

consideration of remedial legislation during both the 89th and 90th Congress. The other is the excellent cooperation we have received from the commercial telephone companies in developing joint procedures to protect service families from the perpetrators of this viciousness. The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. has worked with us on behalf of the entire telephone industry in developing and publicizing procedures for assisting service families who are victimized by telephonic harassment.

While we have no way of knowing whether the small scale of the harassment of our service families is permanent or temporary, we do not cite it as evidence that corrective legislation is not needed. The impact of these acts on the morale and well-being of each service member and his family directly affected is obvious, and there is a potential for a detrimental effect for all members of our Armed Forces and their families everywhere.

Recognizing that the overall problem of obscene and harassing communications goes far beyond the matter of harassment of service families, the Department of Defense defers to the wisdom of the Congress on the content of specific legislation and to the views of the Department of Justice and the Federal Communications Commission on the technical merits of particular proposals. For our part, we simply welcome any action which promises a measure of relief.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Department of Defense I thank you and the committee for this opportunity to express our views.

We stand ready to assist in any way we can.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Thank you very much, Colonel Temple. Relay our regrets to General Berg for his inability to be here, and our appreciation for the statement you have presented in such a commendable manner.

Mr. Broyhill.

Mr. BROYHILL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Colonel Temple, as the results of your investigations on these calls, did this result in the prosecution of anyone?

Colonel TEMPLE. To my knowledge, sir, all such calls which gave any promise of prosecution have been turned over either to the telephone companies, or in some cases to the Department of Justice. I cannot state specifically whether any specific incident has resulted in a conviction. I would be happy to recheck the incidents and furnish the information.

Mr. BROYHILL. You have indicated that these known incidents have been investigated. I was curious whether any of the investigations have resulted in prosecution or whether or not you are limited under the laws as they are presently written.

Colonel TEMPLE. I might say, sir; to answer your question in part: With respect to these known incidents, one not involving telephone harassment involved the visit of the alleged sergeant of a dead man's unit, the sergeant representing himself as being from the man's organization. His purpose, apparently, was to bum accommodations from the family, and he did so successfully for a period of about a week. His case was, we discovered, turned over to the Department of Justice, and he was prosecuted under the statutes on the improper wearing of the uniform.

So far as the telephonic incidents are concerned, I am not sure, sir.