

Howard, would you stand up, please? Howard will present the views of Governor Connally.

We also have a distinguished attorney, the Honorable Franklin Jones, Sr., who speaks for the Marshall Chamber of Commerce and president of the Cypress Navigation District.

We also have the statement of the Morris County Commissioners and the Northeast Texas Water District, the Honorable George T. Brabham, who is also here today.

We have Mr. F. L. Matthias, executive vice president of the Red River Valley Association, who will speak for his organization, which has concerned itself with the development of the Red River Basin in the four-State area—Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas—for half a century.

Mr. Matthias, will you stand, please?

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Matthias is well known to you from his numerous appearances before this committee.

I would like to introduce now Franklin Jones and George Brabham. Will you stand up, please? They head up their respective delegations, totaling more than 40 prominent residents from my congressional district.

I deeply appreciate this opportunity given to me to testify today, Mr. Chairman, and if you will hear these gentlemen when you can do so it would please me and my section of the country very much.

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Chairman, thank you for your very effective and persuasive presentation. We are familiar with the project. I have had the real pleasure, an informative experience, an enjoyable one as well, to be down in that part of the area both in Louisiana and Texas. I am familiar with the problems. I met many friends there and I know that I shall hear from several of these leading spokesmen later on.

Mr. PATMAN. Would you permit me, sir, to ask those from our area to stand up. They all know you and want to see you again.

Thank you, very much.

Mr. BLATNIK. Welcome, delegate members. We are pleased to have you here with us today. Thank you again, Mr. Chairman.

We will now hear from Mr. Rivers, our distinguished chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and certainly our beloved colleague. Thank you for yielding your time, Mr. Chairman. We know how busy your schedule is.

What we are doing, Mr. Chairman, so many of our colleagues are here with us today, we are hearing the congressional testimony and any other testimony of your local civic or industrial leaders. That testimony will also follow that of the congressional delegations and will be put in at the proper place with the detailed engineering and cost estimates.

COOPER RIVER, CHARLESTON HARBOR, S.C.

STATEMENT OF HON. MENDEL RIVERS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. RIVERS. Mr. Chairman, I will put my supporting statement into the record, if you don't mind. I have with me J. B. Thomason, general