

Public bills, by bill number: 87th Congress: 1st Session:H.R. 6756

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers

House records, Legislation, Bills, Inouye's own bills, Public bills, by bill number, 87th

Congress, 1st Session, Box HR10, Folder 46

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87TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6756

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 1961

Mr. INOUE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That section 4561 of title 10, United States Code, is
4 amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

5 “(e) To the maximum extent practicable, coffee pro-
6 vided as a part of such ration shall contain not less than
7 10 per centum Kona coffee grown in Hawaii.”

8 SEC. 2. Sections 6082 and 9561 of title 10, United

- 1 States Code, are each amended by adding at the end thereof
- 2 the following:
- 3 “(d) To the maximum extent practicable, coffee pro-
- 4 vided as a part of such ration shall contain not less than 10
- 5 per centum Kona coffee grown in Hawaii.”

87TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6756

A BILL

To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States.

By Mr. INOUE

MAY 2, 1961

Referred to the Committee on Armed Services

JUL 13 1962

Honorable Carl Vinson
Chairman, Committee on
Armed Services
House of Representatives

JUL 18 1962

HR 6716

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Reference is made to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense on H. R. 6756, 87th Congress, a bill "To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States." The Department of the Army has been assigned responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense on this bill.

The bill provides that to the maximum extent practicable, coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in Hawaii.

The Department of the Army on behalf of the Department of Defense is opposed to the bill.

The Department of Defense purchases either roasted and ground coffee or instant coffee, which has been processed within the United States. For many years the armed forces experimented with various blends of coffee for the purpose of obtaining a brew that would be acceptable on a service-wide basis. Such a blend was achieved in 1950 and, since then, service coffee has been standardized in a blend of 70% Santos and 30% Colombian coffees. The brew produced by coffee blended in the 70-30 ratio is considered by many coffee experts to be an excellent combination.

Tests conducted on the inclusion of Kona coffee in the military blend indicate that Kona coffee of a certain type (Kona Extra Prime Grade) can be substituted for up to 20% of the Santos content without materially changing its flavor. Such substitution would be completely dependent upon the certain identification of this type of Kona coffee in the trade. There is, however, no precise commercial description of Kona Extra Prime Grade. Kona coffee could not be substituted for the

Honorable Carl Vinson

Colombian content of the military blend without adversely affecting the flavor of the blend.

The annual quantity of coffee grown in Hawaii (Kona) varies considerably from year to year, but usually is less than 10,000,000 pounds. Most of this production is marketed annually in the five month period September through January. Within the United States, Kona coffee is normally handled only in San Francisco and its availability on the mainland has been restricted generally to the far west and the west coast. During 1960 approximately 7,621,000 pounds of Kona coffee were shipped to San Francisco from Hawaii. Apparently there is a market for all Kona coffee produced and the Department of Defense is not aware of any surplus of Kona coffee.

With this limited availability, enactment of this legislation would make it impossible for the armed forces to purchase and serve a uniform product throughout the year.

Furthermore enactment of this legislation would restrict competition since only suppliers who were able to include 10% Kona coffee would be eligible for award. It would also have a direct bearing on increased cost of coffee for the armed forces and would result in payment of a premium for Kona coffee. The effect would be to use military subsistence appropriations as a source of subsidy to Hawaiian coffee producers. In this connection during the current fiscal year green coffee used in military blends will approximate 60,000,000 pounds of which more than 40,000,000 pounds will be Santos coffees. If a 20% substitution were made, about 8,000,000 pounds of Kona Extra Prime Grade would be required. An extra demand of this size would undoubtedly increase considerably the price of Kona coffee. Based on 1960 and 1961 prices it is estimated that the use of 8,000,000 pounds of Kona coffee by the military services would cause an annual increase of \$300,000.00 in the cost of military coffee. This increased cost would be an unbudgeted item and could not be absorbed. Additional funds would therefore be required. Public Law 801-84th Congress is not applicable to this report.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this report for the consideration of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

| (Signed)

Cyrus R. Vance
Secretary of the Army

July 18, 1962

*Copy
Murray
HR 6756*

Honorable Carl Vinson
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
313 House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of July 16, 1962 with an attachment of a copy of a report from the Department of the Army on my bill, HR 6756.

Sincerely yours,

DANIEL K. INOUE
Member of Congress

DKI:lp

CARL VINSON, GA., CHAIRMAN

L. MENDEL RIVERS, S.C.
PHILIP J. PHILBIN, MASS.
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WILLIAM H. BATES, MASS.
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WILLIAM G. BRAY, IND.
BOB WILSON, CALIF.
FRANK C. OSMERS, JR., N.J.
CHARLES S. GUBSER, CALIF.
FRANK J. BECKER, N.Y.
CHARLES E. CHAMBERLAIN, MICH.
ALEXANDER PIRNIE, N.Y.
DURWARD G. HALL, MO.
DONALD D. CLANCY, OHIO
ROBERT T. STAFFORD, VT.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUITE 313, HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

July 16, 1962

JUL 17 1962

Military Coffee

A. FERNÓS-ISERN, PUERTO RICO

ROBERT W. SMART, CHIEF COUNSEL

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Inouye:

There is hereto attached a copy of the report
which was today received from the Department of
the Army on your bill, H. R. 6756.

Sincerely yours,



Carl Vinson
Chairman

Enclosure

S

CARL VINSON, GA., CHAIRMAN

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUITE 313, HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

July 16, 1962

A. FERNÓS-ISERN, PUERTO RICO

ROBERT W. SMART, CHIEF COUNSEL

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Inouye:

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which was today received from the Department of
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Sincerely yours,

Carl Vinson
Chairman

Enclosure
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Honorable Carl Vinson
Chairman, Committee on
Armed Services
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Reference is made to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense on H. R. 6756, 87th Congress, a bill "To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States." The Department of the Army has been assigned responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense on this bill.

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The Department of Defense purchases either roasted and ground coffee or instant coffee, which has been processed within the United States. For many years the armed forces experimented with various blends of coffee for the purpose of obtaining a brew that would be acceptable on a service-wide basis. Such a blend was achieved in 1950 and, since then, service coffee has been standardized in a blend of 70% Santos and 30% Colombian coffees. The brew produced by coffee blended in the 70-30 ratio is considered by many coffee experts to be an excellent combination.

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Honorable Carl Vinson

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With this limited availability, enactment of this legislation would make it impossible for the armed forces to purchase and serve a uniform product throughout the year.

Furthermore enactment of this legislation would restrict competition since only suppliers who were able to include 10% Kona coffee would be eligible for award. It would also have a direct bearing on increased cost of coffee for the armed forces and would result in payment of a premium for Kona coffee. The effect would be to use military subsistence appropriations as a source of subsidy to Hawaiian coffee producers. In this connection during the current fiscal year green coffee used in military blends will approximate 60,000,000 pounds of which more than 40,000,000 pounds will be Santos coffees. If a 20% substitution were made, about 8,000,000 pounds of Kona Extra Prime Grade would be required. An extra demand of this size would undoubtedly increase considerably the price of Kona coffee. Based on 1960 and 1961 prices it is estimated that the use of 8,000,000 pounds of Kona coffee by the military services would cause an annual increase of \$300,000.00 in the cost of military coffee. This increased cost would be an unbudgeted item and could not be absorbed. Additional funds would therefore be required. Public Law 801-84th Congress is not applicable to this report.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this report for the consideration of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Cyrus R. Vance
Secretary of the Army

DANIEL K. INOUYE
HAWAII

425 OLD HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

July 26, 1962

ALFRED LAURETA
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
SUMIKO BRANDON
SECRETARY
LEIMOMI C. SPROAT
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

STATE OFFICE:
CAPITAL INVESTMENT BUILDING
HONOLULU, HAWAII
MORIO OMORI
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
EDNA Y. HORIUCHI
SECRETARY

Dear

Attached you will find a copy of a report made by the Secretary of Defense on my Bill, HR 6756. Since the report is an unfavorable one, the Committee will naturally be disinclined to approve its passage.

In order that I may have sufficient evidence to counteract the contention of the Secretary of Defense, may I have your views and comments on the attached report.

Aloha,

DANIEL K. INOUYE
Member of Congress

DKI:lp
Enc.

Kona Contacts For D. Inouye

- ✓ 1. Harold Fujita-Monaunau, Hawaii
2. Ichiro Shikada-Kealahou, Hawaii
3. Yasumitsu Deguchi-Capt. Cook, Hawaii (Muggs)
4. Yoshio Noguchi-Kealahou, Hawaii
5. Mrs. Helene Hale-Opihiale, Kona, Hawaii
6. Peter Kawahara-Holualoa, Hawaii
7. Shoji Kawahara-Holualoa, Hawaii
8. Colbert Nozaki-Holualoa, Hawaii
9. David Ota-Holualoa, Hawaii
10. Francis Ota-Holualoa, Hawaii
11. Herbert Okano-Keauhou, Hawaii
12. George Shimizu-Kealahou, Hawaii
13. Mrs. Fanny Martinson-Kailua, Kona, Hawaii
14. Harold Higashihara-Holualoa, Hawaii (Kuma)
15. Morris Kimura-Holualoa, Hawaii
16. Kenneth Komo-Keoupu, Kona, Hawaii
17. Ralph Fukumitsu-Kealahou, Hawaii
18. Junio Nakashima-Kealahou, Hawaii
19. Kiyoshi Kamitaki-Keauhou, Hawaii
20. Peter Hirata-Holualoa, Hawaii
21. Tojiro Motoki-Kealahou, Hawaii
22. George Hagiwara-Holualoa, Hawaii
23. Hideo Yokoyama-Holualoa, Hawaii
24. Jack Tokunaga-Kealahou, Hawaii
25. Henry Hunitomo-Monaunau, Hawaii
26. Yasuki Nakagawa-Holualoa, Hawaii
27. Harry Tanaka-Kealahou, Hawaii
28. Joe Kanigaki-Monaunau, Hawaii (Rep.)
29. Tsuyoki Nakashima-Kealahou, Hawaii (Rep)
30. John Iwane-Kealahou, Hawaii
31. Edward Fukunaga-Kealahou, Hawaii
32. Osao Okumura-Monaunau, Hawaii
33. Tom Kadooka, Kealahou, Hawaii
34. John Jack Springer-Kailua, Kona, Hawaii
35. Wilber Okada-Kealahou, Hawaii
36. Jay Honaka-Capt. Cook
37. Albert Akana-Houma, Hawaii
38. Yoshio Fujikawa-Monaunau, Hawaii
39. Takumi Kudo-Monaunau, Hawaii
40. Bunsaku Sato-Holualoa, Hawaii
41. Keiji Yamagata-Kealahou, Hawaii
42. Albert Onaka-Holualoa, Hawaii
43. George Harada-P. O. Box 55, Holualoa, Hawaii

87TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6756

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 1961

Mr. INOUYE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That section 4561 of title 10, United States Code, is
4 amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

5 “(e) To the maximum extent practicable, coffee pro-
6 vided as a part of such ration shall contain not less than
7 10 per centum Kona coffee grown in Hawaii.”

8 SEC. 2. Sections 6082 and 9561 of title 10, United

1 States Code, are each amended by adding at the end thereof
2 the following:

3 “(d) To the maximum extent practicable, coffee pro-
4 vided as a part of such ration shall contain not less than 10
5 per centum Kona coffee grown in Hawaii.”

87TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6756

A BILL

To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States.

By Mr. INOUYE

MAY 2, 1961

Referred to the Committee on Armed Services

DANIEL K. INOUE
HAWAII

425 OLD HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

1274

Mary

ALFRED LAURETA
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SUMIKO BRANDON
SECRETARY

LEIMOMI C. SPROAT
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

STATE OFFICE:
CAPITAL INVESTMENT BUILDING
HONOLULU, HAWAII

MORIO OMORI
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

EDNA Y. HORIUCHI
SECRETARY

June 8, 1962

The matched funds program on marketing:

Appropriations therefor are now before Whitten's Agricultural Subcommittee on Appropriations. Figure now stands the same as they had last year. Hawaii got in under the appropriation for the first time this year. (1962 budget). If the appropriation remains the same, Hawaii will continue to get \$5,400. \$5,000 of this is for the developing of grades and standards on Kona coffee; \$400 of it is for market news on Kona coffee (periodical report on prices paid).

Hawaii is asking for \$10,400 this year (1963 budget).

DANIEL K. INOUE
HAWAII

425 OLD HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

ALFRED LAURETA
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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SECRETARY

LEIMOMI C. SPROAT
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

STATE OFFICE:
CAPITAL INVESTMENT BUILDING
HONOLULU, HAWAII

MORIO OMORI
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

EDNA Y. HORIUCHI
SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

IBM Roko

Dear

As you may know, on May 2, 1961 I introduced HR 6756 which, if enacted, would require the Military to purchase for their use Hawaiian grown Kona coffee. Soon thereafter, the Department of the Army reported that it would conduct tests to determine whether a brew acceptable to members of the armed forces could be obtained from a blend of coffees containing not less than 10% Kona coffee.

I have this date received a partial report from the Department of the Army, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. I call your attention to the second paragraph of said letter and especially to the statement which reads as follows:

"Tests recently concluded on the inclusion of Kona coffee in the military blend indicate that Kona coffee of a certain type (Kona Extra Prime Grade) may be substituted up to 20 percent of the Santos content without materially changing the flavor. Such substitution, of course, would be completely dependent upon the positive identification of this type of Kona coffee in the trade. In this connection, attention is invited to the fact that there is no precise commercial description of Kona Extra Prime Grade."

I invite your comments and suggestions to the statement that there is no precise commercial description of Kona Extra Prime Grade and would appreciate very much any information available to assist me in convincing the authorities involved and Congress that they should give their approval to HR 6756.

Your early reply will be very deeply appreciated.

Aloha,

4
DANIEL K. INOUE
Member of Congress



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAY 31 1962

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Inouye:

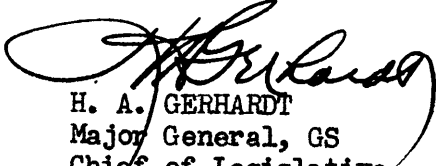
This is in reply to your letter of May 22, 1962 concerning the Department of the Army report on H.R. 6756, 87th Congress. A proposed report on the bill is now being coordinated within the Department of Defense. After this coordination has been completed and clearance from the Bureau of the Budget has been obtained, the report will be forwarded to the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

As you probably are aware, the Armed Forces for a number of years have conducted experiments with various blends of coffee for the purpose of obtaining a brew that would be acceptable on a service-wide basis. Such a blend was achieved in 1950 and, since then, service coffee has been standardized in a blend of 70 percent Santos and 30 percent Colombian coffee. Tests recently concluded on the inclusion of Kona coffee in the military blend indicate that Kona coffee of a certain type (Kona Extra Prime Grade) may be substituted up to 20 percent of the Santos content without materially changing the flavor. Such substitution, of course, would be completely dependent upon the positive identification of this type of Kona coffee in the trade. In this connection, attention is invited to the fact that there is no precise commercial description of Kona Extra Prime Grade. The tests further revealed that Kona coffee may not be substituted for the Colombian content without adversely affecting the flavor of the blend.

I will forward to you a copy of the Department of the Army report on H.R. 6756 contemporaneously with its submission to the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

I trust the foregoing will be helpful.

Sincerely yours,


H. A. GERHARDT
Major General, GS
Chief of Legislative
Liaison

MAY 31 1962

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye

House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Inouye:

This is in reply to your letter of May 22, 1962 concerning the Department of the Army report on H.R. 6756, 87th Congress. A proposed report on the bill is now being coordinated within the Department of Defense. After this coordination has been completed and clearance from the Bureau of the Budget has been obtained, the report will be forwarded to the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

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I will forward to you a copy of the Department of the Army report on H.R. 6756 contemporaneously with its submission to the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

I trust the foregoing will be helpful.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. A. Gerhardt

H. A. GERHARDT
Major General, GS
Chief of Legislative
Liaison

June 12, 1962

Honorable Jamie L. Whitten, Chairman
Subcommittee on Agriculture
House Committee on Appropriations
HE 313, Capitol
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am advised that your Committee has had under consideration the matched funds program of the Agricultural Marketing Service containing an appropriation item therein in the sum of \$5,400 for the State of Hawaii, which would be applied towards the developing of grades and standards on Kona coffee and for market news on Kona coffee. Hawaii, for the first time last year, was accorded these benefits under the Agricultural Marketing Service.

As you may know, Hawaii is the only coffee producing State in the Union and this industry is confined chiefly in the district of Kona, on the Island of Hawaii. More than 1,000 small farmers, their families and their employees depend upon coffee for their livelihood. Coffee, in fact, is the basis for the entire economy of a significant part of the island but, unfortunately, the industry has been confronted with difficulties resulting from severe cost-price squeeze which, in turn, is attributable to the fact that Kona coffee must be sold on the general world market at world market levels and because we do not have the means of securing the premium place in the market that the natural quality of our coffee warrants.

Studies conducted by the University of Hawaii and the U.S. Department of Agriculture have shown that Kona coffee, if properly processed and efficiently marketed, is of quality to compete with any other coffee in the world; that the present means of processing and the absence of standards and grades lead to inferior coffee being offered for sale at a competitive disadvantage; and that these are insufficient means of disseminating market information, and hence, the farmers are likely to sell their product at inconsistent and disadvantageous prices.

Honorable Jamie L. Whitten
Page 2

June 12, 1962

The inclusion of Hawaii's Kona coffee in the Agricultural Marketing Service program is definitely a step in the right direction but the assistance made available last year with the appropriation of \$5,400 could only begin to scratch the surface of this program.

I have now pending in the House Armed Services Committee, HR 6756, which would require that to the extent practicable, coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee. The Department of the Army recently advised me as follows:

"Tests recently concluded on the inclusion of a certain type (Kona Extra Prime Grade) may be substituted up to 20 percent of the Santos content without materially changing the flavor (of the present military coffee blend). Such substitution of course, would be completely dependent upon the positive identification of this type of Kona coffee in the trade. In this connection, attention is invited to the fact that there is no precise commercial description of Kona Extra Prime Grade."

This statement from the Army points out that there is definite need for the kind of aid provided by the Agricultural Marketing Service. If, with the assistance of the Agricultural Marketing Service, a precise commercial description of Kona Extra Prime Grade could be established, military purchases of Kona coffee would add considerable alleviation of the present plight of the coffee industry in Hawaii.

The purpose of my writing is to request your Committee's consideration in raising the amount of \$5,400 to \$10,400, which would enable a more realistic and more effective Agricultural Marketing Service program in Hawaii, thereby enabling the coffee industry to earlier overcome some of the problems confronting it.

With warmest regards and hopes for your favorable consideration, I am

Sincerely,

DANIEL K. INOUE
Member of Congress

DKI:sb

May 22, 1962

Brigadier General H. A. Gerhardt
Chief of Legislative Liaison
Department of the Army
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Gerhardt:

On June 22, 1961, and in response to a request for a departmental report on HR 6756 from the Honorable Carl Vinson, Chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services, you stated that it would be necessary to conduct tests to determine whether a brew acceptable to the members of the armed forces could be obtained from a blend of coffees containing not less than 10% Kona coffee.

These tests, you approximated, would take about six months to complete at which time a final departmental report would be submitted re HR 6756 which I introduced. Inasmuch as ten months have already expired, I would appreciate very much your advising me as to the results of said tests and the position taken by the Department of the Army on said bill. I'm sure that the Committee would likewise welcome the promised submission of a completed report.

Your early reply and attention to this matter are appreciated.

Sincerely,

DANIEL K. INOUE
Member of Congress

DKI:lp

CARL VINSON, GA., CHAIRMAN

PAUL J. KILDAY, TEX.
L. MENDEL RIVERS, S.C.
PHILIP J. PHILBIN, MASS.
F. EDWARD HÉBERT, LA.
ARTHUR WINSTEAD, MISS.
MELVIN PRICE, ILL.
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUITE 313, HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

June 23, 1961

A. FERNÓS-ISERN, PUERTO RICO

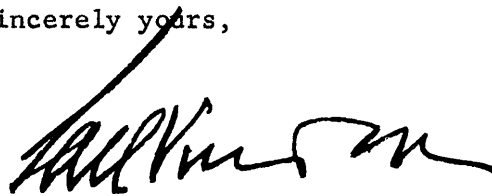
ROBERT W. SMART, CHIEF COUNSEL

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Inouye:

There is hereto attached a copy of the
interim report which was today received from
the Department of the Army on your bill,
H. R. 6756.

Sincerely yours,



Carl Vinson
Chairman

Enclosure
s

CARL VINSON, GA., CHAIRMAN

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8

JUN 22 1961

Honorable Carl Vinson
Chairman, Committee on
Armed Services
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Reference is made to your recent letter to the Secretary of Defense requesting the views of the Department of Defense on H.R. 6756, 87th Congress, a bill "To amend sections 4561, 6082, and 9561 of title 10, United States Code, to require that to the extent practicable coffee provided as part of the military ration shall contain not less than 10 per centum of Kona coffee grown in the United States." The Department of the Army has been assigned responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense on this bill.

To determine whether a brew acceptable to members of the armed forces can be obtained from a blend of coffees containing not less than 10% Kona coffee, it will be necessary to conduct tests on various blends and it is estimated that such tests cannot be completed in less than six months.

Accordingly, a complete reply to your letter on H.R. 6756 will be made as soon as possible after completion of the tests.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. A. Gerhardt

H. A. GERHARDT
Brigadier General, GS
Chief of Legislative
Liaison