

Mr. GOODELL. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. QUIE. Yes, sir.

Mr. GOODELL. It is true, however, though, Mr. Boutin, is it not, that the amendments that you praise in your testimony today were resisted by OEO last year?

Mr. BOUTIN. Congressman, I was wracking my brain if that statement was made, and I frankly don't remember. I say that very honestly. While we did not, shall I say, sponsor the amendment, nevertheless we were very pleased with it because it gave us the tools we needed to administer the program properly.

Mr. GOODELL. I hope and expect that with some of the amendments that we are proposing, if they are enacted—clearly you haven't sponsored them—you may be as pleased in the years ahead.

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead, Mr. Quie.

Mr. QUIE. Mr. Boutin, are you familiar with the Krishner Associates evaluation report?

Mr. BOUTIN. Yes, I am.

Mr. QUIE. What is your reaction to their suggestion as to OEO program changes?

Mr. BOUTIN. I agree, Congressman, with the statement that they have made that the SBDC's, as presently constituted, are not fulfilling the expectations of the Congress, or the mandate of the law. It just has not been as productive as was anticipated. I think that the way it is being handled now is better.

I had taken it—from examining the President's budget and also from statements made by Sargent Shriver—that OEO, and EDA for that matter, were in all likelihood not going to continue to refund SBDC's, nor do I find any request for funds to finance SBDC's. So, as far as the Krishner suggestion that the SBDC's be abolished, I don't quarrel with that at all. As far as the rather informal type of arrangement to assist SBA in our reach, and in providing of management counseling, I think that that is being done extremely well now by our Service Corps of Retired Executives, and I take it the Krishner people were not familiar with this program—because it was not mentioned, at least that I could find, and also by the Community Action people. We are getting good cooperation from them. Then, as I mentioned in my statement, the Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration people, Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior, many other Government agencies, are assisting us in expanding this program and bringing it to the grassroots.

Mr. QUIE. Last year we had a little discussion and disagreement on the Charleston, West Va., Women's Job Corps Center.

Mr. BOUTIN. I remember that very well, Congressman.

Mr. QUIE. I was wondering if you read the final report that the minority put in the record.

Mr. BOUTIN. I am sorry to say I did not.

Mr. QUIE. You did not?

Mr. BOUTIN. I did not. I take it, it was uncomplementary.

Mr. QUIE. To set the record straight, I would suggest you look back into it and see how far off the information you presented to us really was at that time.

Mr. BOUTIN. This came out at the time I transferred to SBA and, therefore, it did not come to my attention. I heard about it, but I did