

I just want to put that on the record, because I think it ought to be brought out here that what we get in the way of landslide testimony here is a selling job and snow job claiming that something can be done immediately.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Mr. Chairman, will my colleague yield?

Mr. SPRINGER. Yes.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Was \$320 million authorized and \$320 million appropriated?

Mr. SPRINGER. Fifty-nine and 200.

Mr. SKUBITZ. But how much money was appropriated?

Mr. SPRINGER. \$85,200,000.

Mr. SKUBITZ. That is all they spent. How could they spend any more if more wasn't authorized?

Mr. SPRINGER. The fact is they didn't spend all that was appropriated. They appropriated more than \$85 million.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you.

I do think it might be brought out at this point that I would commend the administration of the program in the fact that they haven't just gone out and spent money. So I think this is rather commendable, that they have held up some 8 million on last year because they felt they were not at a stage to spend it.

So this is commendable, and I would want to put that on the record, too, that we don't want them, just because we may authorize something on it may be appropriated, that expect them to go out and spend it unless they are at that point where it could be done effectively.

So I think whether we reach goals that we may have set is not necessarily the determination on the spending of the money. We want to make sure that it is appropriately spent and even though the goals may have been set above that.

So I think the administration of it has not been in error in that regard.

Dr. RUHE. May I comment on that?

I think we would support this fact. We have been reassured and encouraged by the way this program has been administered. I think in defense of the program, one thing can be said, that in the early stages, very careful attention has been given to the planning and the preparation for the operational stage of the program. This has been one of the things which has kept the expenditures down at the present time.

But as the program gets moving into the operational phases, I think it is reasonable to expect that the costs would increase greatly.

We feel that the program has been administered very well, and with restraint and good judgment.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you.

Mr. SKUBITZ. That brings me back to the question I raised a few moments ago, the necessity of limiting these authorizations and having the agencies come back and present their case and prove their point.

If we authorize for 3 years, they don't have to come back. From that moment on they go before the Appropriations Committee—

Mr. ROGERS. This is right.

Dr. RUHE. There is one problem in that, if I may. That is, from the standpoint of the region which is attempting to recruit personnel, if