

I would hope in the few days remaining that this thing could be settled on a private, negotiated basis.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Mr. Rogers?

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question of the Chair?

I wonder if the Chair could instruct our staff to either contact the Secretary of Labor or those representing labor and find out in writing if they will or will not submit to voluntary arbitration. If they will, when, and if they won't, why not. I think this committee is entitled to know.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Your suggestion is well taken. I will discuss it with the chairman.

Mr. ROGERS. Could the Chair do that, instruct the committee staff to do that?

Mr. FRIEDEL. I think Mr. Staggers will do it today.

Mr. ROGERS. If not, I would like to make a motion to that effect if the Chair is not willing to do it.

Mr. FRIEDEL. I am not unwilling to do it.

Mr. WATSON. Will the gentleman yield on that point?

Mr. BROYHILL. Yes; I yield.

Mr. WATSON. I certainly think that the suggestion which has been made is a good one. But why all the correspondence? I would assume we have the representatives from the other side here. Why not have them take a public stand, and we will ask them their position on this matter at this time so that everyone would know.

Mr. ROGERS. I think it should be on the record in public.

Mr. WATSON. Mr. Chairman, at the conclusion of the testimony of this witness, would it be in order that we call a representative of one of the disputing unions and ask his opinion?

Mr. FRIEDEL. I would rather await the return of Chairman Staggers, of the full committee. If he does not return, then I will do it.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BROYHILL. Yes.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Mr. Chairman, I have heard representatives of the carriers state that they would meet any time, any place, to discuss this issue. This is what you, Mr. Chairman, have been talking about, and we all have for a long time.

As a prelude to the arbitration possibilities suggested by the gentleman from Florida, I wonder if there is need to provide a place or some opportunity for discussions to begin forthwith. I know there are representatives of the union here. I have heard the position of the carriers. This country is in bad shape. We have all heard the briefings this morning about the mideastern crisis.

I think it is time to get on with this business, not in a day or two, but I mean forthwith, and that means today. If it is a question of providing an office or a place for these parties to sit down and to resume collective bargaining, I would propose 1330 Longworth Building is open, and if that isn't open, perhaps we can find another place.

Mr. FRIEDEL. I have already said I asked Mr. Wolfe whether he would be willing to meet at 2 o'clock today, and he said yes. We will talk to the chairman of the full committee about your suggestion.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Can we proceed to nail this thing down today? I want to get the people bargaining today.