STATEMENT OF HON. BOYD L. RASMUSSEN, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

We welcome your inquiry into the question of "The Impact of Increasing Log Exports on the Economy of the Pacific Northwest." This Department, through the Bureau of Land Management is a member of an Interagency Softwood Log Export Task Force. Intergovernmental technical discussions were held with representatives of Japan on December 11-13. A second meeting is now scheduled for February 20.

We believe the record of the hearings of this committee will be valuable in developing courses of action.

Before proceeding further, there are several observations which I would like to make. We administer the western Oregon timber management program under the O&C Act of August 28, 1937 (50 Stat. 874). This farsighted legislation provides that the O&C forest land shall be managed for both sustained yield and multiple use purposes.

Namely, these lands:

"... shall be managed ... for permanent forest production, and the timber thereon shall be sold, cut and removed in conformity with the principle of sustained yield for the purpose of providing a permanent source of timber supply, protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, and contributing to the economic stability of local communities and industries, and providing recreational facilities."