

Now, if the mechanics would be preferred of having us deed to an escrow agent at the very outset the building, we would be very happy to do that.

But the thing that justifies the tax exemption on the bonds is, No. 1, the immediate use; first of all, the fact that not a penny of congressional appropriated money will be used to build the building; secondly, we would be giving—

Mr. GRAY. What liabilities would the Federal Government have, being a so-called partner to this type thing, accepting it at the end of the amortization period? Would there be any contingent liabilities on the part of the Federal Government in any way in case the bonds are defaulted?

Mr. POWELL. In no way whatsoever. In fact, the Federal Government would not be a partner; it would be a donee, and it would be donated the free use, without any rental charge, of the large floor immediately as an immediate extension of the Visitor Center.

Mr. GRAY. So this could be somewhat similar to what we are doing on the Mall for Mr. Hirshhorn; we are putting up a facility and he is giving the Government a contract. If we provide housing, he will give us \$25 million to \$50 million worth of art and sculpture.

Would this be similar, by Congress giving authority for issuance of tax-free bonds for this concession, at the end of the amortization period, you, a nonprofit corporation, will give to the Government the entire property once it is paid off?

Mr. POWELL. Yes, we would. And then our interest, which would be the Electronic Education and Information Center on one of the floors, we would then begin to pay rent to the Federal Government.

Not only would the Government receive the entire building the ownership of the building; along with it, the Government would receive a built-in annual net revenue of \$22 million a year.

Mr. GRAY. I want to be frank in stating, this sounds so good that it seems almost impossible to be true.

What is the real motive? Is your group trying to establish this type of facility to make sure that there is adequate space for viewing exhibits and additional office space? What is the real motive behind it?

Mr. POWELL. The real motive is that of the American Foundation for World Trade Studies, who feels that by working hand in hand with Government in this project, to, in effect, help give a supplemental and additional facility to the Visitor Center, can within the same financing finance its own nonprofit educational project, which is the preparation of educational courses on a computerized and electronic basis for dissemination throughout the United States through a network of more than 800 junior colleges and 100 universities and other facilities, where these vocational courses and other educational courses could be given.

Mr. GRAY. You feel there is a lack of this kind of activity?

Mr. POWELL. There is no question, there is not only a lack, there is a dire need for these courses as any casual research will reveal.

The educators with whom we have spoken concerning this project are most excited about the possibilities of it. This is our interest.

We want within this financing picture to come up with enough money to put together the two-pronged interest of ours, which is an educational program and an informational program. We also want to