

that you took care of that issue—namely, by the elimination of the pie-shape?

Mr. BLACK. This is essentially correct.

Mr. VANDER JAGT. Could I read you some more, Mr. Secretary, and then I will be glad to yield, Mr. Chairman.

This was my question to Mr. Hartzog—

I believe in your memorandum you pointed out the great national concern to protect estuarine areas. In light of that you suggested that they restudy this decision where they had said go ahead and fill it in; is that correct?

Mr. Hartzog replied: "That is correct."

Then he was asked:

And a very valid inference from that would be that you objected to the filling in of that area, wouldn't it be?

And Mr. Hartzog replied: "I think that can be logically inferred; yes, sir."

Then he is asked:

All right. Now when did you change your mind and decide that it wouldn't adversely affect the recreational area there if they went ahead and filled it in?

Then he discusses a couple of dates, and this is at page 40 when Mr. Hartzog testified.

And then I said:

What you are telling us is that it was the deletion of that tiny pie-shaped white area in there that changed your objection?

Mr. Hartzog replied:

Well, it didn't change our objection at all. * * *

I would like to repeat that last question and answer.

Mr. VANDER JAGT. What you are telling us is that it was the deletion of that tiny pie-shaped white area in there that changed your objection.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, it didn't change our objection at all. * * *

Mr. BLACK. Well, again the recreational and conservation values, so far as Mr. Hartzog is concerned, do not appear in the record any place and I was not made aware of them until his April 4 memorandum. It may be that he did have some long continuing objection.

Mr. VANDER JAGT. I understand, Mr. Secretary, what you are telling us in terms of the decisionmaking process within your mind and that you might quarrel with conclusions and findings. But I thought what I had clearly understood—and I want to know if you are challenging that—was the opinion of the experts under your supervision who testified here that the filling in of this area would adversely affect conservation and recreational values. Are you challenging the fact that each and every one of them told us that it would adversely affect those conservation and recreational values?

Mr. BLACK. No, I don't believe I challenge that.

Mr. VANDER JAGT. Are you challenging the fact that they told us that was their opinion as of 1964, as of October 10, 1967, as of April 1968, and as of today?

Mr. BLACK. I have no reason to challenge that. I think that in their fields that they feel very strongly about any disruption of any natural area and that they drew from that some inference which I don't draw.

Mr. VANDER JAGT. I want to proceed on this line but I will be glad to yield to you, Mr. Moss.