

DAN QUAYLE

September 25, 1981

He's gotten interested in AWACS - is calling around to help negotiate a compromise.

While I was there, the phone rang and he talked with--as it turned out-- Mark Andrews.

"That was Mark Andrews. I think he feels the same way I do. But he signed the resolution. And he isn't going to move until he sees exactly what the agreement is. He can't change. It's pretty hard to ask a guy right out whether he would change or not. But I think he would. I've called Kasten. already; and I have calls in to a few more. Baker is trying to find out who might be willing to move if we went to some compromise on crewing like Glenn suggests. Then the Administration could get on the phone and bring them in. The egos are so great around here. I thought it was bad in the House, but he Senate is 100 times worse. Every one of em thinks he ought to be fucking President. I don't care about the publicity on this one. I just want to get the job done."

During conversation with Andrews. "Do you have one rabbi up there?... I have one Jewish group in Indianapolis and they are opposed to it. But I'm not doing this because of pressure from the Jewish community. There isn't any in your state and they are negligible in my state... I think it would be better for Israel to have the sale go through. If it doesn't there may be a backlash; especially the way people feel about Begin. I gave a speech to a newspaper publishers group last week. Kay Graham was there--it was that kind of group. Afterwards, two or three of them came up singly and said "Don't you let Israel dictate American foreign policy. And that was a highly sophisticated group."

How did you get interested in it. It was, he said, his first foreign policy venture in the Senate. "I've always been interested in foreign policy. I was on the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House. I'm on the Armed Services Committee and I'm interested in problems of our strategic balance in the world. I've never been to the Middle East, but I hope to go in the next six months. ...When I first read about the AWACS, I was lukewarm toward it. But the more I read about it the worse it seemed... I sat here thinking, there must be a way to get this through. So I talked with Prince Bador, the Saudi Minister twice. And I got to kinda like the guy... The other reason I got interested was because I like this President and I want him to succeed. When I read George Wills' column, I thought he hit it right on the head. The President shouldn't be mad at Packwood; he should be mad at the people who got him into it. But he's in it. So I even went so far as to call my friend George Will and I asked him 'George, how do we get the President out of this mess?'

"When I first talked with Prince Bador, I suggested a compromise--that we sell them 3 planes and we keep 3 planes. He said 'Oh no' and wouldn't listen. Then this week, I suggested it to him again and he listened. Then the same day, Glenn hit him with the crewing idea, which reenforced my argument. Then the Post got hold of it--I don't know how, but they always do--but it appeared in the papers I think this weekend, then we'll have to give a little and a compromise will have to be worked out."

When he broached it, he said "You're interested in the institution, aren't you. Here's something you might be interested in confidentiality. When will your book come out... Oh, two or three years--no problem. I've been involved in the AWACS business..."

A comment by Quayle to Andrews. "No, I'm not the honest injun broker."

Quayle - 9/25/81

3

On Hatch. "He's a queer bird. I can't figure him out."

"This is the President's first foreign policy vote. We don't want to lose it. Fifty-one votes is not enough. We need at least 60-40 and, hopefully, 70-30."

JTPA

11/18  
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in 1/18 page  
re: 11/18/81  
& 1/18/82