

Mr. FUGAZY. Yes, sir.

Mr. HERLONG. The next witness is Mr. Donald E. Streicher. If you identify yourself for the record and those with whom you are associated you may proceed in your own way.

**STATEMENT OF DONALD E. STREICHER, GATEWAY HOLIDAYS, INC.,
AND GLOBUS TOURS, INC., ACCOMPANIED BY RICHARD BERN-
STEIN, PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNSEL, AND ROGER SCHMID,
GLOBUS TOURS**

Mr. STREICHER. My name is Donald E. Streicher. My associates here, Mr. Richard Bernstein and Mr. Roger Schmid.

We are from Gateway Holidays and Globus Tours.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the Ways and Means Committee, thank you for this opportunity of appearing before you on behalf of Gateway Holidays and Globus Tours, two of the largest wholesale firms in the escorted air and motorcoach business between the United States and Europe.

Never before have so many Americans wanted to go so many places and see so many lands. Travel, once the privilege of the wealthy, has become a reality for everyone. Now our Government would ask the Congress to pass legislation which would move this inalienable right back to the era of the clipper ships.

For the result of such proposals as have been put before, you would surely substitute the present possibility of everyone to travel to the realm of a future dream.

This, gentlemen, is why these hearings have on overriding importance. For, far above the economic plight of a travel industry that could be badly hurt, of greater moment than the many companies that may face economic disaster, is the transcending right and privilege of the people of the United States to move freely throughout the world, as neighbors and friends.

The foundation of my testimony, gentlemen, is that this right should not be taken away by law, edict, or innuendo. The cornerstone of my testimony is the moral correctness of our citizens' freedom of movement, except in time of general war. But, the bricks and mortar on which this testimony is built are facts and figures which show that the Treasury Department has misled the public with a proposal that is inaccurate in concept, punitive in practice, and impossible in enforcement.

On February 5 Mr. Henry Fowler appeared before this committee to tell you about a dream. It was a dream of an American who could travel through Europe on \$7 a day. On this amount he could house and feed himself, and because of his ability to live within this budget Mr. Fowler dreamed that he would allow him to do his European traveling tax free.

Mr. Fowler's dream suddenly turned into a nightmare. For, if this American, to whom he was being so indulgent, did not know how to manage his funds, he would have to pay for his incompetence. The price, the dream continued, should be a series of excessive rates, to teach him a lesson.

Mr. Fowler had a problem. He forgot that the people who were listening to him tell about his dream were wide awake.