

Mr. BROWN. Some effort was apparently made to police the two Navy planes, to find out about the two Navy planes, but there is no spot check done of general aviation.

General McKee. You mean, when we have an accident?

Mr. BROWN. No; under normal conditions, routine procedures, occasional spot check of either.

General McKee. Go up to, say, Mr. Brown flying a private airplane from Dayton, Ohio, to Washington, and what do you think would happen if I sent an aviation inspector out to find out if Mr. Brown had been drinking before flying his airplane?

Mr. BROWN. You do on an airline pilot, don't you?

General McKee. No, we don't.

Mr. BROWN. I thought you had FAA inspectors occasionally ride planes?

General McKee. Yes, occasionally ride planes; but we don't go up and give them an alcohol test.

The CHAIRMAN. Gentlemen, this completes this phase of the hearings.

General McKee and Mr. Thomas, I believe that you have served the requirements of this committee well, and of the Congress, and the general public. I think that every once in a while, that we need to have the agencies up here. It happens that there was a crash in North Carolina and this brought you on a little more quickly, probably, but you know, we as Members of Congress have to go back and give an accounting to our constituents.

I think it has served well, and I want to thank you for your patience in answering the questions. I, for one, want to say that in my mind, there is no question about your devotion to duty, and that of all your employees, regardless of any article that has come out, I have been associated with many FAA employees, and I have found them always to be very cooperative, and very busy, and I sometimes wonder how they do their jobs.

An ordinary individual couldn't do a lot of them, I know, and I don't see how they get to sleep at nighttime, sometimes, when they get home, with all the activity they have to do in a day's tasks.

Chairman O'Connell and Mr. Allen, I want to thank you for your important contribution to the hearing. I think you have helped set the record straight on what has happened, and is happening, and the procedures that you go through.

Also, to the other members of National Transportation Safety Board: You have a great challenge before you now, you and your staff, and this committee and I, as chairman, wish you well in your job.

I again go back to the article. I say to General McKee that you have served this Nation well in war and in peace, and I think that you are doing your very best to serve in your capacity, and I know of no better man better qualified to do the job, so we are happy to have had all of you with us.

This does not end our complete inquiry into this. I am hoping that sometime in the future we will have other segments of the aviation world either before this full committee or a subcommittee, to give us further feelings in the matter, but I think that you have done an excellent job. It has been 5 hours and 5 minutes now that you have testified, and I think that is quite a bit, so I, for one, and on behalf