

Senator Joseph Tydings, of Maryland, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Parking and Transportation.
Hon. Fred Schwengel, Republican of Iowa, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Information and Materials for the Center.

Also on the Commission:

Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine.

Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy.

Mrs. Jack Coopersmith.

Senator Alan Bible, Democrat, of Nevada.

Senator Gaylord Nelson, Democrat, of Wisconsin.

Senator Hugh Scott, Republican, of Pennsylvania.

Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican, of South Carolina.

Senator Howard H. Baker, Jr., Republican, of Tennessee.

Congressman John C. Kluczynski, Democrat, of Illinois.

Congressman J. J. Pickle, Democrat, of Texas.

Congressman William C. Cramer, Republican, of Florida.

Congressman George V. Hansen, Republican, of Idaho.

Hon. Lawson B. Knott, Jr., Administrator of GSA.

Dr. S. Dillon Ripley, Secretary of Smithsonian.

Mrs. James Rowe, Jr., National Capital Planning Commission.

Mr. William Walton, Fine Arts Commission.

This 21-member Commission held extensive meetings throughout the city, including on-the-site inspections of a number of proposed sites for a National Visitor Center. Helping in a big way was the National Park Service and other Government agencies, and we came up with recommendations that will be submitted to Congress in printed form by September 15. I am sorry to say that the printer has not completed the printing of the Commission's recommendations for today's hearings, but we do expect those reports by the Commission to be available by the end of this week.

We felt that since the need is so great and time is growing short for this legislative session, we would begin the hearings today and, when the printed report is available, we expect departmental witnesses, including Mr. Udall, the Secretary of the Interior, to come forward and to give us a detailed report concerning the Commission's recommendations. In order to facilitate the matter, we felt we would start hearings on all of the bills this morning and hear as many witnesses as possible, and then have the Secretary of the Interior, who is chairman of the full Commission, wind up the hearings as soon as possible.

Briefly, if I may, I would like to state that of all the sites that the Commission inspected, it was the unanimous opinion of the Commission that the now existing Union Station held the best hope for a National Visitor Center, and before we start the hearings I want to call your attention to the map over on the far side of the room. We will be referring to that map in some of the testimony.

Briefly, it was proposed by the Commission that we not purchase but enter into a lease arrangement with the Washington Terminal Co. to take over Union Station, with the owners of Union Station providing the \$5 million with which to renovate the station to suit the needs for a National Visitor Center, to provide at least \$11 million for parking to accommodate a minimum of 4,000 vehicles, and also to construct and own a new train station that would fit in very nicely with the various modes of transportation that will be provided. We hope to have a heli-