

flag, you had no difficulty getting it. But in other parts of the country there is a good deal of dissatisfaction, because essential surplus that could be used here is going abroad. This is one of the reasons why this legislation is pending now.

And this represents the view of the agencies throughout the 50 States as well as in our outlying areas, which are also under the American flag. I think that it was probably due to the fact that you were both efficient in meeting those requests, and that you were out in the Pacific, where it is relatively simpler to get this aid transferred than it would be if it had to be shipped way back to the North American continent, the 48 lower States, as we call them.

LEE CLAIMS SURPLUS CAME FROM PACIFIC ISLANDS

Mr. LEE. Senator, I would like to point out that we tried to concentrate our work in the areas that were reasonably close to Samoa. A good share came from Hawaii, Midway, Christmas Island, and the adjoining areas of activity of the U.S. defense agency. We were given permission to enable them to acquire excess property, and they went out and acquired huge stocks of excess property in Europe. And they did it rather indiscriminately. You will recall that we had some real problems in cutting this program down to size. Some of the acquisitions were very good. Many of the diesel locomotives that the Alaskan Railroad had—and I suspect they still have some—came from the surplus stocks. And those were good.

But there were some pretty big horror stories in terms of some of the other excess. We had a real problem there for several years in cleaning up that situation.

But I would suspect that we continue to have similar problems in a number of Federal agencies simply because of the nature of surplus.

OBJECTIONS OF WIDELY SCATTERED AID PERSONNEL LONG IGNORED

Senator GRUENING. In your statement, you say that in the early part of this year, AID began to get some indications that difficulties were occurring in the Japan Aircraft contract, and that logistics personnel in the Bureau for the Far East began running into indications that the rehabilitation work being done was not up to acceptable standards.