

STATEMENT OF COL. RICHARD L. SEIDEL—Resumed

Colonel SEIDEL. Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee:

This report concerns improvement of the existing channels from Corpus Christi Bay to the Gulf of Mexico.

The existing Federal navigation project provides for a channel depth of 40 feet to the deepwater ports of Harbor Island, Ingleside, and Corpus Christi, and a branch channel 36 feet deep to a turning basin at La Quinta on the north shore of Corpus Christi Bay.

In his proposed report, the Chief of Engineers recommends that the existing project be modified to provide a depth of 47 feet in the outer bar channel and a depth of 45 feet in the inner channels to Corpus Christi and the Viola turning basin and to La Quinta, together with other modifications.

The Federal cost is estimated to be \$19,042,000 for construction and \$148,000 annually for operation, maintenance, and replacement, in addition to that now required. The annual charges are \$983,200 and the annual benefits are \$4,687,700. The benefit-cost ratio is 4.8 to 1.

Local interests are required to provide the usual items of cooperation for navigation projects.

The report has been submitted to the State of Texas and the interested Federal agencies. Upon receipt of the comments, the report of the Chief of Engineers will be sent to the Bureau of the Budget through the Secretary of the Army, prior to its submission to the Congress by the Secretary of the Army.

This completes my statement, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BLATNIK. It has an extremely favorable cost-benefit ratio, 4.8 to 1.

Can you give us the latest report on the comments from other Federal agencies, such as Interior, Transportation?

Colonel SEIDEL. Sir, we have received none. Their 90 days would expire on August 29.

Mr. YOUNG. We are on that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BLATNIK. Do you have any word on that?

Mr. SULLIVAN. I have talked to some of them, also. They are all expedited.

Mr. BLATNIK. Any other questions?

Mr. HARSHA. No questions.

Mr. BLATNIK. Thank you very much, Colonel.

We are back to the first project on our list, the Red River Waterway, La., Tex., Ark., and Okla.

RED RIVER WATERWAY, LA., TEX., ARK., AND OKLA.—continued

Mr. BLATNIK. Lt. Col. Daniel D. Hall, Assistant Director of Civil Works for Mississippi Valley, Office, Chief of Engineers, here in Washington.

Colonel, please proceed.

STATEMENT OF LT. COL. DANIEL D. HALL—Resumed

Colonel HALL. Thank you, sir.

This is a continuation of the testimony on this project previously given. May I briefly summarize it at this time?