

Mr. GRAY. Are there any other questions?

I am sorry, Mr. Dawson, I thought you had completed your statement.

Mr. DAWSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, there is one other point that gives us some concern, and that is that we noticed in the brochure that was circulated yesterday, on page 14, that the Secretary had negotiated a contract for this service, and that implies negotiation to a conclusion.

However, D.C. Transit was never invited to submit a proposal for the new type of service between the parking area and the Capitol and the service on the Mall area, and that one variation alone might very substantially alter the proposal that D.C. Transit would make.

We think in all fairness that every public transit company operating in the District should have an opportunity to submit a proposal and to be considered in negotiations, although we deny the right of the Secretary to negotiate in view of the decision of the court and the suspension of all Federal laws by the compact act.

Mr. GRAY. That is a very important point you raised, General. Public Law 757, section 3, states no other transportation system in the District can be used, then what latitude would the Secretary have in advertising for competitive bids? He would not really have any, would he?

Mr. DAWSON. We think he has no authority to do so at the present time.

Mr. DENNY. That is the point I am bringing out, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. GRAY. This is your contention then?

Mr. DAWSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. GRAY. He has no authority even on Government-owned property?

Mr. DAWSON. No, sir.

Mr. GRAY. What about the section of law he quotes, the act of May 26, 1930? I have not read it, but I assume that it is the National Park Act, which gives the Secretary authority to enter into agreements for transportation on Government-owned property.

Mr. DAWSON. Mr. Chairman, the Compact Act of 1960 in section 3 suspends the application of that act.

Mr. GRAY. Even on Government-owned property?

Mr. DAWSON. I believe you have a copy of the compact, in the yellow jacket, before you.

Mr. GRAY. Even on Government-owned property?

Mr. DAWSON. It suspends the application of all laws.

Mr. GRAY. As pertaining to the District of Columbia?

Mr. DAWSON. All Federal laws.

Mr. GRAY. I say, as pertaining to the District of Columbia? It does not repeal the act of May 26, 1930, per se.

Mr. DAWSON. It suspends the application.

Mr. GRAY. In the District of Columbia?

Mr. DAWSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. GRAY. Are there any other comments or questions?

Mr. DAWSON. Now, Mr. Chairman, I have one other very important practical aspect that I want to bring to the attention of the committee.

Mr. GRAY. Yes.