

Mr. RANKIN. She could tie up at night in port.

Mr. HALL. Where would they go in that area?

Mr. RANKIN. They would have to tie up at night.

Mr. GREEN. A lot of American people are being murdered every day right off the coast of Florida, because we have no barge canal across north Florida.

Florida people are appealing to me to get this barge canal across Florida so this submarine menace may be relieved.

Mr. RANKIN. What the gentleman from New York and I are discussing is the feasibility of this route.

Mr. HALL. Yes; that is right.

Mr. RANKIN. Do you want to make it a barge canal for the time being, across from Jacksonville to Port Inglis that will meet the situation as far as the canal is concerned?

They have testified they could build a pipe line up here very easily, and it would only take a few months to do so, and these barges would be protected at least in the daytime, and as far as submarines trying to slip up there at night is concerned, I seriously doubt that, but as far as that is concerned you would save millions of dollars and you could construct that barge line across Florida in 15 months. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that this war is going to last 3 years.

Mr. GREEN. I just noticed the dredge *New Jersey* has about completed its task on the Great Lakes, and it would only take a small amount of dismantling, I understand, to put it on this job.

Mr. RANKIN. I just wanted to call your attention to that, Mr. Hall.

Mr. HALL. But, but can you corroborate that by expert testimony?

Mr. RANKIN. My own should be sufficient, but I will ask our engineers to look into that and give us the depth of this water in here [indicating].

Mr. CULKIN. And the depth that a submarine goes down when it is submerged, and that sort of thing.

The CHAIRMAN. And also a scale map to see if it is only 100 miles.

Mr. HALL. And, Mr. Rankin, I would also like to have the Army, if they can do it, give us the depth of water that a submarine can operate in, because we have heard that they can operate a mile and a half off the coast.

Mr. RANKIN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. In the recommendations of the ship channel they went out to something like a 30-foot contour there in the Gulf with jetties, and one of those jetties was 17 miles long, and one was 4½ miles long. That does not indicate that it is 25 miles out before you get to a depth of 25 feet.

Mr. RANKIN. What was that statement, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. I am talking about the report of the Chief of Engineers when the Florida ship canal was reported, going out from this same point on the Gulf you speak of.

Mr. RANKIN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. It provides for jetties extending out into the Gulf to something like a 30-foot contour in the Gulf.

Mr. RANKIN. Extending how far from the shore, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. One was 4½ miles long, and the other was 17 miles long.

Mr. RANKIN. At the mouth of the Withlacoochee River?