

Secretary UDALL. Well, this was a governmental study, but, we did, too, we had the American Petroleum Institute, the National Security Industrial Association, the Conference of State Sanitary Engineers, the National Committee for Prevention of Pollution of Sea by Oil; all of these were brought into it in addition to Government agencies.

Mr. GROVER. But you make no reference to such as the Committee on American Steamship Lines, the industrial sector of the merchant marine industry itself?

Secretary UDALL. I assume that they were consulted. I think I could say with confidence they were. I am not saying they agree with all these provisions, but in terms of drafting a piece of legislation, I would say we had a much more thorough effort than we would normally make in terms of a broad-gage study that involved very high level people.

SHOULD THIS NATION WAIT TO ACT UNTIL THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY
ACTS?

Mr. GROVER. I was not here last week when you were questioned after you presented your statement, but was the question brought up defending any action on this bill pending the meetings of IMCO, the international organization which is studying this?

Secretary UDALL. I think this was mentioned last week. Frankly, I flatly disagree with this argument. I think our job is to protect our communities against spills, and I am all for an international organization that will improve international practices. But to say let us sit back until an international group gets a program going, I think if we do not have a vigorous, aggressive program to protect our shorelines, our seacoast, and our beach communities, we are not doing our job. Therefore, the argument, let's wait for an international solution, does not strike me—

Mr. GROVER. I might suggest, if we do not do something about rebuilding our merchant marine in the next few years, they will be flying foreign flags.

No further questions.

LETTER TO MR. CLEVELAND FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW HAMPSHIRE
WATER SUPPLY AND POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION

Mr. CLEVELAND. Mr. Chairman, may I put that letter from Mr. Healy in the record?

Mr. BLATNIK. Yes. Without objection, so ordered.

(Letter from Mr. Healy follows:)

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
WATER SUPPLY AND POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION,
Concord, N.H., April 25, 1968.

Re H.R. 15907.

HON. JAMES C. CLEVELAND,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR JIM: Tom Urie has expressed interest in this proposed legislation and would appreciate receiving a copy of it. I know you will be pleased to accommodate him.