

STATEMENT OF HON. LAWSON B. KNOTT, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION; ACCOMPANIED BY H. A. ABERSFELLER, COMMISSIONER, FEDERAL SUPPLY SERVICE; HARRY VAN CLEVE, GENERAL COUNSEL; DOUGLAS E. WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE; WILLARD L. JOHNSON, JR., ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR ADMINISTRATION; WILLIAM A. SCHMIDT, COMMISSIONER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS SERVICE; JOHN G. HARLAN, JR., COMMISSIONER, PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL SERVICE; AND JOE E. MOODY, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. KNOTT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, it is a pleasure to appear before you again to discuss the programs and activities of the General Services Administration.

I propose today to review briefly programs of particular interest to the subcommittee as evidenced by your letter to me of November 8, 1967, with emphasis on the progress we have made in implementing recommendations included in the report of your subcommittee to the Congress in July 1967.

We watch with interest the almost continuous deliberations by this committee on a wide range of subjects, including revenue sharing and other matters of national interest. We are pleased that we have this opportunity to appear.

I do apologize. I always hate to have a lengthy statement, but to cover the things that you specifically asked us about, I think it would be best if I read the statement. I think I probably can do it in 15 to 20 minutes or less, and then we can respond to questions. Since we do cover a wide area, I have with me the Commissioner of our Federal Supply Service, Mr. Abersfeller, who was with me at our last appearance; our General Counsel, Mr. Harry Van Cleve; our Commissioner of Transportation and Communications Service, Mr. Williams; our Assistant Administrator for Administration, Mr. Johnson; our Commissioner of Public Buildings—while there are no specific items here on public buildings, there may be some interest in that area—Mr. Schmidt is with us. Also, the Commissioner of our Property Management and Disposal Services, Mr. Harlan, is here. Mr. Chairman, this service represents a consolidation of all of our disposal activities, real and personal property, as well as stockpile disposals, in one service. And, my deputy, Mr. Joe Moody.

PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL SUPPLY SYSTEM

To proceed with the National Supply System, to which we always like to make at least passing reference, I would like to report that we are continuing our efforts toward full implementation of the national supply system. The cooperation of DOD activities and civilian agencies in this effort continues at the highest level.

Since my last report to you in May, agreement has been reached with the Defense Supply Agency on the transfer to GSA of the