

For the above reasons, the Council urges you and your Committee to give prompt and favorable consideration to S. 3675.

It is requested that this letter be made a part of the official record of any hearings which might be held concerning S. 3675.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT M. NORRIS, *President*.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. Our witnesses from the executive branch are Dr. Edward D. Re, Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, and Mr. Richard D. Kearney, Deputy Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

After the subcommittee has finished its questioning of the executive branch witnesses, it will receive testimony from Mr. Kenneth B. Sprague, vice president for finance, American & Foreign Power Co.

Dr. Re, if you will proceed.

STATEMENT OF DR. EDWARD D. RE, CHAIRMAN, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

Dr. RE. Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I appreciate very much this opportunity to appear before the subcommittee in order to present the views of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission on S. 3675, entitled "An act to amend title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949 to provide for the determination of the amounts of claims of nationals of the United States against the Chinese Communist regime."

The bill, S. 3675, proposes amendments to title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, to include claims against the Chinese Communist regime.

Title V was added to the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949 by Public Law 88-666, approved October 16, 1964. Certain technical amendments were added to title V under Public Law 89-262, approved October 19, 1965.

This title now provides for the presettlement adjudication of claims of American citizens against the Government of Cuba for losses resulting from the nationalization, expropriation, intervention, or other taking of, or special measures directed against, property owned by nationals of the United States and for claims for disability or death resulting from actions taken by or under the authority of the Government of Cuba.

In effect, S. 3675 would provide for the same types of claims against the Chinese Communist regime arising since October 1, 1949. This would be accomplished by adding appropriate amendatory language to sections 501, 502, 503, 505, and 510 of title V which would apply equally to claims against the Government of Cuba and the Chinese Communist regime. The same would be true with respect to other sections of title V.

The present proposal which provides for the adjudication of claims against the Chinese Communist regime was within the general contemplation of the Congress at the time the International Claims Settlement Act was enacted in 1949, as were the Cuban claims. The enactment of this statute arose out of our growing concern regarding violations by Communist governments with respect to the adverse treatment of property owned by American citizens in those countries,