

NOMINATIONS OF JOHN THOMAS VANCE, RICHARD W.
YARBOROUGH, AND JEROME K. KUYKENDALL TO
BE COMMISSIONERS ON THE INDIAN CLAIMS COM-
MISSION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1967

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:10 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Henry M. Jackson (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators Henry M. Jackson, of Washington; Clinton P. Anderson, of New Mexico; Alan Bible, of Nevada; Frank E. Moss, of Utah; Quentin N. Burdick, of North Dakota; Lee Metcalf, of Montana; Len B. Jordan, of Idaho; and Mark O. Hatfield, of Oregon.

Also present: Senator Ralph Yarborough, of Texas.

Staff members present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief counsel; James Gamble, professional staff member; William Van Ness, special assistant; and E. Lewis Reid, minority counsel.

The CHAIRMAN. We will now turn to the nominations by President Johnson of John Thomas Vance, Richard W. Yarborough, and Jerome K. Kuykendall to be Commissioners on the Indian Claims Commission.

Earlier this year, Congress enacted Public Law 90-9, which extends the life of the Indian Claims Commission from April 10, 1967, to April 10, 1972. The law also authorizes an increase in the number of Commissioners from three to five, and makes specific provision for the preparation and administration of a trial calendar to speed up the consideration of Indian claims that have been pending since 1951.

In its report on S. 307, the bill I introduced, which became Public Law 90-9, this committee expressed deep concern that of the 583 dockets pending in the Commission, only 236 had been adjudicated, with 347 only partially completed, and 42 dockets on which no action had been taken at all.

Our objective is to bring about the prompt adjudication of these longstanding claims, and it is believed the additional time now afforded the Commission by the law, together with the increased personnel, will permit this job to be completed in the time allotted.

There is before each member of the committee a biographical sketch of the three nominees.

(The documents referred to follow:)