

irregular, and I cannot understand it. It seems to me that some members of the committee this morning have actually challenged the integrity and the motives, and I guess the facts, of Secretary Boyd and Secretary McNamara.

One member even asked if Secretary Boyd was speaking for the railroad association. I am surprised and disappointed that that kind of question was raised.

I think the Secretary of Transportation, Mr. Boyd, and I think the Secretary of Defense, Mr. McNamara, are speaking for the American people. I don't question their integrity and I don't question the motive that prompted the report.

I am surprised that this line of questioning developed, though the witness had nothing to do with it.

As I recall it, the request for a conference with the Department of Defense was made by the unions who wanted to present their plan. I assume that they were there to present their plan. I assume that it was a fair and thorough hearing. If any member doesn't think so, then I think they ought to challenge them and say so publicly.

We can request that the Secretary come back for a meeting. I think we ought to have any kind of hearing anywhere, with any individual, that would honestly and sincerely help the hearings.

But if we bring the Secretary back, we will have testimony on other points, on seizure, and further delays, and if the report is made in the morning they will say it should be made in the afternoon, and if one report is signed by 20 people they will say it should be signed by 50 people.

Mr. Moss. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. PICKLE. I do not yield.

Mr. Moss. A point of personal privilege.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California.

Mr. Moss. The point of personal privilege goes to the matter I requested very vigorously, on the meeting which apparently took place yesterday. I want to point out to the gentleman that the Secretaries of the Departments of the Government represent the President of the United States, that the members of this committee are elected by free people and we speak for those constituencies. I do not yield to the Secretary of any Department an assumption that he speaks for the American people with any greater right or force than I do.

Any inference to the contrary I think demeans this body. I don't intend to remain silent while it is made.

Mr. PICKLE. I would ask the gentleman what is his point of order?

Mr. Moss. My point of order was precisely as stated. It was a point of personal privilege. I did not make a point of order. A point of personal privilege is a privileged matter.

Mr. PICKLE. Mr. Chairman, I assume there is a difference of opinion here.

I said at the beginning I hoped nobody would think my statement personal because I have not raised any questions or raised my voice in almost 2 weeks of hearings, but the line of questioning, it seems to me, is not pertinent to the facts.

Nevertheless, this is our system and I accept it.

Of course, we do speak for the people and, of course, the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Defense also speak for the people.