

Mr. HOLLOWELL. No, sir; it isn't.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Levy did not learn about this proposition while sitting in your office?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. He did not. There are some portions of that statement attributed to Lew that I can't believe. It says that he was shocked at the appraisal. Lew has been in real estate too long to be shocked. The statement attributed to Jenkins—by Jenkins that he told Lew that if the court order went through, he'd be bound by it. I can't believe that either because it was merely a petition for instructions.

Mr. EDMONDSON. How did Mr. Levy first learn about this?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. I called him, but it was not in my office. I called him on the phone after I had talked to Judge Brown.

Mr. EDMONDSON. So, this statement in the task force report as to what Mr. Levy stated in that interview is either erroneous or Mr. Levy has forgotten how he first learned about it; is that your contention?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Levy could have forgotten. He's a steady client and I see him an awful lot.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Are the facts that are set forth in the task force report with regard to the valuation of the property as regard to the price at which its appraisal was finalized, correct, to your knowledge?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Basically, yes. I know the appraiser went in to see Judge Brown because we crossed tracks. I was going in and he was coming out. I did receive instructions from Lew Levy to call the deal off. The appraisal was lower than what the judge would sell for and that's what the judge said, he wouldn't sell for that sum.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Do you see any problems of propriety or ethics in this transaction?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. I can see where it could be suspected, but as I said in my earlier statement, the Bureau was there and it was agreed that the appraisal would be gotten through the Bureau, and in my earlier statement that I sent to you right after the task force report—I believe I said that—without the intervention of the Bureau; yes, sir.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Well then, you felt in this situation that the Bureau would protect the Indians' efforts on this subject of the appraisal value; is that correct?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Yes, sir. We've been relying on their appraisals for years.

Mr. EDMONDSON. And you went ahead in reliance upon the Bureau doing the honest and correct thing for the Indian despite the fact that for some years you have been convinced that they were doing a lousy job, and that they were not protecting the Indian, and that they were not taking care of the Indians' interest and that the whole system was sorry because the Bureau of Indian Affairs was not performing its function properly?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. Sir, after 6 years dealing with the Bureau, I knew this before I went into it. When you're appraising Indian land for sale, you're appraising usually too high. I honestly felt in this situation that nothing was going to be done, because they would appraise the judge's property too low. It's like any other economic factor, it depends upon which side your appraiser's working for, what side of the transaction, and I really honestly felt that the Bureau would come up with a low appraisal and that'd be the end of it. They came in at \$1,500 and both parties pulled off and that was the end of it.