

Y 4
. In 8/13
N 72/
965-3

1040

965/3
N 72/
In 8/13
89/Y4

INTERIOR NOMINATION

GOVERNMENT

Storage

HEARING
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE
EIGHTY-NINTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

THE NOMINATION OF J. CORDELL MOORE TO BE ASSISTANT
SECRETARY, MINERAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR

AUGUST 23, 1965

Printed for the use of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1965

52-764



COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

HENRY M. JACKSON, Washington, *Chairman*

CLINTON P. ANDERSON, New Mexico

ALAN BIBLE, Nevada

FRANK CHURCH, Idaho

ERNEST GRUENING, Alaska

FRANK E. MOSS, Utah

QUENTIN N. BURDICK, North Dakota

CARL HAYDEN, Arizona

GEORGE McGOVERN, South Dakota

GAYLORD NELSON, Wisconsin

LEE METCALF, Montana

THOMAS H. KUCHEL, California

GORDON ALLOTT, Colorado

LEN B. JORDAN, Idaho

MILWARD L. SIMPSON, Wyoming

PAUL J. FANNIN, Arizona

JERRY T. VERKLER, *Staff Director*

STEWART FRENCH, *Chief Counsel*

NOMINATION OF J. CORDELL MOORE TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, MINERAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1965

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 2:10 p.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Henry M. Jackson (chairman) presiding.

Present: Senators Jackson, Church, Moss, Burdick, McGovern, Nelson, Metcalf, and Fannin.

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief counsel; James H. Gamble and Roy M. Whitacre, professional staff members; and Richard N. Little, minority counsel.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

This is an open public hearing by the Senate Interior Committee, held pursuant to public notice, on the nomination by President Johnson of J. Cordell Moore to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Mineral Resource Development. Mr. Moore would succeed John M. Kelly, of New Mexico, in the post.

Mr. Moore, who is from Illinois, is a veteran Government administrator. Presently he is serving as Administrator of the Oil Import Administration, which is under the Assistant Secretary for Mineral Resources, and, hence, he already has substantial knowledge of many of the duties of the position to which he has been nominated. Without objection, I will direct that a biographical sketch of Mr. Moore appear in the record of this hearing at this point.

(The document referred to follows:)

J. CORDELL MOORE

Present position: Administrator, Oil Import Administration.

Nominated for: Assistant Secretary, Mineral Resources, Department of the Interior.

Born: Winchester, Ill., July 20, 1912.

Education: A.B., Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., 1936; LL.B., Georgetown University, 1949; member of the bar; graduate work, petroleum geology, American University, 1953 and 1955.

Marital status: Married.

Experience: 1936-37: Assistant camp manager, Camp Graham, Grafton, Ill., P re Marquette project (National Park Service). 1937-39: Field representative, Universal Credit Co. (Ford Finance Co.), St. Louis, Mo. 1939-41: Office of Hon. James M. Barnes, Member of Congress, 20th District, Illinois. 1941-42: Clerk-examiner, Metal Reserve Company (Reconstruction Finance Corporation). 1942-46: U.S. military duty. 1946-47: Executive Director, Office of Foreign Liquidation for Latin America (Department of State), Panama, C.Z. 1947-50: Office of Alien Property, Department of Justice. 1950-52: Assistant Director,

Division of Property Management, Department of the Interior. 1952-61: Director of Security and Staff Director, Mobilization Activities, Department of the Interior. 1961-65: Administrator, Oil Import Administration.

Military: Captain, Naval Reserve, active duty, 1942-46: United States, North Africa, and Middle East.

Home: 4301 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D.C.

Voting residence: Illinois.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Moore, you already are favorably known to a number of Senators on the committee. However, I think it would be well if you would outline your biography and make some comments regarding your duties in connection with the position to which you have been nominated. We are happy to have you with us.

STATEMENT OF J. CORDELL MOORE, NOMINEE TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, MINERAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. MOORE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

For the past 4 years, I have been Administrator of the Oil Import Administration charged with responsibility for controlling the importation of residual fuel oil, crude oil, unfinished oil, and finished products in accordance with Proclamation 3279, and the Oil Import Regulations of the Department of the Interior, issued pursuant to Proclamation 3279.

Would you like to have more detail on the program itself, or do you think that is sufficient?

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I think you just outlined the high points of the present office. You, of course, have various divisions under you to which you might make reference.

Mr. MOORE. I understand the responsibilities of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mineral Resources. Under this Office, we have several different functions: The Bureau of Mines, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Oil Import Administration, the Office of Oil and Gas, the Office of Coal Research, the Office of Minerals and Solid Fuels, and the Office of Geography. I do not believe I have missed any.

I, as indicated earlier, have been Administrator of one of these divisions during the past 4 years. During the 16 years I have been in the Department, I have worked very closely with the Bureau of Mines, with the Geological Survey, the Office of Coal Research and the Office of Minerals and Solid Fuels. This was in connection with my responsibilities as staff director of Defense Mobilization activities of the Department of Interior and as Director of Security of the Department and as Assistant Director of the Division of Property Management.

The CHAIRMAN. So, prior to your present position, you served in the Department of the Interior from 1950 until 1961, when you became Administrator of the Oil Import Administration?

Mr. MOORE. That is correct, sir.

In addition, I had approximately 1 year with the National Park Service in 1936 and 1937.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose you just go back and state where you were born, your education, and then your service, public or private.

Mr. MOORE. I was born in Winchester, Ill., Scott County, July 20, 1912. I was educated in the public schools of Winchester and Jack-

sonville, Ill. I received an A.B. degree at Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., in 1936.

Subsequently, I came to Washington and received an LL.B. degree at Georgetown University in 1949. In 1953 and 1955, I took graduate work in geology at American University.

The CHAIRMAN. That is petroleum geology?

Mr. MOORE. Petroleum geology, that is correct.

After graduating from college, I worked as assistant camp manager for a recreational demonstration area, P re Marquette project, Grafton, Ill. This was a work camp consisting of approximately 300 men. From 1937 to 1939, I was a field representative for the Universal Credit Co.—the Ford-finance company—working out of St. Louis, Mo.

I came to Washington in 1939 and worked in the office of the Honorable James M. Barnes, Congressman from the 20th District, Illinois, and, simultaneously, attended law school and, incidentally, I taught at the Capitol Page School.

From 1941 to 1942, I was clerk-examiner, Metal Reserve Co., one of the war agencies set up under the Reconstruction Finance Corp.

From 1942 to 1946, I served with the U.S. Navy, with duty at the Naval Air Station, Opa-locka, Fla., Washington, D.C., north Africa, and the Middle East.

From 1946 through 1947, I was Executive Director of the Office of Foreign Liquidation Commissioner for Latin America, with headquarters in Panama, C.Z., with branch offices in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad; Havana, Cuba; and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This Office was charged with the responsibility for disposing of all Government property—excess Government property—located in South and Central America and the Caribbean.

Upon my return from South America, I went with the Office of Alien Property as a supervising liquidator, disposing of assets taken over from enemy aliens under the Trading With the Enemy Act.

From 1950 through 1952, I was Assistant Director of the Division of Property Management for the Department of the Interior. This area is under the Administrative Assistant Secretary and cut across Bureau lines. We dealt with all the bureaus and offices of the Department.

From 1952 through 1961, I was Director of Security for the Department and during a substantial part of this time, Director of Mobilization Activities for the Department of the Interior.

I became Administrator of the Oil Import Administration on August 19, 1961. I have held that office until the present time. I am a captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve. My home is 4301 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D.C. My voting residence remains in Illinois. I am married and have no children. My wife is the former Pauline Ruyle, Jacksonville, Ill.

Are there any questions you would like to ask, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Moore, you have submitted a financial statement which we will go over in executive session at the conclusion of the open hearing. At that time you will be interrogated also by the members. It is my understanding that there is no conflict that you know of in your financial holdings.

Mr. MOORE. I know of no conflict.

The CHAIRMAN. None of your outside interests would conflict with the duties and responsibilities you will undertake in connection with this position?

Mr. MOORE. If the committee feels there is any property listed there which I should dispose of, if you will let me know, I shall be very glad to dispose of it.

The CHAIRMAN. I want to say for the benefit of the committee that the letter will be available so that all members of the committee will have a chance to ask whatever questions they may wish of Mr. Moore. It also covers the property of his wife as well. As we know, the conflict of interest statute was changed, I believe in 1963, to include the husband, the wife, and minor children as to any property that they may own which would in any way be in conflict with the duties and responsibilities of the nominee.

Senator FANNIN?

Senator FANNIN. That is a very impressive background. I assume that the work at the American University was in line with the type of activity in which you will now be involved? In other words, it was training for that particular activity?

Mr. MOORE. I did not realize then I was going to be nominated for Assistant Secretary of the Interior. The subject of my studies was my natural interest.

Senator FANNIN. And as administrator at the Oil Import Administration, you have been involved with work that is very similar to this activity that is now under consideration?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. How long have you been administrator of the Oil Import Administration? For what length of time have you been involved as administrator of the Oil Import Administration?

Mr. MOORE. For the past 4 years.

Senator FANNIN. In that activity, have you traveled widely?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, extensively throughout the United States, in Canada and Venezuela.

Senator FANNIN. So you are very familiar with the resources around the Nation?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir; I feel that I am.

Senator FANNIN. No further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Metcalf?

Senator METCALF. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I concur with the chairman that we are delighted to have you before the committee.

I notice that according to your biography, all of your minerals experience has been in petroleum?

Mr. MOORE. In petroleum?

Senator METCALF. Yes. Have you had any experience in metal mining and coal?

Mr. MOORE. No, I have not had any extensive experience in metal mining or coal. I have had a year's experience in dealing with critical minerals. As you probably know, the Metals Reserve Co. was the agency which started the stockpiling program prior to World War II. I was with that organization, handling such materials as quartz crystals and industrial diamonds, lead, tin, zinc, copper, antimony, nickel, and various other minerals of the

type with which we also deal in the Department of the Interior today.

Senator METCALF. Mr. Kelly, your distinguished and very able predecessor, who was able to do a splendid job in all of the agencies of this Department, also came out of the oil business and some of us feel that perhaps the oil and petroleum part of this agency has been overemphasized. Do you feel that this would be any conflict with such a rival fuel as coal, or that you will be able to handle the metal mining business of this agency?

Mr. MOORE. No, I do not believe there will be a conflict. I believe you will find I have had quite a few contacts with coal people over the past few years. Residual fuel oil does have an impact on the coal industry. We have had considerable experience in dealing with coal and the coal industry.

Senator METCALF. Well, as you know, Montana is in the Williston Basin and has considerable petroleum resources. We out in the West are also concerned with the development and research of our coal and other mineral resources, our hard rock mines. This is an important part and vital part of your interest. If you can administer all these minerals impartially, and you have assured me that you see no conflict, I would certainly be delighted to have you assume the office to which you have been nominated.

Mr. MOORE. I assure you I have an interest in all of our minerals.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Burdick?

Senator BURDICK. Mr. Chairman, I am also interested in the Williston Basin. It is in the area of my hometown.

We have, in North Dakota, large and extensive holding of lignite coal. Do you know anything about lignite coal?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir.

Senator BURDICK. Could you treat lignite coal like any other coal as we develop the natural resources of this country?

Mr. MOORE. I am sure that all of our natural resources have a place in our general economy, Senator, and where appropriate, I am sure that lignite will be considered favorably.

Senator BURDICK. You just keep your eye on that lignite deposit out in North Dakota and I shall be happy.

Mr. MOORE. Thank you, sir, I shall do that.

Senator BURDICK. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Church?

Senator CHURCH. I have no questions. I just want to wish you well in your new assignment. It is a very important one and I am looking forward to working with you.

Mr. MOORE. I will be happy to work with you, Senator.

Senator CHURCH. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Moss?

Senator MOSS. I am very pleased to have you before the committee here. I, too, wish you well. I think that you will do well in this post, Mr. Moore.

I would like to hear a word or two of your views on the oil shale problem. Will that come under your direction, now?

Mr. MOORE. Some of the scientific and technical aspects of oil shale unquestionably come under the mineral resources area. Some other aspects of the present problem are primarily legal, I believe. They would not necessarily be under the mineral resources area.

However, we would have a collateral interest in anything that takes place in the Colorado-Utah Plateau area where the oil shales are located.

Senator Moss. You would have something to do with shaping the policy of how it is going to be handled; is that correct?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir.

Senator Moss. What is your present feeling on this matter? Oil shale heretofore has been pretty much kept locked up. We do not have any extensive program for its development. Do you feel we ought to continue that way, or do you lean to the school where you think developments should begin on oil shale?

Mr. MOORE. Oil shale, as with other hydrocarbons—all of the fossil fuels—and particularly because of the tremendous size of oil shale resources, is of tremendous importance to the U.S. economy. There is no question about that. The impact of these resources in the future, of course, is going to be very important. I have not crystallized an opinion at the present time as to how rapid this development should be, but you may be sure that I shall look into it at the first opportunity after I assume my new duties.

Senator Moss. As administrator of the Oil Import Administration, you have had this petrochemical problem that is still somewhat unresolved. Is it your opinion that certain types of hydrocarbons should be allowed to come in for the petrochemical industry, or should we keep them out entirely?

Mr. MOORE. I believe it is only fair to say that I cannot talk on this particular subject in any great detail. This matter is under study in the executive branch at the present time. Recommendations have been made for a new proclamation, for a change in Proclamation 3279, as amended. Petrochemicals are an integral part of this subject. I can say that we feel that petrochemicals have a part in the overall program.

Now, as to the extent of that part or the details, I do not believe I should discuss it further—I respectfully request that I not be asked to comment any more than that.

Senator Moss. All right, thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any further questions of Mr. Moore at this time?

If not, the committee will retire to the library to go into executive session with Mr. Moore to consider his financial holdings with respect to any possible conflict of interest.

(Whereupon, at 2:30 p.m., the committee was in recess, to reconvene in executive session.)

○