

respective governments, to the proposal to create an international department of economic affairs in our Government. Unquestionably this proposal is a result of Mr. Curtis' feeling of dissatisfaction with the procedure of handling these matters through a variety of different agencies and segments of our Government. As I understand it, in Great Britain there is a procedure that is not dissimilar to this proposal. And I would be curious to know how you in your respective countries do handle the problem.

Mr. PECCEI. Thank you, Mr. Rumsfeld.

I suggest we should look at Europe, not at Italy or France or Germany, or at least at the EEC in Brussels. In Brussels there was a start at institutionalizing a common economic policy by delegating a member of the commission to represent the EEC in external affairs. It was M. Jean Rey, who is now president of the EEC. And I think that more and more the external economic policy of the six would be made or inspired by joint decisions taken in Brussels. We are going toward economic integration in Europe, though at a slower pace than we would like. And that will mean that we will have a unified organization of the Community for foreign economic affairs.

Mr. RUMSFELD. In Italy, if I might ask, are the foreign trade and monetary policy aspects combined within a single division of government?

Mr. PECCEI. No. In our country, as in most European countries, the Foreign Ministry has a kind of overall supervision of foreign economic relations. In addition, we have a Foreign Trade Ministry. And we have the Treasury, which deals with monetary affairs.

Mr. RUMSFELD. Mr. Younger?

Mr. YOUNGER. We have a number of ministries concerned with a matter of such great breadth as the Kennedy Round negotiations. I am not myself in Government and I may not be up to date on this. I think I am right in saying that the primacy of the Foreign Office for coordinating all of these aspects of overseas policy is still maintained at least insofar as political issue may be at stake. But in practice, of course, it depends very much on the content of the particular thing that is being dealt with. And the board of trade would be, and indeed was, during the Kennedy Round, the leading agency for coordinating the trading policies of the Government. There are so many ministries involved that I don't think it would be possible to see it as being wholly centralized under one agency. All one can hope to do is to have an adequate system of interdepartmental consultation and good representation on various ministries on the delegation which is actually doing the negotiating. And it should be possible to do it that way. You have to bring in, for instance, the Ministry of Agriculture on some issues. I think that to attempt to centralize all the work in one ministry would only be lifting the problem of coordination to a slightly different level. You couldn't release yourself of the obligation to consult all of the different interests in your government at some point or other.

I am not aware, incidentally—although I think here you would have to ask somebody who has been personally concerned at the official level with these negotiations—I am not aware that we in Britain suffered any very grave difficulties from a lack of coordination among the different agencies during the Kennedy Round.