

that very forthright and enlightening statement. We deeply appreciate your appearance here this morning.

Are there any questions?

Mr. WRIGHT. May I simply say to our colleague, we are grateful for his coming and being with us and presenting this statement, which is clear cut and persuasive and also very eloquent. We appreciate his being with us.

Mr. ANNUNZIO. Thank you very much.

Mr. GRAY. Thank you very much.

I should like to call now Mr. Lawson B. Knott, Jr., the distinguished Administrator of the General Services Administration, who I understand is accompanied by Mr. Loy M. Shipp, Jr., Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Space Management of the Public Buildings Service.

Mr. CRAMER. Before Administrator Knott testifies, Mr. Chairman, as a member of the Study Commission, along with the gentleman from Iowa, he having done more of the work on the Commission, as far as his subcommittee is concerned—

Mr. GRAY. You were both very valuable members.

Mr. CRAMER. I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate the leadership given to the Study Commission, not only by its Chairman, Secretary Udall, but also by the distinguished chairman of this subcommittee, Congressman Gray, who spent tireless and endless hours and efforts to try to pull this thing together, and to come up with something that would make sense and be feasible in a year when spending cuts are being made in many places, to devise something that could possibly attract the support of the Congress.

I want also at this time to express my appreciation to the witness, Lawson Knott, for his cooperation. The work of the Commission is one of the most cooperative and productive efforts, accomplished within a short period of time, in my experience in Washington.

I also would like to express to Mr. Schwengel, my colleague, my appreciation for his effort. Incidentally, he was one of the first, 7 or 8 years ago, to propose a Visitor Center for Washington.

Mr. GRAY. The gentleman is eminently correct.

Mr. CRAMER. That, and the cooperation on the Commission on a bipartisan basis, indicates the interest on all sides for finding a solution to this very perplexing problem of what to do to provide necessary information and services to visitors to the Nation's Capital—the Capital, after all, being representative of the people themselves, and they being entitled properly to see what is going on here and how Washington operates and thus, I hope, become more interested in it. The solution presented is a very fine one, and one which makes sense, certainly, to this Member of the House. It has the valuable aspect of preserving Union Station and of providing facilities close to the Capitol and the rest of Washington.

It will be fascinating to see the things developed out of this Commission study and which we hope will receive the action of Congress. This is the beginning of an effort to pay proper attention to the needs of visitors in the Nation's Capital. I congratulate the chairman, the other members of the Commission, and, in particular, the witness who is now before us.

Mr. GRAY. Let me again state how glad I am to have had the opportunity to have worked with the distinguished gentleman, the ranking