

sumer in America, to protect our taxpayers' interests as well as to protect the consumers' interests.

Representative MOORHEAD. Thank you, Senator. Thank you, Mrs. Griffiths.

Representative GRIFFITHS. Thank you very much. Senator Metcalf, I, too, am very pleased to have had an opportunity to see you again on our side.

Senator METCALF. I am delighted to appear before two of my former colleagues.

Representative GRIFFITHS. Thank you. We are pleased to have with us this morning Mr. Lawson B. Knott, Administrator of General Services.

Mr. Knott has had a long and varied background in the Federal Government and as a career employee has reached the top rung in a large and very important independent agency of the Government.

Chairman Proxmire's letter of April 26, 1967, to you outlined the subjects we desired you to cover today. Since these subjects are of a continuing nature and broad in scope, we have asked that you give us a 10-minute summary of the testimony which will be placed in full in the hearings. Chairman Proxmire's letter will be included in the record at this point.

(Letter referred to follows:)

APRIL 26, 1967.

Mr. LAWSON B. KNOTT, Jr.,
Administrator,
General Services Administration,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. KNOTT: This letter confirms conversations between you and your staff and the Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Economy in Government of the Joint Economic Committee concerning the Subcommittee's schedule hearings on May 8, 9, 10, and 16. You and your staff are to testify at 10 a.m., May 16 (room to be announced later).

In general, we will pursue the topics previously under review by the Subcommittee on Procurement and Regulation with emphasis on accomplishment in attaining economy and efficiency during the past year. We are particularly interested in the national programs in the supply and services areas.

The specific recommendations of the May 1966 report affecting GSA should, of course, be covered in your testimony.

We have been receiving numerous inquiries about inconsistencies in application of differentials under the Buy American Act when contracts are awarded by the Department of Defense and the General Services Administration. While we have discussed this topic before, it would seem that no corrective action has been taken to date and we want full information from you as to the volume, trends and operating problems encountered. Your recommendations will also be welcomed.

Please give us complete information about the program in being or planned for the better management of short shelf life items including the medical stockpile items. Full statistics on inventory losses disclosed in the management of medical stocks, paint, handtools, and other items will be helpful.

Your statement should cover plans or programs for screening the Government's real property holdings under the revised Budget Bureau instructions in Circular A-2.

Will you also send one of the medical laboratory Chests recently declared surplus by the Public Health Service to Room G-133, NSOB before May 8.

Please forward 100 copies of prepared statements to Room G-133, NSOB at least one day before your appearance and refer any questions you may have for information to Mr. Ray Ward, Staff Director of the Subcommittee, phone 173/8169.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM PROXMIRE,
Chairman.