

Senator JORDAN. Looking at your chart, Mr. Director, it would seem to me that the completion of these various contracts and your own in-house work will culminate pretty much in a great body of work that will be dumped on the Commission's hands for their perusal and study all at the same time. What do you have to say about that?

Mr. PEARL. We have given that consideration, Senator Jordan. The chairman and I have discussed this at length, and we believe that these studies can be staggered as to their evaluation and staff work and forwarded to the members of the Commission on a staggered basis so that, while there will be several coming in at the same time, it will not be a great body of work at any one time.

Because of the time involved we will have from April 1, 1969, when the last ones are due, and some of them will have been completed earlier, and we will have from then on for the Commission to give consideration to the later ones.

Senator JORDAN. If you get an 18-month extension, it will give you a little more than a year to make your evaluations, to make your submissions to the Commission through the advisory board and so on and to finally get your own report and recommendations drafted?

Mr. PEARL. Yes, sir. Actually, as indicated in the chairman's statement, it was our belief that after the last manuscripts came in on April 1, 1969, the Commission could complete its work within 1 year or by April of 1970, and that the 3 months after April 1970 could be utilized in the actual preparation and printing of the report itself.

Senator JORDAN. The fact that additional funds have not been authorized places the Commission in a very desperate kind of situation at the moment, does it not?

Mr. PEARL. Yes, sir.

Senator JORDAN. You had anticipated that these additional funds might have been authorized by October 1 of this year. Any delay in the authorization of additional funds will delay the operation of the Commission staff for a corresponding time, would you say, or will you be able to make it up?

Mr. PEARL. As is indicated in the chairman's statement, if we have a reasonable assurance that additional funds are going to be forthcoming and we have this assurance by about the middle of November, we can still make it up and stick to the timetable.

As you know, Senator, we could not, when we went before the Appropriations Committee in the ordinary budget procedure for fiscal 1968, at that time estimate our needs for contract work so that we asked for and received no contract funds for the current fiscal year. We were relying on coming in with a supplemental request. The supplemental request, of course, cannot be made in the light of our present requirements until the authorization for additional funds has been enacted, or at least the supplemental cannot be granted certainly until the additional amount has been authorized; so that, if we don't have our authorization and some indication of funding by the middle of November, the whole study program timetable would be in jeopardy; yes, sir.

Senator JORDAN. I think it is important. I think time is of the essence here. I have discussed it with the chairman and have assured him that I would give him my best help to get this additional funding authoriza-