

course, that is only typical of many such districts throughout this country.

If you were to listen to those recordings you would find that you couldn't conduct this hearing with that noise going on. You would have to stop. The hearing would have to come to an end just as normal life for the people living in the district as to stop when this noise is being encountered.

I wish that you and the members of the committee would give me a chance to make this demonstration. I have made it previously. It is conducted by a Federal agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and I have held it for members on the Science and Astronautics Committee. I think if you once listened to that demonstration you will realize just what a serious problem it is that we are talking about.

Now, of course, I am in favor of this legislation, Mr. Chairman. I was the first one to introduce such legislation in the Congress. The fact is that I introduced it about a year and a half ago. So that this type of legislation has been pending before the Congress for a year and a half now without any action.

I think that is a problem that this committee should correct at the earliest possible date. We need the legislation. We need it yesterday. We should have had it last year, but it is better late than never and I wish the committee would get onto it and I urge its immediate passage.

Mr. Chairman, one of the most important factors about this problem and one that doesn't seem to be appreciated by many people is that this is specifically and uniquely a Federal problem. At a time when the Federal Government seems to be interesting itself in all types of problems in the country, many of which were traditionally State problems and local problems, this particular problem of jet noise is avoided by the Federal Government, although it is the only branch of the Government that has any control over the problem at all.

Back in my district, Supervisor Ralph Caso, of the town of Hempstead, tried to do something on a local level on this problem. He had a local ordinance passed to set jet noise standards that could be tolerated in the local area. It was immediately taken to court and the Federal courts held that this was a problem that the local units of government could do nothing about and that only the Federal Government could do something about it.

So I would say to this committee that if you don't intend to do anything about it and if the Congress doesn't intend to do anything about it, then the least it should do would be empower the local governments to be able to do something about it so that at least they could protect the people that are being affected by it.

Mr. FRIEDEL. I wish to assure you that all these things that you are bringing out were brought out by your other colleagues.

Mr. WYDLER. I am glad to hear that.

Mr. FRIEDEL. I want to call your attention to the fact that around 4 or 5 years ago or maybe 7 years ago this committee went to New York to Idlewild. We have been faced with this problem for a long time. We got a tremendous turnout of people complaining. I made one little suggestion that we could relieve the problem immediately by just diverting all the flights out of Idlewild to Friendship and they all hollered, "No." They didn't want to lose the flights, but they didn't want the noise.