

Bureau of Standards site became evident, we consulted with the Building Committee regarding that site for the OAS headquarters and the members of the building committee visited the Bureau of Standards site last August and they were favorably impressed by it. With its 8 acres, they felt it was clearly superior to the Sealtest site and they preferred it to the McLean Gardens.

Mr. GRAY. They did not compare it with Tregaron?

Mr. REDINGTON. That really did not come up because the legislation did not contemplate the Tregaron property.

Mr. GRAY. Plus the fact they had been told that was not available.

Mr. REDINGTON. They had not been offered the Tregaron site by the U.S. Government. But they were favorably impressed and highly satisfied with the Bureau of Standards site.

Mr. BLATNIK. As of that time?

Mr. REDINGTON. This was last August, when the Building Committee members visited the site.

Mr. GRAY. Ambassador Linowitz testified that the vote of the Building Committee on this particular location was unanimous and he gave the names of the countries.

Mr. REDINGTON. Representatives of the OAS Council on the Building Committee are the representatives of Peru, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, El Salvador, Venezuela, and the United States.

Mr. GRAY. And there are 23 countries in the OAS?

Mr. REDINGTON. There are 22 active members of the OAS. Cuba is technically a member, but does not participate.

Mr. GRAY. You have six there?

Mr. REDINGTON. Yes, these are six Latin American countries.

Mr. GRAY. So you have approximately one-fourth of the entire OAS membership voting.

Mr. REDINGTON. This was not a formal vote.

Mr. GRAY. Ambassador Linowitz testified it was unanimous.

Mr. REDINGTON. It was not a formal vote because there was no formal decision.

Mr. BLATNIK. Were they polled?

Mr. REDINGTON. This was an expression of their viewpoints in the committee.

Mr. BLATNIK. Who made the inquiry? Someone must have asked them.

Mr. REDINGTON. After the building committee visited the Bureau of Standards site, in a meeting of the committee, each member expressed his views regarding that site.

Mr. BLATNIK. Would you know what their views are today?

Mr. REDINGTON. The same views, I am sure. They would not have changed them since last fall.

Mr. BLATNIK. You feel that is true today?

Mr. REDINGTON. Well, I would certainly assume so. The Tregaron matter, of course, had already been known about; the Bureau of Standards site was something that came afterward. The Tregaron matter had come up early in 1967.

I would like to mention in connection with the Tregaron site that the arrangement in the present bill is considered a preferable one on balance, because it does provide for the donation to the OAS of a favorable location of land which is already the property of the U.S.