

lion. Then we had to come in with a supplemental, with two supplementals totaling \$14-plus billion, actually considerably more than even the services originally requested, taking it up to \$63 billion.

Senator STENNIS. Yes. Of course, that was the year the war escalated, you know, in calendar year 1965.

Representative BROCK. That is correct. In 1967 they requested \$12.9 billion more.

Senator STENNIS. Yes.

Representative BROCK. More than the Secretary of Defense submitted to the Congress, and as a matter of fact, our supplemental for that year was exactly that amount of money, \$12.9 billion. We ended up spending \$72.8 billion.

For fiscal 1968 they requested \$17.6 billion more than was authorized in the budget. The budget figure was \$73.1 billion. Congressman Curtis has pointed out that if we just maintain it at the current level, it will be \$7.3 billion more than the request, or \$80.4 billion.

Senator STENNIS. Yes.

Representative BROCK. And with the projections that General Westmoreland has made and that you have made today, I think it is fairly reasonable to assume that \$6.6 or \$6.7 billion per month may be low. We have seen it run a continual increase in monthly cost, and if that is just the starting point, we could be another \$4 to \$10 billion above \$80 billion.

The reason we are engaged in these hearings is that every Member of Congress has a responsibility in voting on any bill to take it within the context of its impact on the total economy. Only as we know what deficit is going to be created by defense spending, only then can we judge the merit and the relative priority of nondefense spending.

Senator STENNIS. Yes.

Representative BROCK. We have a specific responsibility, and I am concerned that this information, or lack of it, which we have had in the past had created some of the economic difficulties we have today.

Now not every Member unfortunately will take the opportunity to read your testimony, but is there any way in which we can effectively force a more accurate picture being brought to the attention of the Members of Congress?

For example, it has been suggested that maybe a quarterly review of Defense expenditures and costs should be made available to this committee or to your committee. Is this something that would address itself to the problem we face?

Senator STENNIS. Well, I think it would be helpful; yes. The Congress has the power over these appropriation bills; there is no question about that. If we just stop them and don't move them, why something must happen.

Representative BROCK. Congress seems to have the power over the appropriations, but we don't seem to have the power over the information.

Senator STENNIS. Yes; that is right.

Representative BROCK. That makes the appropriation valid and I am concerned over this lack.

Senator STENNIS. To stop the progress of the bill would be one way to get a more complete presentation of the facts as they exist. I am not