

Dr. CAIN. Well, the first point is that the problem of permits very seldom comes to me. There was one case in Nassau County, Long Island, where the problem was elevated to my desk. And I made arrangements to go up to the site and meet with the people who were involved and look at it and examine the problem. And this involved a considerable estuary fill.

There is another case which was not a corps permit, but which had to do with a Federal Power Commission permit in South Carolina by the Duke Power Co., which I thought probably was sufficiently important so that I arranged for a contract to have an independent engineering study of the potentialities of the thermal effect of this plant before the permit was to be granted. These were cases in which they came to me, and I participated in them fully. But I can only think of these three cases in which I have been directly involved in permits. Excuse me. There was one with respect to a papermill in Georgia.

Mr. REUSS. Anyway, your philosophical method in dealing with these cases is not merely to take a head count of Congressmen; is that correct?

Dr. CAIN. Not at all. It didn't occur to me to do so. I wouldn't know how to go about it, incidentally.

Mr. REUSS. Congressman Saylor continued in his objection to the fill; that is correct; is it not?

Dr. CAIN. I don't know.

Mr. REUSS. You read his testimony Sunday night, and you have so testified.

Dr. CAIN. As of now, this is quite true.

Mr. REUSS. Are you suggesting that Congressman Saylor has flip-flopped and that at any time he was in favor of this fill?

Dr. CAIN. No, sir.

Mr. REUSS. Would you say that Congressman Saylor was a good conservationist?

Dr. CAIN. I think he is a magnificent conservationist. I have been many times before the committee he sits on, and I admire him very much.

Mr. REUSS. Now, in your April 8 memo you mention, as the first and decisive factor which caused your October 10 flip-flop, "political considerations." What were those?

Dr. CAIN. I have already described as well as I can—

Mr. REUSS. Just in a sentence, list the political considerations—put to one side the fact that John Dingell, along with 425 other Congressmen, was not protesting. The fact is that Congressmen Saylor, Moss, Reuss, and others were; and about 15 conservationist organizations were. The Fish and Wildlife Service was. The National Park Service was. What were the countervailing political considerations? This committee has a right to know. And you should tell us.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Reuss, he has been over that three times now. Let's go over it one more time.

Mr. REUSS. Once more.

Dr. CAIN. I can't amplify what I have said, Mr. Reuss; because this was a general use of the term. I have already explained, it certainly never entered my mind that this would be interpreted as it has been interpreted, as meaning Democrat versus Republican. For God's sake, this never crossed my mind.