

with the question of limited operation before Senator Morse's committee.

Mr. WATSON. Then if you had had every carriers comment, all it would have done is resulted in a reinforcement of your decision that the plan was impractical and unwise?

Mr. IGNATIUS. We certainly believe, based on every bit of evidence that we could obtain, that the plan was not a feasible one.

Mr. WATSON. And if you were to bring them in, it would have just been an exercise in futility.

I want to conclude, Mr. Chairman, with this statement: We have the Middle East burning up and we have a lot of boys in Vietnam sacrificing and making a lot of concessions. Apparently 75 percent of these workers have made some concessions. It distresses me that we are piddling around here and messing around with this thing when the parties who should really be interested are not willing to make any concessions. These boys are making a lot of sacrifices. I think somebody on this side of the ocean ought to make some sacrifices.

Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Kornegay.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have no questions of the Secretary. I would like to thank you for coming, Mr. Secretary, and presenting the views of the Department to us on this occasion.

Thank you very much.

Mr. IGNATIUS. Thank you, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Carter.

Mr. CARTER. I want to compliment the Secretary on this excellent presentation.

We are happy to have you with us.

I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Van Deerlin.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Brotzman.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Mr. Secretary, I understand from your testimony that there has been a meeting on May 16 with an indefinite running time, something between 50 minutes and 75 minutes.

From Secretary McNamara's statement, I also know that there were in attendance representatives from the Departments of Agriculture and Health, Education, and Welfare.

Realizing in a sense that this is hearsay testimony, do you recall any indication on the part of representatives from HEW as to what effect or what impact a strike would have on the public health of this country?

Mr. IGNATIUS. The representative from HEW at the meeting on May 16 was Dr. Philip Lee, Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs.

To the best of my knowledge, Dr. Lee did not comment at the meeting in respect to the question of essential medical or health supplies. I do not recall a comment by Dr. Lee at the meeting.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Do you recall any other contributions by the members present at the May 16 meeting?

Mr. IGNATIUS. There was a general viewpoint expressed, Mr. Brotzman, at the conclusion of the meeting that the major subject under