

Mr. CONABLE. Do you feel that there will be government retaliation by European countries?

Mr. ABELS. I don't know. I think that the retaliation in the form of groups who would not be coming here would be severe enough.

Mr. CONABLE. Have you had any reaction from European travel agents, for instance, expressed in any more formal way than by simply the canceling of group tours?

Mr. ABELS. I would say only in expressing their own feelings to the effect that if you are going to stop or substantially hold back Americans to our country, how can you expect us to do any sort of a job or go out of our way to help bring them to the United States?

Mr. CONABLE. So that the travel industry itself is likely to retaliate, in your opinion?

Mr. ABELS. The European travel industry quite probably.

Mr. CONABLE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LANDRUM. Mr. Bush.

Mr. BUSH. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LANDRUM. Mr. Abels, from your statement one could gather that all, or practically all, of your travel agent profits are derived from the arrangement and sale of travel tours to American people traveling abroad, and I gather you do not have any business or receive any income or profits from arrangements for travel of people coming to this country from other countries.

Mr. ABELS. The figures that I have given you relate to individual retail travel agencies. Individual retail travel agencies have very little opportunity to participate in the tours of Europeans coming to the United States.

Wholesale tour operators, of which there are several hundred in this country, do make a profit by bringing Europeans to the United States, but for a retail travel agency working in a small country there obviously is little means for him to bring people to the United States and make a profit from their arrangements in coming here.

Mr. LANDRUM. Any other questions?

Thank you, Mr. Abels.

Mr. ABELS. Thank you.

Mr. LANDRUM. The next witness is Mr. Caskie Stinnett, editor, Holiday magazine.

Mr. Stinnett, if you will identify yourself for the record please, sir, and proceed with your statement the committee will be glad to receive it.

STATEMENT OF CASKIE STINNETT, EDITOR, HOLIDAY MAGAZINE

Mr. STINNETT. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Caskie Stinnett. I am the editor of Holiday magazine, which has its editorial offices in New York City and which has a circulation slightly in excess of 1 million copies each month.

I wish to oppose enactment of the travel tax program as prepared by the Department of the Treasury and submitted to the Committee on Ways and Means on February 5, 1968. On behalf of my magazine, however, I do not oppose the proposed changes in customs rules relating to tourist exemptions and processing of certain noncommercial importations which was submitted by the Department of the Treasury on the same date. My reason for opposing one, but not the other, of