

Senator BURDICK. In other words, there are no new or reclaimed lands, which had not been cultivated before, being brought into the picture at all?

Mr. HOLUM. No; there are not.

Senator BURDICK. Is it true also under this bill, and isn't it true also of the Garrison project, that for a period of 10 years from the time of the enactment of this legislation that crops would not have the benefit of the price support program?

Mr. HOLUM. Senators McGovern and Mundt include that language in Senate bill 6. The Department has no objection to it whatsoever.

Senator BURDICK. In other words, there are no new lands brought in and for those that are irrigated, where water is brought to them, there will be no Government programs available for those crops. I would think that would take care of all those detractors.

Mr. HOLUM. We understand, Senator Burdick, that there is this concern over certain crops that are temporarily in surplus. I think the net effect of the Garrison diversion unit and the net effect of the Oahe diversion unit is to divert lands that are now involved in the production of surplus crops to the production of crops that are urgently needed and will be needed with increasing urgency in this country and around the world.

We have discussed the growing needs of the country for meat and meat products. We will be glad to supply them again with regard to this hearing. But these projects will permit, in fact they will not only permit but encourage and make inevitable, a substantial shift from the production of cereal crops to the production of livestock and meat products.

The country urgently needs more capacity to produce beef, pork, lamb, and other meat products, as our population grows and our economy grows. We shift more and more to a meat diet when the economy grows.

Senator BURDICK. The third point I think we should mention is the fact that we are projecting this beyond the construction period, which will be 10 or 15 years at least. The population to be fed will be greater by that time also.

Mr. HOLUM. There are substantial periods involved even before the 190,000 acres in the first stage is in production.

Senator BURDICK. Mr. Secretary, I want to acknowledge again the tremendous job that your Department did in the Garrison project, and also in the Oahe unit. The assistance that you, your staff and your Department have given has been very great.

Mr. HOLUM. We have found a great deal of satisfaction in working with you, Senator Burdick, and your colleagues, on the Garrison diversion unit. We think it is a very wise resource development. We feel the same satisfaction with respect to the Oahe.

Senator BURDICK. Senator McGovern?

Senator MCGOVERN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to join in commending Secretary Holum for what I regard as a superb review of the whole background and the case for this project.

With regard to the questions that the chairman has just raised, when we talk about meeting the food needs of this country as it relates to the Oahe project, isn't it true that we are talking roughly about a 20-