

CONVENTION MOVE IS HELD UP BY G.O.P.

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Decision Delayed by Legal
Problems—Miami Beach
Leaders Still Confident
NYTimes

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WASHINGTON, April 21—Republican party leaders deferred today a decision on switching their national convention from San Diego to Miami Beach pending resolution of legal problems that would arise if the date of the convention were advanced from Aug. 21 to Aug. 14.

Aug. 21 is the date set for San Diego, but the convention hall in Miami Beach is available only the week before that.

The city officials in Florida voiced surprise after they met this morning with Richard L. Herman, vice chairman of the Republican Committee on Arrangements, with whom they had thought they reached agreement the day before.

As a result of the delay, the Miami City Council voted 4 to 3 to defer action on a new bid to the Republicans. The council had been called into emergency session to tender a formal invitation but was notified of the legal problems by Mr. Herman

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about an hour and a half before the meeting.

However, Clifford O'Key, Miami Beach City Manager, and Jessie Wise, a member of the Tourist Development Authority, expressed confidence that the Republicans would decide on Miami Beach by Monday. The Democrats are holding their convention there starting July 10.

Senator Robert Dole of Kansas, chairman of the Republican National Committee, said in Minneapolis that he would fly to Miami Beach tomorrow for further talks with Mr. Herman and city officials.

Mr. Dole dispatched Mr. Herman to Florida after the Republicans' troubles in San Diego mounted. These included getting the San Diego Sports Arena ready in time for the convention, a shortage of housing and a delay in receiving money pledged by a San Diego civic group.

Mr. Weiss said in Miami Beach that he thought during the meeting with Mr. Herman that the convention move was "cut and dried." During this meeting he talked by telephone to John N. Mitchell, who resigned as Attorney General to manage President Nixon's campaign for re-election.

The Tourist Development Authority voted to give the Republicans \$250,000 in cash to complement the \$500,000 in goods and services the city was prepared to offer. This parallels the pledge to the Democrats for their convention.

Conflict in Dates

Mr. O'Key said that the negotiations with Mr. Herman had been based on moving the date of the convention ahead to Aug. 14 to avoid a conflict with the annual meeting of General Motors Corporation Buick dealers on the use of Convention Hall and hotel space.

An executive of General Motors flew into Miami Beach and, according to officials, expressed a willingness to accommodate the Republicans by moving the date of the Buick meeting.

It is the Aug. 14 date that Mr. Herman asked Mr. O'Key to hold off on until it could be established whether the date would be legally acceptable in view of the original convention call for Aug. 21. Also involved is the question of whether states yet to name delegates would legally have sufficient time to do so under the convention call.

A spokesman for the Republican National Committee said that party rules also required that in states where selection of delegates by state-wide primaries was not required, the delegates must be chosen 35 days before the convention opened. Further, the delegates must be certified 30 days before the convention.

At least five states, the spokesman said, are now scheduled to pick delegates in the

final week before the cut-off date of July 10. If the convention date is moved to Aug. 14, he said, these states could not meet party rules unless they moved their party conventions or caucuses ahead at least a week.

He also speculated that some states might find a conflict in state laws governing the selection of delegates.

Senator Dole told a news conference in Minneapolis that "no decision has been made to move the convention." Mr. Herman reiterated this in a statement released here.

They noted that the Republican National Committee would have to be called into session to make a decision, and that the committee must be given 10 days' notice. However, Senator Dole said that if the party leaders received a recommendation for a shift they "probably would ratify that change."

He also said again that the possibility of changing the convention site has "no relationship" to allegations that the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation had offered a \$400,000 pledge to help to underwrite the convention in San Diego. The alleged offer has been linked by Democrats and the columnist Jack Anderson with the settlement of antitrust suits against I.T.T.

David Krogson, State Republican Chairman in Minnesota, said that he was positive the convention site would be switched. He was with Senator Dole, who made a speech to the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce.

In Miami Beach, Mr. O'Key said that he "had reason to believe, up until 11:30 this morning, that the city's proposal of \$250,000 would be satisfactory" and that Miami Beach would get the convention. It was at that time that he received the call from Mr. Herman. Mr. O'Key and Mr. Weiss had met earlier in City Hall with Mr. Herman.

Mr. Herman could not be reached for comment nor could Mr. Mitchell in Washington.

The Tourist Development Authority voted the \$250,000 payment in three installments, \$80,000 in January, 1973; \$80,000 in January, 1974, and \$90,000 in January, 1975.

'Great News' in San Diego

Special to The New York Times

SAN DIEGO, April 21—Local party leaders talked angrily today about a "double-cross," but the prospect of losing this summer's Republican convention produced very little gloom and considerable rejoicing among San Diego's 718,000 citizens.

"It's great news," said Harvey Robinson, a grocer on Midway Drive a couple of blocks from the Sports Arena. "The people of San Diego never wanted this convention in the first place. Their arm was twisted by all that talk of President Nixon wanting it here in what he called his lucky city."