

Why don't you sometimes show the fact of what Indians have done. The Forest Service says it has not issued these permits. You say it has. What is the ordinary proof to show what is being done? You would show the permit. It isn't there.

Mr. SCHAAB. There are in the memorandum and also in the letters involved in the exhibits here—

Senator ANDERSON. Will the letter show the Forest Service has issued a permit against the rights of the Indians?

Mr. SCHAAB. Before 1962 this was their position: That if the Indians did not concur, they could issue the permit without the Indians' concurrence and they did so. In 1962, as I understand it, the Department of Agriculture concurred with the interpretation of the permit at that time put forth by the Department of Interior that Indian concurrence and issuance permits was required.

Since that date—in April I think it was 1962—the local forest supervisor may not have issued any permits without Pueblo concurrence but there has been pressure on the Pueblo from the Forest Service to induce the Pueblo to concur in the issuance of permits.

Senator ANDERSON. Now, you say there has been pressure. Tell us what the pressure was.

Mr. SCHAAB. The pressure was a letter asking the Pueblo to concur in the issuance of permits and to state its reasons for refusing to concur.

Senator ANDERSON. And who is harmed by that?

Mr. SCHAAB. The Indians construed this as a requirement that they disclose their religious practices and they didn't feel they should be required to do that.

Senator ANDERSON. What Indian thought that?

Mr. SCHAAB. We only have three Indians in the room, but I am sure they would each state that.

Senator ANDERSON. Let's have the Governor say it. Do you want to testify to that, Governor?

What pressure was put on?

Mr. SCHAAB. The question was whether you conceive the Forest Service request that you specify your reasons for refusing to concur in the issuance of a permit as pressure from the Forest Service that you didn't like.

Is that a fair statement of the question?

Senator ANDERSON. Yes, that is a fair statement.

Maybe it would be helpful to have Paul interpret for the Governor.

**STATEMENT OF QUERINO ROMERO, GOVERNOR, TAOS PUEBLO,
THROUGH INTERPRETER PAUL J. BERNAL, SECRETARY, PUEBLO
COUNCIL**

Mr. BERNAL. In regard to the question that has been raised about issuing a permit by the Indians, the Governor has stated that these applications are made to the Forest Service in the town of Taos, and these applications are processed and the Forest Service has to take these applications for permit to the Indian tribal authority. Then the Indian tribal authority examines this, and also he would have to look and to study if there was an Indian activity going on in such area as Blue Lake, or through the Pueblo watershed at Canyon.

The Governor or the designated authority is designated to concur in this.