

the responsibility for solution of such difficulties as may arise at the local level between community organizations that may have different ideas of what title I is for.

Mr. BRADEMAS. Mr. Quie.

Mr. QUIE. Yes. I have a little problem with your idea of nine little Mount Sinais around the country. Remember the story of Moses coming off Mount Sinai and how they didn't get along too well without him and it ended up he was supreme boss with the experience.

I gather that this is the way it presently operates in most regional offices and with the Elementary and Secondary Act right now. For instance it was told us in the Boston area that the guidelines reached the superintendent of schools before they ever reached the regional office. When we talked to the elementary and secondary school people—to a man in the Northeast and in the national organizations appearing in Washington, they said "We don't want to have the regional offices strengthened. It is as easy to call Washington as it is the regional office." They contend that nobody there can make decisions. They are a service organization and could help in that way. For instance, in higher education they have been involved in the construction of buildings and give that kind of assistance, while in programs it is just impossible because you have to go to the top.

I was wondering if you had any comments on that. We are in a different region, and there may be a different story out here.

Dr. MOUSOLITE. Yes. In the higher education in this region we have decentralized where we make decisions in the financial aids. Hopefully, we will be doing this in June in the higher education facilities.

One excellent area, under Dr. Joseph Vernon, small grants projects, and the consortium of institutions working together to implement the proposal that has to be approved.

Now this project, this program here is almost completely decentralized. He draws in his consultants, they go over the proposals that have been submitted, and there is a great deal of activity in this area now, as there should be. Then the decisions are made and sent to Washington. Eventually the commissioner will delegate his signature to the head man out in the region.

I think perhaps Mr. Bright made this point in the testimony last August.

Mr. QUIE. That is in the regional research laboratories?

Dr. MOUSOLITE. No; this is in the research small grants projects, which are devoted to the small colleges and the like, not the large institutions. There are other programs for them.

May I say again that just as we have begun to work closely and we have been given decisionmaking authority in the higher education area, we are just beginning this now but we certainly have problems which I know we will overcome. Problems existing in what the people in the regional office should do in elementary and secondary, how much authority should they have?

I fully expect them to have authority to work with the State Department people, to help the local districts prepare their proposals, and to work on a coordinated basis and then perhaps follow up on those who were refused or those who were successful in being given moneys to implement the programs.