

partment and disregarding the real function and the real convenience of both these groups, the OAS on the one hand has immediate problems and the location of these proposed embassies.

I understand many of these embassies have not even been contacted as to whether they could pay, as many of them have limitations that say you cannot go over \$8 or \$10 per square foot.

My own feeling is this is too hazy and fuzzy a situation being proposed by someone within the State Department, primarily for their own convenience as a result of a problem of their own.

For example, I understand that the State Department witness admitted that were it not for the concept of an international center and this astounds me and were it not for the concept of an international center, the center which has nothing to do with OAS which has the primary facility, that this Tregaron property would be a much preferable site for OAS purposes. This costs about one-third the amount of money, would have two and one-half times the amount of land and construction could be started immediately.

Mr. LYERLY. Mr. Blatnik, we have been in constant touch with the OAS representatives.

Mr. BLATNIK. You say "we." Who is "we"?

Mr. LYERLY. The State Department, the Ambassador to the OAS, Ambassador Linowitz and our people in the American Republics Affairs area.

Mr. BLATNIK. Who are the key people in the American Republics Affairs area?

Mr. LYERLY. We have the deputy representative here, Mr. John Ford.

Mr. BLATNIK. Is he here now?

Mr. LYERLY. Yes, he is.

Mr. BLATNIK. Well, Mr. Ford should have been answering a lot of these questions then. Would you mind taking the chair, sir?

Mr. GRAY. Please state your full name for the record.

Mr. FORD. John Ford; and I am Director of the Office of Inter-American Political Affairs.

Mr. GRAY. We are delighted to have you before the committee again today.

Mr. BLATNIK. I am sorry but your legal counsel was answering the questions instead of you. How long have you been working on this OAS problem personally?

Mr. FORD. I have been back from overseas now for 6 months.

Mr. BLATNIK. Who has been working on this before you?

Mr. FORD. Before me, and the gentleman is here with me, Mr. Redington, my deputy, who has been working directly with the committee in the Organization of the American States concerned with this site in an effort to get the appropriate site for the new building of the Organization of American States.

He will be here with me in just a second. I might explain that in the Organization of American States there are many, many subcommittees working on numerous different problems such as you have here in Congress, and it so happens that in this particular area regarding a building site, Mr. Redington my personal deputy, is the one who is day in and day out meeting with the other representatives of the other countries on this committee.