

At this point, I would like to have inserted in the record my letters to Comptroller General Staats, dated March 1, 1967, and April 27, 1967.

(The letters referred to follow :)

MARCH 1, 1967.

HON. ELMER B. STAATS,
Comptroller General of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR ELMER: I was pleased to confer with you and your staff recently about the 1967 program of the Subcommittee on Economy in Government of the Joint Economic Committee.

Later you will be advised in detail of the plans of the Subcommittee for hearings this spring, but there is a subject which deserves immediate attention.

This involves the identification and disposal to the highest economic use of Federal Government real properties which are no longer needed by the holding agencies and which do not serve the highest economic purpose nor contribute to the tax base.

Previous hearings and reports of the predecessor subcommittee pointed to the need for high level action to identify these properties and challenge the retention of all sites which may not now be required. We plan on pursuing this subject at our upcoming hearing.

In this connection, I have read with interest your report B-156167, "Operation of a Dairy Farm by the U.S. Naval Academy—March, 1966" which is an excellent case study along the lines of the subcommittee's economic interests.

Since we will review the report and its implications, I would appreciate early receipt of a copy for each member (10). I hope also that you will testify on the report in connection with the real property program I have mentioned and also Budget Circulars A-2 and A-76.

Copies of this letter are being furnished to Secretary McNamara, Budget Director Schultze and GSA Administrator Knott.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM PROXMIRE, *United States Senator,*
Chairman.

APRIL 27, 1967.

HON. ELMER B. STAATS,
Comptroller General of the United States,
General Accounting Office,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. STAATS: The Subcommittee on Economy in Government of the Joint Economic Committee has scheduled hearings for May 8, 9, 10, and 16, with you and your staff testifying on Monday, May 8, 1967, 10:00 a.m., (hearing room to be announced later).

In addition to the specific subjects which you were requested to cover in the May 1966 report of the Subcommittee on Federal Procurement and Regulation, it is understood that you will report on the use of receipts and other methods of program financing as requested by Congressman Curtis. Your full views on the operation of the dairy farm at Gambrills, Maryland, have previously been requested. We would wish to relate this subject to a discussion of Budget Circular A-76.

Your testimony concerning programs for the improved administration of common activities such as recruiting, engineering, mapping, timber sales, construction, printing and binding, automatic data processing, etc., will be appreciated.

Inasmuch as previous General Accounting Office studies and reports on the management of short shelf-life items and contractor inventory indicate glaring deficiencies in inventory management, your recommendations for a broad program to better protect the billions of dollars worth of Government personal property will be timely.

As a Subcommittee on Economy in Government, we wish information as to savings made by your agency during the past year.

Please also give us your ideas on subjects or programs requiring priority attention as revealed by General Accounting Office's studies and reports during the past year.