

confrontation yesterday—this is a much cooler one I hope—in which the paper this morning says:

Udall told a reporter after the meeting that no decision has been reached regarding the campaign demonstrators' use of Federal parkland here as a campsite.

Many members, myself included, have introduced or are introducing legislation which clearly, I think, states the intent of Congress that Federal property in the District of Columbia should not be used for the purpose of overnight camping, building structures, shanty towns, or anything else.

In the experience we have had relating to problems concerning demonstrations in the District, it seems to me clearly within your present prerogative and the present statute not to give a permit where it appears that any possibility, reasonable possibility, that problems can result.

Has any decision been made in regard to that yet?

Secretary UDALL. Well, Congressman, there has not been any specific plan presented. There has been no decision made. I am not personally going to make that decision, I do not think. There is a committee of the various agencies of Government that are interested that is working on this matter on a day-to-day basis, and certainly it is a problem that we are going to have to approach very carefully.

We are aware of the views of various Members of Congress on this subject, and we are going to have to make a decision in light of what actually occurs.

Mr. CRAMER. After it occurs it is going to be too late. The permit will have been issued. That is the problem.

It seems to me it can be clearly foreseen, in view of what has happened in the past alone, and in view of the substantial numbers of people that appear to be involved, according to published analyses, that it would be extremely risky to have substantial numbers of people building shanty towns anywhere on public property in the District of Columbia.

The statute clearly gives you authority as Secretary to deny such permits if it appears that problems might arise.

I would like to importune you, as Secretary, not to issue such permit.

I would like to discuss it with you otherwise, but this is the only opportunity I will probably have to do so.

Mr. BLATNIK. The gentleman has a right to raise that personally or it will be a matter before this committee. At this moment we are here for a different purpose and this issue is before the Public Buildings and Public Grounds Subcommittee, so the question is a valid one but not at this time. Will the gentleman confine himself to discussion or interrogation on the proposals to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. CRAMER. I might suggest, Mr. Chairman, I presume we will take it up with the chairman of the full committee and the chairman of the Public Buildings and Grounds, which I understand is meeting next week. But I would like to say to the Secretary that I would hope that neither you nor anyone else would issue permits until those hearings can take place next week.