

Mr. Griffin. And at the same time, education and health. So that is a judgment that Congress would make and I really would have to see the bill. I am sure you agree, I would have to see the bill before I would commit myself as an individual or for GSA, as to how I would comment on it.

of foreign excess in which the Administrator of General Services would have any responsibility or authority. So we do have some concern in lumping the handling of the two together for this one purpose, leaving the rest of the foreign excess utilization and disposal still the complete authority and responsibility of the owning agency. We would have very limited control on foreign excess and it would be a difficult program to manage for that reason.

Senator GRUENING. Mr. Griffin, one of the reasons you advance for your opposition to S. 1974 is stated on page 185 of your statement when you say that through the excess property utilization program, Federal agencies reduce or eliminate the need for procuring new commodities in carrying out their program missions and that the General Services Administration's long experience in managing the utilization program has clearly demonstrated that the use of excess property does reduce new procurement, and thereby has eliminated substantial expenditures for such new items.

I take it that the long experience of your agency does not include the overseas operations of AID.

AID USES EXCESS PROPERTY AS SUPPLEMENT

more knowledge of what AID is doing with the property, but it is my understanding—I will ask Mr. Harding to supplement my comment—it is my understanding in the legislative history of 608 that it was originally intended as an advance acquisition of property which would curtail expenditures for new procurements and the obviation wherever possible, of new procurements for mission programs, but I do not have firsthand knowledge other than what you read to me here this morning, Mr. Chairman.

Do you have any comments on that, Mr. Harding?

Senator GRUENING. Would you like, Mr. Harding, to testify?

Mr. HARDING. I don't think I can add to what Mr. Griffin has said. It was my understanding, too, that the purpose of these provisions of