



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON 25

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Chairman,

Federal Trade Commission.

My dear Mr. Davis:

I have your letter of December 10, 1945, as follows:

"Enclosed herewith is a copy of letter of December 7, 1945, from Mr. Willard L. Thorp, Deputy to the Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C., which is self-explanatory.

"We are willing to lend our employee, Mr. Robert B. Dawkins, for this service, but we are submitting to you for decision the question whether you will approve the payment of his salary by the Federal Trade Commission during the period he is on this work.

"Please advise us as soon as possible, as it is indicated that this mission is to leave for Japan December 15, 1945."

The copy of the referred-to letter reads as follows:

"In the President's statement on U. S. Policy for the Treatment of Japan, published September 23, this Government is committed to disestablishing the Japanese business monopolies and destroying the influences of the large family combines commonly known as the 'Zaibatsu'. The Department of State and the War Department are planning to send, about December 15, a mission of experts to Tokyo for not more than ninety days to study this problem on the spot and to recommend standards and procedures under which to carry out these purposes.

"The Department of State has assumed primary responsibility for recruiting membership on this mission. It has assigned Dr. Gerwin D. Edwards, Consultant on International Industrial Organization in this Department to head a group of about eight or nine experts. This Department believes that the experience of Mr. Robert Dawkins will contribute significantly to the work of the

mission, and requests that the Federal Trade Commission make available the services of Mr. Dawkins for this important assignment.

"The War Department has undertaken to finance the mission with the understanding that the salaries of those members who are on the payroll of a government agency will be paid by the agency. Transportation, housing, meals, per diem, etc. will be covered by the War Department.

"The Bureau of the Budget has advised that it would have no objection to the Federal Trade Commission paying Mr. Dawkins' salary while he is engaged in the work of the mission. I shall appreciate it, therefore, if you will arrange to release him on the conditions indicated above."

Section 214 of the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1946, approved May 3, 1945, Public Law 49, provides:

"Sec. 214. Hereafter appropriations of the executive departments and independent establishments of the Government shall be available for the expenses of committees, boards, or other interagency groups engaged in authorized activities of common interest to such departments and establishments and composed in whole or in part of representatives thereof who receive no additional compensation by virtue of such membership: Provided, That employees of such departments and establishments rendering service for such committees, boards, or other groups, other than as representatives, shall receive no additional compensation by virtue of such service."

If it be administratively determined--and it is so certified-- that the referred-to mission to Japan will be engaged in an authorized activity of common interest to your Commission and the War and State Departments, such mission would appear to come within the purview of the above-quoted statutory provision. Under those circumstances, the appropriation for the Federal Trade Commission

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would be available for the payment of the salary of the consultant from your Commission while detailed to the mission.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Lindsey G. Warsaw

Comptroller General
of the United States.