

motivation for this, to say that it is because some people did not agree with Mr. Cox when he began his investigation and——

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Yes, sir.

Mr. EDMONDSON. And, that some people were singled out as targets. Do you really believe that this would be motivation for a task force consisting of two public officers to make a finding on this point that does cover the the money points that are covered in this task force report?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. I do, sir; I'm familiar with the original list of grievances and I can go down that list and cover it point by point, and only in a few places I think they were legitimate grievances. I think that matter was handled badly. Instead of going over that original list of grievances and find out where the Indians were right and where they were wrong, an investigator was sent out to start using his pencil and get the facts. Now, I've seen this 1965 report and it contains the same things that we have here. He talked of nothing but income, not the total value of the estate. Bob Cox is a good attorney.

Mr. EDMONDSON. You keep referring to Mr. Cox. Was this a one-man task force in your understanding, or was it not the work of several officials and employees of the U.S. Government?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. My talks uncovered this. Mr. Cox is the chairman, Mr. Berkson, the other member, and Broussard stated specifically that because of the problems that had come up, the auditors had specifically been taken off, so the task force consisted of two men, Cox and Berkson.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Do you think that Mr. Berkson is subject to the same charge of corruption and deception as a participant in this report? Do you think that Mr. Cox is the man who is principally at fault?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Well, knowing both men, I think Berkson was just following orders.

Mr. EDMONDSON. You stated at the start of your testimony that from the very beginning of the investigation in 1967, from the public announcements made by the Secretary of Interior, that it was obvious the investigation would not be an impartial one but would attempt in some ways to distort the facts and mislead Congress. Do you have the text of any of those public announcements that evidence that intent on the part of the Secretary of the Interior?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Of course, that would be my only offense, sir. I have a folder, a newspaper file, and it's about that thick, but over and over again, the Secretary cross-quoting the information given to him regarding the percentage of income which I know was not a fair statement.

Mr. EDMONDSON. I want to say that I agree with one of your earlier conclusions very, very definitely, among others, when you speak about the lack of the Bureau of Indian Affairs initiative on the subject of leasing programs for Indian lands. I just thought your statement falls a little bit short of the full blame in the picture, because I think the Congress of the United States has to share with the Bureau of Indian Affairs a great deal of responsibility for that, for their failure to recognize this problem in the leasing regulations that we have set as a guide. We, in the Congress, cannot escape our farsighted responsibility for waiting until the late 1950's to get adequate long-term leasing authority into the law. I think the Bureau has a responsibility, and it is a very important one, but I think we, in the