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Ron Nessen

BILL SAXBE & INDIA

Q: Is Bill Saxbe qualified to be Ambassador to India?

A: Attorney General Saxbe probably knows ~~■~~ more about ~~■~~ India and is acquainted with more of her leaders than anyone in Congress ~~■~~ or the Executive Branch, which few people realize. He has had four separate meetings with Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, over the past five years, and he has made five visits to the country. He is well-known to members of the Indian Parliament as well as to the Indian press corps because he usually agrees to see newsmen ~~■~~ during ~~■~~ his visits.

In 1970, he hosted a group of seven Indian legislators in his home in Mechanicsburg, Ohio while they were in the United States to study political campaigns. (Saxbe was not running that year.) In 1971 (December) ~~■~~ while he was still in the Senate, he and Sen. Church went to India and Pakistan on ~~■~~ what Saxbe called a peace keeping mission to try to convince the two governments not to go to war. (Trip was not successful from that standpoint, because they did go to war)

His most recent visit was in August of 1973 when he stopped in India after a trip to Bangladesh. At that time, he met with Ambassador Monahan and Indian officials.

He is often invited to the Indian Embassy here because of his interest ~~■~~ in the country.

*1st went there in 1969, as a Senator,
to an Parliamentary Meeting ~~■~~
~~■~~ and was in*

MEMORANDUM

