

Representative CURTIS. I was interested in seeing where the responsibility in the Congress might come to rest.

Let me ask you this: I should know, but I do not know. The Truth in Negotiations Act—did that come from our committee or from the Armed Services Committee?

Mr. STAATS. The Armed Services Committee.

Representative CURTIS. Did this report to them, to the Congress—was that referred to the Armed Services Committee, do you know, and did they hold any hearings on it?

Mr. STAATS. There has been no hearing held on it. It was made available to the Armed Services Committees as well as Government Operations and to the Appropriations Committee.

Representative CURTIS. Yes.

GAO AND RENEGOTIATION BOARD

This committee, of course, has been interested in this subject for some time, and I do want to pursue it further, and yet there is another committee on which I serve which has an interest in this in another way, the Ways and Means Committee. Does the Renegotiation Board ask the Government Accounting Office to assist them in any of their work that they do in renegotiation?

Mr. STAATS. Not directly, to the best of my knowledge. Our material is made available to them.

Representative CURTIS. But you have not had any specific request for personnel or assistance in the running down of some particular case they might have?

Mr. STAATS. I am sure we would cooperate with them. We would not feel that it would be appropriate for us to assign personnel to them as an agency of the executive branch.

Representative CURTIS. Even though they requested it? I am, first, trying to find out what the relationship is.

(The GAO subsequently filed the following information for the record:)

STATEMENT ON GAO RELATIONSHIPS WITH RENEGOTIATION BOARD

The following working relationships have evolved to provide assistance to the Renegotiation Board and to our Office in carrying out the respective responsibilities.

Copies of our audit reports to the Congress relating to contractors whose Government business is subject to renegotiation are provided to the Board for use in conducting renegotiation proceedings.

A list of contractors on which audit reports are in process in the General Accounting Office is sent each month to the Board in Washington for its information and use in renegotiation proceedings. If further information as to a specific contractor is desired by the Board, representatives of the General Accounting Office have authority to discuss the examination and the tentative findings; however, draft copies of audit reports are not provided to the Board.

Representatives of the General Accounting Office may discuss with representatives of the Board, information in their files relating to a specific contractor being examined or scheduled for examination by us.

Mr. STAATS. I think it would present some problem of precedent to us to either undertake assignments or assign personnel directly to an executive agency.