## COMMITTEE BUSINESS

TUESDAY JANUARY 18, 1977

U.S. Senate, Committee on Finance, Washington, D.C.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:15 a.m. in room 2221, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Russell T. Long (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Present: Senators Long (Chairman), Talmadge, Byrd, Nelson, Gravel, Haskell, Hansen, Packwood and Schmitt.

The Chairman. Gentlemen, we are here this morning to discuss the nominees Mr. Michael Blumenthal, Joseph Califano and Laurence Woodworth and I believe we will have a quorum in just a few minutes here.

Is there any discussion about these gentlemen, meanwhile, that anyone has any reservations?

Senator Talmadge. Mr. Chairman, I think that the Committee is satisfied with all three of them. I move when we have a quorum that the Chair be authorized in the nominations to the Senate to report from the Senate Finance Committee that it nominates and recommends and advises and consents to their nomination, and advises the Senate to do likewise.

Senator Gravel. Second.

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Senator Hansen. May I second that, too, from this side?
Senator Nelson. All three?

Senator Talmadge. All three, yes, Blumenthal, Califano and Woodworth.

The Chairman. I am told that Senator Dole is on his way.

Mr. Stern. Mr. Chairman, I might mention that the Parliamentarian has suggested that the Committee may want to approve a motion when the nomination is sent to the Senate, that the Committee urge the Senate to approve it, without it being referred to the Finance Committee, and that might expedite the action of the Senate, if you want to change the motion slightly.

Senator Haskell. I do not understand.

Senator Talmadge. I would assume that my motion carried with it --

Senator Gravel. The technical proviso?

Senator Talmadge. -- that the Chairman would not need to call us again to reaffirm what we expect to do today, if we just take the nominations and return it to the Clerk's desk and put it on the calendar.

The Chairman. As I understand the motion, the motion is when we receive the nomination we simply ask unanimous consent that the nomination be considered forthwith, and state that the Committee has conducted a hearing and has

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considered the qualifications of the nominee and the Committee recommends that the nominee be confirmed?

Senator Talmadge. That is the motion.

Mr. Stern. A quorum is now present.

The Chairman. All in favor, say aye.

(A chorus of ayes.)

The Chairman. Opposed, no?

(No response)

The Chairman. The ayes have it.

Senator Packwood. Did we just endorse them all at once, en bloc ?

Senator Talmadge. En bloc.

Senator Packwood. I would like to vote no on Califano, yes on the other two. I would like to put a statement into the record on Califano.

(The material to be furnished follows:)

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The Chairman. I would suggest that we poll those who are necessarily absent and put themselves on record; for example, Senator Curtis sends his proxy.

Senator Hansen. I vote aye.

The Chairman. He should be recorded in the affirmative.

I have other proxies also.

Senator Ribicoff wishes to be recorded in favor of the vote and Senator Hathaway asked to be recorded in favor of the nominations.

I will ask the staff to contact the others and let us know of their views.

Now, I suppose that that is all we came to meet for today, and I would think that we -- what is our regular meeting hour, Mr. Stern?

Mr. Stern. Under your previous rules, it is the second and fourth Tuesday of the month.

The Chairman. I believe that we may want to meet on the next Tuesday, but I can make that official with you later on.

Senator Schmitt. Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman. I see that Mr. Woodworth is in the room.
Your nomination has been recommended and approved.

Senator Schmitt. Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman. Senator Schmitt?

Senator Schmitt. I am voting positive on all three

nominees. I would like to insert a reservation in the Committee record, if I may, about Mr. Califano and Mr. Blumenthal. It is just a brief paragraph; is that all right?

The Chairman. That is all right.

(The material to be furnished follows:)

COMMITTEE INSERT

Senator Nelson. Mr. Chairman, the Labor Committee needs a quorum on the same problem.

The Chairman. If there is no objection, we will adjourn. (Thereupon, at 10:20 a.m. the Committee adjourned.)