

then we can talk about regional cooperation and we can talk about a Middle East Bank.

Now, our theory in the Southeast Asia is that we think it is important to get these people to do this now, that this might be conducive to peace later on. But I was struck by the great difference in the attitude of the countries of the Middle East and those of Southeast Asia which, I think, is very important, and which is why I think we should do everything to encourage their initiative and their willingness to work together.

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Black, in regard to the timing of this particular legislation, I think you put it well from your particular point of view. From your knowledge of these individuals in the countries of Southeast Asia, if we attempt to take the initiative and bring this bill out, and Congress doesn't pass it, would this be interpreted by these countries in Southeast Asia as a lack of confidence?

Mr. BLACK. Well, I go back to what I said, I think it is important to do these things now and encourage them rather than to wait until everything is quiet.

Now, I think that on the timing of this the Asian Development Bank has its annual meeting, the stockholders meeting, in early April, and all the countries will be represented there. I think it would be an excellent thing if this legislation were passed before that time. If it were not passed before that time, if it were delayed or if it were defeated, it would be very discouraging to these people because they have made efforts to do what we have asked them to try to learn—how to live together and try to set up these regional projects—so I think they would be very discouraged as to what they have done if it was not passed.

Mr. REUSS. Thank you.

We will now stand adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, in this chamber, when we will take up the bill relating to the Inter-American Development Bank, and I want to thank you, Mr. Black and Mr. Barr and Mr. Zagorin.

Mr. BLACK. Could I ask for one more thing for the record? I would like to have letters between the Malaysian Foreign Minister and President Watanabe, and letters between Secretary Rusk and the Canadian Foreign Minister on special funds entered in the record.

Mr. REUSS. Without objection, they will be received.

(The letters referred to follow:)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia, presents his compliments to the President of the Asian Development Bank and has the honour to refer to paragraph 41 of the Report of the Conference of Southeast Asian Officials on Transport and Communications, which was held from the 4th–7th September, 1967, wherein it is stated as follows:

"Recognising the importance of Transport and Communications to regional as well as national development, the Conference unanimously agreed that the development of an integrated network of Transport and Communications facilities in the region is of fundamental importance. To this end, the Conference undertook to request the Asian Development Bank to administer on its behalf, the implementation of a comprehensive transport survey covering all modes of transport in the region. While the survey should have, as one of its specific objectives, recommendations on an investment programme for regional transport projects in the medium and long-terms, it should have as its underlying motivation the development of Transport in the region along lines which will maximise the possibilities for progressive economic integration of the countries in the area."

The attention of the President is further invited to section VI of the Report of the Conference's Policy Issues Committee wherein the broad objectives of the proposed regional transport survey were set out as follows: