

reside in an area north and west, who would very conveniently use this route to come to the General Dynamics plant, which is located exactly here.

Additionally, Carswell Air Force Base has completed—and it is located across the runway from the General Dynamics plant here—a study it has made among all its civilian employees, reflecting the fact that some 30 percent of them would conveniently use the completed loop.

As it is, if one is living here or here, you must go to one of the main highways and either come around this way or come in there through town, and this bottleneck has frustrated the excellent development of the transportation network.

The Bell Helicopter plant, which is located approximately here, is conveniently served by the loop. It employs some 9 to 10 thousand people. It is manufacturing most of the helicopters, the Hughes and the Cobras, that are now bearing the brunt of the battle in Vietnam.

It too suffers from this lack of completion of the interstate program that was originally designed.

Now, these 16 miles would facilitate the flow of traffic from the north and from the west to the Bell Helicopter plant.

An additional consideration is the fact that the Greater Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, the new regional airport, will be located exactly here, and it, too, will be served by the completion of this route.

It has been somewhat long-delayed, and I should like to suggest, as the State highway department of Texas has suggested, Mr. Chairman, that if it is possible for us to contemplate additional mileage in the interstate system for these very impelling reasons, reasons of defense, of growth of commerce and of equity, that we give serious consideration to inclusion of some 16 miles for the completion of this network as it was originally planned.

I thank the chairman and the members.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Wright.

Are there any questions or comments?

Mr. DORN. Mr. Wright, that little connection over there, is that Lubbock?

Mr. WRIGHT. The circle over there is Lubbock. I endeavored to assist my colleague, Mr. Mahon, in identifying the area of which he spoke earlier. This is Lubbock, and it is Mr. Mahon's hope that there may be included sufficient mileage to connect this City of Lubbock, by some means, with one or another of the east-west interstate highways.

Mr. DORN. Give me a rough outline, Mr. Wright, of the gentleman's district.

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Mahon's district includes this area, down to the median line which is on Interstate 20. Here is the median line; and, in general, it is an area circumscribed by this general connection, an area where they grow long staple cotton, and they can irrigate, and if the underground water holds out, it is very prosperous.

Mr. DORN. My textile manufacturers in my district get a lot of cotton, and I understand the chairman grows more cotton than any other district in the world.