might be able to offer on that subject, as just a businessman who is worried about banking problems but sees how this cash moves.

Mr. BARTH. Mr. Chairman, you have just given me an idea. I am not prepared to explore it here. But, you know, you have counterpart funds all over the world. You have none in Western Europe today. But, perhaps, some thought ought to be given to the creation of some counterpart funds so that the people in spending—instead of spending dollars which are redeemable at the Bank of France or the Bundesbank, that they will be redeemable against the fund which belongs either to the Treasury Department or somebody else, and I would like to make a study of this, and I will submit a report to you.

The CHAIRMAN. You say you might create some sort of counterpart fund. Would you mind explaining that again?

Mr. BARTH. Well, let us say if France wants to have our tourists they ought to put some French francs at the disposal of this fund which ultimately could be used only to buy American goods; in other words, to compensate for it. But I would like to think that out a little more.

The CHAIRMAN. I would appreciate it if you would just give us your thoughts along that line, because somewhere along the line I think we are going to——

Mr. BARTH. For instance, I do not understand why any American—I am speaking about private people going to places like India or Pakistan or wherever we have counterpart funds—why they should be allowed to spend any dollars. He should buy the counterpart funds from somebody here before he goes, and spend them freely, and leave the dollars here in the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. Then that being the case, I take it, they would have that available to them to spend in the United States, to buy American products with.

Mr. BARTH. No. Their counterpart funds, Mr. Chairman, belong to you, the Government of the United States, and the dollars that the American tourist would spend abroad will be paid to the Government of the United States.

For instance, you have $1.5 billion worth of rupees. Came the devaluation and you lost $400 million.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you mind giving me that again, because that is something that really merits consideration. You said that we had $1.5 billion in rupees——

Mr. BARTH. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Available to us in India.

Mr. BARTH. Isolated, they are isolated in India because you are not allowed to use them without the consent of the Indian Government. Then, in addition to that, you have Public Law 480 rupees.

The CHAIRMAN. You said though in the exchange, in the currency exchange, we lost $400 million.

Mr. BARTH. When the rupee was devalued 2, 3, 4 weeks ago by 36.5 percent you lost the equivalent of $400 million.

The CHAIRMAN. So we lost the equivalent of $400 million, did you say?

Mr. BARTH. Yes. The rupee was devalued against the dollar by 36.5 percent.

The CHAIRMAN. I would appreciate it if you would just give us your thoughts which you have along that line. Frankly, it does occur to