The total cost of the Clinton flood control project is set at $10,610,000, $9,200,000 of which would be paid by the Corps of Engineers. The total damage of the 1965 flood in Clinton is estimated at $5,286,600, including $1,620,800 in loss of earnings. Flood-fighting costs alone exceeded $1,777,000. In other words, one flood, lasting a period of weeks, cost more than half as much as the total cost of the floodwall, which would provide permanent protection against the recurrence of such disasters.

Even without the record flood which occurred in 1965, the estimated annual average cost of flooding in Clinton approaches $1 million.

No community, even one which is growing as rapidly as Clinton, can afford that kind of annual expenditure. And as long as the threat of another 1965 disaster exists as a drawback to investment, the city cannot develop to its full potential.

In the spring of 1967, Clinton prepared for a flood which for a time threatened to approach 1965 levels. Fortunately, that flood did not occur, but the city was nevertheless forced to spend thousands of dollars and manhours, both paid and volunteer, preparing temporary protection against the waters.

This spring, the river was at its lowest level in years, and the threat of floods was never serious. But the odds are not in our favor, and the fact remains that until the permanent floodwall is constructed, Clinton will be forced to take money from the city budget which could be better spent on other community needs and facilities, to protect itself against the Mississippi River. And families, merchants, and industry will go through weeks of anxiety, waiting to find out whether the river will drive them out of their homes and places of business.

We have been following the progress of this vitally important survey report very closely, and have been in contact with the responsible officials at every level of approval and review—from the District Engineer at Rock Island, through the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, the Federal and State agencies which were asked for comment, and the Office of the Secretary of the Army.

At every point we found enthusiastic support for the project and recognition of the importance of expeditious action to get the report to the Congress in time for this year's rivers and harbors bill. We are now at that final stage, and I urge you in the strongest possible terms to include the report in the bill before your subcommittee this week.

I am submitting herewith for the committee files pictorial reviews of the 1965 flood at Clinton, which indicate the extent of damage and the wide area affected, and underscore in the most dramatic way the urgency of the city's appeal.

I am also submitting a telegram which I received late last night, signed by more than 60 community leaders in Clinton, reemphasizing the importance of the project and urging its earliest completion.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to present this evidence to your subcommittee.

(Telegram referred to follows:)

CLINTON, IOWA, *June 18, 1968.*

Hon. JOHN CULVER,
Member of Congress,
Longworth Building Washington, D.C.:

We respectfully request inclusion Clinton floodwall project in omnibus rivers and harbors bill. Earliest completion this program of critical importance to security and safety of our community as well as its continued growth and development.