

JUNE 27, 1968.

HON. JOHN A. BLATNIK,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Rivers and Harbors, Committee on Public Works,
 House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: During Wednesday's hearing on my bill, H.R. 510, a question was raised about the report from the General Services Administration which contends that the City of Buffalo should follow normal procedure for land to be acquired from the Federal Government for park and recreational use.

I am aware of the provisions in law to which the General Services Administration is referring, but I feel that there already are extenuating circumstances with respect to the property involved in my bill.

Both the Departments of the Army and the Interior referred to this matter in their reports to your Committee.

It is pointed out that title to the property involved was conveyed by the State of New York to the United States in 1906, without monetary consideration, for use in conjunction with other lands for the improvement of the Buffalo Outer Harbor Project.

For some reason, the conveyance was not reflected on real property maps, and the ownership by the United States came to light only recently in the title examination of adjacent property. This discovery came after the United States was vested with fee title to the lands by operation of law, the deed having been a matter of uncontested official record for 60 years.

In view of the background of acquisition and ownership of this property and the excellent purpose to which it will be put, I believe that the conveyance to the City of Buffalo, as provided in my bill, is entirely proper and in order.

I appreciate very much your consideration of this proposal and the opportunity to testify before your Subcommittee.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

T. J. DULSKI.

Mr. BLATNIK. Colonel, let's take next H.R. 15433, Calumet Sag Modification. Congressman Madden appeared on behalf of this project.

CALUMET-SAG PROJECT MODIFICATION (H.R. 15433)

Colonel ANDERSON. This bill would modify the Calumet-Sag navigation project authorized by the River and Harbor Act in 1946, in accordance with House Document 45, 85th Congress, insofar as it applies to existing highway bridges in part II of the project.

The Department of the Army considers that Federal participation in the alteration of obstructive highway bridges for part II, as recommended in House Document 45, 85th Congress, should be consistent with that in part I.

Accordingly, the Department of the Army has no objection to enactment of H.R. 15433.

Sir, that completes my statement.

Mr. BLATNIK. The Bureau of the Budget had no objection, and all other required reports are in, too; are they?

Colonel ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

The only report, as far as we are concerned, is the Department of the Army's report, which is not objected to by the Bureau of the Budget.

Mr. BLATNIK. Any questions?

No questions. Thank you, Colonel Anderson.