union's atomic bases in Cienfuegos and Banes, Cuba, as a threat to the United States and the rest of the Central and South American countries. We request that the President review the Kennedy-Khrushchev pact (which does not allow any more attempts by Cubans to liberate themselves or any interference with the Castro regime) because the U.S.S.R. has broken it by building bases in Cuba. We, the members of the Council, strongly recommend that proper counter-measures be taken against the Communist actions which not only destroy the balance of power in the Carribean and the Western Hemisphere, but also represent a threat to the security of the United States and the other nations in the Americas. The Council asserts that the freedom of the Cuban people is not negotiable at this time or any other time.

6. NATIONAL DEFENSE

We approve and strongly support the ABM and MIRV defense measures of the Nixon Administration. Nevertheless, since the military strength of the U.S.S.R. is growing at an alarming extent, we feel ourselves responsible to the future of our nation. Therefore, we most strongly believe that our defense budget should be increased to assure such strategic force that no enemy will ever dare launch an attack against the United States.

7. CHINA

We condemn the unjustifiable expulsion of the Republic of China from the United Nations and its affiliate organizations, and ask the United States Government to continue to honor its treaty commitments to and diplomatic ties with the Republic of China, and to support its defense from attack from the Communist countries.

8. CAPTIVE UKRAINE AND CAPTIVE BYELORUSSIA

The Council is opposed to Moscow's control of the Byelorussian and Ukrainian delegations to the United Nations and supports the just aspirations of self-determination and national independence for the Byelorussian and Ukrainian people.

9. SELF-DETERMINATION IN U.S.S.R., CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

The Council wholeheartedly supports the stand made in the United Nations by Rep. Edward Derwinski (R-Ill.), special appointee of the President as Ambassador at the 26th General Assembly, on behalf of self-determination of the occupied Baltic States, the Captive Nations and the non-Russian nations in the U.S.S.R., Central and Eastern Europe.

10. GREECE

Recognizing that Greece is in a strategic position in the Mediterranean and that Greece is a faithful and staunch friend of the United States and a loyal member of NATO, we urge the United States Congress to reverse its unjustified decision in curtailing military aid to Greece.

We also ask the President of the United States to do everything in his power to restore military aid to Greece.

11. NATO AND SEATO

The Council advocates strong support of NATO and SEATO.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS we Americans of various ethnic and nationalities backgrounds believe that our country offers the freedom and opportunity for all citizens in regard to a person's national background, religion or race, and

WHEREAS we believe that the Flag of the United States of America is as much the flag of the man who was naturalized yesterday as of the man whose people have been living in America for generations, and

WHEREAS it is established that all Americans possess equal rights and responsibilities, guaranteed in the Constitution, and

WHEREAS those rights and responsibilities are requesting us to work, as it is laid down in the Constitution, for a better government and a free and bright future for America, our society, justice and freedom for all; and based on the above

THEREFORE we, members of the National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council state herewith that

WE BELIEVE: that we must share the responsibilities that go with the rights, by all means obey the law but not abuse it, and to do all in our power to defend the free societies order for ourselves, our families and future generations of Americans.

WE BELIEVE that we have to support our President and our Government and to express our respect for those High Offices, as well as to respect and honor the Flag of the United States; in the same time, being free to voice our opinions, and to emphasize that we believe in our Republican Party and the right of every free human being.

WE BELIEVE that we can be proud of our heritage and its contributions to the growth of our United States, at the same time not forgetting that experience throughout the world has proven that those who forget their heritage, the fate of their native countries and their debts to their fathers too easily and too early could forget their pledge of allegiance to the American Flag just as easily, were the circumstances and opportunities arise.

WE BELIEVE that as good citizens we must take part in the affairs of our community, be it nationally or on the state, county or local level, and beside the work in our Heritage-Nationalities groups, be active in the political life, working and supporting candidates who will safeguard the law and order, and will secure an undisturbed future for our land and homes.

WE BELIEVE that free enterprise and individual incentive have given this country an economical system and standard of living second to none on the Earth.

WE BELIEVE that ultra liberal socialisms and the creation of a "Welfare State" would destroy the incentive of free enterprise, limit the

opportunity to succeed and finally lead to the destruction of the rights of the individual citizen; and is contrary to the concepts of our constitutional form of government.

WE BELIEVE that support is needed for old people and the needy who cannot care for themselves; however, being proud that the overwhelming majority of us have established our lives through hard work and not through social support, we feel that anyone who is able to work should take the initiative to do so, building a brighter future through work, not through sitting back and a request for support.

WE BELIEVE that only strong foreign policy can secure ultimate freedom and therefore fully support President Richard M. Nixon's statement of February 21, 1972 that we shall start a long march together in

..."the goal of building a world structure of peace and justice in which all may stand together with equal dignity, in which each nation, large or small, has a right to determine its own form of government free from outside interference or domination."

WE BELIEVE that the above statement of the President and his unending quest for peace is deeply in the interests of the United States; we express our convictions and beliefs that only then will the United States secure a bright future when all people and all nations will regain the right to decide by themselves their own way of life and their desired form of government, chosen through free elections.