

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 30, 1968.

Col. FRANK W. RHEA,
District Engineer, Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers,
Baltimore, Md.

DEAR COLONEL RHEA: 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, Va.

Sincerely yours,

STANLEY A. CAIN,
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

MEMORANDUM

MARCH 15, 1968.

To: Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.
From: Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
Subject: Hunting Creek dredging permit.

The pot still boils on the decision I made some time ago to remove objections to this permit reversing an earlier decision made before I was Assistant Secretary.

The latest difficulty arises from Mike Frome who has asked that I reverse myself. His point is not so much the fish and wildlife value of the few acres to be behind bulkhead on the upstream side of the mouth of the creek as it is his assertion that to grant this permit would practically assure a continuous line of high-rise buildings along the shore south of Hunting Creek, which doesn't necessarily follow.

Today I had a chance to speak to Secretary Udall about the problem. He had earlier relegated the decision to me and had raised no objection to what I did. He merely wishes that we get a scientific-technical basis that can be stood on, whether we go "yes" or "no" on issuance of the permit. This being the case, and since I made my earlier decision without asking for a new study of the area, I think that one should be made now. Will you please have two or three of the Bureau staff—types who ordinarily make such judgments in river basins—go over there and take a new look? Whatever the judgment of the Bureau turns out to be, I will go with it, as will the Secretary. Incidentally, I will not be bothered by reversing myself, if it should turn out that way. And if it doesn't, I'll have to take Mike Frome's possible barbs. C'est la guerre!

STANLEY A. CAIN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
Washington, D.C., April 4, 1968.

MEMORANDUM

To: Secretary of the Interior.
Through: Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
From: Director, National Park Service.
Subject: Proposed land fill in Hunting Creek.

In March 1964, Hunting Towers Operating Co. and Howard P. Hoffman Associates requested permission from the Corps of Engineers to construct bulkheads and place fill in Hunting Creek from their existing shoreline to a point near the Maryland-Virginia boundary at the mouth of Hunting Creek. It was their contention that their riparian rights extended from the present shoreline to the navigable waters of the Potomac River since in their opinion Hunting Creek was no longer navigable. By action of the General Assembly of 1964, the Governor and Attorney General of Virginia were authorized to convey the submerged lands to the applicants.