

Mr. INDRITZ. Did you bring to Secretary Cain's attention the fact that Secretary Udall on May 27, 1964, had written a letter to Congressman John D. Dingell in which he assured him that—

This Department has taken every step within its statutory powers to prevent the issuance of this permit.

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. Not specifically.

Mr. INDRITZ. Did you bring to Secretary Cain's attention the fact that the Acting Secretary of the Interior, John A. Carver, Jr., had written on July 15, 1964, to Governor Harrison of the State of Virginia a letter in which he concluded—

In view of the public interests involved in the area where Hunting Creek joins the Potomac River and the certain destruction of park property and important and unique scenic and wildlife values, we strongly urge you to not convey the submerged lands in Hunting Creek, regardless of the State's legal authority to do so.

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. Again not specifically, but I think a reference was made to the fact that we had urged the State not to transfer title.

Mr. INDRITZ. Did you bring to Secretary Cain's attention the fact that Acting Secretary of the Interior Carver on July 13, 1964, had written to Mr. Hugh Witt, president of the Old Town Civic Association, expressing the view that—

The Corps of Engineers will consider the views of this Department as well as objections which have been noted by others in the community sufficient to warrant a denial of the applications.

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. Not specifically.

Mr. INDRITZ. Were you aware that Dr. Uhler had been requested by Congressman Reuss to state his views concerning the wildlife values of the area early this year?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. Yes.

Mr. INDRITZ. Did you see Dr. Uhler's letter to Congressman Reuss?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. Yes, I did.

Mr. INDRITZ. Before it was sent out?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. No, I don't think so. I don't recall specifically whether I saw it before or just received a copy after it was sent.

Mr. INDRITZ. Have you read the letter?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. Yes.

Mr. INDRITZ. Do you agree with Dr. Uhler's letter?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. In substance.

Mr. INDRITZ. Did Dr. Cain discuss with you the reasons for his reversal?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. We discussed the action but we did not discuss the basic reasons why he decided to withdraw the Department objection.

Mr. JONES. Are there any further questions, Mr. Reuss?

Mr. REUSS. Director Gottschalk, during the consideration of the applications for the Hunting Creek fill, were you, yourself, in direct contact with the Corps of Engineers, or was that handled through the Assistant Secretary and Under Secretary?

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. At what point in the chronology, Mr. Reuss?

Mr. REUSS. The whole series of applications from 1964 on.

Dr. GOTTSCHALK. The original referral by the Corps of Engineers came prior to the time I took office as Director.