

me that the way we are accepting these foreign currencies, at least we ought to try to make the maximum use possible of them rather than have them simply pinned down in those countries where we cannot do anything with them, except to use them in a way that those countries tell us we can use it. If they tell us we cannot use it at all, it just means we might as well not have it over there, because we cannot use it, we cannot do anything with it.

Mr. BARTH. That is right.

Senator WILLIAMS. The expansion of the foreign tourism in this country has been something that we have been working on for quite a while, but is it not getting a setback with this airline strike because we are getting some complaints—I have had a few in my office—of foreign visitors over here who cannot complete the tour for which they were booked? I was wondering what impact you think that this airline strike may be having on our balance of payments or our economy in general by having to use the foreign airlines for transportation.

Mr. BARTH. Well, you know that stranded Americans are estimated to be somewhere between 25,000 and 30,000 in Western Europe alone, and they have to find ways and means of getting home.

I know of several of them who left Rome to go to Madrid feeling that they could come here more readily. From Madrid they went to London, and now they were assured of passage back to the United States around August 28 or 29, on a foreign airline.

Now, if you add this up, multiply that by 30,000, and also figure out what each American spends abroad just to live, it certainly has an impact on our balance of payments.

Senator WILLIAMS. Thank you.

Would you care to comment also on what impact you think it is having on our domestic economy?

Mr. BARTH. Well, I have gone through the airport here in Washington this morning or last night; I was here last Wednesday, and I saw the LaGuardia Airport, and it is half empty. I feel very sorry for the people who have the stores and restaurants in there and obviously all you have to do is talk to a cab driver who drives out to the airport and he will tell you his story, too.

Senator WILLIAMS. Thank you.

Senator DOUGLAS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a request of the Treasury—is there a representative of the Treasury here—I would like to ask that the Treasury prepare a comparative statement on the rates of taxation of deposits by foreigners and citizens in the banks of various countries so as to get a comparison of the comparative advantages and disadvantages in taxation matters which these various countries have, and, as the Senator from Georgia suggests, not merely including withholding on current income but inheritance taxes as well.

(Pursuant to the above discussion the following material was received for the record:)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D.C., August 16, 1966.

Hon. PAUL H. DOUGLAS,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR DOUGLAS: Pursuant to your request at the public hearings held August 9, 1966, on H.R. 13103, I enclose three copies each of tables which describe the estate tax and income tax treatment of bank deposits and the interest derived therefrom in nine major foreign countries.