

funds in order to acquire interest in the property affected. This eventuality is being considered in the preparation of our 10-year development program for the Park System of the District of Columbia.

Were you aware that the Park Service was preparing to recommend the appropriation of funds to purchase the fill area in Hunting Creek, if it were necessary, in order to have it as a part of its 10-year development program?

Dr. CAIN. I was not. As a matter of fact, this instant is the first I have ever heard of that.

Mr. Moss. I suggest that that letter be included in the record at this point. Is there objection? Hearing none, it will be included.

(The letter referred to follows:)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION,
Washington, D.C., January 11, 1966.

Mr. A. Z. SHOWS,
Alexandria, Va.

DEAR MR. SHOWS: The Secretary of the Interior has requested that we express his appreciation for furnishing us copies of a letter from Mr. Harald J. Sundstrom and a newspaper clipping concerning Hunting Creek in Alexandria, Va.

As we have stated before, we regret that our lack of authority limits any action which we can take to prevent the filling operation that has been underway for some time at Hunting Creek, west of the parkway. In the case of the proposed filling of the area of the river in front of Hunting Towers Apartments, our position has been, and still is, that such an operation would encroach on the riparian rights of the United States, and we opposed to this filling, as are other Federal agencies concerned with conservation programs.

We appreciate the support of citizens, such as yourself, who share our objectives for preserving natural values in the metropolitan area. At all times we solicit advice and suggestions from anyone who has contributions to make. At the present time it appears that our only course of action, if we are to control the filling operations in Hunting Creek, is to seek specific authority and appropriations of funds in order to acquire interest in the property affected. This eventuality is being considered in the preparation of our 10-year development program for the Park System of the District of Columbia.

Sincerely yours,

T. SUTTON JETT,
Regional Director.

Mr. INDRITZ. Dr. Cain, have you discussed with the Department's lawyers the details as to the questions of riparian rights affecting the Government's interest in the Hunting Creek area?

Dr. CAIN. No, sir. There was in my office, when Mr. Horne and others came in with maps, a discussion as to where this so-called zero-zero line is, which I believe is the mean low tide line which would define the outer boundary of Federal ownership. There was discussion of that. There was speculation as to whether it had changed since the last map which showed such a line. And there was some talk about reexploration of it. But this was with National Capital Parks people, not with legal people. I do not believe Mr. Horne is a lawyer.

Mr. INDRITZ. Had the Office of the Solicitor prepared a legal opinion on the question of riparian rights of the Government in relation to Hunting Creek?

Dr. CAIN. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. INDRITZ. Could you ascertain from the Solicitor's Office if there was such a memorandum prepared, and if there was, supply it to the committee?

Dr. CAIN. I would be glad to do so.