

Senator ANDERSON. This is wilderness area and wilderness once locked up should not be unlocked, it should be as God left it. I remember when we introduced the Wilderness Act and I am strongly in favor of it. But this is entirely different. Twice as many people use this watershed who are not Indians as are Indians. If we assign the watershed to the Taos Indians the Spanish American people who have used it a long time will still want to use it.

Mr. UDALL. If we thought for a minute this tribe was not sincere and were not going to leave this land as it is—I believe they will. It is going to remain essentially unspoiled whether it is wilderness in or out of the system. It will remain as wilderness.

Senator ANDERSON. As you recognize, my principal objection is taking 48,000 acres and transferring it to the Interior Department. I think the Forest Service has done a fine job and I will keep on supporting them but there is no basis for this 48,000 acres.

Senator METCALF. If the Senator from New Mexico will yield, I feel that this committee is in complete sympathy with the preservation of religious shrines for Indian tribes and, of course, it will set a precedent if we set aside small areas that have great spiritual and religious significance. But it certainly is a different thing to set aside areas where there are special shrines than to set aside a whole watershed or a whole valley because that entire area is claimed to have spiritual and religious significance.

I would hate to have the Blackfeet go into the sacred mountain in Glacier Park and take that whole watershed away. That is unspoiled, Mr. Secretary, and it is unchanged. I am devoted to, and hope the Blackfeet regard me as a friend. I would hate for the Crow Indians to take over the whole Yellowstone watershed because of a precedent. They have a shrine on the mountain.

Your Department and the Congress have worked together to give respect to that special religious area in the Big Horn Recreation Area. But we don't give them the whole area or the whole watershed. I can see justification for setting out special areas in the watershed as provided for in Senator Anderson's bill. But to say a whole valley is of spiritual and natural and religious significance is something we have never recognized. I can see a great difference.

Mr. UDALL. You will hear them present their case. It is a compelling case and I know you will hear it with an open mind.

Senator ANDERSON. I want to say I am a staunch supporter of the Secretary and this is the only real issue we have ever been divided on.

Senator METCALF. I want to say, in my opinion, this is the greatest Secretary of the Interior who ever served. I hope you are not on your last appearance before this committee, but if you are, you have made significant contributions.

Senator HATFIELD. May I keep this bipartisan? I want to wish the Secretary well in his next assignment.

Senator METCALF. We will now call Mr. Arthur W. Greeley, Department of Agriculture, a longtime friend and a frequent witness before this committee.

Mr. Greeley, we are pleased to have you here this morning.