

I don't see any reason in the world why, when you undertake to review a mining operation that is going to start, whether it be in Black River Falls, Wis., which worries me very much, or some other place, you cannot write into the legislation that the Soil Conservation people will be called in as advisers and consultants and that as to their work on this mine their direction comes from the Secretary of the Interior. They would be working under the Secretary of the Interior's responsibility. I don't see any reason in the world why they cannot do that.

The personnel are there. The expertise is there. They live there. They have worked in the State all these years and you have the live bodies right there without any additional expenditures. I don't see any reason why the law shouldn't be that when you ask the Secretary of Agriculture, he shall furnish the people he has in the Soil Conservation Service for the particular responsibility and the direction will come from the Secretary of the Interior.

What is wrong with that?

Mr. UDALL. Senator, I don't have any quarrel with that argument and in fact have no negative feeling at all if this is what you are talking about.

If you are proposing to oust me and put in another Secretary and give him the responsibility on this matter, I disagree. If you are proposing to require that we use the expertise of the Soil Conservation Service and you want to write this into the law and put it in the report on the bill I think it is most constructive.

Senator NELSON. I was never proposing to oust you. I was just proposing that we ought to use the assets that the Government has on the ground there. It bothers me to see all this bureaucratic haggling about how we can't use some of this personnel because they belong to another department.

Senator METCALF. Mr. Secretary, I think you have been over modest in selling your own Department. Of course the Bureau of Reclamation has reclaimed more land than any other agency in the Government, has taken one class of land and reclaimed it to another.

This is a problem of turning one land use to another, as you pointed out in the slide presentation and in your discussion. Maybe we won't return this land which was formerly agricultural to agriculture. Maybe the Fish and Wildlife Service will get in and make it a recreational area, so there are strong and persuasive reasons why the various branches that you have should administer this.

I have no hesitancy. I know that the Forest Service, which has done a superb job of administering our forest resources, has infiltrated your department. Ed Crafts came over to take over the Bureau of Recreation and Boyd Rasmussen is handling the Bureau of Land Management, both of whom came out of the Forest Service.

Mr. UDALL. If I may say so, one of the smartest things I have done as an administrator was to steal a few of Ed Cliff's best people. I will admit that.

Senator METCALF. I think you have probably robbed the Forest Service of some of their best, most expert administrators.

Mr. UDALL. I am not through yet.

Senator METCALF. Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to express my appreciation, Mr. Secretary, for your statement and the slides that