

tion on the Senate side. I do hope that we can do it without unreasonable delay.

This is a very difficult time in budgeting matters, as you know, because of the various demands that are being made on the Federal Treasury and the fact that additional demands, important as they are, are getting closer scrutiny than they have ever had perhaps in the several years that I have been here.

I do think that this is a reasonable request, and I shall do as I said to the chairman, use my best efforts to help the authorization go forward.

On another matter, I am concerned about the operation of the so-called Multiple Use Act of 1964, which was supposed to have been an interim act due to expire on June 30, 1969. The right for the classification of lands has always existed, but this particular act was intended to accommodate emergency situations that might arise, but we find that under its authority the Department has proceeded with great zeal to set aside vast areas of the public domain, I think far beyond what we anticipated in this interim legislation.

Are you concerned that by the time the 18-month extension rolls around that we might have a vastly smaller area upon which to work our will because of the activities of the Department of the Interior in proceeding, I think, with undue zeal and haste in this area?

Mr. PEARL. Senator, as you indicated, the Classification and Multiple Use Act was enacted as a temporary measure to give the Secretary of the Interior and Director of the Bureau of Land Management tools with which to work while the Commission was making its study, and the law was geared to expire a short time after the Commission's report was due.

The thought was, and I think still is, that if the Commission's recommendations are going to be implemented, the Commission's recommendations have the consensus and support of all of the groups that are working with us, the whole spectrum of land users, then these classifications, no matter what they are and no matter what their technical term might be, will be subject to the change that would be required to implement the Commission's recommendations.

Classifications that are made by the Secretary or by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, whether the law has expired under which they are made or not, are always subject to change by the same administrators or by the Congress. The degree to which they might remain in effect on these public lands will depend, in my own opinion, on the degree of acceptability of the Commission's recommendations if the Commission's recommendations are at variance with the type of classifications that have been made.

Senator JORDAN. I just mention it, and I mention it for the record because I have before me the Federal Register of Tuesday, October 24, 1967, in which some 4,340,329 acres, all in Arizona, all in one issue, are set aside as classified lands, and there is a vast acreage in California in the same issue that is not totaled up, and I didn't take the time to total it up, but it runs into hundreds of thousands or possibly even millions of acres.

Mr. PEARL. Of course, Senator Jordan, I have seen these, too, and we have looked at some of them and in our studies we will be looking at all of them. I don't know the reasons why these particular areas were deemed necessary for classification at this time. Of course, as