

logs from their private lands do not have the right to bid on timber from public lands.

Senator MORSE. I am not passing judgment on that proposition now. I think the record ought to show that the chairman expresses the view in discussing your fourth point that it could very well present an interesting problem of a can of legal worms to try to have to separate. This is a very complicated question, and of course if it can be worked out on an agreement within the industry on a voluntary basis, that would be certainly preferable.

But wouldn't it be helpful, even in connection with the problems that are raised by your fourth point, if we dealt in a little greater detail with the suggestion that is inherent in your point 3. That is that there is a responsibility to be placed upon the Federal agencies to make a finding of fact as to whether or not there is a surplus of logs. If there is a surplus of logs, then there is no question about the authority to authorize the export of logs that are in excess to domestic need.

Do you agree with me? I am attempting to make this clarification for the benefit of other witnesses who are in the room, including some who have already testified, in connection with questions that I have already submitted to them for their written answers, if they feel inclined to answer, and for the supplementing of this record with further memoranda. I am making this suggestion because I would like to have their help on this point.

I am sure it is going to be a matter of considerable discussion within this committee in our executive session, when we come to prepare a report that will set forth our recommendations to the administration as to what should be done about this problem.

I would plead with you that you give the committee some help in defining more clearly this phrase "logs in surplus." How are you going to determine surplus, who is going to make the determination, and what are the criteria for determining it?

It goes back to what you have heard me say so many times. Unless timber is in surplus, then as a matter of our existing legislation on the books, I take the position that the Federal Government violates the intent of Congress, if it exports logs that are not in surplus.

The purpose of our whole statutory structure of Federal timber policy is that timber shall be retained to satisfy the needs of the American people, not the Japanese people or the South Korean people or people anywhere else. These resources are to be retained for the use of the American people to satisfy their domestic needs for lumber and all of its byproducts.

I want to thank you very much for your testimony, gentlemen. And again, don't hesitate to supply us some supplemental material on the points we have discussed.

Mr. TERZICK. In closing may I just make one remark, Senator Morse? I really find it difficult to find words to express our appreciation for this hearing and for your efforts, and for the committee's efforts on behalf of trying to find a solution. For some 15 years we have plowed a very lonely furrow in regard to the Japanese export log proposition, and now it finally is being brought to a head, and the proper attention is focused on it, and we are deeply appreciative to you and the committee for this hearing.

Thank you.