

of the Chief of Engineers recommendation in Senate Document 11 would amount to inequitable and discriminatory treatment of the St. Francis Basin.

In closing, I would like to impress upon the committee that the people of the St. Francis Basin, and other areas like it throughout the nation, have a long history of participation and self help in their flood control problems. The St. Francis Levee District of Arkansas was organized in 1893. Nearly all the Levee and Drainage Districts in the Basin have been in continuous operation for more than 60 years and their levee and drainage systems were well advanced before the Federal Government began its participation in these projects. It has been and the Secretary of the Army have failed to recognize this. If their attitude the policy of Congress to recognize these local efforts. The Bureau of the Budget should prevail, it would be possible for an area which had done nothing to solve its own problems to receive more favorable treatment than an area which had a long history of local cooperation. We are proud of what has been done in the St. Francis Basin and the willingness of our people to provide the funds they have provided for drainage and flood control. We believe this committee will recognize our efforts and will afford us fair treatment.

I respectfully urge that you approve the report of the Chief of Engineers in Senate Document 11 and require that the local cooperation for the modifications in the St. Francis Basin be the same as on the previously authorized work.

Mr. JONES. We will next take up the project of the Mississippi River between Columbus and Hickman, Ky.

Colonel Hall, you may proceed.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER—COLUMBUS TO HICKMAN, KY.

Colonel HALL. This presentation concerns a report which was prepared in response to a resolution of the House Public Works Committee, adopted June 19, 1963.

The flood problem area is located along the east bank of the Mississippi River between Columbus and Hickman, Ky.

The existing Mississippi River and tributaries project provides for flood control and related improvements in the vicinity of the study area. These include the Mississippi River revetments adjacent to the study area, the Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway across the river from the study area, the Hickman levee and floodwall at Hickman, and the enlargement of the lower portion of the Obion Creek channel within the project area.

Crop production losses caused by Mississippi River floods that occur nearly every year constitute the primary flood problem in the study area.

The Chief of Engineers in his proposed report recommends the construction of 14.2 miles of levee with related interior drainage facilities, including a 150 cubic feet per second pumping plant.

Local interests have indicated their willingness and ability to meet the local cooperation requirements for the project. Local interests are to provide the normal a, b, c, requirements for the project and furnish assurances that they will make all necessary alterations to utilities and highway bridges, annually publish that the project does not provide protection from Mississippi River stages greater than 57 feet at the Cairo gage, and take appropriate steps to limit future human habitation within the leveed area.

The total estimated cost is \$5,125,000 of which \$4,765,000 is Federal, and \$360,000 is non-Federal. Annual benefits are estimated at \$248,300 and annual costs at \$189,000 resulting in a benefit-cost ratio of 1.3.