

ago. This represents the recommendations of that team. The committee could, of course, decide if it chose, to break it into pieces. I will be frank about that.

The Senate did not, and it is up to the House committee to decide how it wants to handle it. It was our feeling that if the future of the whole region could be settled in one piece of legislation, that this was a tidy way to do it.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UDALL. I participated in the hearings in Seattle and the ones in Wenatchee. I reacted to these tramway proposals a little bit like the gentleman from Pennsylvania did when they were first suggested. I want to make very clear that, in my opinion, under present park management practices, there would be nothing violating the National Park Act, or past precedent in the National Park Service if you were to build a road in the Pickett Range so people could get up on top and get the view.

Mr. HARTZOG. That is the historic way of doing it, Mr. Udall.

Mr. UDALL. What you are saying is, because of the great sweep of these cliffs and the difficulties in roadbuilding, there would be far less defacement of the area if you preserve the grandeur and still permit people to get up on top to see this thing through the use of carefully selected and designed tramways?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is precisely right, sir.

Mr. UDALL. Would you agree with what Mr. Meeds said yesterday in his testimony that, unlike some national park areas, this is one where you really have to get up high to get the overpowering view that many of us enjoy from the airplane where we can see these ranges in all their majesty?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is correct.

Mr. UDALL. These are narrow, steep valleys, and if you travel on foot or automobile down the valleys, because of the trees and the rocks, you never get a real idea of what kind of Alps that you are in, the American Alps that you are in.

Mr. HARTZOG. You lose the total sense of the environment; yes, sir.

Mr. UDALL. One of the things that really persuaded me on this point during the hearings was when we were holding a little subhearing on the roof of the hotel and a witness showed up by the name of Whittaker, the conqueror of Mount Everest. This is a man who wouldn't hesitate to pack or rope climb any cliff in the area, I suppose. He knows this area thoroughly. After a lot of consideration he had agreed that the tram idea was the way to handle this particular park. He made a very moving and persuasive statement on that, I thought.

Mr. TAYLOR. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. UDALL. Yes; I yield.

Mr. TAYLOR. This idea of tramways would be an administrative decision by the Department. There is nothing in this bill that authorizes that or does not authorize it.

Mr. HARTZOG. That is correct, sir.

Mr. UDALL. I reserve the rest of my time, Mr. Chairman. I have no further questions.

Mr. TAYLOR. The gentleman from Iowa.