

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
APRIL 1, 1977

The meeting was called to order by Senator Towe, Chairman, at 11:00 a.m. in the Governor's Reception Room of the Capitol Building. Committee members present were Senators Towe, Story, Brown, Rasmussen, Roskie, Jergeson, Blaylock, and Devine.

The following bills were discussed: Senate Resolution 5
Hearing on Dr. Robert Wambach

DR. ROBERT WAMBACH

Senator Towe opened the hearing regarding Dr. Wambach's appointment as Fish and Game Director. A transcript of the hearing is attached to these minutes. Dr. Wambach opened the hearing with a written statement.

SENATE RESOLUTION 5

Senator Dunkle, District 15, sponsor of the bill, stated the bill is intended to urge Congress to stop treaty negotiations on the transfer of the Panama Canal to the government of Panama. He commented the treaty was a just and proper one paid for by dollars and lives. He continued the United States built the canal and by letting it fall into the hands of a dictator who will play games with it we endanger our own security. He presented the committee with petitions bearing the names of hundreds of Montanans opposed to the transfer (attached #1).

Senator Towe noted the joint rules 6.1, page 26, state a simple resolution can only address and amendment of the rules or the internal workings of the house in which it was introduced.

Senator Dunkle stated he was not familiar with the rule and asked the committee to continue the hearing on the bill and consider the rule procedure at a later time.

PROPOSERS

Bob Durkee, representing the VFW and American Legion, stated his strong support of Senate Resolution 5 and presented resolutions by those groups to the committee for their consideration (attached #2).

Marj Bell, representing herself, urged support of the bill and presented her testimony to the committee (attached #3).

R.H. Rice, representing himself, presented his statement to the committee (attached #4).

Margie Schulte, representing herself, stated this is a matter of national principle, and instead of backing down, our nation must begin exhibiting

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statesmanship instead of chickenship. She stated this is the place to begin.

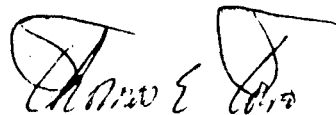
C.D. Getz, representing himself, presented his testimony to the committee in support of the bill (attached #5).

There were no further proponents and no opponents to the bill and the hearing was opened to questions by members of the committee.

There was objection to including reference to the Monroe Doctrine in the resolution. Senator Towe asked Senator Dunkle if he objected to striking that reference as it does not apply to the Panama situation. Senator Dunkle replied he had no objection.

There being no further discussion, the hearing was closed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to reconvene upon adjournment of the Senate, April 1, 1977.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thomas E. Towe", is written above a horizontal line.

Thomas E. Towe, Chairman

TRANSCRIPT OF THE HEARING
DR. ROBERT WAMBACH
BEFORE THE SENATE STATE
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1977

OPENING STATEMENT TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION
by
Robert F. Wambach
April 1, 1977

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Committee for giving me this opportunity to clarify my position on a variety of issues. I want to assure you that I am not a socialist; that I do believe in the American free-enterprise system; and that, as a trained economist, I do understand the vital importance of agriculture, timber, and mining to Montana's future.

The reason for this meeting is a newspaper report of a talk I gave in Missoula on March 18. I have read that article and I can readily understand why some people would be alarmed or unhappy by the comments attributed to me. The problem is not that I was misquoted, though I was to some extent; the real problem is that I was quoted out of context -- with the result that the newspaper article conveyed a completely different message than the one I delivered in person.

I would like to take a few minutes to explain the reason and purpose for my talk. The occasion was the annual meeting of the Soil Conservation Society of America. The theme of the meeting was "New Directions in Century Three", and the focus (all the prepared papers) was on natural resource planning. The audience consisted of soil scientists and other natural resource

specialists; most of whom are employed by state and federal land management agencies.

I was asked to be the keynote speaker because of my academic background in resource economics; because of my long-standing interest in federal legislation relating to natural resource planning; and because fish, wildlife, and outdoor recreation (the resources that the Department of Fish and Game deals with) are important concerns in the long-range plans of these agencies.

Other principal speakers included:

1. The State Director of the Bureau of Land Management (Ed Zaidlicz) who discussed the planning effort called for in the new BLM Organic Act.

2. The Regional Forester of the U. S. Forest Service (Robert Torheim) who discussed the planning implications of the National Forest Policy Act of 1976.

3. The State Director of the Soil Conservation Service (Van Haderlie) who discussed his agency's involvement in comprehensive river basin planning.

4. Congressman Max Baucus who discussed current legislation and federal actions relating to natural resources.

As keynoter, my job was to stimulate thinking and discussion -- even to the point of introducing a few of the controversial ideas that have been writtin into recent laws or that are under debate around the country. I was asked by the organizers of the meeting to speculate about the future and to focus attention on recently passed federal legislation dealing with natural resource planning.

I think I performed these tasks, and my talk was very well received by those in attendance.

I traced the evolution of our socioeconomic system, described our present situation, and projected current trends into the future. I made no judgment about the desirability of these trends nor did I advocate any particular kind of economic system. I certainly was not preaching socialism. On the contrary, I went to great pains to emphasize the need for maintaining individual freedoms, public involvement in agency decisions, private ownership of resources and production facilities, and similar institutions that are highly valued by all Americans, including me.

I would like to emphasize that the ideas in my talk did not originate with me. I was reporting on the implications of recent laws passed by the United States Congress. Other speakers were to discuss the content of the individual laws, and I was trying to give an overview of the total effect of all these laws taken as a group. These laws clearly call for an intensive and comprehensive planning effort. I was not speculating about the possibility of major new planning programs. I was talking about existing laws and speculating about the impact that these laws will have on our future.

Let me just quote a few short paragraphs from a couple of these laws to illustrate the basis for my comments in Missoula:

From the BLM Organic Act (P.L. 94-579, Oct. 21, 1976) Sec. 102(a)(2):

"the national interest will be best realized if the public lands and their resources are periodically and systematically inventoried and their present and future use is projected through a land use planning process coordinated with other Federal and State planning efforts."

The act clearly is calling for comprehensive, interagency planning that will determine the future use of natural resources.

From the National Forest Policy Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-588, October 22, 1976) Sec. 2(5):

"inasmuch as the majority of the Nation's forests and rangeland is under private, state, and local government management and the Nation's major capacity to produce goods and services is based on these nonfederally managed renewable resources, the Federal Government should be a catalyst to encourage and assist these owners in the efficient long-term use and improvement of these lands and their renewable resources..."

This act clearly directs federal agencies to become involved in land use planning on state and private lands. The point is that these and similar ideas are to be found in existing

laws. I did not invent them, nor was I advocating them. I was simply interpreting them for an audience of professional resource managers.

I am disturbed by the charge that I am a socialist, or maybe even a communist; because it simply isn't true; a fact to which my friends, associates, and colleagues will attest. And, I would be very disappointed if this incident caused me to lose my confirmation as Director of the Fish and Game Department, because I feel I can do a good job in that post. But the thing that is most disconcerting to me is how easily such an unsubstantiated charge can be established, and how readily it is believed. This explains why I appreciate so much the opportunity to defend myself before your Committee.

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have, but let me quickly address a few other issues that may be on your minds.

(1) I have been told that I was naive to give such a talk while my confirmation was pending. I don't think I was naive; I felt I was doing my job in an honest and forthright manner. I would be more deserving of criticism if I behaved one way before confirmation, and in a different way afterwards. The fact that I have been serving as Director for three months while awaiting confirmation put me in a strange position. The business of the Department of Fish and Game could not be held in abeyance. I had no choice but to do my job as I saw it.

(2) I am being criticized for participating in a meeting of the Soil Conservation Society, apparently on the grounds that this had nothing to do with Fish and Game. I feel that this criticism is entirely unjustified. I was talking to representatives of state and federal agencies who manage or control one-third of the land in Montana. These lands provide important habitat for fish and wildlife, as well as opportunities for other forms of outdoor recreation. Good cooperative relations with these agencies is vital to the accomplishment of the mission of the Department of Fish and Game. Furthermore, it is extremely important that we involve ourselves in the planning that is being done by these agencies. This is the only way that we can assure that fish and wildlife resources receive adequate consideration. I attended this meeting for the same reason that I have attended many other meetings with sportsmen, landowners, wildlife associations, and professional societies, i.e. to exchange viewpoints and information and to lay the groundwork for future cooperation.

(3) On the matter of family farms, my viewpoint has been completely distorted. In that part of my presentation I was talking about the need to feed a growing world population, the need to accommodate the demands of emerging nations, and the need to maintain a strong and viable economy. And I suggested that we couldn't meet these challenges with small family farms, without the advantages of new technology, etc. The key word here is small, and this word was dropped in the newspaper article. I was simply

questioning the productive efficiency of small farm units of the type being proposed by some of the back-to-nature advocates in our society. But I want to make it clear that I strongly support the concept of the "family farm" as long as they can be operated at a reasonable level of economic efficiency. I grew up on a dairy farm in Michigan and I fully appreciate the social and cultural value of the family farm in America. I have travelled in many other countries and I have observed first-hand the merits of the family farm in countries where they exist, and I have seen the problems that occur in countries where the family farm does not exist.

(4) Finally, I want to repeat a comment that I made on the occasion of my first visit with this Committee. I said that I thought the biggest challenge facing the new Fish and Game Director would be the establishment of better relations with private landowners. My experience in the last two months has confirmed this, and my determination to vigorously address this issue is stronger than ever. I believe I can do a good job on that task, and all the others that fall to the Director of the Department of Fish and Game. I would like the chance to prove myself.

Transcript - Wambach hearing Friday, April 1 11:00 a.m.
End of Dr. Wambach's prepared statement as presented to the Committee.

Senator Towe: Are there questions from members of the committee?

Senator Devine: Dr. Wambach, are you aware or do you know this Tom Nichol who wrote this (intelligible reference to the Letter to the Editor in the attached Missoulian newspaper article-exhibit #1)

Dr. Wambach: No, I saw his letter but I don't know him. No sir, I don't.

Senator Towe: Senator Brown.

Senator Brown: Dr. Wambach, you presented a professional paper to this group, is that correct?

Dr. Wambach: Yes.

Senator Brown: Have you got a copy of that?

Dr. Wambach: No, I talked from notes. I prepared it at the last moment and I haven't - I've got copies of the notes but I don't have - I've never fleshed it out into a full paper.

Senator Towe: Further questions from members of the committee?

Senator Blaylock: Dr. Wambach, in this article it says, "it will require individual discipline, self-sacrifice, and dedication, he said, predicting that society will also 'develop a limited tolerance ... for distorted democracy'". Is that quoting you accurately?

Dr. Wambach: Yes.

Senator Blaylock: What do you mean by that?

Dr. Wambach: What I meant was... by the words "distorted democracy"?

Senator Blaylock: Yes.

Dr. Wambach: I can't remember my words exactly but I was referring to a form of undisciplined.....ahhh...well, I'll, I'll say, obstructionism. Let me give you an example of what I mean. I was over in Rome last spring when President Sadat of Egypt visited Rome and the student demonstrations in opposition to President Sadat's visit completely immobilized the city. Shut down the airport transportation facilities, shut down the downtown area, embarrassed the government, and disrupted the economy. And that's what I would - that's the sort of thing I mean by distorted democracy. People have a right to demonstrate and make their opinions known but I wonder if society can tolerate violence or obstructionism or activities that are disruptive. That's the sort of thing I meant. It may be a poor example but

Dr. Wambach con't:

what I'm talking about is these new laws like the BLM Organic Act, National Forest Policies Act, and the various environmental acts provide for public input, require public input, but I think it should be done on an orderly and systematic basis and that obstructionism is probably - in the long run will be considered unacceptable. What I was really, and I used the words in my talk, I think we're going to - society is going to get tired of terrorism and that sort of - and we're going to - I expect that what we're going to see is more discipline in our society. Now that's speculation, but the laws are clearly directed that way. All of these new laws related to planning and natural resource agencies specify the kind of public input - hearings, advisory boards, and provide for certain kinds of monitoring by citizens groups, membership on planning teams, and I think these laws are designed to provide a systematic, orderly and regulated way for the public to have input into these actions. I think that's - I was drawing the implication from the laws that this is where we're going.

Senator Towe:

Senator Blaylock

Senator Blaylock:

Further in here, is this an extension, then, of just what you said - what you mean when you say, further down it says, "Individual Subordinate. America has already accepted the fact of government planning and regulation and abridgement of rights," he said, adding that 'the individual must be subordinate to society at large.' "

Dr. Wambach:

That's right.

Senator Blaylock:

OK now,

Dr. Wambach:

I was referring to things, I believe at that point in my paper I was talking about the level of control and regulation that already exist. The control of energy resources, of sensitive materials, of agricultural commodities, regulation of transportation industry, the control of foreign trade. Our society has already accepted the legitimacy and the need for government intervention in many of these areas that a hundred years ago were open. And so what I'm saying is that in the interest of society we do have to and have shown that we are prepared to give up certain kinds of individual freedoms in the interest of society at large. We had the example this past winter of the energy shortage in the East with the cold winter and so on, and it was clear that government had to have control of the transport of fuel

Dr. Wambach con't. and natural gas and so on in order to meet an emergency. And I think our society, judging again by the laws that I was interpreting, I think society has demonstrated its readiness or its willingness to accept these kinds of abridgements of private rights in the general interest - or the interest of the public at large.

Senator Towe: Are there further questions from members of the committee?

Senator Towe: Dr. Wambach, I'd like to ask a question or two if I may. I'd just like to ask you to comment starting on the newspaper article by the Missoulian staff writer - and I'll just read that paragraph: "Instead the future portends a massive social planning effort that may be 'the grandest undertaking in history' and that 'will do a much better job of defining our national, regional and local goals'." Would you like to comment? Is that taken out of context

Dr. Wambach: No.

Senator Towe: or what is it you had in mind?

Dr. Wambach: Well, I... the word, maybe the word that's misleading there is the word "grandest". I meant grandest in the sense of biggest and the most massive undertaking and I don't think this is speculation at all. If I I'm reading these laws and I'm using twelve laws: natural resource planning acts, environmental regulation acts, and so on - water control, water policy and so on. If I'm reading those laws right, the mandate has already been established that we're going to undertake a massive effort to figure out where our resources are, how they can best be used, how they should be utilized at what rate, and where, and so on...I see this as already mandated by existing laws and that's what I was saying. And in toto, you look at the total scope of the job as outlined by these laws, it is the grandest planning effort ever undertaken.

Senator Towe: What do you mean by social planning? Or was that your term?

Dr. Wambach: That's what I mean by this. And I don't think I used the word social. I used the word "socio-economic throughout my talk.

Senator Towe: What do you mean by socio-economic planning?

Dr. Wambach:

The...you see....I guess what I had in mind was if you're going to talk about developing the coal resources in Montana, obviously there's going to bethe driving force is the economy, but the impacts are going to be on society. And in evaluating how to exploit that resource, how to make it available to industry and to the economy you regulate or ration the mining and the reclamation and so on. But you also mitigate for social impacts. You have to build schools, you have to educate new engineers, you have to build new towns, you have to have laws to accomodate these things. And this is what I've married in my mind and what I mean by socio-economic planning is that you ...we're talking about the whole thrust of the paper and the whole thrust of the meeting was on natural resource planning. But this planning cannot be limited to just economics....you know, how much timber can we harvest, how much is it worth, and who makes the money. You've got think in terms of the impact on communities, impact on the standard of living, the impact on national income, and so on. And so in my mind those were social considerations and so I linked the two and talked about socio-economic planning. And again, that's not my idea, you see, that's all explicit in these laws, every one of these laws specifies, the environmental laws, the natural resource control or regulating laws, all specify that economic considerations and social impacts and of course, environmental impacts, will be taken into consideration. That the plan revolves around the whole bundle of things. So again, I'm just reporting on what the laws say we have to do.

Senator Towe:

Well, now then, taking the comments relating to "the individual must be subordinate to society and also must develop a tolerance - a limited tolerance for distorted democracy, is what you're saying the fact that we may have to acknowledge that we may not always be able to do what we want to do because of the resource management that is required, but that we must develop a certain tolerance for some variances that we're going to have to live with - variances of behavior. Is that what you're trying --

Dr. Wambach:

That's exactly right. If -- In this kind of comprehensive planning, talking about major impacts on land, on the economy and our social institutions - when you've built Colstrip 3 or 4 or if you dam the Flathead River, you have all kinds of impacts and somebody loses something. Somebody gives up something - not everybody wins, but what you're striving for is the optimum mix -- you want to maximize the cumulative value of these activities, even though recognizing that somebody is going to

lose - somebody has to give up part of his property - somebody is going to have a powerline through his back yard that he doesn't like, so this is what I'm trying to allude to here; is that in these massive undertakings, finding -- use the coal country again -- to plan the exploitation of a vast resource like that is a complicated undertaking and in the process, we're going to have to be guided by the majority rule; we're going to have to be guided by optimum benefits for the greatest number of people in the long run, and so on.

Senator Towe:

You're not talking about giving up some of those rights that we think of in terms of protections under the Bill of Rights?

Dr. Wambach:

No, in fact I explicitly said, that if I know Americans like I think I do, they're going to defend with their last breath these unique rights that we have in our society; the quality of opportunity, the freedom of speech, the freedom -- you know, to pursue happiness, and these kinds of things are -- that's the bottom line. Those things won't be compromised.

Senator Towe:

Even if it requires distortion in our democracy?

Dr. Wambach:

Well, I wouldn't consider that a distortion. That's the bottom line. Those are the uncompromisable things but some other things might be compromised, and have been, and that's what I'm trying to say. Not only have they been compromised in our society today, but they have been compromised in these logs, in the sense that we have specified that some of these rights that our ancestors had available to them, have already been compromised.

Senator Towe:

One more thing I wanted to ask you about. There also appears in this article the following statement: "The ideal world of Buddha, Jesus Christ and other great spiritual leaders just does not exist and antiquated methods won't work in the future." Would you like to comment?

Dr. Wambach:

Okay. What I was referring to at that point is that -- I was referring to what I consider unattainable solutions that are advocated by some very well-meaning people in the environmental movement. The idea that we will voluntarily reduce our standard of living; that we will voluntarily forego comforts and conveniences in order to reduce the amount of resources we use and that sort of thing. What I'm saying is that that is the ideal world that these spiritual leaders advocated or preached, and I don't think it exists. At least not at this time. Hopefully, some day the human society will attain those great ambitions but at the moment, we still have several billion people in this world that are trying to get enough food to eat and they're not going to take kindly to

suggestions that they forego revising their standard of living. We still have unmet ambitions and aspirations in our own society and what I was implying there, was that -- I wasn't taking a shot at that ideal world. I believe in that just like everybody in this room, probably. It would be nice if human beings were selfless and willing to sacrifice and give up good things but in the real world that I see, it's not very practical. At least not in the foreseeable future.

Senator Towe.

Alright. Senator Roskie:

Senator Roskie:

Mr. Chairman, to follow up on that just a little, in the -- you've quoted a few places here, Doctor on problems that we see as what to do with the Flathead and these sort of problems but you say, and I think that as a professional you may have, as I do, a great deal more faith in our ability to cope with the natural resource problems and perhaps others -- some degree of confidence, I'm sure, but you go out and say they pale in comparison when you consider the potential collapse of our social and political systems - the things that we see happening in places like England or Italy, and you go on further to suggest that perhaps there has been a significant backlash and we are facing some environmentally extremism and some anti-government sentiment, and this is creating indecision, second-guessing and obstructionism which is a luxury we can't afford. I wonder, would you like to expand on that a little or comment on just exactly what you were meaning on that? I'm inclined to agree with your concern about the system, but I just wondered if we -- if I'm hearing you completely.

Dr. Wambach:

(Change tape)

I guess I would have to say that that language derives from my observations in England and Italy--
-- -- the inflation rate of 25%, unemployment rate at 15%, the people disillusioned and disheartened, they can't save money, so anybody that has any money is shipping it to Canada or Australia to try and protect its value. The only way that the working man who doesn't have any accrued capital can respond is to spend his money and not -- you know, because there's no way to protect his future and these people are -- there's a psychological impact in the impetus and what is happening, as we saw in the recent elections, 70% of the cities in Italy have gone Communist and 75% just have they have in France, and there's a feeling of almost fatalism or foreboding. People just don't see how they can solve their problems, and I think Italy got into this situation just as Britain has through some of the same problems we see in our country; through lack of discipline, lack of, you know, paying too high wages so the production rate couldn't cover it; of providing too many social

benefits when there wasn't enough money in the bank to pay for them and not a strong enough government to take the difficult collective action. Now, I shouldn't be lecturing on political science. That is not my field and just what I'm telling you is what -- the impression I've gotten from my visits there. I felt for those people because even the educated and well-placed people in their society were just, you know, they had a feeling of hopelessness, and I don't think America is anywhere near that and I don't mean to imply that. But, I'm saying that that's the danger that I see of improper planning, improper control and regulation of the economy and improper discipline and that sort of thing. That's what I was implying there, is that if we don't shape up and get a handle on our economic institutions and our technology and so on, you know, we could be in trouble, and we already see signs that are disturbing -- high unemployment, inflation, and so on. I don't know whether I've answered your question sir, but that's the thought that was in my mind at the time I made this statement.

Sen. Roskie:

I guess I was searching for your comments on what is bringing about this peril to the system and to our -- to the direction we're going. Do you have any concepts on why we're headed in that direction?

Dr. Wambach:

Well, I can, you know -- I can just speculate and that wasn't the intent of my paper and that's -- I didn't develop it that far in the paper --

Sen. Roskie:

I guess I was thinking as you spoke to the laws that are moving us in that direction, do you see anything other than --

Dr. Wambach:

What I -- the reason I made that kind of comment, when I gave my talk in Missoula, was, I was trying to point to the problem that these laws are designed to correct. In other words, in developing our natural resources, we've got to at least have a scheme; we've got to have a strategy. There has to be some anticipation of the problems we're going to meet in the future and that calls for a comprehensive planning system, and what I was doing in making these kinds of statements is saying, "Now look, we already see some of our sister nations who had political and economic systems similar to ours, in deep trouble; Italy, England, France and I think these laws requiring more systematic and comprehensive planning are the government's attempt to head off those same problems in America. What we're trying to do is get a better handle on -- a better inventory of existing resources, a better plan for exploiting those resources, a more systematic way of trading off among resources

and so on. I think that's the intent of the planning and I think that was the thrust of my talk. We've got a problem, or at least a potential problem. These laws were passed to try and head off that problem and then, here's how I see -- here's what I see as the impact of these laws.

Sen. Towe: Any other questions from the members of the Committee? Senator Devine.

Sen. Devine: Mr. Chairman, Dr. Wambach, I admire you as a temporary department head; you go out and make a speech which I think department heads should do. We just had another appointment in here that was kind of down the tube because the gentleman didn't go out and communicate with the people in agriculture. Then I read this morning, the governor goes out and he communicates with the people and some of the legislators don't like what he does. So there's either something wrong with the Committee system or something wrong with the legislative system, and all you guys are just going to have to guarantee us that you won't say anything.

Dr. Wambach: I'll tell you, if you give me instructions not to give any talks, I'd be very happy, 'cause it's not a simple life.

Sen. Devine: Well, I'm kind of fearful that that's what we're going to get to with our appointed and elected officials.

Dr. Wambach: My life would be much more comfortable if I just zipped my mouth shut and never had to say a word.

Sen. Towe: Neither this committee or the legislature has any such authority, so I ---- on that point. Any further questions from members from the Committee? Dr. Wambach, I would just ask one more question. Comments have been made that you have had troubles with comments of yours since your being named to this position by the governor, first in relation to 1080, in relation to Allenspur, and now in relation to this. Do you -- do you see a -- do you have any comment, in general -- do you see any problem with the role that you play -- is it difficult for you to -- the fish and game -- spokesman for the community on one side and the ranchers and the farmers on the other side? How do you see your role?

Dr. Wambach: O.K. I'm going to admit that I'm having a little time coming down off that academic platform. You know, I've been in academia for 10 years and I'm accustomed to giving ----- and most of my talks in the University were full of complex ideas and borrowed ideas from other offers and so on, and I'm going to change my style. It's obvious

and I don't think I'll have any trouble doing that. It's just that I -- you know, I developed a 10 year habit and now I've got to develop a new one. It's -- I don't think I'm going to have any trouble communicating. Now, -- Senator Devine commented about the going out to meetings. I've attended a dozen meetings with sportsmen groups, landowners private society in the last two months, and I think I'm communicating with the audiences that I'm addressing. I have had a few problems but I don't consider them problems of communication. The Allenspur situation, for instance, I consider -- well, I'd better be careful there. Let me just explain the situation and then you can draw your own conclusions. The Fish and Game Department arranged a news conference in Billings to announce a new campaign to protect the Yellowstone River as a free-flowing river. We had a special copy of our magazine, "Montana Outdoors"; it was dedicated entirely to the Yellowstone. We prepared a movie that was that showed the Yellowstone in its current splendor and we called the news conference to announce this campaign, if you want to call it that. One of my division administrators, myself, and the Chairman of the Fish and Game Commission went to the news conference. We each had prepared statements that we delivered and that we gave to the newspaper reporters and the whole thrust of the thing was to keep the Yellowstone free-flowing, and our argument was simple. We realized that other people had different plans for the Yellowstone and our argument was very simple; that the Fish and Game Department is charged and mandated by law, to protect fish and wildlife resources. We thought in our line of duty we had to advocate free-flowing Yellowstone River. Now, the whole purpose of the press conference, formal statement -- prepared written statement, everything -- and the other speakers, the Chairman of the Commission -- the whole point of it was to talk about a free-flowing the Yellowstone River. Afterwards, a reporter came up to me privately and said, "You're certainly aware that the Bureau of Reclamation and certain industrial groups, etc., believe that the River should be dammed in order to provide -- in order to guarantee down river supplies of water and so on. What are you going to do if they have their way?" And I said, "Well, obviously we'll have to live with it." When the headline came out the next day it said that the Fish and Game Director said we could live with the Allenspur Dam. That's the story and you can draw your own conclusions. I may have a communication problem but it seemed to me that the purpose and intent of that press conference could not have been misunderstood by anybody.

as a professor one has to make bold statements in order to get students' attention, and as a director of fish and game, one cannot make bold statements that might cause ripples elsewhere.

Dr. Wambach: I think that's true and its also true that professors delight in presenting complex ideas and I don't think the Director of Fish and Game can talk about complex ideas. You know there's no reason that a professor...as a professor I had to tie in all the pieces. I had to talk about the national economy and national trade everytime I wanted to talk about the price of apples. And the Fish and Game Director is going to have to learn to talk about the price of apples and leave it there.

Senator Towe: Any further questions from members of the committee?

Senator Blaylock: I would suggest that Dr. Wambach had better be careful or he'll be accused of saying Montanans can only understand simple ideas.

General laughter....

Dr. Wambach: Are you sure you don't want to order me not talk at all?

Senator Towe: Senator Jergeson

Senator Jergeson: I share your concern that the biggest thing that has to be done is improve the relations between sportsmen and landowners. Some of the comments about family farmers, of course, are very provocative in the opinion of landowners. Are you making an effort to perhaps get an opportunity to speak with groups such as stockgrowers and any of those?

Dr. Wambach: I met with the Stockgrowers once already and if I'm confirmed I intend to meet regularly with, in fact, both groups have asked me to sit in on their meetings on a regular basis. I've also met with a landowner group in Miles City, a landowner group in Libby, and I intend to do a lot more of that. I hope I can also get out on the ground and meet key opinion molders among the landowner group. We have in several of our regions we have instituted just recently a door-to-door kind of a contact where people in the field are going to landowners...its not an interview or anything of that sort ... its just trying to find out where the touchy spots are, what the problems are. When we get that identified I hope myself and some of the key members of the staff will follow up on that. We have also instituted some cooperative programs which you may be aware of in the Blackfoot where the landowners and Fish and Game Department are entering formal

arrangements for the protection of wildlife resources. We've got three of those cooperative efforts underway now and I've got two more on the drawing board where we actually enter into a cooperative arrangement with the landowners and the Fish and Game Department with third parties - in the case of the Blackfoot, some industrial lands and university lands are involved. And I think that was a longwinded answer to your question but my intention would be to as closely as possible with the stockmen and the woolgrowers but also directly with the landowners in various forms.

Senator Towe:

Senator Roskie.

Senator Roskie:

I guess this one kind of wrap-up down at the bottom of the article where it talks about the world that capitalist land barons and technologists believe in no longer exists - perhaps your quote. Old-fashioned, drag on society, and then you go on to say, "But to deny fossil fuels, minerals, water, capital and technology is a sin of much greater magnitude than simply to live in the past.." "anarchy is actively and unquestionably destructive" and so on... but that kind of... you imply, of course the system we have.. has existed in the past, I'm not sure it does today, about land barons and so on, but we do operate under a free enterprise capitalistic system.

Dr. Wambach:

That's right. That one small paragraph describes about 40 minutes of my talk. You see, what I did was trace the evolution of our system and I don't want to take too much time of the committee but I'll just quickly outline it. I argued that during the first hundred years of our history... you see the theme of the meeting was the third century, the future... I argued that during the first hundred years land was the basis of all power, wealth, and advantage. It was the foundation of our economy. That's why the people came to America from Europe... to get land. And the landholder was the kingpin in society - that was the basis of wealth. Then the industrial revolution came along after the Civil War and capital became the kingpin. Land was obviously still important but the people who had a good handle on wealth and power were the capitalists. The people who had control of capital because we were in the industrial era instead of the agrarian era. Then I argued that up until World War II capital was the kingpin. And then I argued that after World War II we entered an era where technology became the controlling factor. The people that could control the technocracy, the brains, the scientists, the engineers, the technicians and so on the company that could employ those people had the

advantage. The people who had those kind of skills became the successful people. And so in other words I argued that technology had taken over the critical factor role in our economic system. Land and capital were certainly still important but technology became more important. And then I argued that we are in a stage now where we are in a backlash situation. We had too much technology and people got unhappy with it. We were getting too much pollution and we were getting... as Erich Frome says we had a premature arrival in the future.

Senator Roskie:

Mike..Mike Frome.

Dr. Wambach:

At any rate, and that we were in kind of a stall here because technology got out of hand for many people in our society. And then I carried the point forward that in my estimation, based on the legislation I was reviewing, the next era we are going to enter is this era of comprehensive planning, and the planning becomes the driving force in our economy. Now obviously, capital, land, and technology are still critical - they're all components but what we're doing is changing the mixture a little bit and this new factor of comprehensive planning becomes more important. Now that was the line of my argument and what I said was how the people...who..when I talked about the people who ...the capitalists, the land barons and so on...that they still believe land is the most critical factor, or capital is the most critical factor, I was just arguing that they're talking from their vantage point but they don't have my vantage point which is that the planning now has become important. When I refer to anarchists or anarchy, what I was referring to here is people who just say the whole damn system is no good, let's just throw it out. And I'm more concerned about the anarchists than I am about capitalists or land barons, that's what I was saying. The people who still think land is a critical factor in our economic system or that capital is a critical factor, they don't.. that's a legitimate point of view and in fact may be right but they don't do any harm by that belief. But the anarchists who believe we ought to throw the system out, I think they do.

Senator Towe:

Any further questions from members of the committee?
Any further questions?

Senator Devine:

We got the whole damn system bill just the other day.

Senator Towe:

If not we thank you very much, Dr. Wambach, for coming. I would at this time... I am very anxious that we not appear as if we're not interested

in involving the participation of other persons. However, we do have a time problem, and I also want to point out that we have had a full hearing on Dr. Wambach once before and I see no sense in going into that matter again. Unless there is objection, however, from the committee, I would suggest this: if there is anyone who was at the meeting in Missoula who would like to say something at this time in the audience, we would permit that. Yes. Mr. Roskie. All right, without objection from the committee we will.

A. B. Lindford:

I am A.B. Lindford and I am a member of the Montana chapter of the Soil Conservation Society. I am a former President of that International Organization. I have a prepared statement which is brief and I beg your indulgence if I spend the time to read what I have to say as I am representing the group that were at that meeting at their request.

Mr. Lindford's written remarks are attached to this transcript - see exhibit #1).

I'd like to leave these comments with you. As a person who has been both the object and subject of newspaper reports similar to one which has been referred to here today over the last thirty five years, I can say I feel that I was fortunate that my job, or my position, in the public was not jeopardized and that someone didn't call me to task to answer what someone might have thought about an action I took or what I said in a public speech. Thank you very much.

Senator Towe:

Thank you very much Mr. Lindford. Are there further persons who were at the meeting of the Soil Conservation Society in Missoula who would like to speak at this time? If not, I would ask if any members of the committee have any questions for Mr. Lindford. Senator Story.

Senator Story:

Mr. Lindford, you say that there is a...somewhere there is a tape or a transcript of the entire speech of that meeting?

Mr. Lindford:

I'm referring to Dr. Wambach's notes and I felt that he could, if requested by this group or the Senate, he could give you the same talk that he gave the Soil Conservation Society of America and you could judge the speech in its entirety.

Senator Story:

In other words, there is no transcript or tape...

Mr. Lindford:

I can't answer that, I think you'd have to address that question to Dr. Wambach.

Senator Towe:

Do you know, Dr. Wambach?

Dr. Wambach:

I don't think there is a complete transcript..
KDBO (?) taped part of it for a newsclip that
night, but as far as I know the society did not
tape it and so I don't think.....

Senator Towe:

Any further questions from members of the committee?
Hearing none, we will close the hearing, then,
and again, thank Dr. Wambach for coming.



/

SOIL
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY
OF AMERICA

RESOURCE CONSERVATION
DIVISION CORRESPONDENCE
Address reply to:

1914 Spring Creek Drive
Bozeman, Montana 59715
April 1, 1977

Testimony for the Senate State Administration Committee
Honorable Thomas Towe, Chairman
Helena, Montana 59601

Senator Towe and Members of the Administrative Committee:

I wish to thank you for the opportunity of appearing before you today.

I have a prepared statement that I will leave with you that I wish to read in its entirety.

At the outset, I want to commend this committee on their concern that the State of Montana attract the best qualified of its citizens to head our departments of state government. It is in that connection and in that setting I appear here today.

Respectfully,

A. B. Linford

A. B. Linford



SOIL
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY
OF AMERICA

April 1, 1977

RESOURCE CONSERVATION
DIVISION CORRESPONDENCE

Address reply to:

A. B. Linford
1914 Spring Creek Drive
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Testimony for the Senate State Administration Committee
Honorable Thomas Towe, Chairman
Helena, Montana

Senator Towe and Members of the Administration Committee:

I am A. B. Linford a member of the Montana Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America and a former National president of that International Organization. By way of clarification, the Soil Conservation Society of America is an International Organization of some 15,000 members concerned with the art and science of good land use. Its membership consists of people from various technical disciplines and educators throughout the world. The Montana Chapter of over 200 members have asked me to represent them here today.

My purpose is to comment on the Keynote Address delivered by Dr. Robert Wambach to the Montana Chapter of the Society on March 18, 1977 at Missoula, Montana.

Recent press releases in the daily papers of Montana cite Dr. Wambach's speech as the reason for reconsideration by the committee of his appointment to head the Montana Fish and Game Department.

As one of over one hundred people who listened to this speech, I can state that most people who heard it considered it to be a fair evaluation of the status of natural resource planning in the country today including Montana. Not everyone at the meeting agreed with Dr. Wambach's appraisal, but one conference participant labeled it "the best talk on planning that he had been privileged to hear".

In reviewing the comments of Don Schwennesen, staff writer for The Missoulian on the speech, I felt he reported correctly on the speech as far as he went. Like many other reports we occasionally see in the daily press, he did not include Dr. Wambach's summary of his remarks and thereby may have left an incorrect impression in the minds of some of his readers.



SOIL
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OF AMERICA

RESOURCE CONSERVATION
DIVISION CORRESPONDENCE
Address reply to:

A. B. Linford
Testimony, April 1, 1977

Like all of you present in this room, I believe fully in free speech, a free press, and fair play. We also believe in a fair trial for those whom we accuse of wrong doing. I believe most of us would agree that our social and political systems in this country are more important than grizzly bear habitat, sediment and critical flows in our rivers. If natural resource planning is to be meaningful, it can not disregard man as a part of nature nor can it ignore the institutions and laws that man has surrounded himself with to insure the rights of the individual and society.

Most of us who were at Missoula heard Dr. Wambach's speech in its entirety find it difficult to square what we heard with the editorial characterization of the speech as "socialistic tripe".

Far too many of our past and present resource decisions are made on the basis of incomplete or slanted information and in many cases essential facts are not considered.

Keynote addresses are usually designed to stimulate thinking and action. Someone said they raise all the pertinent questions but very rarely do they provide all the solutions. As a setting for a meeting to discuss public planning and resource policy, I and my colleagues felt Dr. Wambach did a good job.

To use his address to the Montana Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America as a basis to confirm him or to deny him confirmation as head of the State Fish and Game Department is wrong in my opinion and to evaluate him on the basis of the published report of that address is grossly unfair.

The machinery exists for the Montana Senate members to hear firsthand or read what Dr. Wambach said at Missoula in its entirety, if they so desire. If they then felt they were justified in withholding approval of his nomination, they would have a valid reason. On the other hand, if they act on the basis of the information I



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RESOURCE CONSERVATION
DIVISION CORRESPONDENCE
Address reply to:

A. B. Linford
Testimony, April 1, 1977

have seen at this point in time, they only have an excuse.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "A. B. Linford".

A. B. Linford

Stronger Planning Essential, Fish and Game Director Says

By DON SCHWENNESEN
Missoulian Staff Writer

Declaring that "laissez faire management is self defeating" and a thing of the past, state Fish and Game Director Robert Wambach said in Missoula Friday that sound and comprehensive planning "will become the basis of wealth, power and advantage in the future."

Painting a verbal picture of the planned society of tomorrow, he summoned resource managers to "be in the vanguard of this new era" during a keynote speech opening the annual winter meeting of the Montana Chapter of the Soil Conservation Association of America.

"Without better planning I think our social and economic system is likely to decline and collapse," he said.

Wambach also criticized what he termed "the current counter-culture" as a substantial and sinister force of anarchy that will prove "negative and self-destructive."

Wambach, state Bureau of Land Management Director Edwin Zalditz, Regional Forester Robert Torheim and state conservationist Van Haderlie were the featured speakers at the opening session on "New Planning Programs" Friday afternoon in the Village Motor Inn.

Baucus on Program

Western Montana Rep. Max Baucus was scheduled to give a banquet speech Friday night. The conference concludes Saturday with a business meeting and a panel discussion on how to implement planning.

Abandoning a speech prepared by his staff, Wambach took advantage of the meeting theme — "New Direction in Century Three" — to talk about "a bigger issue" and to "paint a picture that may seem more like social revolution" than like a new challenge to resource managers.

Wambach's "great new world"

■ To the Editor:

Well folks, you had it all spelled out for you in Saturday's Missoulian (March 19) page 6, by Robert Wambach, new state Fish & Game Director. Right here in Montana we have a prime example of the type of socialistic garbage that, more and more, pervades the thinking of our liberal leaders, administrators, senators, congressmen, college professors and teachers. It will soon have a force and impact that will not be readily subdued.

Just read the article. It has nothing to do with fish, game or hunting. Mr. Wambach is just letting us know what our great new world is going to be like. After stating that it may sound "foreboding and unpalatable to freedom-loving citizens," he implies that we should delightfully surrender to it, as he apparently has done. Can you imagine the amount of socialistic tripe this academic dreamer has poured into the heads of our college kids over the years?

I will not quote him further. You'll just have to read it all for yourselves. You might as well get used to it. We're going to be exposed to more and more of this softening process as the "new socialists" assume more positions of power. If Governor Judge does not get rid of this elitist boob in a hurry, we can only assume that the governor agrees with him and is a member of the same tribe.

Heaven help us all, unless we help ourselves — in 1978 and 1980.

Tom Nichols

Senator Bergen

He said issues such as "the extent of grizzly habitat, critical flows in the Yellowstone River and the sediment load in the Flathead" are important.

But "they pale in comparison when you consider the potential collapse of our social and political systems," he said, noting "the things we see happening in places like England or Italy."

While land was the basis for wealth during much of the nation's first two centuries, capital became the basis for wealth and power during the industrial era, only to be supplanted more recently by high technology.

Industry and technology "have had major impacts on our land" through corporate farms, strip mining, machinery, mineral and water extraction, Wambach said, and there has been "a serious backlash" to "hell-bent technological development."

Backlash Symptoms Said Bad

The symptoms of the backlash are such things as "environmental extremism, antigovernment sentiment" and "unnecessary pessimism," he said, arguing that such symptoms breed "indecision, second-guessing and obstructionism" that in the future "will be luxuries that we can't afford."

Instead, the future portends a massive social planning effort that may be "the grandest undertaking in history" and that "will do a much better job of defining our national, regional and local goals."

It will require individual discipline, self-sacrifice and dedication, he said, predicting that society will also "develop a limited tolerance ... for distorted democracy."

"The planning process will involve the public" but such involvement "will have to be done in an orderly, structured and legitimate manner" through "elected or appointed bodies."

"We must have a system that allows for leadership to emerge," he added, and "some of us are going to have to be followers."

The alternatives portend social unrest, declining living standards and growing shortages.

If the whole scenario "sounds foreboding and unpalatable to freedom-loving citizens," Wambach said, "the fact is, we're already well on our way."

Individual Subordinate

"America has already accepted the fact of government planning and regulation and abridgement of rights," he said, adding that "the individual must be subordinate to society at large."

"The ideal world of Buddha, Jesus Christ" and other great spiritual leaders "just does not exist," and antiquated methods won't work in the future.

"We can't feed ourselves with family farms," he said, adding that "the alternative to change is chaos and system failure."

"The world that capitalists, land barons and technologists believe in no longer exists," he said, terming them "old-fashioned" and potentially "a drag on society."

But "to deny fossil fuels, minerals, water," capital and technology "is a sin of much greater magnitude than simply to live in the past," Wambach said, adding that "anarchy is actively and unquestionably destructive to the point where our survival is threatened."

State Administration COMMITTEE

Date 8/1/22

[illegible]

NAME: C. B. Kenford DATE: _____

ADDRESS: 1914 Spring Creek Offroad Bonanza

PHONE: 557-5507

REPRESENTING WHOM? *Wentworth Chapter for Conservation Society*

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Washburn Anderson

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

/ undersigned petitioners declare our intent to support SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION 13, opposing the Federal Government give away of our PANAMA CANAL.
ask our Legislators to support passage of SJR 13 in the Montana State
Legislature.

NAME

ADDRESS

(11)

PHONE

Bruce Sims	1025 Combs Drive, Missoula MT	728-3517
Charles R. Sims	1025 Combs Dr, Missoula MT	728-3517
Nicholas R. Sims	Box 221, Lolo, Mont.	221-5111
Fred D. Thompson	mail only P.O. Box 3763, Missoula, Mont.	277-3021
Walter F. Fries	P.O. Box 2312 Lolo	277-1111
John L. Fries	520 West Kent Missoula, MT	277-1111
John L. Fries	512 Minnesota Missoula MT	
John L. Fries	P.O. Box 3635	None
Kenny Lopez	535 FORD ST. MISSOULA, MT.	543-5065
Kenny Cetti	2505 Norman Dr. MISSOULA MONT	543-5101
Wm J. Jirotti	1800 Park MISSOULA MONT.	544-2114

#2
NAME:

Bob Durkin

DATE: 4-1

ADDRESS:

Helena

PHONE:

REPRESENTING WHOM?

VFW - AM LEGION

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

SR 5

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

X

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Resolution No. 12

U. S. SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE "UNITED STATES CANAL"
LOCATED ON THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA

WHEREAS, Article II of the 1903 Convention between Panama and the United States, as modified in part by the 1936 Treaty between the two Governments, states:

ARTICLE II

The Republic of Panama grants to the United States in perpetuity the use, occupation and control of a zone of land and land under water for construction, maintenance, operation, sanitation, and protection of said canal of the width of ten miles extending to the distance of five miles on each side of center line of the route of the Canal to be constructed; the said zone beginning in the Caribbean Sea three miles from mean low water mark extending to and across the Isthmus of Panama into the Pacific Ocean to a distance of three marine miles from mean low water mark with the proviso that the cities of Panama and Colon and the harbors adjacent to said cities, which are included within the boundaries of the zone above described shall not be included within this grant. . .

The Republic of Panama further grants in like manner to the United States in perpetuity all islands within the limits of the zone above described and in addition thereto the group of small islands in the Bay of Panama, named Perico, Naos, Culebra and Flamence; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America has fully met its obligations to Panama under existing treaty arrangements and, moreover, has efficiently and responsibly accommodated an ever-increasing number of transits and amount of tonnage through the canal; and

WHEREAS, the revolutionary government of Panama, a product of coup d' etat, has since June 1971, under the guise of seeking new canal treaty arrangements, undertaken a bitter and sustained campaign of anti-American propaganda fueled in large part by Cuban and Soviet Communists; and

WHEREAS, given the emotionally irrational situation in Panama, a political/psychological "timebomb" is being consciously fabricated by the revolutionary government of Panama set to explode to the detriment of the United States and the world shipping community, as was the case in the abortive meeting of the UN Security Council in Panama and the subsequent threat to the U.S./UN Ambassador and the Panamanian dictator's "red carpet treatment" in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, due largely to our unswerving V.F.W. support, more than one-third of the U.S. Senate, led by Senators Thurmond (S.C.) and McClellan (Ark.), has gone on record in opposition to the unprincipled "Statement of Principles" signed by the Administration and the Panamanians, and a parallel effort is being conducted in the House of Representatives led by Congressman Dan Flood (Pa.); now, therefore

(continued)

Resolution No. _____ - 2 -
U.S. Sovereignty Over The "United States Canal"
Located On The Isthmus Of Panama - (Continued)

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Department of MONTANA,
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that

- (a) U.S. operation, control and defense of the Canal are non-negotiable;
- (b) tensions relating to the administration of the Canal Zone be resolved on the spot without disturbing present treaty arrangements;
- (c) U.S. citizens and employees in the Canal Zone continue to meet their responsibilities under U. S. Sovereignty;
- (d) the foregoing position be again communicated to both the President and the Congress; and
- (e) the Panama Canal Zone send to the Congress of the United States a delegate such as is done by Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands.

Department of Montana

Bob Durkee m

APPROVED

Department of Montana, V. F. W.

6-12-76

RESOLUTION NO. 28

SUBJECT: Panama Canal

REFERRED TO: Not! See

WHEREAS, The Panama Canal Zone continues to be a cornerstone of the defenses of the United States because of its being a "bridge" between the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans, for the movement of men and equipment, and for world trade; and

WHEREAS, The Canal Zone was established by the Treaty of 1903, assigning the U. S. the use, occupation and control of the Canal Zone territory forever; and

WHEREAS, efforts are being made to undermine the Treaty and our nation's rights to the Canal Zone, and the canal, are in danger of being abrogated; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Department of Montana, The American Legion, in convention assembled at Great Falls on July 11-13, 1975, opposes any new treaties or agreements with Panama that would deprive the United States of its sovereign rights to the Canal Zone and the Canal.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE ACTION

Approved ☒ Rejected ☐

Amended ☐ Consolidated ☐

CONVENTION ACTION

Approved ☒

Rejected ☐

Amended ☐

151 *Jack Whelan* *Quinn*

#3
NAME:

Mary Bell

DATE:

April 1 - 1977

ADDRESS:

4625 Burdsey Dr. Helena

PHONE:

444-3569

REPRESENTING WHOM?

self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

SR5

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

✓

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

MARJ BELL
4675 BIRDSEYE DRIVE, HELENA
1 APRIL 1977

LEGISLATIVE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Re: SR 1 PROPOONENT

MR. CHAIRMAN... MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE... I AM MARJ BELL
AND I LIVE AT BIRDSEYE... NORTHWEST OF HELENA.

IN THE LATE 60'S.... IT WAS KNOWN AS "PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S
GIFT".... THE GIVEAWAY TREATY THAT WOULD TURN OVER CONTROL AND
OPERATION OF THE CANAL ZONE AND THE PANAMA CANAL TO PANAMA.
NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN GOING ON TO COMPLETE THIS TRANSFER AT
AN ACCELERATED PACE SINCE HENRY KISSINGER SIGNED THE PRELIMINARY
AGREEMENT IN 1974 TO ACCOMPLISH THE TRANSFER.

THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE INCLUDING THE CANAL... IS SOVEREIGN
TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES. WE BOUGHT AND PAID FOR THE LAND
AND BUILT THE CANAL. WE HAVE INVESTED NEARLY SEVEN BILLION DOLLARS
IN THE PANAMA CANAL... AND HAVE OPERATED THIS MOST STRATEGIC
OF THE WORLD'S WATERWAYS FOR OVER 60 YEARS.

WITH CONTROL OF THE CANAL... WE CAN MOVE OUR NAVAL SHIPS
FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC WITH COMPARATIVE EASE. THE
LOSS OF CONTROL OF THE CANAL WOULD NECESSITATE CONSTRUCTION
IMMEDIATELY OF FLEETS FOR BOTH OCEANS AND A MASSIVE EXPENDITURE
IT WOULD BE. AT THE PRESENT TIME... SEVENTY PERCENT OF THE
SHIPS THAT USE THE CANAL EITHER BEGIN THEIR VOYAGE IN THE UNITED
STATES ... OR IT IS THEIR FINAL DESTINATION.

I OPPOSE RELINQUISHING OUR SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CANAL ZONE
AND THE PANAMA CANAL. OPPOSITION IS GROWING ALL OVER THE UNITED
STATES TO A NEW TREATY. PASS SENATE RESOLUTION 5 SO THAT WE CAN
INFORM CONGRESS THAT MONTANANS REJECT RATIFICATION OF ANY TREATY
THAT WOULD DIMINISH OUR RIGHTS TO OUR CANAL. THANK YOU.

NAME:

R. A. Ricci

DATE:

4/1/77

ADDRESS:

807 N. Irving Helena

PHONE:

442-3569

REPRESENTING WHOM?

Myself

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

SR5

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

☒

AMEND?

☐

OPPOSE?

☐

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

Mr. Chairman, members of this committee, ladies and gentlemen: My name is R. H. Rice. I live in Helena, Montana and appear before you today representing myself and family as citizens of these United States of America.

I should like to call to your attention the mass of misinformation now being disseminated, not only by the U. S. Dept. of State, but by other ill-informed groups, in a propaganda blitz designed to gather support for the administration's negotiations toward a new Panama Canal Treaty which would relinquish U. S. possession and control of that vitally important waterway.

The negotiations have been pursued following the wholly unauthorized 1974 Kissinger-Taek "Agreement of Principles" begun during a previous administration's search for issues which might distract public attention from domestic problems.

Not only was that agreement an unauthorized one, but it also directly contradicted the prevailing opinion of the Congress and the people of the United States. There is a steadily growing opposition nationwide to the continued attempts of the State Department to negotiate away the interests of the United States in the Panama Canal. Many informed Americans are speaking out on this issue even though the media make no attempt to bring out the true facts in the matter.

Hanson W. Baldwin, former military editor of the NEW YORK TIMES states: "Any cessation by the U. S. of a dominant military position in any Isthmian canal would certainly lead to grave political and diplomatic problems elsewhere in Latin America.

Sen. James B. Allen, Alabama. U. S. Operation of the Canal and our exercise of sovereignty in the Panama Canal Zone has been a source of stability in the Western hemisphere and a boon to world commerce. Our presence there has been completely honorable and we have nothing to be ashamed of or to apologize for.

Donald M. Dozer, Professor, Latin American History, University of California-Santa Barbara. Spokesmen for the State Dept. are misrepresenting the facts, as when they make the statement that the United States Canal Zone belongs to the Republic of Panama and has been temporarily under the jurisdiction of the United States.

A 43-year resident of the Isthmus, who says he's afraid of a firing squad. Panama has difficulty picking up its own garbage; it does just a passable job. And they cannot run the electric power company efficiently . . . power failures are common. Recently the Riba-Smith supermarket had to dump all its ice cream and meats due to a 5-hour shutdown of the government electric plant. No way could the Panamanian government operate the canal.

In their last free election for president Panamanians cast an overwhelming vote for the man of their choice, Arnulfo Arias. After eleven days in office Arias was thrown out in a military coup led by Gen. Omar Torrijos, the present dictator, who openly praises Castro, whereas President Arias is strongly anti-communist. This was the third time Arias had been elected by an overwhelming popular vote and the third time he had been thrown out by the military. If it were left to a free election in Panama, with freedom of speech, freedom of press, and free news media, he would be elected again. Only a few days after the military take-over of the Panamanian

government, the United States government extended credit to the new military government and poured in sufficient money to keep them in office. These troops were taught and trained in the Canal Zone to put down riots and wage war. They acted against their own people and, in this case, against their people's will.

The only election since the military came into power in Panama was under the complete discretion and control of the military. Only those selected by the military appeared on the ballot and there were no write-ins. Yet everyone was forced to vote. Does this sound like a free country?

Panama appears to be following a familiar pattern . . . a small country pitted against the mighty United States of America . . . a USA whose leaders claim to love peace so much . . . that they will permit the entire rest of this hemisphere to fall before we lift a military hand to stop it.

Panama Canal is so vital to the safety of the U.S. and the rest of the free world nations that we dare not consider giving control to a nation as unstable as Panama which has had 61 presidents in its short life of 72 years. The United States has an unblemished record of operating the Canal fairly and equitably in the best interests of the nations of the world. Let's keep it that way.

I strongly urge you to recommend passage of SJR 13.

Thank you.

R. H. Rice
807 No. Ewing
Helena, Mont. 59601

NAME:

Mrs. Margorie Schulte

DATE:

4-1-77

ADDRESS:

1523 Boulder

PHONE:

442-0667

REPRESENTING WHOM?

Myself

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

Panama Res. SR#2

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

☒

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

It is my belief that this Resolution should go to the floor for vote because a matter of national principle is involved, and it is past time for Americans to show some of us still have backbone, and are tired of backing down!!

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

April 1, 1977

Testimony on S.R. #5

Clarence D. Getz 760 Sierra Rd W. Helena

The consequences of a surrender of American ownership and control of the canal that we built and paid for would not only be terribly costly in terms of military security and economic stability, but it would be a bigger blow to our world prestige even than our defeat in Vietnam. It is one thing to be forced to beat a humiliating retreat from a foreign country many thousands of miles away from home. It is quite another thing to be forced to abandon our own property and the fruits of our own labor and our own investments, as well as the safety of our own American citizens.

Something stinks in Washington - Before the elections Carter said "I would never give up complete control or practical control of the Panama Canal Zone." Now Carter says "I think the Panama Treaty ought to be resolved quite rapidly."

Sol M. Linowitz - the co-negotiator

I was chairman of the commission on United States - Latin American Relations - a private group which in Dec. of 1976 called for:

A) The new Administration to hurry up & sign a new treaty with Panama.

B) to abandon the Monroe Doctrine.

This Commission said - "The new administration should move quickly toward a new treaty with

Panama which recognizes that country's sovereignty."

2) Linowitz is on the Board of directors of a bank which is in trouble with the Federal Reserve for huge loans made to Panama - loans that would be made secure only by the transfer of the Canal and Canal Zone. (The Marine Midland Bank) Indicating possibly a conflict of interest.

Nation wide public opinion polls are 5-1 in favor of retaining our sovereign rights over the canal.

We are told that Americans have lost their resolve to win. Rather, I say, we are prevented by Washington from winning. If you doubt that remember Korea & Vietnam.

Sovereignty over a waterway that is both economically and militarily strategic could threaten Panama's independence. Guerrillas trained and organized by Cuba, the Soviet Union, or other Communist Countries could destroy the present regime, if its policy on the Canal were not satisfactory to the Soviet aim of dominion over the seas. Closing the canal or discrimination among various users could create severe economic dislocations in selected areas. Panamanian policy might become the tool of Soviet policy, which would in turn be intolerable to the United States. Such action might or might not induce a confrontation between the major powers. The real issue is U.S. control vs. Communist Control.

Borgos says " We are prepared to follow the Ho Chi Minh route if necessary.* That means terrorism, guerrilla operations and sabotage in a national liberation war to regain our territory." Such an impudent threat cannot be handled by accommodation or appeasement. It must ~~not~~ be met forthrightly and firmly with one end in view - the best interests of the U.S., the Western Hemisphere, and the free World.

"...A resolution, sponsored by Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) and John McClellan (D-Ark.), has been submitted calling on the U.S. Government not to transfer any of its rights over the canal and the Canal Zone.

"The Thurmond-McClellan resolution has already obtained 37 co-sponsors and under U.S. Senate rules, 67 votes are required for ratification of a treaty. Supporters of the resolution believe that other Senators can be expected to join the list....

"Specifically, the resolution says that:

"(1) The Government of the United States should maintain and protect its sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the canal and zone, and should in no way cede, dilute, forfeit, negotiate, or transfer any of these sovereign rights, power, authority, jurisdiction, territory, or property that are indispensably necessary for the protection and security of the United States and the entire Western Hemisphere; and

"(2) there be no relinquishment or surrender of any presently vested United States sovereign right, power, or authority or property, tangible or intangible, except by treaty authorized by the Congress and duly ratified by the United States; and

"(3) there be no recession to Panama, or other divestiture of any United States-owned property, tangible or intangible, without prior authorization by the Congress (House and Senate), as provided in article IV, section 3, clause 2, of the United States Constitution."...

"A similar resolution has been offered in the House by Reps. Lenore Sullivan (D-Mo.) and Daniel Flood (D-Pa.), and has been accompanied by 111 signatures." (*Cong. Rec.*, Apr. 17, 1975, p. H 2939, and April 18, 1975, p. 8 6826)

I call on you Senators to join these other fine Americans to save our Canal.

We cannot deal with Communists - for they consider as truth, honesty, & desirable only what benefits Communism. Devoid of Christian morals and ethics they can, do, and are using murder, blackmail, extortion, etc. to further their own aims.

People in Panama today are imprisoned, exiled, brutally tortured, and some have disappeared for opposing Omar Torrijos or speaking favorably of the U.S.

I would remind you "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Thank You.

FREEMEN REPORT

"ASSURING YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW"

PUBLISHED BY FREEM.

Vol. IV No. 5

50¢

Nov. 30, 1975



Pro & Con

Panama

*Do We Have
A Right To Be There?*

Congress vs. State Depl.

Rep. Daniel Flood (R-Pa.)

On June 26, 1975, the House of Representatives, in an amendment to the 1976 appropriation bill for the State Department, denied, by a vote of 246 to 164, the Snyder amendment denying that department the necessary funds for negotiating the surrender of "any U.S. rights" in the Canal Zone (Cong. Rec., June 26, 1975, p. H6236).

As the result of extensive

A study of the three agreements will disclose that they would place the United States in the untenable position of having grave responsibility without adequate authority. Current information makes crystal clear that the terms of the actual treaties would be far worse than the conceptual agreements.

... The conferees, as a result of the debate on September 24, inserted the words "in the Canal Zone" to make the

SENATORS CO-SPONSOR RESOLUTION 97 TO KEEP
PANAMA CANAL

A resolution, sponsored by Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) and John McClellan (D-Ark.), has been submitted calling on the U.S. Government not to transfer any of its rights over the canal and the Canal Zone.

"The Thurmond-McClellan resolution has already obtained 37 co-sponsors and under U.S. Senate rules, 67 votes are required for ratification of a treaty. Supporters of the resolution believe that other Senators can be expected to join the list...

"Specifically, the resolution says that:

"(1) The Government of the United States should maintain and protect the sovereignty of the Canal Zone."