

Mr. STAATS. I can't really say to what extent. I think this is one that might well be addressed to the Defense Department witnesses when they appear here.

Chairman PROXMIRE. We will do that.

Mr. WEITZEL. As you know there has been a procurement policy directive by the Defense Department in January of this year, but that is only recently.

GAO AND INDUSTRY REVIEW ASPR'S

Mr. NEWMAN. Mr. Chairman, as you know, when an ASPR is written over in the Department of Defense, we now have a procedure set up so we review and comment. We are working very closely with DoD. At the same time the ASPR goes to the industry for review and comment. When an ASPR goes to industry giving the auditors more authority—I leave it to your own conclusion.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I can understand.

Mr. NEWMAN. It is one of the big problems.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Staats, is there anything this committee can do or the Congress can do to achieve better enforcement of the Truth in Negotiations Act?

COMMITTEE SUPPORT WOULD HELP GAO

Mr. STAATS. I think if you agree with our conclusion, a statement on the part of this committee would be most helpful. I think the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* series has been a public service. I think this is a very important report that we have issued. We were frankly a little surprised that it did not receive more attention than it did. But I think that specifically the only suggestion I would have would be your consideration of our findings and if you agree with our position, some support for it.

Chairman PROXMIRE. In your statement, where you refer to the Defense Supply System—does the Secretary of Defense have the authority to correct the situation?

Mr. NEWMAN. Yes.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Your overall observations in general.

Mr. NEWMAN. The Department of Defense is really working on them right now.

NEW REGULATIONS ON STOCK FUND DEFICIENCIES

Chairman PROXMIRE. They are working on them, there is no question? The stock fund—I thought the situation was corrected as a result of earlier reports by the GAO at the request of this committee? If I get it, this fund, stock on hand, is not issued in the Pacific in some instances unless the requisition is—

Mr. NEWMAN. What are you reading from, sir?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Page 20, "Responsiveness of Supply Systems."

Mr. NEWMAN. Of the statement or the report?

Chairman PROXMIRE. Your report.

Mr. NEWMAN. I want to be responsive. I have it now. Stock fund financing.