

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
INVESTIGATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE,
Washington, D.C., Thursday, June 23, 1983.**

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m., in room 2212, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Bill Nichols (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. NICHOLS. The subcommittee will come to order.

The Investigations Subcommittee resumes its inquiry into the organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

We are indeed privileged this morning to have as a witness one of the most distinguished military figures in American history.

He is a native of Missouri. The Honorable Ike Skelton has asked for the honor of introducing him, and at this time I recognize the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Skelton.

Mr. SKELTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman

**STATEMENT OF HON. IKE SKELTON, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
MISSOURI**

Mr. SKELTON. It is more than a pleasure to introduce the witness today.

As you pointed out, he is a fellow Missourian, a great American, who was born in Keatsville, Mo., in Sheridan County, and raised in Kansas City, which is just not too far up the road from my home town of Lexington.

He has had a very distinguished career. He has had the titles of commanding general, 8th Army in Korea; the Army forces in the Far East; the commander in chief of the Far East Command; Chief of Staff, U.S. Army; military representative of the President. U.S. Army element, Office of the Secretary of Defense here in Washington; the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Ambassador to South Vietnam.

But I suppose, were you to ask him and to press him, I am sure that the General would say that his most memorable assignment was that as commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division during World War II. We are proud of him in Missouri, and we are proud of him as an American.

He served as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and in positions where he was on the receiving end, on the other end of giving the Joint Chiefs of Staff advice.

There is no way adequately to introduce Gen. Maxwell Taylor but to say, welcome, and we look forward to hearing from you, sir.

Mr. NICHOLS. Thank you, Mr. Skelton.

As in our prior hearings on this issue, I want to invite the gentleman from Missouri, who has a tremendous interest in this subject, to sit with the Investigations Subcommittee this morning.