

Mr. WOLFE. Yes, sir, and we did exactly the same kinds of bargaining with these unions as we did with the others.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you submit for the record for this committee how many days you met in active collective bargaining with the unions and how much time was spent on those days?

Mr. WOLFE. Absolutely, Mr. Chairman.

(The information requested was not available at time of printing.)

The CHAIRMAN. Would you say that you spent a week in collective bargaining, 7 days or 10 days?

Mr. WOLFE. I think we spent a great deal more time than that.

The CHAIRMAN. Actually talking? That is, face to face?

Mr. WOLFE. I don't know measuring hours how many days or hours we were face to face. But it is my opinion that when you are working with a mediator and he is going talking with one side for 2 or 3 hours and then with us trying to bring the parties to an agreement, that is just as much a part of the process of collective bargaining as sitting across the table looking for each other.

The CHAIRMAN. It could be, but this is getting to something that involves other people. That is getting to be the system today, I know that. But that isn't men sitting down talking to each other, men of good will, who want to try to settle it. If you have to go to a third party and have him go from one to the other, I don't believe you will ever convey the exact meaning and exact thoughts, if you have to go through a third party.

Mr. WOLFE. Both sides, to the best of my knowledge, completely acquiesced in the procedures that were followed. It has been my experience in national negotiations that with a sincere, hard working mediator working between the parties, your chances of bringing the dispute to a successful termination is better that way than it is if the parties are not making progress and moving together.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Wolfe.

Mr. MACDONALD. Would you yield for one short question?

Mr. MOSS. If I have any time left I will be happy to yield.

Mr. MACDONALD. I would like to ask a further question.

Don't you think that yesterday had you attended or been invited to that meeting, it would have been a step in collective bargaining?

Mr. WOLFE. To the meeting?

Mr. MACDONALD. At the Secretary of Defense's request.

Mr. WOLFE. My answer will have to be, Congressman Macdonald, that I don't think that has a thing to do with collective bargaining.

Mr. MACDONALD. You would be bargaining whether or not certain goods would be carried in order to avoid an emergency, a national emergency. That is not a step in collective bargaining? Is that what you are saying to me?

Mr. WOLFE. Yes, sir; that is what I say.

Mr. MACDONALD. I find that rather peculiar.

Mr. WOLFE. If that meeting was designed to coerce one side or the other, or put pressures on one side or the other, and if that is collective bargaining, then perhaps that might have taken place.

But I didn't think that is what it was. I thought it was something that the responsible officers of our Government were searching out for themselves in the interest of the country and not intended to bring the parties to an agreement.