Last year responsible citizens of this community in my congressional district brought to my attention the serious flooding problem posed by the Cottonwood River and Mud Creek.

The city of Marion has experienced frequent flash flooding, resulting in extensive property damages. Most of the business section of the town is located in the flood plain of the Cottonwood where it is joined by Mud Creek. In 1951, a flood caused damage of $1,600,000. Since that time, there have been frequent occasions when flooding has occurred, inflicting personal and property losses upon Marion residents.

The Corps of Engineers, following an extensive survey and investigation, has recommended construction of a mile-long bypass channel to carry Mud Creek flows around the town, and about 3 miles of levee. Total cost is estimated at about $2,500,000. Local interests would pay an estimated $354,000 of the total cost. The ratio of estimated benefits to costs is 1.7 to 1.

A serious and continuing flood problem exists in Marion from overflows of Mud Creek and the Cottonwood River. In view of the strong public concern over this problem at the local level, I urge the subcommittee to approve the recommended project in order that it may be included in authorizing legislation for consideration by this session of the 90th Congress.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Now we will hear from our old friend Col. Daniel D. Hall, assistant director of civil works for the Mississippi Valley. We have been giving quite a good deal of thought to the fact that you invited us to come down and look at your projects. We have not heard from you yet. Now is a good opportunity.

Colonel HALL. Yes, sir; we will welcome you at any time.

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My presentation concerns a report which was prepared in partial response to resolutions of the Committees on Public Works of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives adopted September 12, 1959, and February 24, 1960, respectively.

POSTEN BAYOU, ARK. AND LA.

Colonel HALL. The report is limited to presentation of results of studies and investigations to determine the feasibility of developing an acceptable flood protection project in the Posten Bayou watershed.

Posten Bayou rises in Lafayette County, Ark., follows a southerly course for 18 miles and enters Red River at mile 319 in Bossier Parish, La.

The watershed, which borders the east bank of Red River, covers 114 square miles of Arkansas and Louisiana, of which 72 square miles are alluvial plains and 42 square miles are rolling hills.

The existing levees on the east bank of Red River protect the alluvial plain in Arkansas and part of the plain in Louisiana from direct overflow by Red River.

Most of the alluvial lands in the Arkansas portion of the watershed are drained by two main ditches and numerous smaller laterals. The remaining alluvial lands, as well as all of the hill lands, are drained by Posten Bayou. In Louisiana, the hill lands to the east and the contiguous alluvial lands, are drained by Stillhouse Bayou, a tributary