

at St. Marks. It seems a terrible pity to have this waste of barge capacity and to have the tug boats, together with crews, twiddling their fingers at a time when their 100-percent effort could be so well utilized. The whole reason for this tie-up is, of course, the fact that that port of Florida east of the Apalachicola River is included within district 1 and is subject to the rationing.

The names of the tug and barges are given, and he continues:

I am told by the Citizens Oil Co. that their storage capacity of 1,600,000 gallons at St. Marks is full, as is also their storage capacity at Freeport (800,000 gallons) and at Yankeetown (700,000 gallons). In the haste that was required, I was not able to secure the facts as to the tugs or barges tied up at other Florida ports, but I am satisfied that St. Marks is not the only Florida port at which this condition exists. Furthermore, it is getting worse, as the Citizens Oil Co. advises that 27,000 barrels of petroleum products were in transit east in various barges which, under the present rationing program, could not be unloaded but would simply add to the congestion and confusion when they arrived.

Now, there you have three barges that cannot be unloaded and others arriving.

Major PARTEN. Did he say the storage at Tampa and at St. Joe was in the same situation?

Mr. PETERSON. Continuing from the letter:

I think it is likewise worthy of note that various barges and tugs which can be used for the hauling of petroleum products are now not in use. For instance, on yesterday, May 15, I was advised by the Citizens Oil Co. that it was then being offered by the Sanford Service Co., of De Funiak Springs, for their use, three barges, to wit: *San Cerco No. 1*, *San Cerco No. 2*, and *San Cerco No. 3*, each with a rated capacity of 9,000 to 10,000 barrels of oil or gas with tug for pulling same.

Major PARTEN. I understand that is a letter from the Governor.

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Major PARTEN. That is addressed to the Petroleum Coordinator.

Mr. PETERSON. Yes.

Major PARTEN. We have a list of the equipment; I referred to it in my statement this morning.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Peterson, I understand that if Mr. Edwards is in the room he can give you this information at once.

Mr. PETERSON. I think the Governor is. I would not discount his word, I am inclined to agree with the Governor of Florida.

Major PARTEN. Pardon me, I do not want it to be assumed that I discount the Governor's word; I merely meant that we have the list.

Mr. PETERSON. I beg your pardon.

Major PARTEN. We have a list of barges and equipment which the Governor sent, which I requested, and after he gave the report there was added a list of scows and barges and you see there is no way we can use these barges in the petroleum industry.

Mr. PETERSON. To continue from the letter:

On yesterday, May 15, another oil company (a major one) which has storage facilities at St. Marks was likewise full and they were hopelessly tied up against receiving additional shipments. It is my considered judgment that the continued inclusion of Florida and Georgia in the rationed area simply works additional hardship on both of these States and their people without helping anybody else, and I am assured by the State representatives of the Standard Oil Co., the American Oil Co., and the Gulf Oil Corporation, that said companies not only think there is no further reason for leaving Georgia and Florida in district 1, but that said companies have already applied directly to yourself for the exclusion of Georgia and Florida from district 1. Your own files will best show this situation.