

~~Our engineering responsibility is perhaps better than I.~~
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Senator RIBICOFF. You are welcome.

COORDINATION BEGINS EARLY IN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Secretary, it has been said that various Federal agencies each tend to operate in a vacuum with little coordination in developing projects.

At what stage of project development and to what degree does the Corps of Engineers coordinate with other Federal agencies?

Secretary RESOR. I have here with me Mr. Fitt, who is my Special Assistant for Civil Functions, who has spent most of his time while he was General Counsel of the Army, at least a significant portion of his time, on engineering matters, and I am going to ask him to assist in answering some of these questions.

I would like him to respond to that one.

Senator RIBICOFF. Perfectly all right.

Mr. FITT. Well, of course, coordination takes place at the very outset of any project which has its inception as a gleam in somebody's eye.

The way in which the system operates is that whenever we plan an which coordination begins.

CONFLICTS WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

Senator RIBICOFF. But you do run into some conflicts. You might be putting up a dam or building some projections out into a harbor or bay, and you certainly run into problems with the Department of the Interior in protection of wildlife, and so forth.

I notice here an item from the New York Times: "Army Admits Role in Lake Pollution."

There is a story here about the Army Corps of Engineers problem in Lake Michigan. So, you do run into conflicts.

(The article referred to follows:)