

ternational Brotherhood of Teamsters in the Miami District and of the Teamsters pension fund.

On May 29, 1968, the Department of the Army issued a permit authorizing Howard P. Hoffman Associates, Inc., to construct a bulkhead and to fill in Hunting Creek. The firm of Hoffman Associates is, I believe, headquartered in New York. It is represented by the politically active law firm of McCormack & Bregman, the former being especially active in Massachusetts and the latter in Washington, D.C., and environs.

On April 11, 1968, I addressed a letter to Secretary Udall at the Interior Department advising him that I was about to write about Hunting Creek and asked for information concerning his personal views and the views of agencies in his Department. I will not go into the whole correspondence, but I think it important to cite my request for the following two specific items:

1. The professional judgment of the National Park Service on the effect of the proposed high rise apartment on the scenic vista of the Potomac, the traffic impact on the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, and the effect on the Jones Point Park project.

2. The professional judgment of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife on the effect of the landfill on waterfowl which now use the area for resting and feeding, and on the marshes south along the river.

The response came from Under Secretary David S. Black, in Mr. Udall's behalf. It did not furnish the information I requested, but rather Mr. Black's own views, as follows:

1. The National Park Service has expressed concern over the general impact of high rise development on the Potomac scene, but in such general terms that I would hesitate to term it "professional judgment". * * *

2. Similarly, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has cited reduction of waterfowl habitat as the basis for objection. Again, however, no specific evidence of actual waterfowl displacement has been presented and no persuasive explanation has been provided as to how this particular project would have adverse impact on other areas that have demonstrated wildlife value. * * *

The letters now in the record of this committee from Director Hartzog of the National Park Service, and Director Gottschalk of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, coupled with such disappointing statements by the Under Secretary of Interior and the strange and distressing behavior of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, show clearly that the integrity of the finest professional men in Federal service is in danger. I refer to the rangers, naturalists, historians, biologists, foresters, soil scientists and other professionals of our public land management agencies, the protectors of the landed estate of the American people—men of principle and high purpose, whose competence and devotion to the people we have now seen denigrated and disavowed.

This is why I consider Dr. Francis Uhler, the biologist of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife at Patuxent, whom I do not know personally, the most important man before you in the room today. Where the leadership of his Department sacrificed principle to expediency, he refused to be silenced. He held aloft the banner of professional integrity and public interest in the finest tradition. It reminds me of Gifford Pinchot and his battle against Richard Achilles Ballinger early in the century to save Alaska from the Morgan-Guggenheim Wall Street combine.