

APPENDIX

(Under authority previously granted, the following communications were ordered printed:)

SOMERVILLE, N.J., June 25, 1968.

HON. SENATOR FRANK CHURCH,
Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR SENATOR: I know that a group of people have been besieging you and other members of the Public Lands Subcommittee with arguments for making the Great Swamp area in the Morris and Somerset counties of northern New Jersey a national wilderness area. I'm writing to provide you with a contrasting viewpoint which I feel is more popular and more practical.

The Great Swamp is situated 16 miles from New York City, is very close to Newark and is a logical place to locate the proposed fourth metropolitan jetport. It is an area that is *not* visited much even though 10 million people live in close proximity to it; however, the nearby lakes region, the shore and the convenient Poconos area, with the abundant natural lands and state parks, are much more popular.

I can't recall ever reading of a request to make the swampland a preserve prior to its being considered as a jetport site and it is my opinion that this is just the wish of a minority who do not want the airport located there—not the true feelings of nature lovers or of the majority of northern New Jersey residents.

Making the Great Swamp a wilderness preserve would rule out consideration for locating the jetport there and would be an injustice. The jetport will mean thousands of jobs for thousands of people. The unemployed of the Newark area would most likely fill these positions and the jetport would be a boom for the city of Newark which is one of the most depressed, jobless areas in the country. Besides being the most beneficial jetport site for the jobless, the Great Swamp area is the most practical site. The other areas under consideration, Hunterdon County, and the Jersey Pinelands, are three times as far from the metropolitan area, would require expensive mass transit installations, relocation of thousands of homes, greater expenditure of State and Federal funds, and would probably turn into the "white elephants" that the Dulles Airport has turned into in Washington, due to the great distance from the city.

In summary, I feel that the request to make the Great Swamp a natural wilderness area is the desire of a *minority* of northern New Jersey residents—one that is only proposed because the area is being considered as a jetport site. Making it a wilderness area would deny its use as a jetport and deny thousands of Newark area unemployed the chance for jobs. A wilderness preserve in the Great Swamp would also force the jetport to be located at one of the other proposed sites (40-50 miles from New York) and cost *much more* in local and federal funds to construct and make accessible.

Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

W. WILLIAM LINDNER.

NORTH JERSEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION,
New Vernon, N.J., June 24, 1968.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Old Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: As spokesman for the North Jersey Conservation Foundation last Thursday morning, June 20th, in behalf of S-3379, I am writing to register the views of the Foundation toward subsequent testimony which brought