

claims of this character out of appropriated funds. I will say that insofar as the disposition of the Executive is concerned we will continue to oppose any attempts to obtain such appropriations.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. May I suggest that we recess for 5 minutes so that the members of the subcommittee can answer the quorum call.

(Short recess.)

Mr. ZABLOCKI. The subcommittee will come to order and resume the hearings.

Mr. McDowell.

Mr. McDOWELL. Mr. Chairman, not having been here, unfortunately, at the beginning of the hearing, if the information I am seeking has already been put in the record simply say so and we will skip on to something else.

I notice on page 5 of Mr. Re's testimony you refer to the situation within the Commission at the present time, that the volume is falling off and that unless this legislation is adopted by the Congress you may have to lose some of your staff personnel.

Could you give us a little more information with regard to the staff?

Dr. RE. Yes, sir. I did mention that the Commission is presently working on the large war claims program. That program has approximately 23,000 claims. That program will come to an end on May 17, 1967. At that time it is true that the Commission will have to separate a large segment of the staff, even though we are now also administering the Cuban program. The Cuban program is clearly not as large.

There is absolutely no relationship between the separation of the staff and this Chinese bill.

I did say, however, that if this bill were to be passed it would mean that we would have available an experienced staff that could be used in administering this particular program also. But there is absolutely no relationship between the two, other than the fact that there is presently a staff that is experienced and can be utilized.

Mr. McDOWELL. Then you are suggesting that the staff could go ahead and adjudicate what you estimate to be approximately 2,500 claims that might be involved here, even though the final settlement of these claims might be years in the future?

Dr. RE. Yes, sir. As we have said, this will do no more than add the Chinese Communist regime to the Cuban program that we are presently administering.

There is a precedent for this type of presettlement adjudication. The first example dealt with a program involving Canada, which was the Lake Ontario program. The second truly interesting example was the Cuban program. This bill in effect would add Communist China to the Cuban program that the Commission is presently administering.

Mr. McDOWELL. That is all.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. Mr. Broomfield?

Mr. BROOMFIELD. Dr. Re, what are the total claims involved in the China bill?

Dr. RE. I have indicated that the best estimate we could make would give us a number of approximately 2,500 or perhaps more.

As Mr. Kearney has very correctly indicated there is no census that has been taken to which we could look for guidance. Therefore