

"I have now looked into this matter and find that the situation is this: A copy of each evaluation report is normally sent to our Assistant Deputy Director in charge of the Controller Division. Our auditors, in preparing for an internal audit of a country program, are authorized to, and in fact usually do, read this copy of the evaluation report. They read these reports as one of their sources of background comment and evaluation on the ICA program in the country where the audit is to be performed. They do not use materials from evaluation reports in their audit reports or otherwise directly use the evaluation reports in carrying out their audit activities."

Here was the frank confession of Mr. Saccio that the General Accounting Office, created by Congress to look after these matters for Congress under the budget law, denied the information which the auditors themselves get.

The Senator from Nebraska [Mr. Hruska] interrogated Mr. Saccio, and some of his comment was extremely interesting. Said Senator Hruska:

"Senator HRUSKA. But the fact is that these experienced men you send out, they apply their previous experience to a given set of procedures and practices and other items which they get out of the book. It is that in which Congress is interested. If we are to be responsible for financing and sponsoring this program, we ought to know what it is doing. We ought to know what means it is employing to obtain the objectives, the general objectives to which you refer. You see, giving all of due deference and respect to ICA for being a body of experts, they have no monopoly under our form of Government in responsibility for the success and propriety of the ICA program. And when your department assumes the attitude it does, we find ourselves boxed in pretty heavily because then we have to go out and send men sometimes who are not as experienced as the men who you send out, and they come back with things which you in turn label and brand, and probably justifiably so in some instances, as being distortions and misrepresentations, and not complete stories. Now, if we are going to work toward a common end, don't you think there would be some grounds such as that which was arrived by the Army back in 1957 until the Department of Defense stepped in, don't you think there would be some grounds in which you would make available to Congress and GAO these evaluation reports for their considered and discreet consideration?"

Senator Hruska quoted from the existing law establishing GAO for the direct purpose of conducting such investigations, and he indicated the need of keeping the public informed of the public business.

Mr. CARROLL. Mr. President, does the Senator desire to continue at this point, or would he be willing to yield for a question at this time?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I am always glad to yield for a question at any time.

Mr. CARROLL. I say to the very able senior Senator from Wyoming that this is the most important issue in this whole debate concerning the nomination of Admiral Strauss. The reason I say that because this nomination presents a challenge to the legislative branch of the Government. Are we going to permit the continued misuse of so-called executive privilege when, in fact, there is involved nothing more than executive secrecy?