

I would hope that the Congress would take this approach rather than the other, of leasing, or getting on a contract basis, land from private sources.

As I have stated in my testimony, I believe there are ample facilities as far as land availability is concerned, within the grasp of the Federal Government and that we could use these lands rather than leasing from private sources.

Mr. BROWN of California. Thank you, Commander.

I have no further questions.

Mr. DORN. Thank you, Mr. Brown.

I want to present Mr. Haley who, as you know, is one of the fine members of this great committee.

Mr. HALEY. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Commander, I want to apologize for being late. I did not have an opportunity to hear your presentation. I am sure, from just glancing over it, that it is a good recommendation that you are making. I am sure you realize, Commander, that many of the members of this committee have a second committee and we had this morning an organization meeting of the Interior Committee and I would just like to report to you, Mr. Commander, that we finally this morning were able to adopt a resolution from the Interior Committee transferring the cemeteries to the VA, which I think is a No. 1 project that you recommend in your presentation and I think this is where it should be and certainly now we will be able to pinpoint the necessities of acquiring lands, and also you will be able to shoot just one shot and not a scatter shot as has been the case in the past, and you will know where the responsibilities are to see that we have ample facilities to take care of the needs and the things that our Government has said they felt obligated to do insofar as the veterans are concerned.

I will take your presentation to my office and read it, but I am sure, as some of my colleagues have said, it is a realistic program, that it is beneficial and yet it is not a "pie in the sky" proposition. Yours is not that kind of an organization. I am just happy to be a member of this great Committee on Veterans' Affairs which has a great responsibility to the veterans of our Nation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity and thank you, Mr. Commander, for being here to represent your organization this morning.

Mr. FERRINO. We are very much elated by the glad tidings you bring us relative to that particular bill.

Mr. DORN. I am now going to call on my friends who have been so patiently awaiting on the other side here.

I want to present Mr. Denney, who is a new member of our committee and a distinguished Member of the Congress. Though he is a member of the other party, he does represent a State which gave us William Jennings Bryan, so I am for him.

Mr. DENNEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Commander, I have been working with veterans organizations for many years. I have two boys in the service.

Your statement looks as though it had been compiled to answer all the letters from my district from people asking me these questions, and saying: "When are you going to do something about this?"