

like to know about it. If those requests have been made and have not been fulfilled, we will determine that, and any request from the staff that is made to me will be fulfilled, and I can assure you of that.

Mr. CRAMER. I would suggest, for instance, that any regulation you adopt or any criteria you adopt or any orders that you issue or instructions that you adopt should automatically come to the staff and to this committee so that we will know whether or not the intent of Congress is being carried out. Only in this manner can we as an oversight committee, properly exercise our function.

Mr. O'MALLEY. We would be glad to cooperate with you in exercising that function.

Mr. EDMONDSON. I certainly want to agree with the gentleman from Florida that when a request comes from the committee staff that there should be proper reply to it. I can tell the gentleman from Florida that this is the first notice that I have had that there was interest in the manual or in the directives and orders of the EDA that had not been satisfied. And I think that there is no question about the right of the minority to have access to that information; and we will certainly cooperate at our end to see that it is made available.

Mr. CRAMER. I will say to the Chairman it has been like pulling teeth to get any information out of this agency.

Mr. HOWARD. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRAMER. Yes.

Mr. HOWARD. If we were to get all the booklets, pamphlets, regulations, and other printed material from the agency, I believe we would still not be informed as to some of the policy operations of the agency.

Mr. O'Malley, I would like to ask you whether or not Mr. Davis is continuing his personal policy of limiting the consideration of projects according to the unemployment rate in specific economic development areas?

Last year Mr. Davis stated that he did not have all the money he needed, and certainly not the amount of money needed to approve all the projects that would normally be approvable. So on his own, he made the decision that he would only consider applications from areas with the highest amount of unemployment.

At that time he stated that many of the counties in the Nation or economic development areas which did qualify under the act passed by the Congress were not even being considered by the agency.

He stated that some counties have unemployment rates up to 33 percent. And with the amount of money the agency had on hand, they could only look at projects in areas where the employment was down to maybe 15 percent.

Anything below that would not even be considered.

I know that it is not universal, but I would presume that almost all of the projects listed in this booklet are in areas certainly in excess of an unemployment rate of 12 percent. Is that not true?

Mr. O'MALLEY. I would have to review specifically the balance, Congressman; but I would say I know this: that in the last half of the past fiscal year, that is 1967, the investment of EDA moneys in the very high unemployment areas was much greater than it had been in the first 6 months of that fiscal year.

Mr. HOWARD. Have you, in the last few months, been considering or looking at projects in an area where the unemployment rate might be 8 percent?