

*Introduction of Senator Long.
71. S Citizens Congress
1202 NSOB
Tuesday, February 22, 1976*

*Long's
Congressional
Memorandum*

I'VE BEEN ASKED TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT
RUSSELL LONG.

THAT'S NOT AN EASY TASK.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE ~~THE INTRODUCTION~~ OF A
UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ADORED BY MOST LOUISIANIANS;
VILIFIED BY OTHERS, CHARACTERIZED BY SOME AS THE MOST
ARTFUL AND CLEVER MAN IN THE CONGRESS, AND BY OTHERS
AS "IN OVER HIS HEAD".

HE IS ALSO EITHER A "TOOL OF THE SPECIAL
INTERESTS" OR A NATIVE AMERICAN POPULIST.

THEN THERE ARE THOSE WHO CALL HIM A "DEMOCRAT"
AND OTHERS WHO CALL HIM A "SOUTHERN DEMOCRAT"!

IN MY OWN CASE, I ~~COMPLETELY~~ ENVY THE MAN.

IF I HAD HAD AN "UNCLE EARL" THERE'S NO QUESTION
BUT THAT I'D BE VICE PRESIDENT TODAY!

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AND IF "EVERY MAN A KING" WAS THE RALLYING
CRY OF HUEY LONG, RUSSELL LONG HAS OUTDONE HIS
FATHER.

IN THE ERA OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT HE
HAS ADDED THE SLOGAN, "AND EVERY WOMAN A QUEEN"!

GENTLEMEN, YOU TAKE VOTES WHERE YOU FIND THEM!

THE INTERESTING, THE DISCONCERTING, THING ABOUT
OUR GUEST OF HONOR IS THAT NO ONE CAN EVER TAKE HIM
FOR GRANTED ON A GIVEN ISSUE.

THAT'S ONE OF THE NICE THINGS ABOUT BEING
ELECTED WITH SEVENTY OR EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE VOTE.

I SHOULD MODIFY THAT SOMEWHAT.

THOSE OF US WHO SERVE WITH RUSSELL LONG DO
KNOW THAT WE'LL ALWAYS GET A FAIR SHAKE IN THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE.

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WE'RE NOT MANIPULATED.

WE'RE NOT INTIMIDATED.

WE'RE NOT DENIED AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.

RUSSELL LONG GIVES THE APPEARANCE OF DOMINATING
THE COMMITTEE BECAUSE WE GENERALLY WIND UP AGREEING
WITH HIM.

AND THAT IS BECAUSE BY THE TIME WE GET TO
VOTE ON SOMETHING HE HAS STIMULATED AND BROUGHT US
TO A CONSENSUS.

THAT KIND OF APPROACH MAKES FOR A VERY HIGH
BATTING AVERAGE IN A CHAIRMAN.

IT ALSO CAUSES "GNASHING OF TEETH" ON THE
PART OF THE EDITORIAL PAGE STAFF AT THE WASHINGTON
POST.

RUSSELL LONG IS AN INCREDIBLE KIND OF SUPER-
SENATOR, ACCORDING TO THE POST.

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WHEN A LONG BILL OR AMENDMENT PASSES THE
SENATE IT IS, ACCORDING TO THEIR ARITHMETIC, ALWAYS
APPROVED BY ONE VOTE--RUSSELL LONG'S.

NO ONE AMONG THE OTHER 99 MEMBERS OF THE SENATE
COULD POSSIBLY HAVE JOINED WITH HIM.

AND THE LONG LOGIC OF WORKFARE INSTEAD OF
WELFARE--OF TURNING TAXEATERS INTO TAXPAYERS--JUST
DOESN'T GO OVER ON THE POST'S EDITORIAL PAGE.

~~IT JUST DOESN'T CONFORM TO THEIR SIT-BACK AND-
WAIT-FOR-THE-CHECK-IN-THE-MAIL VIEW OF THE WORLD.~~

BUT, THE OTHER SIDE OF RUSSELL LONG IS THE ONE
THEY REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE.

HE HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED THE VIEW THAT PEOPLE
SHOULD RECEIVE CONSIDERABLY MORE MONEY WHEN THEY WORK
THAN WHEN ON WELFARE.

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HE HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED--IN FACT, LED THE
FIGHT--TO SECURE ADEQUATE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THOSE
UNFORTUNATES IN OUR SOCIETY WHO GENUINELY CANNOT
HELP THEIR CONDITION AS OPPOSED TO THOSE WHO CAN.

WE ARE HONORING A WARM, FRIENDLY, INTELLIGENT
HUMAN BEING TONIGHT.

HE HAS, INDISPUTABLY, A LOT OF POWER.

BUT, ON RUSSELL LONG, IT LOOKS GOOD!

No request Jan
" for comments }
- for good.

- * Non-partisan -
- * for Cubans - leave your name -
- * R. -