

Mr. MONAGAN. Could we put it in the general fund?

Mr. RE. Yes.

Mr. MONAGAN. Maybe those long-suffering taxpayers ought to be the beneficiaries, Mr. Taft?

Mr. TAFT. It could well be.

Mr. MONAGAN. In the cases of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and Rumania, there are either new payments or new agreements, so there doesn't seem to be too much controversy in that connection.

When you say "all the expenses" are borne by the funds, is that all the expenses of the Commission?

Mr. RE. That's correct, and those of the Treasury Department. Not one dollar is required from the U.S. taxpayers to administer any of these programs.

Mr. MONAGAN. Does the Commission require any appropriated funds for its operations?

Mr. RE. Yes, we do, but not in connection with these programs. A more accurate explanation would be that we do receive appropriated funds, but the source of the funds we receive is not taxpayer money.

Mr. MONAGAN. You are saying that the Commission doesn't have any net cost to the Government?

Mr. RE. In effect, that is absolutely true.

Mr. MONAGAN. Were some of those not of the Dodecanese who would be qualifying under the Italian fund not citizens, at the time?

Mr. RE. Yes, but they were nationals at the time of the enactment of title III on August 9, 1955. This is the principle of liberality that the Congress established on August 8, 1958.

Mr. MONAGAN. But there is a question of international law involved there.

Mr. RE. There is.

Mr. MONAGAN. We discussed that last year, and I merely wanted to put that issue into this record as well.

Mr. RE. Yes, you did. I read your testimony on that, Congressman Monagan.

My only observation this morning is that there would be nothing new in what we are proposing today, because all we are asking is that we do what we have already done under the August 8, 1958, legislation.

We are not asking for an extension of that precedent.

Mr. MONAGAN. I don't think I have any further questions at this time, Madam Chairman.

Mrs. KELLY. I would like to clarify one issue.

The Commission cannot proceed with the administration of the Rumanian and Bulgarian claims unless this bill is enacted. Is that correct?

Mr. RE. That is correct.

Mrs. KELLY. And under the agreement with those governments, the money is already there or being paid?

Mr. RE. It has already been paid.

Mrs. KELLY. Under the present agreement, Yugoslavia will be paid up in 1970. Is that correct?

Mr. RE. Absolutely correct.

Mrs. KELLY. So that with respect to these three countries it would be most unfair not to distribute the money at this point. Is that true?

Mr. RE. We would require this legislation

Mrs. KELLY. That is what I understood.