

Mr. BROOKS. This would be a pretty involved problem for the distribution people, wouldn't it?

Mr. WATSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. May I interject? Actually does not the law provide that the Postmaster General would notify the mailer to remove this person from his mailing list?

Mr. WATSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. So it would not be incumbent upon the local postmaster to remove this as it is sent. The mailer, the person sending the mail, is instructed to remove this person from the list and if he refuses to, then you have authority, do you not, to obtain an injunction against this individual under this act?

Mr. WATSON. Yes; that is the way I understand it. The postmaster, as such, is just the middleman involved.

Mr. BROOKS. I get three or four of these letters every year, and I guess other Congressmen do. A couple of the recipients might have ordered an exerciser one time of some sort—I don't know how they get on those lists but maybe half of those who write me in some way have inadvertently and unknowingly gotten on such a list. I guess half are totally innocent.

It seems there ought to be some way to prosecute the mailers, to make them have a signed request. I don't know whether there should be some new legislation that would strengthen the authority—the courts seem pretty general in allowing you to send almost anything you want to send—and I wonder if maybe your counsel might not think about the possibility of some stronger legislation that might be passed by Congress that would give you full authority to either enjoin or fine or restrain in some way the people who habitually make it a practice to send out this kind of material.

Mr. WATSON. Yes, sir. We will make a study of that, Mr. Chairman. I believe the President has a commission now appointed to make a study of this situation. Also, Mr. Adam Wenchel is here from the Office of the General Counsel, who might shed more light on this.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Wenchel?

Mr. WENCHEL. Yes. Under the present legislation we can get a cease-and-desist order. After a person has complained, the postmaster notifies the sender to remove from the mailing list this person's name as well as names of members of his family. If there is a further violation of that order then we are authorized to have the Department of Justice seek a cease-and-desist order, and if that is violated, of course you have punishment under the contempt powers of the court. Since this law has only gone into effect in April we have not seen too much in the way of actual results yet.

Mr. BROOKS. You plan to operate then on a basis of written requests to the Postmaster General—or to the local postmaster forwarded to the General—and then under his signature he will write and ask the mailer to remove Mr. and Mrs. Joe Doaks.

Mr. WENCHEL. That is correct. While we don't require the use of a form, we have devised a simple form which may be used for that request.

Mr. BROOKS. We will see how that operates. It might be helpful.

Mr. Thompson?

Mr. THOMPSON. May I ask one further question? Of course this is trying to do something about the problem after the mail, the obscene