

corps has presented, our citizens will have to continue to live in fear of their lives and property.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

HAROLD A. SMOCK,
Executive Vice President,
Bellevue Greater Area Chamber of Commerce.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA,
Omaha, Nebr., June 14, 1968.

Re Papio Creek Basin Flood Control.

To Chairman and Members of the House Subcommittee on Flood Control—
Rivers and Harbors:

GENTLEMEN: During the last forty years, which is the period of Omaha's industrial and residential expansion to the west, the Papio Creek has been a constant source of fear to the residents and industries occupying this watershed. Several serious and most costly floods have taken place and property damage has run into the millions of dollars and the loss of life has been substantial.

The Corps of Engineers, during the last five years, has made an excellent attempt to control the creek's course, and with bank control and channel deepening, minor flooding can be contained. In order to eliminate the possibility of serious damage in residential and industrial areas, it will be necessary to enter into a complete flood control program through the upstream use of soil conservation and the multiple damming of creeks which feed into the Papio Basin. I am certain that this project is one of the most necessary and needed projects within this tri-state area.

Very truly yours,

JOHN F. DAVIS, *Chairman.*

Mr. CLAUSEN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question but first let me say to Colonel Shaffer, you have done very well.

Since the Bureau of the Budget has recommended against the authorization of these three reservoirs have you made a calculation as to what this might do to the overall benefit-cost ratio?

Colonel SHAFFER. No, sir; we have not calculated that.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Could you supply that for the record?

Colonel SHAFFER. Yes, sir.

(The information follows:)

The overall benefit-cost ratio for the project with the exclusion of reservoirs 7, 9, and 17 would increase from 2.0 to 2.1.

Mr. JONES. Also, Colonel Shaffer, if those three reservoirs were eliminated, how would it affect the total project?

Colonel SHAFFER. The Corps of Engineers plan consists of a system of strategically located reservoirs to control the runoff from the three major tributaries in the basin. Modification of the system by eliminating the three units which are not economically justified as last added units will reduce the functional capabilities of the overall plan (particularly since the three units help to control the same tributary), and increase the hazard of possible loss of human life.

Mr. JONES. Well, let us identify those projects that are below the cost ratio.

Colonel SHAFFER. They are 9, 7, and 17.

Mr. JONES. Where did the deaths occur? Do you have any record of that?

Colonel SHAFFER. No, sir.

Mr. JONES. Seven lives were lost in a flood.

Colonel SHAFFER. Yes, sir; but I do not have the locations. Five of the seven deaths caused by the June 1964 flood were in the Hell Creek and Rockbrook Creek Basins which are located within the rapidly