

It would be greatly appreciated if you would make 50 copies of your prepared statement available at the time of the hearing. Under our committee rules, 15 advance copies should be provided to Mr. William Phillips, subcommittee staff administrator, by 2 p.m. the day prior to the hearing, Wednesday, April 21.

With best regards,  
Sincerely,

WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD, *Chairman.*

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND  
GOVERNMENT INFORMATION,  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,  
*Washington, D.C., April 16, 1971.*

HON. JAMES D. HODGSON,  
*Secretary of Labor,  
Department of Labor,  
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I have been advised informally that you are not going to accept our invitation to testify before the Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee on the discontinuance of the monthly press briefings on the Consumer Price Index and unemployment figures. As you may recall, this hearing is scheduled for 2 p.m., Thursday, April 22.

I regret that you will not be present for this session, and also that you are declining to send any high-ranking official of the Department of Labor, who is intimately familiar with the decision to discontinue the briefings, as we requested.

With all due respect to Commissioner Moore, a review of his testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, April 2, and a subsequent conversation with him this morning by our staff, shows clearly that he has no firsthand knowledge of some of the key points in which the subcommittee is vitally interested. These questions relate to the decision itself and events leading up to it.

Also in all fairness, Mr. Secretary, it is conceivable that some of the testimony to be received Wednesday may be critical of the briefing cutoff, and the Department should be prepared to give the best reply possible in justification of its action.

With all of the above points in mind, I do hope you will reconsider your decision and send a high-ranking representative who can provide all of the detailed answers which the subcommittee needs. I would appreciate greatly your immediate advice on this matter.

With best regards,  
Sincerely,

WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD, *Chairman.*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, April 20, 1971.*

HON. WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD,  
*Chairman, Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee, Committee on Government Operations, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am responding to your letters of April 13 and 16 with reference to testimony by an official of the Department of Labor before the Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee on discontinuance of monthly press briefings on the Consumer Price Index and employment situation.

In your letter of April 13, a request was made that either I or a designee intimately familiar with the suspension decision appear to discuss the matters before the subcommittee. Subsequently, Mr. Norman Cornish of your staff was advised by telephone that I had designated as Department of Labor witness, Dr. Geoffrey Moore, Commissioner of Labor Statistics; accompanied by Mr. Harold Goldstein, Assistant Commissioner for Manpower and Employment Statistics; Mr. Joel Popkin, Assistant Commissioner for Prices and Living Conditions; and Mr. Herbert Morton, Director, Office of Publications, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Your letter of April 16 expressed the opinion that Commissioner Moore lacked firsthand knowledge of some of the key points in which the subcommittee is interested. I am constrained to reply that Commissioner Moore possesses complete familiarity with both the technical subject matter under subcommittee consideration and with the reasons which led to the decision to suspend.

I am sure you will find that Commissioner Moore and his associates are fully capable of responding to all inquiries directed by the subcommittee.

Sincerely,

J. D. HODGSON,  
*Secretary of Labor.*

(247-C(b))

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS  
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION,  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,  
*Washington, D.C., June 21, 1971.*

HON. HENRY A. KISSINGER,  
*Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs,  
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. KISSINGER: The Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee has scheduled a series of hearings to begin Wednesday, June 23, 1971, on U.S. Government information policies and practices.

Pursuant to the Subcommittee's legislative and investigative authority over Government information subjects, we will explore the Constitutional principles and operational practices involved in the public's "right to know" and the right of the Legislative Branch to information and documents from the Executive Branch that are deemed essential in the discharge of our duties as elected representatives of the American people.

You are hereby requested to appear before the Subcommittee as a witness at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 30, 1971, in Room 2247, Rayburn House Office Building.

In addition to your general views and comments on the subjects included within the scope of our inquiry, please be prepared to discuss procedures and practices concerning the coordination of Executive implementation of the provisions of Executive Order 10501 (18 F.R. 7049) and Executive Order 10964 (26 F.R. 8932), relating to "Safeguarding Official Information in the Interests of the Defense of the United States," and the automatic downgrading and declassification procedures for documents, information, and other security material presently in effect.

With best regards,  
Sincerely,

WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD,  
*Chairman.*

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS  
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION,  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,  
*Washington, D.C., June 21, 1971.*

HON. HERBERT G. KLEIN,  
*Director of Communications for the Executive Branch,  
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. KLEIN: The Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee has scheduled a series of hearings to begin Wednesday, June 23, 1971, on U.S. Government information policies and practices.

Pursuant to the Subcommittee's legislative and investigative authority over Government information subjects, we will explore the Constitutional principles and operational practices involved in the public "right to know" and the right of the Legislative Branch to information and documents from the Executive Branch that are deemed essential in the discharge of our duties as elected representatives of the American people.