

placed on the amount of board feet that can be exported to Japan, then no relief can be given to the mills that need the logs.

I don't think the people in BLM or in forestry, or in State, or any other agency of the Government, can escape that issue. You are either going to apply within the authorities already on the statute books, or through an agreement with Japan which hasn't been negotiated, a limited total amount of logs that can be exported, or you are going to continue to be parties to the closing of mills in my State. I don't think there is any way of escaping the horns of that dilemma.

I have just a few questions. Could you give us, or provide the record with a statement, probably the latter, in view of the hour, would be better, the percentage of logs off of BLM land, no matter where located, that were exported in 1967, and back to 1961?

I would like to have the record show what percentage of BLM logs were in fact purchased for export and exported during those years.

Mr. RASMUSSEN. Mr. Chairman, I will supply that, to the best of my knowledge, but it will be very difficult to supply. It isn't a very large amount. We made one survey, in which I cannot place too much dependence, that indicated log exports of about 12 million feet in the last 2 years, for the folks we contacted. We also believe that it might be between 20 and 30 million feet, but I will try to supply you with the best information we have. I am not sure I can go back that far, but I will try.

Senator MORSE. As far back as you can go.

Mr. RASMUSSEN. The problem is we sell logs to private individuals. The logs are transported to private ponds or mill decks and in some cases to log rafts. They lose their identity. Our customers are about the same customers we have had all along. We haven't had any of the Japanese trading firms that are operating in the State of Washington, bidding on your timber.

Senator MORSE. There are probably good reasons why you can't supply us with detailed accurate information.

If you say you can't, you can't. Give us what you can. But the Forest Service figures seems to be pretty specific as to what percentage of the logs off of Forest Service lands have gone into export.

Mr. RASMUSSEN. I know it is late, but may I make one comment?

Senator MORSE. Yes.

Mr. RASMUSSEN. In the case of the Forest Service they scale their logs as they leave the woods and they are painted. In our case the purchaser pays for the BLM timber as cruised, and we do not scale them. He does not have to brand them and does not have to paint them. So they can disappear rather quickly because they aren't identified—because they become his property as soon as he pays for them. He buys a lump-sum sale, and the timber on a particular area, and pays for it. So the BLM logs are not identified as such.

Senator MORSE. On what basis do you reach the conclusion that the amount isn't very large? How do you know how large it is?

Mr. RASMUSSEN. We conducted a telephone survey of our customers and asked them, and this is what they told us. Our district managers also know, in general, where the logs go. He knows who buys them.

Senator HATFIELD. What stops a purchaser of BLM logs from exporting them, if he wants to export? What stops a purchase at a BLM sale?