

Senator HARRIS. You would be the proper one to respond to that.
The CHAIRMAN. Talking about S. 2828, your bill.

Senator MONRONEY. The report has come to the committee, I presume.

The CHAIRMAN. You probably have not had a chance to see it.

Senator MONRONEY. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. There is a report from the Secretary of the Interior recommending against it and also from the Department of the Army by the Secretary of the Army, opposing the enactment of the bill.

I think that answers the question.

Senator HARRIS. I might say I am not surprised nor moved by that report but I had not known that you had received it yet.

Senator MONRONEY. Could I ask a question?

Am I not correct that the bill, when it did pass the Senate, struck the provision for the collection of fees and that the collection was restored by the conferees on that piece of legislation?

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Monroney, I am trying to check that very point. I did not raise it because I am not sure about it. We had an argument, as I recall, over the question of access to these areas. This is what the hassle was about between the House and the Senate. But I can't specifically respond to your question until we find the bill as it passed and we are trying to get a copy of that.

Senator MONRONEY. I have had my staff working on it. I apologize for not having my statement ready but I have been busy with matters of campaign.

The CHAIRMAN. We never enforce the rules on Senators or House Members. We realize that it is not possible.

Senator MONRONEY. It is a very good rule, I will say, and it should be observed by Senators as well as departments.

The CHAIRMAN. The trouble is that you depart from your text anyway so it does not matter.

Any further questions?

Senator ALLOTT. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I have just one question.

When this legislation originally came before the Senate, I was less than enthusiastic about the overall approach. One of the chief things that bothered me was the administrative cost of it. I thought that the mechanics of the enforcement of this would be a little beyond us and I will be interested to get from the testimony of both the Department of the Interior and the Corps of Engineers the actual amount of money that has been raised as compared with the administration and collection of it. The question I have I will direct to you, Senator Monroney.

We have with these two bills before us almost the opportunity to completely review this entire matter of the land and water conservation fund. I notice that my own State has taken a very strong position on it. Now, if you were to pass legislation that exempted Corps of Engineer projects from user tax, would you not be even more justified in exempting Interior Department projects from it?

For example, reclamation projects are in a major portion paid for by the users. In a Corps project, the major portion is paid by the general public. So, it seems to me that if you feel that fees should be done