

Mr. REID: I am not sure of the date I discussed the matter with you, but I did discuss that very matter with you personally when you came to my office on another matter. I drew it to your attention. I do not know whether you gave instructions to the office after you had seen me or not, but I hope you did.

The WITNESS: Could I ask that that statement be withdrawn, please? I rather take strong exception to that statement.

The CHAIRMAN: You can take exception, but I do not think there is any need to withdraw it.

Mr. REID: I am not withdrawing it. He can take exception if he likes.

Mr. McILRAITH: Let us understand the statement. The statement you have made is that the letter that went out from the office on March 15th did not, in fact go on March 15th but went sometime later after Mr. Berry had seen Mr. Reid when the house was in session.

Mr. REID: Let me ask Mr. Berry this question.

Mr. McILRAITH: That is the point. The witness has asked the chairman to clear up that point, and I think the chairman should deal with it one way or the other.

The CHAIRMAN: The chairman is quite prepared to deal with any question brought before the meeting at any time. I did not take it just that way. Mr. Reid did not intend to intimate that he questioned as to the date on which this was sent out.

Mr. REID: No, I am not questioning that at all. The question I asked Mr. Berry to clear up was this. I ask him now and he can answer this if he likes.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Is the statement I have made to the committee not almost the same and, in fact, is the same as what I said to you privately in our conversation when I was drawing your attention to what I thought was wrong out there?—A. Yes.

Q. Exactly?—A. But I rather take exception to the suggestion—I believe I am correct in stating this—that as a result of that conversation which I believe took place not more than a week ago that I had this letter ante-dated and sent out instructions following that.

Q. No, no, I am not accusing you of that.—A. That is the implication I took from the statement.

Q. I am not accusing you of ante-dating it. I was merely asking you if that letter went out after I had discussed the matter with you and drew your attention to what was going on. Now you come forward with a report that the matter had been attended to and everything is fine out there. I still make the statement that on the days I visited Boundary Bay airport—and take this down again and take it right—on the two days I visited the airport at Boundary Bay there was no official of War Assets Corporation taking any check of the material that was coming off the trucks, the airforce trucks.

*By Mr. Golding:*

Q. In order to straighten this out that letter of Mr. Berry's went out on the 15th of March?—A. The letter is dated the 15th of March.

Q. Can you tell us now on what date you had the discussion with Mr. Reid?—A. About a week ago, I believe.

Mr. McILRAITH: It was one of the days that the War Expenditures was sitting, and it was not on Tuesday of this week.

Mr. REID: Mr. McIlraith knows when the visit took place because I drew the matter to his attention. I made the same statement to him. The statement is clear because it is a matter of personal experience of what a man has seen. That is different from hearsay.