

there. We don't let the other Forest Service people go in there. I don't know that this has happened, but if it would be necessary to have a crew in there for firefighting purposes we would send a crew in for a specific reason like that. That would be the only set of circumstances under which we would permit Forest Service personnel to go in during the period of their religious services. We do not issue permits and we do not think anyone should go to the Indians and ask for permits during the religious ceremonies.

Senator ANDERSON. When Secretary Udall was testifying, I believe Senator Hatfield questioned him about desecration of shrines.

Mr. GREELEY. We do not know of any shrines which have been desecrated by anyone.

Senator ANDERSON. So far as you know, the record is clear.

Mr. GREELEY. I would like to make this comment, Senator, and again this is based on what we have read in the newspapers about complaints that are made about Forest Service activities. There has been complaint written in the newspapers, but it has not come to us about litter and cans and other debris, either being in Blue Lake or being in the Blue Lake vicinity. We have sent crews in to do policing and clean up and this was subsequent to the time of the religious ceremony. There has usually been one day, or a day and a half of work.

I can see how people might feel this constitutes desecration. There have been no Forest Service people in the area during the ceremonial time.

Senator ANDERSON. There was an editorial in the newspaper a while back saying that, although the Indians have a Forest Service permit for special use for the area, they are not satisfied. Others are allowed to use the area for recreation purposes and the Indians consider this an encroachment upon their privacy.

Mr. GREELEY. My testimony is during the time of the religious observances in August there are not other groups in the Blue Lake area, not anywhere in the permit area.

Senator ANDERSON. I have heard this charge many times. Have you examined personally what the records show?

Mr. GREELEY. Senator, I have examined what records I could get here without going out personally to the forest to do this.

Senator ANDERSON. If there were some complaints or troubles the Taos have not made these complaints to you?

Mr. GREELEY. They have not made the complaint to us.

Senator ANDERSON. That includes the whole Forest Service, does it not?

Mr. GREELEY. That is right.

Senator ANDERSON. Do the Indians have to sign these permits?

Mr. GREELEY. There has been a provision since about 1961 that the permits were to be countersigned by the designated officer or official of the Pueblo.

This has usually been the war chief. There were periods before 1961 starting in 1940 and intermittent since then that the permits had to be countersigned by a designated representative of the Indians.

I know from personal verification this has been true since 1961.

Senator ANDERSON. Does the Forest Service have any desire to abandon this group and turn its lands over to the Interior Department?

Mr. GREELEY. Senator, if the Congress should decide to do this, we