

take whatever steps necessary and practical toward expediting the authorization and eventual completion of this project.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express these views.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you very much.

I notice your concern about the change that was made in the report with reference to building additional capacity to take care of the second stage of the project. I think you heard the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Holum, say this morning that in his judgment he does not see that as any real threat to the completion of the project. I think that is the judgment of people all through the administration who have been working on this. I share your concern.

Thank you so much for your statement.

Mr. RADCLIFFE. Thank you.

Senator McGOVERN. Next will be Mr. Mike Cassady, executive vice president of the Mississippi Valley Association.

**STATEMENT OF E. MICHAEL CASSADY, EXECUTIVE VICE
PRESIDENT, MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ASSOCIATION**

Mr. CASSADY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My name is E. Michael Cassady, and I am executive vice president of the Mississippi Valley Association, with headquarters in St. Louis.

I have a prepared statement that I will not take your time to read. I will file it for the record.

I would like to make one comment. I heard one of Senator Jordan's questions here this morning.

I might tell you also for the record that the Mississippi Valley Association is the country's largest water resource development organization. We have membership virtually throughout the United States, but our primary interest is Mississippi and its tributaries from Montana and New York and Canada to the gulf.

As such, we have many of our members whose major interest is in navigation. People in Louisiana, for example, who have an interest in navigation, also have an interest in flood control. They are extremely appreciative of what South Dakota has given up with the main stream reservoirs that keep the water off their back.

Forty-three percent of the rainfall in the United States or the runoff, passes through the State of Louisiana.

I wanted to assure you and the committee that the navigation people that we represent are fully aware of this project. They have supported it for many years and are on record as doing so now, as I mention in my statement.

Thank you very much.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you for your helpful statement.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

**STATEMENT OF E. MICHAEL CASSADY, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, MISSISSIPPI
VALLEY ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee my name is E. Michael Cassady and I am Executive Vice President of the Mississippi Valley Association with headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri.

At our last Annual Meeting held in Chicago in February 1967, over 2,000 members in behalf of all Mississippi Valley Association members throughout a 23-state area, unanimously supported immediate authorization and initial construc-