

Mr. BROYHILL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Secretary, the questions this morning have been lengthy, and your responses have gone into great depth. I only have one or two questions.

From reading the report to the President by Emergency Board 169, I find on pages 4 and 5 recommendations by the Board for permanent legislation.

As the Secretary of Labor, and as the spokesman for the administration, do you feel in a position this morning to comment on these legislative recommendations made by Emergency Board No. 169?

Secretary WIRTZ. Those are on pages 4 and 5?

Mr. BROYHILL. Yes.

Secretary WIRTZ. The first one is for the extension of the statutory period to 80 days, the no-strike period. That was recommended by the President in this particular case and acted upon by the Congress. Although I am in no position to make any formal administration—

Mr. BROYHILL. That was not permanent.

Secretary WIRTZ. No, it is not. I cannot give you an administration position on that.

In personal terms, that would seem to have a good deal to commend itself and that would bring it in line with the Taft-Hartley period. I take no formal position on that, but I would express some concurrence in that view. You will understand the author [Mr. Ginsburg] of this report is here.

Then the President shall have the power to extend the initial period for an additional 30 days. I would not be prepared at this point to express a judgment with respect to recommendation No. 2.

I would express a favorable position with respect to Recommendation No. 3. On this point, Mr. O'Neill's judgment would be better than mine, but I think we would both feel that sometimes emergency boards have made mistakes by making specific recommendations when it would have fitted in much better with the collective bargaining process for them to be more general in their approach.

I would agree that there must be attention to the methods for achieving speedier and more effective settlements.

So with respect to 1, 3, and the general provision, I would concur, and would only reserve judgment with respect to No. 2.

Mr. BROYHILL. There are at least two bills before our committee introduced by our colleagues, one introduced by our colleague on this committee, Mr. Pickle.

Do you, as Secretary of Labor, and the spokesman for the administration, have any position on these two bills?

Secretary WIRTZ. Not as spokesman for the administration. We have given very serious consideration to the bill introduced by Congressman Pickle. I cannot express an administration position on it.

Mr. BROYHILL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Mr. Van Deerlin?

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Secretary, in Chairman Staggers' opening statement he referred to a written offer from the Railway Brotherhoods to continue such operations as are vital to maintaining the movement of defense shipments. Would you evaluate the practicability of that offer?

Secretary WIRTZ. I have only a layman's knowledge of it, Mr. Van Deerlin. I can only say to you that those with whom I have discussed