

Mr. REUSS. Have you ever been out there during the period of December to February when the ducks were there?

Dr. CAIN. I have been by there; I have been in this region when ducks were there; yes, sir.

Mr. REUSS. But you have never been out on the water?

Dr. CAIN. No, sir.

Mr. REUSS. Before signing this letter on October 10, 1967, did you review the findings of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service?

Dr. CAIN. No, sir, I did not go back into this long record.

Mr. REUSS. Did you read the report of Dr. Francis Uhler, the Fish and Wildlife biologist?

Dr. CAIN. No, sir—I read it later, but at that time I did not know it existed.

I may add, if it is of any interest to you—and this is in line with what Chairman Jones suggested at the beginning—subsequently I invited Dr. Uhler to be my guest at the Cosmos Club. He came in from Patuxent. Director Gottschalk and one of my staff assistants, Jim McBroom, were also there.

Mr. REUSS. When was that?

Dr. CAIN. I have got the date here somewhere, sir. But it was subsequent to October 10. I can find the date if you wish.

Mr. REUSS. I wish.

Dr. CAIN. Should I look for it now?

Mr. REUSS. Yes.

Dr. CAIN. That was on February 9, 1968. I invited Dr. Uhler and Dr. Gottschalk and Mr. McBroom to have lunch with me at the Cosmos Club.

Mr. REUSS. That was a few days before the Alexandria hearing on February 21, 1968, was it?

Dr. CAIN. I do not remember the date of that hearing. It was, I presume.

Mr. REUSS. On that occasion did Dr. Uhler in any way depart from what I think has been his consistent position that this fill permit should not be granted?

Dr. CAIN. He was a very, very stout defender of the importance of this area for wildlife.

Mr. REUSS. Now, 10 days before that meeting with Dr. Uhler at the Cosmos Club, you had written to the Corps of Engineers a letter dated January 30, 1968, saying, "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—your notice of January 17, 1968—on the application of Howard P. Hoffman Associates, Inc., for a bulkhead and filling permit in Hunting Creek at Alexandria, Virginia."

After your conversation with Dr. Uhler on February 10, did it not occur to you that it might be in the public interest to have Dr. Uhler present at the Alexandria hearing so that the public, the press, and the hearing officer of the Corps of Engineers might be informed of the judgment of the Fish and Wildlife Service?

Dr. CAIN. As a matter of fact, no; it did not.

Mr. REUSS. On December 12, 1967, Congressman Moss and myself, having just heard of your letter of October 10, 1967, by which the posi-