

**STATEMENT OF HON. W. WILLARD WIRTZ, SECRETARY OF LABOR;
ACCOMPANIED BY JAMES J. REYNOLDS, UNDER SECRETARY OF
LABOR; FRANCIS A. O'NEILL, JR., CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL MEDIA-
TION BOARD; JUDGE CHARLES FAHY, CHAIRMAN, SPECIAL
MEDIATION PANEL; AND DAVID GINSBURG, CHAIRMAN, EMER-
GENCY BOARD NO. 169**

Secretary WIRTZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

It is not only with a very real pleasure but significance that I introduce the other gentlemen at the table. I am frank to say that under normal circumstances it seems to me that the appearance of the witnesses from the administration before a committee of this kind may have a very routine quality about it. When I appear alone, it is with that feeling.

In contrast, this morning it seems to me a matter of great importance to the committee, to the Congress, and to the Nation that there are here these four men who have worked not only in connection with this case, but for most of their lifetimes in connection with collective bargaining because, Mr. Chairman, the issues before the country, the committee, and the Congress, today, in this case, is the issue of collective bargaining. That, and not any differences between the parties, is the issue we face.

So it is with a feeling of great importance on this occasion that I introduce these gentlemen. You know from previous appearances the Under Secretary of Labor, Mr. James J. Reynolds, who has not only worked long in this case, but long on all the other problems of this kind which have faced the Nation during the last 6 years, and who, before that, includes in his experience his membership on the National Labor Relations Board.

To his left is Chairman Francis A. O'Neill, Jr., who has for 20 years been a member of the National Mediation Board, handling disputes on the railroads and on the airlines, a man senior in this particular service in this country, six times Chairman of that Board, currently Chairman of that Board, and that chairmanship is on a rotating basis.

Then on my right is Judge Charles Fahy, who is the Chairman of the Special Mediation Panel appointed by the President after the 20-day extension, who met and worked with the parties with his associates in an attempt to bring this matter to its conclusion, but who, beyond that, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, brings this special distinction and this special weight of experience to this proceeding: Judge Fahy was the first General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board from 1935 to 1940, when the question before the country was the establishment by law of free, collective bargaining, the establishment under the requirement of the Wagner Act and the National Labor Relations Act, and following that, after several other things, including the role as Solicitor General of the United States, a judge for the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, from which post he retired in the past few weeks, bringing, therefore, to this matter, all of that wealth of experience.