

The proposed project to place fill along 21 miles of beach of Dade County shoreline and an additional 14 miles of island "keys" should restore the beaches. Private hotel owners have attempted to hold off the erosion at their own expense with the construction of groins and seawalls but these have been far less than successful.

The estimated federal cost of this project is \$11,800,000 and the benefit-cost ratio is 1.8 to 1 from Government Cut to Bakers Haulover Inlet and 19.4 to 1 at Haulover Park.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I urge you to give your approval to these three projects. We simply cannot afford to wait. Delay will result in far greater losses and greatly increased costs to local, state and Federal interests. Your early approval will result in considerable savings to the Federal government and all concerned.

Mr. FASCELL. Now I am happy to turn to Congressman Paul Rogers.

STATEMENT OF HON. PAUL G. ROGERS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I appreciate this opportunity to appear along with my colleagues and distinguished representatives from Florida who have given a statement. As a former member of this distinguished committee, I am fully aware of the fine job you have done for our Nation over the years. Of course we are very grateful in Florida for the considerate judgments that have been made by this committee on the merits of our projects, and we hope this will continue.

I would like to just point out in my own area particularly, the Martin County project, water control project, that is a part of the central and southern Florida flood control project, I feel it is urgent, there is vitally needed work there, and particularly in one, Canal 131, where we need a back pump. I have pointed this out in my statement. I would like permission to file my statement at this point, and hope consideration can be given to these vitally needed projects.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Rogers for inclusion in the record follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. PAUL G. ROGERS OF FLORIDA

Mr. Chairman, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Committee now considering the proposed flood control programs for the State of Florida as part of the Public Works Omnibus Bill of 1968. As a former member of this distinguished committee, I am fully aware of the fine work for the Nation the Committee has done over the years.

As the representative of the Ninth Congressional District of Florida, I am particularly interested in the programs which have been proposed for Martin and St. Lucie Counties, also affecting Okeechobee and Palm Beach Counties, and for an expansion of the existing Central and Southern Flood Control project.

A survey report on Flood control and related improvements for Martin County, Florida was authorized by a resolution of the Committee on Public Works of the United States Senate adopted July 22, 1950.

The survey report has been completed and is favorable as to the improvements.

There is an urgent need for water control for Martin and St. Lucie Counties.

The development agricultural lands in these counties are used primarily for citrus groves, truck farms, and the production of beef and dairy products.

The survey made by the Corps of Engineers recommends a system of canals and related control structures for flood protection and water control for approximately 134 square miles in Martin County, and 25 square miles in Palm Beach County, and for distribution of water in 590 square miles in Martin, St. Lucie and Okeechobee Counties.