

Mr. EDMONDSON. And, you had——

Mr. HILLER. She told us she had sold it to——

Mr. EDMONDSON. Commenced a lawsuit to reinstate your claim?

Mr. HILLER. Judge Brown threw it right out of court, and Judge McCabe, appellate—by the way, Judge McCabe did disqualify himself and only two judges heard it instead of three.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Any questions on this? On the left? On the right? No questions. Thank you, Mr. Hiller, we appreciate your staying within the time limit, and of course, if you want to come to Washington to be heard by our larger contingent of colleagues, we will certainly be pleased to hear you, sir. Would you like this letter to the committee with your signature made a part of the record?

Mr. HILLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Without objection, it is so ordered. It will be made a part of the record at this point.

(The document referred to follows:)

From: Ray Hiller, World War II service-connected disabled veteran.

To: Congressional committee investigating Agua Caliente conservatorship program in Palm Springs, Calif.

Subject: Confiscation of the property that I built on section 14 after paying ground rent for 18 years.

Conservators: Gloria Welmas Gillette and Lena Welmas McGlamery.

Early in the '40's during World War II, when Los Angeles became "Smogville", doctors ordered me to leave, due to my lung condition and move to the desert. A soldier living on Section 14, ordered overseas, had a small home which these conservators agreed I could buy from him and occupy. Later as my health improved in this climate, they urged me to rent 7 vacant lots adjoining this house and construct 7 duplexes, which were built under city building laws and city building inspection.

In 1950 I was given an Indian Bureau 5 year lease and they approved my adding 10 rental units.

In 1955 another 5 year lease was given me and they approved another 10 units, a pool, a social hall and a new office fronting on Indian Ave.

In 1960 when I sent in my ground rent as usual, it was sent back to me with the statement I was no longer their tenant as the land had been sold or leased to others. This despite a written agreement they gave me that should they sell, I would be given first chance to buy this land, and on which agreement I relied for justice and fair treatment.

Since 1960 I have witnessed many other ground rent tenants, Negroes, Mexicans, poor whites and Indians of other tribes who had all been induced to build homes and churches on Section 14, have them burned down, many of which were new and built under city codes and inspection.

All these people look to your committee for a complete hearing and ultimate justice.

Respectfully submitted.

RAY HILLER.

Mr. EDMONDSON. We have one further witness, and I have examined the statement that he has——

Mr. BURKMAN. May I ask a question? Will the interested parties receive copies of the testimony?

Mr. EDMONDSON. Would you identify yourself?

Mr. BURKMAN. Yes. I'm Clarence Burkman (phonetic), and I am one of the interested parties, and my question is, Will the interested parties receive copies of the testimony because most of us aren't going to Washington?

Mr. EDMONDSON. You mean testimony of the hearing here or in Washington?

Mr. BURKMAN. The ones that will be taking place in Washington.