

there will be I think a \$500 limit in cases where countries for balance-of-payments reasons have to restrict currency outflow. But the liberalization of this has been quite substantial in the last 5 or 10 years around the world.

Representative WIDNALL. We have succeeded to some extent in limiting the amount of goods brought in by American tourists from other countries which stops expenditure of dollars over there, but we certainly haven't limited the amount of dollars taken out of this country, and that is spent in other countries and kept there in these other countries.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. That is quite true, sir.

Representative WIDNALL. I don't know that I would really want to suggest something like this, but certainly you have got every opportunity to spend thousands and hundreds of thousands of dollars overseas, without any limitation by the United States. You can't foresee any kind of reciprocal situation as far as the foreign countries are concerned.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. Well, as I said in the statement here, we are basically trying to accentuate the positive when we look at this problem. It is a big one.

We have got a tremendous tourist gap, but we are faced with I think a fairly important principal, and that is the freedom of the American citizen to travel, and this administration has not tried to put limits on that freedom. We have somehow got to solve our problems, and if we can, keep that freedom at the same time.

Representative WIDNALL. Just one more question. If the British bid for the EEC membership fails, would the United States look favorably on promoting a trade area of those who are not members of the EEC? Did you go into that? I am sorry, I withdraw the question. My time is up.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Secretary Throwbridge, is the Department of Commerce studying methods by which the growth of our economy can be increased?

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. Yes, Senator, in many different ways.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What are these methods?

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. Well, I think the whole programing of the economic development administration, the attempt there to signal our areas which require stimulus for economic growth, job creation, new investment, public works, community action. I think there is a whole series of methods.

Chairman PROXMIRE. These are programs that have been passed. Congress has acted on them.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. That is correct, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. I am talking about new programs.

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. We have a new program again approved, but a very recent one based on the Office of State Technical Services, the idea of using technology as a stimulus to economic growth. Our whole science and technology operation—

Chairman PROXMIRE. This is very good and I approve of that. I think that as President Johnson said, that was a real sleeper of the 89th Congress. It accomplished a lot, and that was kind of overlooked. You are talking about Senator Magnuson's bill?

Mr. TROWBRIDGE. That is correct, sir.