

Mr. PETERSON. Which gets back to your original proposition that the pipe line is good and relieves the necessities of the present problem, but you need also to build a barge canal there to round out the facilities?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Mr. DONDERO. Absolutely.

Mr. CULKIN. May I state that I saw a piece in the paper recently stating that these wooden barges—not steel, but wooden barges—could be built very promptly in the South; that there is ample timber there; that there was no particular priority on it, and they could be built within a comparatively short period.

Mr. GREEN. Then, by the time the barge line is completed all that may have been developed and that will solve the problem. It is necessary to have the barge line going right along in construction.

Mr. CULKIN. These boats would be available in the event of the construction of the barge line.

Mr. GREEN. Yes.

Mr. DONDERO. General Reybold, the whole discussion returns to one question: How can we serve the Nation best? Time seems to be of the essence and the important thing. Don't you think that the building of the pipe line may be the best thing possible to do now, and the building of the barge line a secondary consideration? Is that about the way you look at it?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Mr. DONDERO. It seems that way to me.

Mr. GREEN. But, General, in your statement previously you said that the barge line was part of the program and should go right along with the pipe line.

General REYBOLD. What are you talking about—the barge line or the barge canal?

Mr. GREEN. The barge canal.

General REYBOLD. Mr. Dondero is talking about the barge line.

Mr. DONDERO. No; the barge canal.

General REYBOLD. I thought you said the barge line, meaning the barges.

Mr. DONDERO. The barge canal.

General REYBOLD. We have some barges, as I have said, and we ought to get that pipe line in to put them to use.

Mr. DONDERO. What is the position of the Navy Department on this subject, General? Have they been consulted?

General REYBOLD. They have not been consulted by me.

Mr. PETERSON. Would the Navy be particularly interested in it one way or the other?

Mr. CULKIN. I think the Navy's duty is generally offshore.

Mr. DONDERO. They are vitally interested in getting the fuel to run our ships.

The CHAIRMAN. General, I will state that there is another way by which transportation can be facilitated across there without even waiting for a pipe line, if you will look at the letter that Mr. Miller put in the record a while ago, that I wrote to Mr. Pelley some time last fall. I suggested that he have tank cars to haul it across by rail. He