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Connally, Senator, 1944.

AHS File
1944

FDR

MEMORANDA OF CONFERENCE OF DR. SILVER AND MR. LEO SACK
WITH SENATOR CONNALLY IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, MONDAY, NOV. 27TH

After an exchange of pleasantries Senator Connally said: "You know, of course, that you are being opposed, but there is something I ought to tell you."

Then Connally hesitated and he added, "But I don't think I should".

Mr. Sack interrupted to inquire, "Why not? If we have opposition we ought to know it."

"Well," Senator Connally resumed, "the White House does not want action on your Resolution. I know this authoritatively."

"But," replied Dr. Silver, "the President issued a magnificent statement in approval. You know of his letter to the Atlantic City Convention through Senator Wagner."

"Yes," Connally replied, "I know all about it, but I also know that he does not want action now." You fellows ought to tell him you are being double crossed."

"We can't tell him," Mr. Sack interrupted, "he would kick us out of his office but you are a Senator. You can tell him what's what."

Dr. Silver emphasized the embarrassment in which we are placed and he urged that Senators have the courage to tell the President of the embarrassing situation in which they find themselves.

"Well, that is the situation," Connally insisted.

"But what a ridiculous position that puts the Congress in," Dr. Silver pointed out. "The overwhelming majority of the Congress has endorsed this measure. The two party conventions and the two candidates, including the President, each have gone strongly on record in its behalf and now we are told of White House opposition."

"I know," agreed Connally.

The following day Dr. Silver and Mr. Sack called on Senator George of Georgia, one of the ranking Democrats on the Committee. Mr. George seemed very cordial to our legislation but he, too, made it clear that the State Department was advising against action at this time.

