

Mr. DAVIDOFF. Mr. Chairman, we appreciate this opportunity to appear before this committee.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Davidoff.

I want to thank you on behalf of the subcommittee for a well thought out and stimulating statement.

I notice on page 2 of your statement you speak of the need for at least \$20 billion over the next 5 years for the demonstration cities program. I know many of us would like to see this amount authorized. But I also think you understand that in the present setting, with increased demands on the budget coming from Vietnam, the Congress will not be able to authorize as much as it would like to for domestic programs. In other words, the administration and the Congress have to balance all of our national needs. I would like to have your comments on this.

Mr. DAVIDOFF. Well, Mr. Chairman, our national domestic programs have been established in the Great Society as setting forth goals of equal opportunity for all people in our society, and that it is our belief that this must be met at the earliest possible occasion.

It is our belief—and I have made mention of this earlier—that by failing to set any time limitation on the achievement of this program, of the demonstration program, or of the Housing Act goals of 1949, or the antipoverty fight, that the Great Society has really failed to tell us how it can be established and when it will be established. And this is why I say—it may be just rhetoric—6 months ago Mr. Reston wrote of the Great Society: "It is forming a quiet revolution." To me, it may be a quiet revolution or it may be a noisy status—I do not know which it is. But I do sincerely believe that we must confront our problems at home and confront them rapidly.

Mr. BARRETT. May I just indicate briefly, you think that these pockets of poverty and slums must be eliminated—if I may put it this way—if we are to be strong from without we must be strong from within?

Mr. DAVIDOFF. That states exactly what I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, in much better terms.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Widnall?

Mr. WIDNALL. Mr. Davidoff, thank you for a very constructive statement today. I do not think anybody can quarrel with the aspirations and goals that you have set through the Americans for Democratic Action.

As our chairman has said, we have got to determine some priorities, and we have got to decide where we are going to channel our best efforts.

Now, the bills that we are considering and also the amendments that you propose embody an expenditure of not just \$2.9 billion but billions and billions more than that. Now, if we are to do this, and if we are to start out on the scale that you envisage and recommend, we are undoubtedly going to need new taxes. Have you taken any position with respect to new taxes, Mr. Cohen?

Mr. COHEN. We have, Congressman Widnall. Around the time when the budget was being developed in late December, and there was a lot of talk then of cutting back or not sufficiently increasing Great Society programs, the ADA National Executive Committee communicated to the President a letter, which I would be glad to supply