

Mr. BROTZMAN. The questions I really want to ask you probably relate to information that you are going to get from your research contracts. You are charged with a tremendous responsibility, of course, to manage the transportation of our country.

I think we are going to have to have some very careful evaluation as to how much impact this Nation can absorb. I believe you stated that you felt "the economy should not have to bear the impact" of this particular strike.

Secretary BOYD. Yes, sir, certainly because of the issues that are involved here, and how close these parties are.

Mr. BROTZMAN. What I am really leading up to is that we have a question of determining what to do in regards to this specific series of facts, but we have to be, I think, looking ahead as to the whole pattern in transportation as related to the labor-management field.

At this particular time, Mr. Secretary, do you have an opinion as to whether or not the Congress should be dealing with this problem on a one-shot arrangement, or do you feel that there should be a more permanent type of legislation that is more prospective in its nature?

Secretary BOYD. I am very much in favor of the ad hoc approach, Mr. Brotzman.

As I said in my statement, I am not an expert in this field at all.

Mr. BROTZMAN. I wanted to say that you can't disclaim expertise ultimately because these things are all related to the question of transportation and this field is your responsibility.

I think right now we need some guidance and we need some expert testimony of the type that would help us to determine what really is best to do in the national interest.

I frankly haven't made up my own mind as to whether this is the best approach or whether some other approach is better.

You presently favor, as I understand it, the ad hoc approach. Is that correct?

Secretary BOYD. This is the only feasible approach, in my judgment, that is available today for this situation.

Mr. BROTZMAN. That is predicated on the fact that you do not have all the information that you think you are going to be able to obtain through your research; is that correct?

Secretary BOYD. No; that goes to a different point, Mr. Brotzman. The information which we expect to be able to obtain as a result of these research contracts is a major improvement in our ability to measure impact on the economy and the society.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Let me express a feeling I have. Yesterday, we had the Secretary of Labor here, Mr. Wirtz, and today we have you. Undoubtedly we will have some more members of the Cabinet.

It seems to me like there isn't any dovetailing of this decisionmaking because one will say, "This is in someone else's area," and I can't get down to the real tough questions on this. It seems like there is overlapping, or, if not that, not consistent agreement.

Let me ask you this specific question and I will conclude. I think we mentioned this heretofore. Are you, in fact, working with other individuals now to try to propose something of a more permanent nature or to decide whether or not this is necessary?

Secretary BOYD. I am not personally at this moment working on that.