

that of Mr. Moss and Mr. Saylor—to the Department of the Interior on December 8, 1967, which appears on pages 7 and 8 of my statement. I, too, got a letter back from Assistant Secretary Cain, who answered for the Department that he had tried to reach a balance, and so on.

Congressman Moss and I then asked Assistant Secretary Cain and members of the Department and the Corps of Engineers to meet with us in Congressman Moss' office to try to get some of the facts. Dr. Cain was not able to be present, but he sent as his representative Mr. Travis Roberts of the Department of the Interior. Congressman Moss and I formally requested Assistant Secretary Cain, through Mr. Roberts, to furnish us a complete list of all conversations, communications, and other contacts he or other Interior Department officials had with representatives of the applicants for the fill permits. That was 6 months ago. We have never received such a list of conversations and communications. We would very much like to have one, and hope this committee will get one.

Then, due to the request of the Congressmen, the Corps of Engineers agreed to hold a public hearing at Alexandria on February 21, 1968. I asked the professionals of the Fish and Wildlife Service to send representatives to testify against the fill permit and, so far as I could see, the Fish and Wildlife Service people were more than willing to do it. However, they were instructed by Assistant Secretary Cain not to testify at the hearing. On January 30, Assistant Secretary Cain wrote the District Engineer: "I have talked with the people in the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and we believe that we do not need to present testimony at the hearing" in Alexandria. Obviously, had the Fish and Wildlife Service been allowed, and the National Park Service been allowed, to comment and testify to the truth, it would have undermined Secretary Cain's position that there were no more than minimal wildlife values involved.

Then there occurred the February 21, 1968, hearing by the Corps of Engineers. I appeared on behalf of myself and Congressman Moss, testified from my own eyewitness inspection of the area to be filled just a few weeks before, on which I was accompanied by the Fish and Wildlife Service biologist, Dr. Francis M. Uhler. I testified at length that waterfowl in great numbers were using the very section of the Potomac sought to be filled by this permit.

(Subcommittee note.—The transcript of the Feb. 21, 1968, Corps of Engineers hearing is reprinted as part III of the appendix of this hearing record.)

Congressman Moss and I had earlier written to Dr. Uhler of the Fish and Wildlife Service asking him to testify, and he sent along to us on January 31 a very full account, showing once again the enormously valuable character of the waterfowl sites on this section of the Potomac. In forwarding the material to us, Dr. Uhler said in his letter of January 31, 1968, that we reproduce at page 10 of my statement:

Dear Mr. Reuss and Mr. Moss: I prepared the accompanying comments last week in response to your request of January 16 for additional information regarding the waterfowl feeding and resting grounds in the Hunting Creek estuary below Alexandria, Va., but when I tried to send it officially I found that there apparently is "more than meets the eye" in the background of the proposed fill and real estate development in those waters.