

OLC 73-01224

19 October 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: H. R. 7135, Increasing the Ceiling for Claims Under the
Military and Civilian Claims Act of 1964

1. I called Bill Shattuck, Counsel, House Judiciary Committee, and expressed our strong interest in H. R. 7135, which amends the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act of 1964, raising the ceiling on claims for military and civilian agencies for personal property damages to \$12,000.

2. I explained to Shattuck that we are interested in the bills as we have several claims pending which greatly exceed the \$6,500 limit. Shattuck stated the Committee requested comments from CSC, Defense, State and USIA; however the reports have been late. OMB advised Shattuck the problem is due to State's position that the Claims Act be completely revised to remove any distinctions between the military and civilian agencies. Shattuck could not support State especially since it had already raised the ceiling for its employees through its own legislation.


3. Shattuck frankly expressed his feeling that the civilian agencies do not appear to be strongly behind the bill. He urged a strong case be made to support the raise in the ceiling. I again expressed our strong interest and explained that we are reluctant for security reasons to be out in front in supporting legislation. Shattuck stated that he clearly understood our position. He was sure the bill would move as soon as the reports are cleared by OMB, provided that the State position is resolved.


Assistant Legislative Counsel

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