

cate the judgment of the career men of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service, the people that Congress asked be the coordinating authority, and direct the Corps of Engineers to take such action as is needed to cause the permit which it has sought to grant to be withheld, and the public interest and conservation thereby be upheld.

Mr. JONES. Thank you, Mr. Reuss.

Mr. Moss. Mr. Chairman, I want to state that I concur very fully in the statement made by Mr. Reuss and acknowledge my close association with Mr. Reuss and Mr. Saylor going back to the beginning of this application.

I want to make the record very clear on one point because an effort has been made to try a little crude intimidation. I own property in the Old City of Alexandria. I own three townhouses in the Old City of Alexandria and my interest is supposed to be predicated on that. My record of interest in conservation goes back long before holding public office. I served as a member of the Committee on Conservation and Public Works in the Legislature of the State of California more than 20 years ago and I have had the privilege of serving on this committee beginning with Chairman Chudoff until now, where my interest has continued.

I have also been interested in the maintaining of historic values, not only in my home city of Sacramento where I was engaged in considerable controversy when efforts were made to destroy much of historic value; but at the request of the citizens' committee of Old Town, I interceded in the original effort to prevent—and we were successful—the location of access highways on Royal and Fairfax Streets in the Old Town of Alexandria which would have successfully destroyed much of the history of that unique bit of Americana.

And so the continuing interest here is a valid one representing many, many years of interest in conservation.

Mr. JONES. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. Moss. I will be happy to yield.

Mr. JONES. The gentleman from California, who has served on this committee throughout his tenure, has been dedicated, and certainly resourceful and energetic. If there is any implication or any suggestion that he is acting improperly or not motivated by noble principle, it will certainly be discounted. There is no one to my knowledge that has been more loyal or devoted to the public interest than the gentleman from California.

Mr. Moss. I thank the chairman.

I would say from the very beginning we were told, when the engineers first informed us that the applications would not be acted upon further, that in the event of their revival we would receive notice. We received notice by attorneys for the applicants calling on us. At no time did I receive notice from any other source until I had a call from the District Engineer in Baltimore notifying me that the application had finally been granted, at which time I told him that I regretted his action, I would do everything I could to reverse it, and I would request this subcommittee to seek further facts.

The matter has moved with unseemly haste and with a total ignoring of the appropriate agencies' expert opinion. I concur most wholeheartedly in the recommendation of Congressman Reuss that this committee make it its responsibility to see that no act of intimidation