It certainly is not my purpose here today to undertake to explain to you the nature of the improvements, for you have before you the competent data and testimony of the Corps of Engineers.

In the same fashion, the statements of the local officials will be submitted here today for the purpose of pointing out to the subcommittee the general character and nature of the area to be protected.

I might note in passing that according to a brochure put out in June of last year by the Louisville and Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Commission in regard to the southwest section of the floodwall that it is indicated that these flood-prone areas contain developments with a value of well over one-third billion dollars and a recurrence of the 1945 flood would cause a monetary loss of over $7.5 million and a flood similar to that of 1937 would result in damages of about $60.3 million or three times the estimated cost of this project.

According to an April 12, 1967, report of the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors of the Corps of Engineers, signed by Maj. Gen. R. G. MacDonnell, chairman, it is noted that, taken separately from the proposed recreational feature, the selected plan for flood protection would have an estimated first cost of $14 million, of which $10.8 million would be Federal, $3.2 million non-Federal; the benefit-cost ratio being 2.5. The separable first cost of the recreation feature alone is estimated at $6.7 million, of which one-half would be borne by the Federal Government. The benefit-cost ratio for the recreational feature of the plan is estimated at 1.6. I believe that I am correct in the assertion that this gives an overall benefit-cost ratio of 1.9 to 1.

Mr. Chairman, I am confident that the evidence which will be adduced by the experts from the corps and from the local officials will justify the inclusion of this project in your omnibus bill and I so request on behalf of the constituents of the Fourth Congressional District.

I might say in passing that some part of this structure is within the Third Congressional District and some part of it within the Fourth Congressional District but the major portion of the protected area will be in the Fourth District. Nevertheless, both Congressman Cowger, who represents the Third District, and myself are on record as supporting the project.

Again, thank you for your courtesies in hearing me today.

Mr. Chairman, I have the following statements I would like to submit for the record.

Mr. JONES. Without objection, so ordered.

(The statements follow:)

STATEMENT OF MARLOW W. COOK, COUNTY JUDGE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, KY., IN SUPPORT OF THE SOUTHWEST JEFFERSON COUNTY, KY., LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, JUNE 14, 1968

As County Judge of Jefferson County, Kentucky, I am having this statement presented to you today so that you may know of the sincere and deep interest of Fiscal Court to have this project move ahead as rapidly as possible and to further assure the House that we continue to plan for assuming local responsibilities in conjunction with the project.

On June 12, 1964, I first assured Senator Allen J. Ellender, Chairman of the Senate Appropriation Subcommittee, that the Fiscal Court was vitally interested