

M E M O R A N D U M

August 22, 1944

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE  
FROM: GEORGE MEADER  
SUBJECT: INVESTIGATIONS TO BE HELD IN BOSTON

A sub-committee headed by Senator Kilgore and consisting of Senators Connally, Hatch, Tunnell, Brewster, Burton and Ferguson, has been appointed by Senator Mead to hold hearings on five matters at Boston, Massachusetts for three days commencing Wednesday, August 30, 1944.

The matters to be considered are as follows:

1. Complaint of Ark-Les Switch Corporation that the Navy, in the procurement of electrical switches, has favored Arrow, Hart and Hegeman over other suppliers. Executive.
2. Complaint of Leon Conant that the military services have opposed the adoption of a process of vulcanizing rubber to leather soles for military shoes, because of the opposition of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation, which has a monopoly on sole stitching and nailing machines which might become obsolete through the wide-spread use of the vulcanization process. Executive.
3. Charges of waste and extravagance in the construction and operation of the Boston Army Port of Embarkation. Executive.
4. Inspection of the Navy Yard at Boston.
5. Inspection of the 5th Echelon Base Repair Shop at Whittemore (30 miles from Boston) where used military vehicles are being rebuilt and reconditioned for shipment overseas.

The party will leave Washington Tuesday night (August 29th) at 11:00 P. M. and will have reservations at the Hotel Statler in Boston. Since some of the Senators will not desire to return to Washington I



will contact all of those who can make the trip so that arrangements can be made regarding their return from Boston.

Copies:

Senators Kilgore  
Connally  
Hatch  
Tunnell  
Brewster  
Burton  
Ferguson  
Mr. Halley