

I asked Secretary of Commerce Hodges and Secretary of the Treasury Dillon if there was any developed country in the free world except the United States that wasn't doing its best to sell everything it could behind the Iron Curtain. The answer in both cases was no.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. I think that is basically true.

Senator SYMINGTON. And so, from the standpoint of world trade. We are the only country that can't do a lot of things all other countries do. You mentioned that the President has clearly indicated he will seek authority to increase our East-West trade, to give our manufacturers an opportunity to get in on these tremendous new markets. When do you think that is coming up to the Congress?

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. The date of the submission I am not sure of, Senator. I am quite confident it will be along in a reasonably short time. There is of course the question of arranging the proper time for hearings and consideration by Congress. Chairman Mills has indicated that this will go forward.

To the best of my knowledge we have all intentions of proceeding as the President has outlined. Our hope is that we can present a very strong story of the need to use what I consider to be a dual truck policy in this whole area.

On the one hand we have our Vietnam commitments, we have our determination that aggression won't pay, but on the other, we maintain peaceful contacts, and we build those contacts and we use them as a pressure release valve, and I think this East-West trade area is going to be very useful.

Senator SYMINGTON. Mr. Chairman, my time is up. I would make this observation. The diehards who now oppose East-West trade are striking a telling blow against U.S. capitalism. We all know an essence of capitalism is competition. We all know too, that the way you get a price is to sell at a profit, and profit is the guts of capitalism. We all know, too, that volume is essential to low cost. Therefore, those people in this country who, because they don't like other countries' religion, color, or something—I have never been sure just what—don't like to trade with these hundreds of millions of people, whereas all the countries we finance and defend, France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, Italy, are doing as much as they can to sell to these countries behind the curtain, and buy from them. It seems to me these diehards over here are striking a telling blow against the very concept of capitalism. I wish you the best of luck in presenting this problem; hope it will get by the Congress.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. Thank you, Senator.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mr. Widnall?

Representative WIDNALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Trowbridge, it is certainly a privilege to have you with us this afternoon.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. Thank you.

Representative WIDNALL. Mr. Wirtz testified that the increase in productivity this year would be at or a bit below the 2.8-percent increase in 1966. You said in your statement which I just read, "The increase this year may be somewhat higher than 2.8 percent." How do you reconcile the difference?

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. The differences I think are very, very small, productivity rates being, I think, not the easiest thing to gage. The 1966