

obtaining its full share of property. However, based on the Agency for International Development information available, it is not in a position to sanction promotion of States' priorities for A.I.D. property at this time.

The Commonwealth heartily supports public institutional over private utilization. Your efforts to increase the quantity and

Hon. ERNEST GRUENING,
U.S. Senator, Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR GRUENING: This will acknowledge with thanks your letter of October 5, 1967 concerning the federal surplus property program. Your points are very well taken and I have asked our State agency to render a report to me concerning the status of our State program.

Subsequent to the receipt of this report, I shall be in touch with our Congressional delegation and indicate to them my personal support for your bill. Thank you for keeping me informed on this very important subject.

Sincerely,

JOHN H. CHAFFEE, Governor.

due to the heavy demands for such property by the Agency for International Development.

This problem has been thoroughly reviewed by Mr. H. Michael Dye, executive director of the State Agency for Surplus Property and his superior, Finance and Administration Commissioner Truman E. Gore.

Mr. Dye has reported that this indeed is a problem, and is proving damaging to our own efforts to locate and obtain surplus property. While Mr. Dye recognizes that it would not be economically feasible in some cases to return property which is located overseas, he feels that property located in the United States could be released by AID in many cases for local programs for the assistance of our own hospitals, schools, and civil defense agencies, and the like. Mr. Dye reports that the problem further is compounded by the fact that other agencies, such as the Office of Economic Opportunity and local community action groups currently enjoy a higher priority status in obtaining such equipment.

Mr. Dye supports your bill S1974, and would be glad to provide additional supporting information, if you should desire it.

You might be interested to know that we also support S1717, introduced by Senator Proxmire, which would enable the government to dispose of perishable items before they become unusable. Such legislation, we feel, would go hand-in-hand with the bill which you have introduced. We also