

involves a great number of projects, and appreciate this opportunity to submit testimony in support of the above-mentioned report.

Earlier this week, you heard testimony by the Corps of Engineers with regard to this report, which includes flood control projects in the 19th Congressional District of Illinois and the First Congressional District of Iowa (which is represented by a member of this subcommittee) as well as a critically important project for the city of Clinton, in my district.

Yesterday, the Secretary of the Army submitted this survey report to the Bureau of the Budget, and I have received assurances from that Office that the report will be submitted to Congress in the immediate days ahead.

I am certain that my colleagues who represent the other communities with projects contained in this report agree with me about the urgent need to incorporate it in this year's rivers and harbors bill. These cities have suffered for much too long a time the annual threats of spring flooding along the Mississippi River, and if congressional authorization is not obtained this year, then it may be well into the 1970's before funds can be sought for these urgently needed protection devices.

Clinton is one of the most dynamic, rapidly expanding communities in Iowa. The population has increased by more than 25 percent in a recent 20-year period, and it is expected to double in the next two decades. Through the activities of an aggressive development commission and an interested citizenry, industrial investment in terms of construction and capital improvements added \$100 million to Clinton in 1967, and a new firm has announced plans to locate a \$90 million plant in the city.

The editor of the Clinton Herald, the city's daily newspaper, has identified as one of the top three priority projects for the community the completion of the floodwall. As he has indicated, "development of our entire riverfront hinges on flood protection. We almost lost a major industry recently because of fears of future flood problems. Long-established business and industrial firms in Clinton are holding up expansion plans for the same reason."

The city has committed itself to the local share of the project, recognizing that although the expense will be heavy, it will result in an ultimate savings in terms of the annual costs of fighting Mississippi River floods.

Again this past week, the mayor of Clinton assured the Corps of Engineers that Clinton is prepared to move as rapidly as is necessary to carry out its commitments, whenever the floodwall plans are approved and funds appropriated. Since Clinton has adequate bonding capacity to cover its share of the costs—\$1,410,000—no problems are anticipated.

I met with local officials and representatives of the chamber of commerce, the local development commission, and interested citizens on Monday, and was again impressed by the depth of local interest and concern about the project, and the willingness to assist in any way to bring about the construction of the floodwall at the earliest possible date.

Like the city, the Federal Government will earn a sound return on its investment, by eliminating the future costs of Corps of Engineers and National Guard flood-fighting activity as well as subsequent disaster relief assistance.