

M E M O

TO: PET  
FROM: RICH  
RE: FLOOR

DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 1979

There is no session today (Tuesday) or tomorrow (Wednesday).

On Thursday, the Senate will be in executive session to consider confirmation of General George Seignious as head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

There is apparently some liberal opposition to him because he is a military man. However, many are arguing that this is a Carter attempt to facilitate SALT. I have asked Chris to flesh out whether or not there will be a real effort to block him on the floor.

On Monday, the Senate is expected to take up S.245, the Taiwan resolution. I've alerted Dennis, who is working on a memo on the issue for you. However, here is some preliminary background:

The bill would continue unofficial relations with Taiwan and expresses U.S. concern for its security. (The Foreign Relations Committee rejected committing the U.S. to the defense of Taiwan and restoration of recognition.)

U.S. relations with Taiwan will be conducted through the American Institute in Taiwan, a non-profit corporation contracting with the State Department and staffed by U.S. Government employees on official leave. Taiwan would establish a similar agency in the U.S.

The bill contains the "Church-Javits Compromise" approved unanimously by the committee:

- \* maintain close and friendly relations with the people of Taiwan
- \* U.S. decision to establish relations with the PRC rests on the expectation that any resolution of the Taiwan issue will be peaceful
- \* Consider any effort other than peaceful means as a threat to peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the U.S.

- \* provide people of Taiwan with defensive arms
- \* U.S. to maintain capacity to resist any resort to force
- \* U.S. to assist Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability
- \* President directed to inform Congress of any threat to security of Taiwan

Percy made an effort to strengthen Church-Javits with language stating that hostile actions against Taiwan would be a threat "to the security interests of the U.S." (Defeated 4-10, Javits and others opposed it on the grounds that it represented too formal a commitment to military defense of Taiwan.)