

The Chair will state, too, that each of the nominees has filed financial statements and we will discuss them in executive session.

Senator Anderson.

Senator ANDERSON. I can only echo what Senator Jackson has said. We are all discouraged with the progress so far.

In 1946 I had responsibility in the Department of Agriculture. Charlie Brannan, Assistant Secretary, was interested in the job of Indian Claims Commissioner. I talked him out of it. The Commission would be in existence only for a limited period, I pointed out, but the Department of Agriculture would be here a long time. I didn't know there was what has amounted to life tenure down at the Commission. Promise after promise has been made but very little has come of them. Senator Watkins, who is a very fine person in every way, promised he would do the best he could but he could not get anything jarred loose. All I want to say is that I hope you surprise us.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any questions, especially.

I would only like to say that we have been very patient, I think, back through the years, with the work of this Commission and we haven't been very well pleased with the results. I wonder if with the addition of new blood on the team, we can expect some added activity, some closing out of these cases, so that we can look forward to an eventual elimination of this work.

Mr. Vance, do you have any ideas about expediting this work? Do you calculate that this is a continuing kind of job that will go on forever, or do you look forward to closing out the job, yourself?

Mr. VANCE. Senator Jordan, I think that the committee, in drafting this legislation, certainly determined that it is possible to do this job and I feel we can.

I, personally, am prepared to attack it with all the vigor at my command. I realize full well that it is impossible to effect, for want of a better term, the rehabilitation of the Indian population of the United States until these claims are disposed of. I know of no reason why we cannot handle this matter with dispatch and within the time set by the Senate.

Senator JORDAN. I look forward to that end being accomplished. I do hope it will come to pass.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair would like to suggest that maybe we should call on the other two nominees and then we can interrogate all three at the same time.

Mr. Yarborough, we will be delighted to have any comment you wish to make and then I will call on Mr. Kuykendall.

STATEMENT OF RICHARD W. YARBOROUGH, NOMINEE FOR COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Mr. Chairman, I think my biography has been adequately summarized.

I am very pleased with the confidence that the President has placed in me and I do intend to bring some determination to justify that confidence to the work on the Commission.