

Mr. RAMSEY. We rejected their views as far as that goes because we know that our people are——

Mr. HARVEY. Just a moment, Mr. Witness. I am not trying to embarrass you in anyway whatsoever. I am just trying to get information. I think it is a fair thing to ask you whether or not they granted your requests or whether they rejected them and came out with other findings.

Mr. RAMSEY. They came out with other findings, recommendations.

Mr. HARVEY. Now let's go on from there. They did not accede to your requests. We have that.

Either they decided that these requests were unreasonable or these men themselves were anti labor, pro management, whatever you want to say. It seems to me it comes down to that conclusion, does it not?

Mr. RAMSEY. I wouldn't say so. I think they were governed by the Advisers, the Economic Advisers.

Mr. HARVEY. The Economic Advisers where?

Mr. RAMSEY. To the President.

Mr. HARVEY. The Economic Advisers to the President?

Mr. RAMSEY. The same group that set the 3.2.

Mr. HARVEY. And you think that these people were, in effect, anti-labor?

Mr. RAMSEY. I didn't say that, sir.

Mr. HARVEY. They certainly weren't pro labor, were they?

Mr. RAMSEY. I didn't say they were.

Mr. HARVEY. Someone on television the other night made the statement that they were getting a little tired of these antilabor-promanagement boards, and this was one of the labor leaders for the railroads. Would you say that you were in accord with that statement?

Mr. RAMSEY. I didn't hear the statement. I know that it didn't emanate from any of my colleagues at this table.

Mr. HARVEY. I know it didn't either.

I will ask you that question: Do you think that these boards were antilabor and promanagement?

Mr. RAMSEY. I think these boards under the present circumstances are guided by the whims of the Council of Economic Advisers, regardless of the justification or the merits that might be disclosed for adjustments far in excess of what they have determined, the so-called guideposts, guidelines, or whatnot.

Mr. HARVEY. In other words, you believe that the boards do not exercise their own independent judgment but that they take their orders from the Economic Advisers; is that correct?

Mr. RAMSEY. I am well convinced of that fact, after going through the airline dispute and going through this one.

Mr. HARVEY. I have just one other question, Mr. Chairman.

As a practical matter, Mr. Ramsey, you have not had the right to strike the railways since 1922; isn't that correct?

Mr. RAMSEY. We have had the right to strike, yes; except that the railroads always rush into court and get an injunction in about 5 minutes.

Mr. HARVEY. You don't think that here today, with this committee hearing the President and the Secretary of Defense telling us that chaos would come to this country and we couldn't tolerate a strike for 24 hours, that you really have the right, do you?