

Mr. CURTIS. But you can never get more than 100 percent back, sir, and that is the point. This is just getting it back earlier.

Mr. TENZER. But may I call to your attention, Mr. Curtis, that there are provisions under our tax laws today under which you get back more than 100 percent.

Mr. CURTIS. I think this 7 percent is wrong and I oppose it and said so at the time.

Mr. TENZER. Besides the 7 percent.

Mr. CURTIS. This was the administration's reform.

Mr. TENZER. Besides the 7 percent.

Mr. CURTIS. I don't know how that—

Mr. TENZER. Let me give you a simple example. You buy a Cadillac car for \$6,000 and depreciate 25 percent a year for 4 years. You have gotten 100 percent back. You sell the Cadillac car for \$2,000 and pay a capital gains tax on it.

The question is, Should the capital gains tax under circumstances when you received 100 percent of your capital back be only 25 percent? Let me give you another example in real estate.

Mr. CURTIS. Wait a second. I want to say there you are raising another question which is an important one, but a different one. You are now talking about the different treatment of ordinary income from capital gains and here I think we do need to do some work, but again it is a different principle.

The CHAIRMAN. Just a minute now. On that particular point, Mr. Tenzer, we have corrected that situation at least—the example of the Cadillac you gave. Mr. Vanik.

Mr. VANIK. I just want to say that I think our colleague from New York has made some very worthy recommendations, and I concur in the need for tax reform. But I would like to direct your attention to the fact that the President's recommendation for tax reform specifically said that it wouldn't be primarily directed toward raising increased amounts of revenue, but that it would be directed toward making adjustments that are not discriminatory.

I think the President should be urged to try to raise some revenue with his tax reform proposals, and I certainly solicit the support of my colleague from New York in encouraging the President to come up with that kind of a recommendation because I concur that we can raise a substantial amount of tax revenue by tax reform.

I might point out that in addition to those commonly known as escape routes which the gentleman has suggested there are many others that are unknown to many of the members of this committee. They haven't yet been made public. We don't make a practice here of looking at tax returns.

I think we should look at specimen unidentified tax returns to find out new and unusual and extraordinary devices that are not commonly known. I think that we would probably double our estimates of revenue lost if we were to use this approach to raising revenues in the tax program.

Mr. TENZER. Let me say to my distinguished colleague that I believe that it would be much easier for this committee, the distinguished chairman and members, to get the information than what I experienced in trying to gather data to study this problem. But I also would like to