

Now, in mentioning this, let me say this, that as I understand it, Ketchikan Pulp got 855,000 acres for their 50-year allotment, but out of this 855,000 acres, there are only 150,000 acres which contain commercially operable stands of timber, about one-sixth of the allotment, and Alaska Lumber and Pulp has a worse experience than this. My information is that they get 30,000 to 35,000 board feet yield per acre, and much of the acreage is just simply not commercially operable. If this is true, I come to the final question that it would appear that there may be no commercially operable surplus of timber in Alaska, and if there is, why don't we put it up for sale.

The other question that I would like to have answered is why was the allowable cut reduced in the Alaska region in 1963 by 40 percent or so. It went down as I recall to about 500 million, and then this cut was rescinded and it was increased again to 824 million for the Tongass National Forest later the same year. If I could have these answered for the record I would appreciate it very much.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for your patience.

Senator MORSE. Thank you very much.

Representative POLLOCK. If you will excuse me I will go make a rollcall.

Mr. CLIFF. We will be very glad to supply the answers to those questions.

Senator MORSE. Let the record show that Mr. Cliff will supply a memorandum answering Congressman Pollock's questions.

May I have the attention of the official reporter. In the printed copy of the hearings the memorandum will be inserted in the record at this point. It will not be possible for the reporter to have the answers in the record by the time the transcript is released tomorrow, but as soon as it has been supplied the reporter will put the answers in the record at the appropriate place.

Thank you very much.

(The memorandum referred to follows:)

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING ALASKA NATIONAL FOREST—TIMBER SALES AND ALLOWABLE CUTS

The 50-year term timber sales on the Tongass National Forest, made to Ketchikan Pulp Company in 1951 and Alaska Lumber & Pulp Company in 1956, were for the timber on specific areas. Provisions in the respective sale contracts state minimum volumes for each sale area and provide that if, during the course of each such sale, these volumes fall short of the specified minimums, additional timber will be designated for cutting to make up for such shortages. Forest Service inventory records show that there is sufficient volume of timber in commercial stands on each such sale to fulfill contract requirements. At this time, the Forest Service is cooperating with both companies in checking sale area volumes.

The allowable cut of current economically accessible timber on the combined Tongass and Chugach National Forests is 891 million board feet. Actual cut during fiscal year 1968 is expected to be about 535 million board feet. Additional sales to provide for using the remaining allowable cut are being made as fast as development proposals and Forest Service manpower resources permit. Large volume sales planned for 1968 plus full-stream operation of the Alaska Wood Products, Inc., mill at Wrangell should provide an additional capacity of about 100 million board feet. The Juneau Pulp Unit Sale which was dropped by St. Regis Paper Company provided for an annual cut of 175 million board feet. Action is being taken to offer the sale to the next highest bidder at the high bid prices. Replanning of the remaining unused allowable cut will be done following the outcome of the Juneau Unit Sale.

There are five working circles on the Tongass National Forest and one on the Chugach. Early allowable cuts for these Forests were based on generalized vol-