

what the attitude is going to be in the legislative branch of the Government. And in essence that is what your answer adds up to.

However, we as legislators have the responsibility of reaching a conclusion as to whether or not the power, the authority exists in the executive branch of Government in connection with the operative facts of this instant case to impose the restrictions that would help resolve to a degree, and I think a great degree, the problem that confronts this committee in respect to the export of logs to Japan.

Speaking only for myself, I am satisfied that the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior know that. I am satisfied that the State Department and Commerce and Treasury Departments and the White House know that. The power does exist. Therefore I happen to be of the opinion that in my capacity as a Senator from Oregon, and I think others in the Congress will join me in it, I have a duty to make clear that we think the administration ought to impose those restrictions.

I happen to think that they would have been imposed by the departments some days ago, if the administrative officials superior to the departments had been willing to have them imposed, and I think one of the responsibilities of this committee in bringing forth our report will be to cover with complete clarity this legal issue, and let the owners of the public timberlands, the taxpayers of this country, know that this administration has the authority to impose the regulations if it wants to follow that course of action.

That does not mean that they are compelled to. They have to stand on their own record of public policy. But I think it is very important that it be pointed out, the answer that you made to my question, which other lawyers who have testified before you have agreed with: that there already exists the authority to impose some degrees of restrictions on the exportation of logs to Japan.

It is the position of the senior Senator from Oregon the imposition of those restrictions is long overdue, and should not wait, should not wait for negotiations in Tokyo on February 20. Thank you very much.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Thank you.

Senator MORSE. Some days ago when the Senator from Alaska, Mr. Gruening, was advised that these hearing were to be held, he called me and said that a group of witnesses from Alaska would like to be heard. I made clear to him, and thought it was clear to all—except for what I understood was the point of view of one witness today that was laboring under the impression that these hearings were limited to Oregon and Washington problems—I thought it was clear to all that these hearings involved log export problems wherever there is Federal timber, California, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, or any other location of Federal timber that was involved in the issue of exportation of logs from those federally owned forests to Japan. So I assured Senator Gruening that these hearings covered Alaska problems as well as Oregon and Washington and other States.

With that assurance on my part, he made a request that time be set aside for the hearing of witnesses from Alaska. A group of witnesses came to Washington. They are here. I apologize to them for the fact that we have not been able to get to their testimony earlier. I commend them for their patience. On the other hand, I have the respon-