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BEFORE THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS  
UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-SECOND CONGRESS  
SECOND SESSION

ON

**S. 688 and S. 1295**

BILLS TO ESTABLISH THE AMISTAD NATIONAL RECREATION  
AREA IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

APRIL 6, 1972



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

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## AMISTAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, TEX.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1972

U.S. SENATE,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, D.C.*

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Hon. Alan Bible (chairman) presiding.

Present: Senators Bible and Hansen.

Also present: Bernard Hartung, professional staff member; and Thomas A. Nelson, Jr., assistant minority counsel.

Senator BIBLE. The hearing will come to order.

This is the time that we have regularly set and noticed for the hearings on two bills, S. 688 and S. 1295, bills to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas.

Miss Reporter, without objection, at this point we will make a part of the record a bill introduced by the senior Senator from Texas, Senator Tower, S. 688, and a bill introduced by Senator Bentsen, S. 1295. Each of these bills will be made a part of the record.

The Amistad Reservoir project, which was constructed by the International Boundary and Water Commission of the United States and Mexico, is a major impoundment of the Rio Grande in southwestern Texas and northern Coahuila, Mexico. The principal benefits that have accrued from its construction are water conservation, flood control, increase in fishery resources, significant opportunities for outdoor recreation, and future development of hydroelectric energy.

The land-acquisition costs are estimated at \$1 million, while development expense will approximate \$15 million. This includes \$7 million for roads, plus a headquarters building, utilities, and a visitors' center.

There being no objection, I shall order the text of the bills and administration reports to be placed in the record at this point.

(The bills and reports follow:)

92<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 688

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 9 (legislative day, JANUARY 26), 1971

Mr. TOWER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

---

## A BILL

To establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3        That, in order to provide for public outdoor recreation and  
4        use and enjoyment of that portion of the Amistad Reservoir  
5        in the United States on the Rio Grande, Devils, and Pecos  
6        Rivers and surrounding lands in the State of Texas, and for  
7        the conservation of scenic, scientific, historic, and other  
8        values contributing to public enjoyment of such lands and  
9        waters, there is established the Amistad National Recreation  
10       Area in the State of Texas. The boundary of the national  
11       recreation area shall be that generally depicted on drawing

1 numbered RA-AMI-20013, dated April 1968, entitled  
2 "Proposed Amistad National Recreation Area, Texas,"  
3 which is on file and available for public inspection in the  
4 offices of the National Park Service, Department of the  
5 Interior. The Secretary of the Interior may by publication  
6 of notice in the Federal Register make minor adjustments  
7 in the boundary, except that the total acreage of the area  
8 may not be increased to more than a total of sixty-five thou-  
9 sand acres.

10       SEC. 2. (a) Within the boundary of the Amistad Na-  
11 tional Recreation Area the Secretary of the Interior may ac-  
12 quire lands and interests in lands by donation, purchase with  
13 donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. Such acquisi-  
14 tions shall be in addition to the lands and interests therein ac-  
15 quired for the purposes of the Amistad Dam and Reservoir  
16 as contemplated in the treaty between the United States of  
17 America and Mexico regarding the utilization of the Colo-  
18 rado, Tijuana, and Rio Grande Rivers, signed at Washington  
19 February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219) described in Minute  
20 numbered 207 adopted June 19, 1958, by the International  
21 Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico,  
22 and authorized by the Act of July 7, 1960 (74 Stat. 360).

23       (b) In exercising his authority to acquire property by  
24 exchange, the Secretary of the Interior may accept title to  
25 any non-Federal property within the Amistad National

1 Recreation Area, and in exchange therefor he may convey  
2 to the grantor of such property any federally owned property  
3 under his jurisdiction which he classifies as suitable for ex-  
4 change or other disposal. The values of the properties so ex-  
5 changed either shall be approximately equal, or if they are  
6 not approximately equal the values shall be equalized by the  
7 payment of cash to the grantor or to the Secretary as the cir-  
8 cumstances require.

9 (c) The Commissioner for the United States, Interna-  
10 tional Boundary and Water Commission, United States and  
11 Mexico, may on request of the Secretary of the Interior, act  
12 as his agent with respect to the land acquisition program  
13 authorized by subsection (a) and the Secretary may trans-  
14 fer to the Commission from time to time the funds necessary  
15 for such purpose.

16 SEC. 3. (a) The Secretary of the Interior shall admin-  
17 ister the Amistad National Recreation Area in a manner  
18 that is coordinated with the other purposes of the reservoir  
19 project, and in manner that in his judgment will best pro-  
20 vide for public outdoor recreation benefits and conservation  
21 of scenic, scientific, historic, and other values contributing  
22 to public enjoyment.

23 (b) In the administration of the national recreation  
24 area the Secretary may utilize the Act of August 25, 1916  
25 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and such

1 other statutory authorities relating to areas of the national  
2 park system and such statutory authorities otherwise avail-  
3 able to him for the conservation and management of natural  
4 resources as he deems appropriate for recreation and preser-  
5 vation purposes and for resource development not incom-  
6 patible therewith.

7 (c) Employees of the Department of the Interior desig-  
8 nated for the purpose may make arrest for violations of any  
9 Federal laws or regulations applicable to the area and they  
10 may bring the accused person before the nearest commis-  
11 sioner, judge, or court of the United States.

12 (d) Any United States commissioner appointed for the  
13 Amistad National Recreation Area may try and sentence  
14 persons committing petty offenses, as defined in title 18, sec-  
15 tion 1, United States Code, except that the commissioner  
16 shall apprise the defendant of his right to elect to be tried in  
17 the district court of the United States, and the commissioner  
18 may try the case only after the defendant signs a written  
19 consent to be tried before the commissioner. The exercise of  
20 additional functions by the commissioner shall be consistent  
21 with and be carried out in accordance with the authority,  
22 laws, and regulations of general application to United States  
23 commissioners. The provisions of title 18, section 3402,  
24 United States Code, and the rules of procedure and practice  
25 prescribed by the Supreme Court pursuant thereto, shall

1 apply to all cases handled by such commissioner. Chapter  
2 231, title 18, United States Code, shall be applicable to per-  
3 sons tried by the commissioner and he shall have power to  
4 grant probation. The commissioner shall receive the fees, and  
5 none other, provided by law for like or similar services.

6       SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior shall permit hunt-  
7 ing and fishing on the lands and waters under his jurisdic-  
8 tion within the national recreation area in accordance with  
9 the applicable laws of the State of Texas, except that the  
10 Secretary may establish periods when, and designate zones  
11 where, no hunting or fishing shall be permitted for reasons  
12 of public safety, administration, fish or wildlife management,  
13 or public use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any  
14 regulations of the Secretary under this section shall be  
15 issued after consultation with the Park and Wildlife Com-  
16 mission of the State of Texas.

17       SEC. 5. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to be  
18 in conflict with the commitments or agreements of the  
19 United States with respect to the use, storage, or furnish-  
20 ing of water and the production of hydroelectric energy  
21 made by or in pursuance of the treaty between the United  
22 States of America and Mexico regarding the utilization of  
23 the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande,  
24 signed at Washington, February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219),  
25 or the Act of July 7, 1960 (74 Stat. 260).

**1** SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated such  
**2** sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
**3** Act.

92<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 1295

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19, 1971

MR. BENTSEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

---

## A BILL

To establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3 That, in order to provide for public outdoor recreation and  
4 use and enjoyment of that portion of the Amistad Reservoir  
5 in the United States on the Rio Grande, Devils, and Pecos  
6 Rivers and surrounding lands in the State of Texas, and for  
7 the conservation of scenic, scientific, historic, and other  
8 values contributing to public enjoyment of such lands and  
9 waters, there is established the Amistad National Recreation  
10 Area in the State of Texas. The boundary of the national  
11 recreation area shall be that generally depicted on drawing

1 numbered RA-AMI-20013, dated April 1968, entitled  
2 "Proposed Amistad National Recreation Area, Texas",  
3 which is on file and available for public inspection in the  
4 offices of the National Park Service, Department of the  
5 Interior. The Secretary of the Interior may by publication  
6 of notice in the Federal Register make minor adjustments  
7 in the boundary, except that the total acreage of the area  
8 may not be increased to more than a total of sixty-five  
9 thousand acres.

10       SEC. 2. (a) Within the boundary of the Amistad Na-  
11 tional Recreation Area the Secretary of the Interior may  
12 acquire lands and interests in lands by donation, purchase  
13 with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. Such ac-  
14 quisitions shall be in addition to lands and interests therein  
15 acquired for the purposes of the Amistad Dam and Reservoir  
16 as contemplated in the treaty between the United States  
17 and Mexico regarding the utilization of the Colorado, Ti-  
18 juana, and Rio Grande Rivers, signed at Washington Febru-  
19 ary 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219) described in minute numbered  
20 207 adopted June 19, 1958, by the International Boundary  
21 and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, and au-  
22 thorized by the Act of July 7, 1960 (74 Stat. 360).

23       (b) In exercising his authority to acquire property by  
24 exchange, the Secretary of the Interior may accept title to  
25 any non-Federal property within the Amistad National Rec-

1 reation Area, and in exchange therefor he may convey to  
2 the grantor of such property any federally owned property  
3 under his jurisdiction which he classifies as suitable for ex-  
4 change or other disposal. The values of the properties so  
5 exchanged either shall be approximately equal, or if they  
6 are not approximately equal the values shall be equalized by  
7 the payment of cash to the grantor or to the Secretary as  
8 the circumstances require.

9 (c) The Commissioner for the United States, Interna-  
10 tional Boundary and Water Commission, United States  
11 and Mexico, may on request of the Secretary of the Interior,  
12 act as his agent with respect to the land acquisition program  
13 authorized by subsection (a) and the Secretary may transfer  
14 to the Commission from time to time the funds necessary  
15 for such purpose.

16 SEC. 3. (a) The Secretary of the Interior shall ad-  
17 minister the Amistad National Recreation Area in a manner  
18 that is coordinated with the other purposes of the reservoir  
19 project, and in a manner that in his judgment will best pro-  
20 vide for public outdoor recreation benefits and conservation  
21 of scenic, scientific, historic, and other values contributing to  
22 public enjoyment.

23 (b) In the administration of the national recreation  
24 area the Secretary may utilize the Act of August 25, 1916  
25 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and such

1 other statutory authorities relating to areas of the national  
2 park system and such statutory authorities otherwise avail-  
3 able to him for the conservation and management of natural  
4 resources as he deems appropriate for recreation and preser-  
5 vation purposes and for resource development not incom-  
6 patible therewith.

7 (c) Employees of the Department of the Interior desig-  
8 nated for the purpose may make arrest for violations of any  
9 Federal laws or regulations applicable to the area and they  
10 may bring the accused person before the nearest United  
11 States magistrate, judge, or court of the United States.

12 (d) Any United States magistrate appointed for the  
13 Amistad National Recreation Area may try and sentence  
14 persons committing minor offenses, as defined in title 18,  
15 section 3401 (f), United States Code, except that the magis-  
16 trate shall apprise the defendant of his right to elect to be  
17 tried in the district court of the United States, and the magis-  
18 trate may try the case only after the defendant signs a written  
19 consent to be tried before the magistrate. The exercise of  
20 additional functions by the magistrate shall be consistent  
21 with and be carried out in accordance with the authority,  
22 laws, and regulations of general application to United States  
23 magistrates. The provisions of title 18, section 3402, United  
24 States Code, and the rules of procedure and practice pre-  
25 scribed by the Supreme Court pursuant thereto, shall apply

1 to all cases handled by such magistrate. Chapter 231, title 18,  
2 United States Code, shall be applicable to persons tried by  
3 the magistrate and he shall have power to grant probation.

4       SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior shall permit hunt-  
5 ing and fishing on the lands and waters under his jurisdiction  
6 within the national recreation area in accordance with the  
7 applicable laws of the State of Texas, except that the Secere-  
8 tary may establish periods when, and designate zones where,  
9 no hunting or fishing shall be permitted for reasons of public  
10 safety, administration, fish or wildlife management, or public  
11 use and enjoyment. Except in emergencies, any regulations  
12 of the Secretary under this section shall be issued after con-  
13 sultation with the Park and Wildlife Commission of the State  
14 of Texas.

15       SEC. 5. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to be in  
16 conflict with the commitments or agreements of the United  
17 States with respect to the use, storage, or furnishing of water  
18 and the production of hydroelectric energy made by or in  
19 pursuance of the treaty between the United States of America  
20 and Mexico regarding the utilization of the Colorado and  
21 Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande, signed at Washington,  
22 February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219), or the Act of July 7,  
23 1960 (74 Stat. 260).

24       SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated such  
25 sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
26 Act.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D.C., April 5, 1972.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,  
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We respond to your request for comment on S. 688 and S. 1295, similar bills "To establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas".

The Department recommends against enactment of either bill, and proposes a study to determine the feasibility of Federal or State protection for that portion of the proposed national recreation area not already acquired by the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission.

S. 688 and S. 1295 would authorize the establishment of a 65,000-acre national recreation area in southwest Texas, comprising that portion of the Amistad Reservoir and adjacent lands on the Rio Grande, Devils, and Pecos Rivers in the United States. The Amistad Dam and Reservoir project is being constructed for purposes of water conservation, flood control, and generation of hydroelectric energy by the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, pursuant to the Treaty of February 3, 1944, with Mexico (59 Stat. 1219), and the Act of July 7, 1960 (74 Stat. 360). The boundary of the proposed national recreation area would encompass the land and water on the United States side of the international boundary within contour elevation 1,144.3 feet throughout the reservoir plus certain public recreation sites and areas required for public use, administration and development in the lower reaches, together with an additional protective strip of land in the upper reaches to include the steep canyon walls. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands and interests therein within the boundary of the recreation area that are in addition to the property being acquired by the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, for reservoir purposes.

A major consideration in our recommendation against designation of the Amistad region as a national recreation area is the cooperative agreement between this Department and the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, dated November 11, 1965. Pursuant to that agreement and general authority provided by the Act of August 7, 1946, the National Park Service now administers the recreation resource in some 57,000 acres acquired by the Commission. The Park Service has begun to provide recreation facilities on these lands, and plans further expenditures to develop the recreation potential of Amistad Reservoir. As to these lands, which constitute a major segment of the proposed national recreation area, there exists adequate authority for Park Service management and recreation development.

The designation of this segment, now the Amistad Recreation Area, as the "Amistad National Recreation Area" would entail a Federal commitment to substantial development without any real prospect that such funds would be available in the immediate future. As your Committee knows, the Park Service is making every effort to reduce a development "backlog", previously authorized by the Congress, of approximately \$1.8 billion. This situation requires that new authorization be limited to the acquisition and development of recreation resources which are of national significance, and which do not duplicate existing facilities. In this connection, it should be noted that the Amistad Recreation Area is far removed from major population centers, that the vast majority of visitors are Texans, and that other reservoir developments are more accessible to Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston.

S. 688 and S. 1295 contemplate the acquisition by purchase of approximately 55,100 acres, now privately-owned, which embrace significant archeological sites. Many cave shelters containing colorful arrays of pictographs will be made accessible by virtue of the reservoir. We believe that both the Federal government and the State of Texas should give careful consideration to the acquisition, protection, and interpretation of this area. Accordingly, we intend to investigate further the significance of these sites, in cooperation with the State of Texas and the Secretary's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, and the suitability and feasibility of including them as a national monument or other unit within the National Park System.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN W. LARSON,  
*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

---

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,  
*Washington, D.C., April 6, 1972.*

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, New Senate  
Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request of July 16, 1971, on S. 688 and S. 1295, similar bills "To establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas."

The Office of Management and Budget concurs in the views of the Department of the Interior in its report on S. 688 and S. 1295, and accordingly recommends against enactment of the bill.

Sincerely yours,

WILFRED H. ROMMEL,  
*Assistant Director of Legislative Reference.*

Senator BIBLE. At this time I am very pleased to have the senior Senator from Texas, as well as the junior Senator from Texas, here. We will first hear from the senior Senator, Senator Tower.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN TOWER, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Senator TOWER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to testify before this committee in behalf of my bill, S. 688, to expand the existing Amistad Recreation Area and designate the vicinity as Amistad National Recreation Area. I might say, too, that I would like to add my endorsement to Senator Bentsen's bill. I think the difference in the two bills are reconcilable. I am certainly not fixed on any deep-seated conviction as far as my own bill is concerned.

Senator BIBLE. I have not studied the differences, frankly, between Senator Bentsen's bill and your bill, but I am sure that if there are differences they can certainly easily be reconciled.

Senator TOWER. I feel that they are. In any case, I am just endorsing the idea of the bill to accomplish the objective.

This project has been a long-standing interest of mine. I introduced this measure in the 91st Congress, and was privileged to attend the dedication of Amistad Dam by President Nixon and President Ordaz. The resulting Amistad Reservoir and Recreation Area is a fitting symbol of the continuing friendship between peoples north and south of the border.

This bill will permit the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands within the boundary of Amistad National Recreation Area to provide for public outdoor recreation and for conservation of scenic, scientific, and historic areas. These lands are principally in two areas—one on the north end of the reservoir, and the other toward the center point. Current use is curtailed by the existence of facilities at only one end of the reservoir.

Safety dictates that facilities be spaced along the bank to insure more even usage and to provide refueling and speedy rescue in the event of trouble. These acquisitions are essential if we are to have adequate recreational facilities to service the area. In 1969, 446,000 visitors used the Amistad area and that figure has grown to 679,000 in 1970, and 683,000 in 1971. The requirement for adequate recreational facilities is expected to continue to increase to 800,000 by 1980, but could jump to over a million per year with expanded facilities. An expansion of Amistad Recreation Area is necessary if we are to meet this growing demand.

Recreational uses planned for Amistad include boating, swimming, camping, picnicking, fishing, hunting, and sightseeing. They will come to relax and enjoy the primitive beauty of upper-section canyons in contrast to the mark of civilization left by the modern Amistad Dam. Whether by foot or horseback, boat or airplane, the area promises to provide relief for people from the urban areas of Texas, New Mexico, and Mexico itself.

Adequate facilities for water activities are in high demand at Amistad. Additional boat ramps will be required to service the influx of water skiers, skindivers, swimmers, and boaters. The main body of the reservoir will be ideal for sail boating, while the upper canyons, with their high walls, should be useful for other water sports. Float trips will be possible in the scenic upper reaches on the Rio Grande, and the warm climate during most of the year will permit extended use of the reservoir for boating and swimming.

Use of the surrounding land can, of course, be year round. While we would expect primary use of the camping facilities by those on vacation or a weekend holiday, we can reasonably expect significant use by local picknickers for whom, because of the arid character of the surrounding land, a large body of water would be quite an attraction.

A third major attraction will be to fishermen and hunters. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has indicated that with adequate management, high fishing quality can be maintained indefinitely. Deer, dove, and waterfowl will be the primary game sought after in the Amistad area. While most of the land outside the Federal area will be subject to the normal hunting fee and lease agreement, experience indicates that a majority of the wildlife will congregate near the shoreline.

While I have dwelt on the major activities to be expected in Amistad National Recreation Area, there are innumerable other potential uses of the area. Traditional sports such as golf, tennis, softball, target shooting, archery, and bicycling, which are normally the function of concession operators, should become available. Hiking along nature trails, photography, horseback riding, and study of the awesome geological and archeological history of the area should provide even further variety to the recreation potential of Amistad. Finally, study of the engineering and development of the Amistad Dam and Reservoir, and the background of international friendship that made it possible, provide an interesting contrast to the natural and archeological attractions of the area.

This great potential for healthful, wholesome recreation will not be fully realized without the passage of legislation enabling the National Park Service to buy land in the upper reaches of the lake for

access purposes. Without legislation unique pictographs will not be preserved and enjoyed by thousands of Americans and Mexicans in the Southwest. The need for additional recreation is there. The potential is there. We must pass the legislation to realize that potential to provide the kind of recreational opportunities that will serve visitors from throughout the South Central United States and Northern Mexico. I urge your favorable consideration of this measure.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Senator Tower. That is a splendid statement. I have had considerable experience, I can say without undue modesty, in this area of national recreation regions. I was privileged to be the author of the first national recreation area in the United States, that of my own State, Lake Mead, and our geography, topography, is somewhat similar to what you have at the Amistad site. I would hope that this could go forward. We have found in Lake Mead that its growth has been phenomenal. I think last year, and I checked the figures recently, 5,200,000 visitors went into the Lake Mead area.

It is a fishing, boating and water-skiing area, almost the same things that you say are at Amistad. I think these facilities should be preserved and developed at the earliest opportunity and I would hope this project would move forward in the near future. I noticed here that President Nixon was at Amistad for the dedication with the President of Mexico during the 91st Congress and I distinctly remember that occasion. I think you as the senior Senator from Texas, could be extremely helpful in seeing that we get a favorable report so this legislation can move forward. As of yesterday there was not a favorable report from OMB. I don't know what the situation is today, and I won't know until I hear from Director Hartzog. However, if we could get OMB clearance it would certainly make it much easier.

When I met with a delegation from this area some weeks ago, at the request of Senator Bentsen, there was no clearance from the Budget Bureau at that time.

You particularly could be helpful in that area. If we can get Budget clearance we can move this forward without any delay. If we don't, I think we will be in a little trouble on this project.

Senator TOWER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of course, the chairman's very significant and effective involvement in matters of this kind is well known and I feel very optimistic knowing that this legislation is going to be considered by a man who has a basic sympathy and long record of supporting projects of this sort.

As far as the OMB is concerned, I will see what I can do to contribute to the general education of OMB on this particular matter and, hopefully, perhaps some existing attitudes can be changed. In any case, I will try.

Senator BIBLE. I sure hope you will. You can understand what I am saying.

Senator TOWER. My experience with OMB is that I win some and lose some.

Senator BIBLE. That is my own experience except I lose more than I win. I would hope your percentage is probably better. In any event, let's all work together on this because I think these projects should go forward.

I have done my homework on this project and I think it should

have a high priority. As far as I am concerned it is going to get prime consideration within this committee.

Senator TOWER. There is tremendous utilization of very, very limited facilities in that area.

Senator BIBLE. It will attract people from a lot of other areas?

Senator TOWER. Yes, they come from all over the country.

Senator BIBLE. My experience has been in these water-oriented facilities that annual visitation in each of them, I think the records will bear this out, and I understand that the Director of the Park Service can testify to it, has increased phenomenally each year. This is due to more leisure time and people are touring more, traveling more, looking for places to visit. This has greatly increased the opportunities in projects such as Amistad.

Again, I very much appreciate your appearing here this morning and as this develops, you are a neighbor of mine, just across the hall, I will rap on your door and say, we don't have that clearance yet.

Senator TOWER. I know you will hold my heels to the fire.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Senator Tower.

Senator Bentsen.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. LLOYD BENTSEN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Senator BENTSEN. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to be with you this morning and most appreciative of your scheduling this meeting. I know of the many demands on your time and the time of this committee and you have allocated this time because of your sincere interest and desire to see this project progress.

Again, listening to your comments and your endorsements of this project, I know it will be very meaningful and very helpful to us.

Mr. Chairman, before I proceed to explain the provisions of my bill, and with your permission, I would like to introduce to you and to the committee members of the delegation who are here to testify. There are others here to lend moral support and I know you have a very strong interest in this bill.

We have Congressman O. C. Fisher, in whose 21st District the Amistad Reservoir is located, and we have U.S. Commissioner Joseph Friedkin, of the United States-Mexico International Boundary and Water Commission; State Representative Hilary Doran, Jr. Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that these will be the principal witnesses testifying for the bill, but I would also like to present some of the other individuals who have traveled a great distance to be here to show their support and interest.

We have Dr. Alfredo Guetierrez, Jr., mayor of Del Rio; L. D. Whitehead, Val Verde County Commission; Phillip Arledge, president, Del Rio Chamber of Commerce; S. W. Cuathorn, president, Del Rio Bank & Trust Co., and president, Del Rio Area Development Foundation; George F. Gregg, executive vice president, Del Rio Chamber of Commerce; James Long, Del Rio Board of Realtors; Silas Byrd, businessman; James M. Simmonds, owner, Diablo East Marina, Amistad Lake; Grover Pitts, businessman and vice president, West Texas Chamber of Commerce; Coleman Newman, Amistad Recreation Area Superintendent.

Mr. Chairman, the purpose of my bill, S. 1295, to establish the Amistad National Recreational Area in the State of Texas, is to provide for the fullest public outdoor recreational use and development of the area's land and water resources and to conserve the scenic, scientific, historical, and other values contributing to this experience in that area.

In March 1963 the President's Recreational Advisory Council declared, in its milestone policy circular No. 1, that a greater effort must be made by Federal, State, and local government and in private interests to fulfill adequately the steeply mounting outdoor recreational demands of the people of this country. The Amistad Recreational Area will preserve for our Nation the plants and animals of the historical Chaparral Country of southwest Texas, together with an appreciable intermingling of species of plants and animals of the Great Chihuahuan Desert of Mexico.

Mr. Chairman, you were referring to Lake Mead in Nevada and you are right, there is a great deal of similarity in these areas. It seems, when we get out there, the stars are brighter and the moon is closer and the air is clear and people more and more are seeking that type of thing across the country.

Then I have people from the east coast who could not understand our distances in time and the desires of our people to the extent that we do. How much water means to them, how much it means to them to be able to get out for a weekend on a lake such as this. Yesterday afternoon I was with a man who flew up here for lunch from Texas, flew to Washington, D.C., for lunch. I read the ads in the papers, the coach flights going to the Virgin Islands, going to Puerto Rico, going vast distances, and know that those flights are filled by people who fill clerical jobs, management jobs, Federal employees, people of modest incomes in many instances, but who are seeking an escape just for a few days away from the urban life in the great cities, and this is what we are offering them.

Some of these people in some of our departments can't seem to understand this. They don't seem to understand that we are willing to travel these distances just to fulfill what we have been missing in the ecology in some of our major cities and this is what we are trying to preserve and this is what we are working for in this bill, and when they talk to me about it being just an area that Texans go to, that is really not right, and even if it was, I don't think that is too bad because there are some 11 million to 12 million Texans in the State that I represent and Senator Tower represents and they need fulfillment too. And there is a uniqueness to this project. It is not just Texas. Not just national, it is international in its scope because we have an international border and we have seen Mexico really making this a focal point of interest, their northern border, because they want their people to be proud of their side just as we are of ours. They want to build up the good neighbor relationship and so do we. And here is a chance for us to show our cooperative attitude.

Then, again, when they talk to me about it being a long way from an urban area, I was at Yellowstone recently and that is quite some distance from a major metropolitan area and I could hardly get through the park because of the thousands of people who were seeking escape there, and wanted to rush to nature for just a few days. That is what we are offering in an area such as this. And we are doing it on a

cost-benefit ratio that is one of the most favorable that has been offered before this committee. That is what we are asking. That is what we are asking the Department of Interior to support, and that is what we are asking OMB.

Mr. Chairman, I have a prepared statement here I would like to insert but I wanted to digress from that to express my deep concern that this precious bit of ecology, that this environmental area that is so important to the future of our country, that it be preserved, and I urge your support for it.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection, your full statement will be incorporated in the record.

That was a very very effective statement. I compliment you on it. And I suggest that you do the same thing I urged your colleague to do and that is to ask the executive divisions of the Government to look favorably and kindly upon this project. The chairman is pretty well sold on it, as I think my statements have indicated. However, I am convinced the longer we delay, No. 1, the more it will cost, and No. 2, the more difficult it becomes because other projects start closing in on us. I think therefore we should move without delay, and I intend doing that myself.

I am sorry that my fellow members on the subcommittee could not be here this morning. I just asked Senator Hansen, we have a little problem, involving him in the Finance Committee. He said he would try to get back. However, I will call it to his attention, as well as call it to the attention of Chairman Jackson, the chairman of the full committee. We will do the best we can to keep this bill moving forward and I appreciate your being here this morning and thank you for your effective statement.

Senator BENTSEN. Most of the land is already owned by the Federal Government, so we are not talking about much of a gain in property that is to be acquired, and such that might be needed at the present time could be brought rather inexpensively in comparison to what it might cost at a later time. We have seen that repeated over and over again.

Senator BIBLE. That is correct and I think the record will bear this out.

Thank you very much.

(The prepared statement of Senator Bentsen follows:)

STATEMENT OF HON. LLOYD BENTSEN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. Chairman, it is indeed a pleasure to appear here before you and this distinguished committee. I wish to express my sincere and personal appreciation for granting this hearing on my bill, S. 1295.

Mr. Chairman, before I proceed to explain the provisions of my bill and with your permission, I would like to introduce to you and to the committee, members of the delegation who are here to testify and others who are here to lend moral support. All of them have a very strong and deep interest in this bill.

Congressman O. C. Fisher, in whose 21st District the Amistad Reservoir is located;

U.S. Commissioner, Joseph Friedkin, of the U.S.-Mexico International Boundary and Water Commission;

State representative, Hilary Doran, Jr.

Mr. Chairman, this group, it is my understanding, will be the principal witnesses. I would also like to introduce other individuals present here whose interest and support of this proposed legislation brings them here to Washington for this hearing today.

Dr. Alfredo Guetierrez, Jr., mayor of Del Rio ;  
 L. D. Whitehead, Val Verde County Commissioner ;  
 Phillip Arledge, President, Del Rio Chamber of Commerce ;  
 S. W. Cuathorn, president, Del Rio Bank and Trust Co. ; president, Del Rio Area Development Foundation ;  
 George F. Gregg, executive vice president, Del Rio Chamber of Commerce ;  
 James Long, Del Rio Board of Realtors ;  
 Silas Byrd, Businessman ;  
 James M. Simmonds, owner, Diablo East Marina, Amistad Lake ;  
 Grover Pitts, Businessman and vice president, West Texas Chamber of Commerce ;

Coleman Newman, Amistad Recreation Area Superintendent.

Mr. Chairman, the purpose of my bill, S. 1295, to establish the Amistad National Recreational Area in the State of Texas, is to provide for the fullest public outdoor recreational use and enjoyment of the area's land and water resources and to conserve the scenic, scientific, historical and other values contributing to this experience in that area.

In March 1963, the President's Recreational Advisory Council declared, in its milestone policy circular No. 1, that a greater effort must be made by Federal, State and local government and in private interests to fulfill adequately the steeply mounting outdoor recreational demands of the people of this country. The Amistad Recreational Area will preserve for our Nation the plants and animals of the historical Chaparral Country of Southwest Texas together with an appreciable intermingling of species of plants and animals of the Great Chihuahuan Desert of Mexico.

Our good friends and neighbors to the south of us want to cooperate in this unique international ecological effort. This can become another example to the world of what international cooperation between two great and friendly nations can accomplish by working together. The potential of coordinated development and international tourism that can add greatly to the economic potential also exists and this first step can be important to future planning of joint efforts to make life more enjoyable to millions of Americans and Mexicans.

Thousands of Americans from all over the Nation have been visiting Amistad Recreation Area to enjoy this oasis in the desert surrounded by the natural and rare beauty of black brush, guajillo, cenizo, yucca, sotol, mesquite, creosote, leather plant, and various cacti.

Among the other provisions, the bill does the following :

- provides for a total acreage of 65,000, most of it already federally owned ;
- provides the necessary statutory authority for the Secretary of the Interior to acquire any additional lands needed ;
- that the Secretary of Interior administer the Amistad National Recreation Area in a manner that is coordinated with the other purposes of the reservoir project, to best provide for public outdoor recreation benefits and conservation of scenic, scientific, historic and other values contributing to public enjoyment ;
- outlines the judicial jurisdiction for any offenses committed on this Federal preserve ;
- provisions for the Secretary's permitting hunting and fishing ;
- assures that nothing in this bill will be incompatible with treaty commitments concerning the use, storage or furnishing of water and the production of hydroelectric energy.

Mr. Chairman, I conclude with a most appropriate remark, that we need to appropriate such funds as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, as may be necessary to carry out the establishment, development and maintenance of the Amistad National Recreation Area.

Mr. Chairman, I think I have pretty well covered the provisions of my bill and I would like to defer to the other witnesses, who will touch on the facts pertinent to the primary criteria for the selection of national recreation areas as well as other data of vital interest and concern to this committee that will justify our request for favorable action on this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I noted that our friends from the Department of the Interior are scheduled to testify, and I hope they bring us the word from this administration that they approve the proposal being considered here.

I do know that the administration has been recalcitrant in seeing the great merits of the designation of this area, and I only hope that the information provided has encouraged them to reach the logical conclusion that here is a project

of such minimal cost, and such obvious return and merit for an area that has such a great need, that it will bring a positive report to this committee.

There is a special ingredient involved here, Mr. Chairman, and this is an international aspect. The friendship and understanding of the people of both countries along the border is a unique condition, and we ought to do all possible to further it. I hope that is recognized by the spokesmen for the administration.

Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that my presence is required in other committee meetings I would like to state that it may be necessary for me to leave before the conclusion of these hearings, and in anticipation of such, I want to express my deep appreciation to you and the committee for granting us a hearing on this bill. I want to thank my colleague, Senator Tower, and my colleague from the House, Congressman Fisher, as well as the witnesses here present and the delegation that accompany them, for joining us in this united effort on behalf of S. 1295 to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Congressman Fisher. It is also good to see you.

### STATEMENT OF HON. O. C. FISHER, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. FISHER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be very brief. I simply desire to emphasize the urgency and necessity for this legislation. It happens that I represent the Del Rio area where this is located. I was the author of the bill that authorized the Amistad project. And I am quite familiar with the urgency associated with the proposal that is now pending. In fact, I introduced the bill on this same subject, I think in the 90th Congress, back in 1968, and we have been working at it in an attempt to get this additional legislation which we feel is vital and needed to implement what has already been done for the Park Service which is there now administering the recreation area, but they need more authority.

Let me very briefly recall a few points that I think need to be emphasized. Above everything, this is not an ordinary project. In terms of reservoir capacity it will be one of the largest in the Nation, one of the 20 largest in the North American Continent. Being international it adds to appeal and its importance, as both of the Senators have pointed out and it is located next door to the Big Bend National Park, right on the edge of it, right below it. Amistad is within a 1-day drive for several million people. Last year it attracted two-thirds of a million and it just started. This number is sure to double during the foreseeable future.

I was briefed by some people from the Park Service a couple of days ago who pointed out that, who referred to Lake Mead, for example, and said that the number of people going there now probably doubles what they anticipated originally.

Senator BIBLE. I think that is true.

Mr. FISHER. I think we can say the same thing for this one. Unfortunately, facilities to accommodate the throngs are woefully inadequate at that project now. I get a lot of mail complaining that cars are backed up, they can't get in, they can't get campsites and so forth, and it is very frustrating.

The Park Service says an additional 5,000 acres is needed at certain vital points around the perimeter if the project is to meet the recreational demands of the future. That acquisition cannot be undertaken unless and until this legislation is enacted. The National Park Service

has published a master plan which contains detailed background information and strong justification for the future development encompassed in this legislation. If the plan is approved by the Congress, new marinas could be constructed. New campsites can be laid out. Priceless archeological treasures can be preserved. We can dwell on that. I don't need to. I am sure the chairman is already familiar with it. They are going to be lost, so the Park Service Director tells me, the local director of it, unless something is done to enable them to protect the area and they need the additional land around the perimeter to do it.

If some of the art lovers around the country were to see that and realize the jeopardy that it now is facing; they would be in here in masses insisting that something be done now.

If this land is to be acquired, it goes without saying that the time to acquire it is now. Land values in the area are jumping upwards and by leaps and bounds. It would be foolhardy to delay. Based upon the experience he can foresee in the not too distant future when 2 million people per year will throng to this great outdoor attraction. They cannot be accommodated without this legislation. It is just that simple, and the time to act is now.

I earnestly hope the committee will promptly approve this proposal notwithstanding whatever the attitude may be of OMB, and I would hope that when these hearings are printed the copy of it will be furnished to OMB which might cause them to take another look, if need be, in recognizing the urgency and the justification for moving without delay in this respect.

Senator BIBLE. I think that is a very fine statement, Congressman Fisher. I appreciate your coming over to this side of the Hill today, and giving us the benefit of hearing your views.

May I ask just one question? I know pretty well the attitude of the House Interior Committee, as well as the attitude of Roy Taylor, who is my counterpart on the Parks and Recreation Committee on the House side. Can you give me any indication of their attitude as to holding hearings? I am not asking what their attitude is on the bill, because I don't think that is a fair question until you have heard them, but do you know whether they will or will not hold hearings this year, because this is going to be a difficult year for getting consideration of these proposals.

Mr. FISHER. I understand. I have taken it up with them. They are pretty well bogged down over there with heavy dockets, heavy agendas, and they have made no indication of what might be done. I think, probably, if this committee should see fit to act favorably, they will certainly be approached on following through.

Senator BIBLE. That is exactly the information that I wanted, and I can, once I hear all the testimony and hear whatever problems we have in these two bills, I can sound out the other members of my subcommittee and the full committee. I make this explanation for the benefit of the visitors from your great State, because there is always curiosity on the part of others on the committee when you have hearings when there is just one person presiding, and that is true of practically every hearing on each side of Capitol Hill.

Depending upon the testimony that evolves later, I will take this up with my fellow members and Senator Hansen, who is the ranking member of the minority and I am not adverse with taking it up with Chairman Aspinall and Congressman Roy Taylor also.

Mr. FISHER. Regardless of what OMB's attitude may be, it is very difficult for me to believe that this bill would be vetoed if it is enacted into law.

Senator BIBLE. I think that is kind of doubtful, too. I am glad you put that last statement in. I think it is helpful.

Our next witness will be Mr. J. F. Friedkin.

**STATEMENT OF J. F. FRIEDKIN, U.S. COMMISSIONER, INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO**

Mr. FRIEDKIN. I am J. F. Friedkin, U.S. Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico. I appear here at the invitation of Senator Bentsen.

My purpose is to present the international significance of Amistad Dam and Reservoir which today forms a lake about 71 miles long along the Rio Grande where it forms the international boundary between the United States and Mexico.

Amistad Dam was constructed pursuant to the 1944 Water Treaty with Mexico. It is located on the Rio Grande about 12 miles upstream from the adjoining border cities of Del Rio, Tex., and Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila. Amistad Dam was a joint undertaking between the United States and Mexico through the International Boundary and Water Commission, with the cost of the dam, estimated at \$80 million, shared by the two countries in proportion to the benefits to each. Completed in 1969, the dam and reservoir are primarily for flood control and conservation of the waters for the two countries. The reservoir now contains 3 million acre-feet of water, is over 200 feet deep at the dam, and has a water surface area of nearly 90 square miles, extending into the rugged picturesque landscape of the Southwest, very much like Lake Mead. It is a magnificent lake.

Amistad Reservoir is the largest body of water on the 2,000-mile international boundary with Mexico. It is the last major international reservoir to be constructed on the boundary. It is the third largest manmade international lake in the world.

The 1955 treaty contemplated that the reservoir would form an international recreation lake, by providing that public use of the water surface be free and common to both countries. The report presented to the Congress in justification of the United States' part of the project included recreation as an important purpose of the reservoir. Upon completion of construction of the dam, the jurisdiction of the U.S. side of the reservoir was transferred to the National Park Service for its recreation development. With only the limited facilities which have been built by the Service, I understand that already there are about 70,000 visitors annually to the U.S. side of the reservoir.

On the Mexican side, its government has received certain areas along the reservoir for public use, and Mexico now has attractive hotel accommodations on its side. I am informed that the Federal Government of Mexico, through its department that has made extensive improvements to increase tourism along the Mexican side of the border, plans to soon initiate studies for development of the Mexican

side of Amistad reservoir to include boat ramps and other hotel accommodations, with associated commercial tourist establishments.

Indeed, the international importance of Amistad Dam has been emphasized by three presidential meetings at the site:

One, in 1959, President Eisenhower met President Lopez-Mateos at the site of the then proposed dam. They agreed that joint construction by the two governments of Amistad Dam would proceed as soon as possible, and they named the project "Amistad" which means "Friendship".

Two, in 1966, President Johnson met President Diaz Ordaz at the site during the construction of the dam. They expressed their common interest and pleasure in the progress of the project.

Three, in 1969, President Nixon and President Diaz Ordaz dedicated Amistad Dam. Our President noted that it testifies to the spirit of understanding and cooperation which binds our two countries.

From the very outset, those of us who have worked for and with Amistad Dam envisioned it as an international focal point of goodwill, where there would be recreation areas and accommodations in each country, for peoples of the two nations to come to enjoy and get to better know each other in the atmosphere of this international reservoir of friendship created by the cooperation of the two governments.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, and I am happy to see you emphasize the international importance of this. I think that is an important factor to be considered because there are strong common bonds between our two countries. I feel that this project is in furtherance of that worthy aim.

I have no questions of you.

Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness will be George Hartzog, Director of the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

**STATEMENT OF GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR., DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR; ACCOMPANIED BY COLEMAN NEWMAN, SUPERINTENDENT, AMISTAD RECREATION AREA, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

Mr. HARTZOG. Thank you very much. With your permission I would like to have Mr. Coleman Newman, who is Superintendent at Amistad Recreation Area, join me.

Senator BIBLE. Yes; join the Director at the witness table, please.

Mr. HARTZOG. Mr. Chairman, it is my pleasure to appear as the Department witness and to present its statement to you and to the members of the committee, and with your permission I will read it.

Mr. Chairman, the legislation being considered today would establish a 65,000-acre national recreation area on the U.S. side of the Amistad Dam and Reservoir in southwest Texas.

S. 688 and S. 1295 are identical, except for subsection 3(d), which in the former refers to U.S. Commissioners and in the latter refers to U.S. Magistrates.

The Amistad Dam and Reservoir project has been constructed for purposes of water conservation, flood control, and generation of

hydroelectric energy by the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico. The act of July 7, 1960—74 Stat. 360—authorized the project.

The National Park Service on November 11, 1965, entered into a cooperative agreement with the commission for the development and management of recreation on project lands. This was done under authority of the act of August 7, 1946—60 Stat. 885—which provides in part, as follows:

Appropriations for the National Park Service are authorized for—

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) Administration, protection, improvement, and maintenance of areas, under the jurisdiction of other agencies of the Government, devoted to recreational use pursuant to cooperative agreements.

Under this authority, from fiscal year 1967 through 1972, we have expended \$1,207,000 for developments at Amistad. These included boat ramps, roads, parking lots, wells, water and sewer systems, telephone, and electrical power. Annual operating cost was \$235,700 in fiscal year 1972. Visitation to the area totalled 682,900 in 1971. In addition to the funds already expended, we expect to further develop the approximately 57,000 acres covered by the cooperative agreement.

We believe, therefore, that the existing recreational use can be accommodated and facilities developed adequate to meet the reasonably foreseeable demand, under the existing cooperative agreement with the commission. The enactment of this legislation is therefore not necessary to provide increased recreation benefits at this time.

There are, however, significant archeological sites that have been identified within the area which we believe ought to be studied further to determine whether and how they should be protected and interpreted.

Some of these sites are not within the area covered by the cooperative agreement, and would, therefore, need additional measures to assure their preservation and interpretation. We intend to investigate further the significance of these sites, in cooperation with the Secretary's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, and the suitability and feasibility of including them as a national monument or other unit within the National Park System.

We will be pleased to keep your committee fully informed on the progress of our studies, and to advise you with respect to any further recommendations that may result from them.

Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, I would be pleased to try to answer any questions which you or members of the committee may have.

Senator BIBLE. I am very happy to see you here this morning, Mr. Hartzog. It should be noted that the second paragraph of the Department of the Interior report reads as follows, and I quote:

The Department recommends against enactment of either bill, and proposes a study to determine the feasibility of Federal or State protection for that portion of the proposed national recreation area not already acquired by the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission.

I believe I realize how the Government works in part and probably where that paragraph came from. But I would like to have you comment on the part of that paragraph that says:

Proposes a study to determine the feasibility of Federal or State protection for that portion of the proposed national recreation area not already acquired by the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission.

You probably can do that best by giving us a tour of the area on the map.

Mr. HARTZOG. That is what I was going to suggest. This is a vicinity map that shows the location of the reservoir in relation to Dallas, Fort Worth, Abilene, Midland, Odessa, and San Antonio, here, and communities adjacent to it. That particular paragraph is referring to the area that lies—this map, unfortunately, has north to the right so the area lies generally to the west of this line from Comstock up—and it is in this area that the archeological and pictograph remains exist.

Senator BIBLE. Are they in Mexico or the United States?

Mr. HARTZOG. They are in the United States and the dam is right here on the Rio Grande, and this is the international boundary. The dam backs the water in both directions, so that all of this side is in the United States, and this is the Mexico side. What we are talking about is generally from Comstock west.

Senator BIBLE. What is it that you propose doing as an alternative to putting in the national recreational area?

Mr. HARTZOG. Fundamentally, to talk with officers of the State of Texas about the possibility of them preserving it and managing it.

Senator BIBLE. You have been managing this international area under a cooperative agreement to date, isn't that true?

Mr. HARTZOG. Yes, but we don't own, and neither does the International Boundary Water Commission own, the land that I referred to on the west there.

Senator BIBLE. Who does own it?

Mr. HARTZOG. Private ownership. This is what this bill would authorize us to acquire.

Senator BIBLE. Isn't it wise to acquire this before it is ruined?

Mr. HARTZOG. We think it is, and this is why we want to study it, yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. How much more study do you have to carry on? You are the greatest study group I have ever seen. Whenever you get a sticky problem you want to study it. You are as bad as the Congress and that is no particular tribute to either one of us. I would hope that you could make some determination as to whether you want or you don't want it. That is why I asked the question.

Mr. HARTZOG. Well, we have a study report from the University of Texas on the value of these pictographs and archeological—

Senator BIBLE. I wish you had made that a part of the record. The University of Texas is a very reputable university, has a great football team and a great many scholars. I would think their studies would be very reliable, wouldn't you?

Mr. HARTZOG. I personally think they are.

Senator BIBLE. The report can be incorporated by reference as a part of the record. Now, this seems to follow fairly closely to the pattern that was set in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area because at one time that was operated under a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation. This was never particularly satisfactory because you didn't have the muscle, if I might use that word, to force the attention that it should get. When we created an independent

recreation area under the National Park Service, all except for the hydroelectric part, which is at Hoover Dam, then we started directing proper attention to it. We started improving it. It would seem to me that this might very well follow that same general pattern, because at the present time Amistad is operated, as I understand it, under an agreement with the International Boundary Commission. Is that correct?

Mr. HARTZOG. That is correct.

Senator BIBLE. I would think it would give it higher stature and greater force if it could be operated by the National Park Service.

Mr. HARTZOG. And under statute which would authorize the land acquisition, which we think we have to have if you are going to develop its ultimate recreational potential.

Senator BIBLE. If this area that is to be acquired is as important archeologically as you indicate it is, it seems to me that you ought to acquire it now.

Mr. HARTZOG. You can see the significance of these pictographs because I have given you some pictures.

Senator BIBLE. Yes, these will be adopted by reference. They are very impressive and they will be made a part of the record by reference. It appears to be an excellent area for pictographs.

Mr. HARTZOG. And we found a buffalo jump in this area that goes back to about 8000 B.C.

Senator BIBLE. I note from the Commissioner's statement that among other purposes of the creation of Amistad was the creation of development of hydroelectric power. As I understand it, there is no powerplant there at the present time.

Mr. NEWMAN. No, there is no power produced.

Mr. FRIEDKIN. That is correct.

Senator BIBLE. Does it have power potential?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. Yes, it does. The power facilities were authorized for the project, both on the Mexican side and the U.S. side. We have not yet found that power facilities would be economically feasible. The penstocks are in, the locations and the sites are available for the powerhouse, but they have not been installed. They will not be until it is proven economically justifiable.

Senator BIBLE. We are in short power supply or energy sources. Why isn't it economically feasible?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. Because we do not have firm power and second, is because—

Senator BIBLE. Why don't you have firm power?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. Because of the demands of irrigation on the reservoir.

Senator BIBLE. They have first call under the treaty?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. By the time you have met the irrigation demands you have drawn the water down to such a low level that you don't have a power supply?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. That is a possibility. Ordinarily this is a very remote situation, but it is a possibility, and because of that situation we do not have firm power.

Senator BIBLE. Are there any plans on the part of the International Boundary Commission or the Bureau of Reclamation to develop power here?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. At some time in the future, yes, as supplemental power for peaking.

Senator BIBLE. As a matter of fact, if my memory is good, that generally is the function of Boulder Dam or Hoover Dam right now.

Mr. FRIEDKIN. That is correct, and we hope and believe the time will come when it will be used for that purpose.

Senator BIBLE. Why isn't it now?

Mr. FRIEDKIN. Because it is so far from the market.

Senator BIBLE. What is Mexico doing to improve its property adjacent?

Mr. HARTZOG. I'd like Mr. Newman to answer that.

Mr. NEWMAN. They have developed housing facilities that the Department of Tourism of the State of Guajillo manages, and they invite people to rent a house or rent a room, and they have a restaurant and facilities like that available near the dam. This last week they ran a center line for a boat ramp. I understand there is a three-way program of cooperation—private money, State money, and Federal money—to make this development.

Senator BIBLE. What are the mining and oil possibilities in this area? I think that is a question that should probably be directed to you.

Mr. NEWMAN. The mining and oil is very limited. They had a few strikes in the north end of Val Verde County. The drilling in the vicinity of the recreation area has proven nothing. There are restrictions on the land. There is no direct drilling. You can slant drill.

Senator BIBLE. As I understand it, there is close to how many people there annually, what is a good accurate figure?

Mr. HARTZOG. 682,700 last year.

Senator BIBLE. And your visitation there is what, year round.

Mr. NEWMAN. January, February will be light months, December is relatively light due to the hunting season taking people away. Easter is the big boom time, we had 12,755 people.

Senator BIBLE. You had them where?

Mr. NEWMAN. At Amistad Recreation Area, mostly in the lower end.

Senator BIBLE. Is that on both sides of the international boundary?

Mr. HARTZOG. No, sir; that is the United States.

Mr. NEWMAN. Those are U.S. figures. We administer everything from the dam on the U.S. side all the way to the upper reaches of the reservoir.

Senator BIBLE. How far is that?

Mr. NEWMAN. About 70 miles. Twelve miles beyond the little town of Langtry. Our people have access on what we call the Diablo East and Rough Canyon. We have a boat ramp. We do have some shoreline use from the highways that now duck under the lake. We haven't any other facilities. We have to permit the people in there and those facilities produced this figure that I gave you of 12,000 people over Easter and 1,400 boats.

Senator BIBLE. That is just on the U.S. side?

Mr. NEWMAN. That is correct. I haven't a figure for Mexico but it is relatively light.

Senator BIBLE. What population centers are you serving, where do these people come from?

Mr. NEWMAN. Midland, Odessa, New Mexico, Lovett, and a great number from San Antonio, Fort Worth.

Senator BIBLE. How far is Dallas?

Mr. NEWMAN. About 400 miles.

Senator BIBLE. Do you have any landing strips?

Mr. NEWMAN. Del Rio does.

Senator BIBLE. How far away?

Mr. NEWMAN. Twelve miles.

Senator BIBLE. What types of airplanes will they accommodate at Del Rio?

Mr. NEWMAN. The Jet Star has been landed there. The landing strip is 3,500 feet long, I believe.

Senator BIBLE. That is pretty short for jets. What is your elevation there?

Mr. NEWMAN. Del Rio is 900 and the bottom of the river at the dam is 900.

Senator BIBLE. How many people do you have under you at the present time that are charged with the responsibility of policing and developing Amistad, how many are there?

Mr. NEWMAN. A chief ranger, a district ranger, 2 subdistrict rangers, and four park technicians.

Senator BIBLE. That is the total personnel?

Mr. NEWMAN. That is in management and protection. On the maintenance side I have a chief and four, and one seasonal. A total of 20 including a clerical staff.

Senator BIBLE. What do you consider as the main asset of Amistad as a recreation area?

Mr. NEWMAN. The boating and fishing certainly is the key and then, aside from that, is the archeological aspects of the operation.

Senator BIBLE. The archeological aspects, as I understand it, are in private ownership, is that true?

Mr. NEWMAN. That is true. The key ones are. Certainly anything below 1,144 is Government owned. That is elevation 1,144.3. But they are subject to damage and this bill would authorize us to acquire title to these above that elevation that we can give them protection.

Senator BIBLE. What types of fishing do you have?

Mr. NEWMAN. Black bass. It has been producing great quantities of bass, and of course, we have a group of people we call the cat fishermen and they go for that. Thirty and 40 pounders.

Senator BIBLE. Do you have any trout?

Mr. NEWMAN. No trout.

Senator BIBLE. I am not adverse to taking a fishing trip and seeing what it looks like and testing a line here and there.

Senator HANSEN. You understand this is purely academic.

Senator BIBLE. We have to test the water first to see how valuable this is. That is the great resource and I am not saying this facetiously. Fishing is one of the great resources of our Nation. I don't have figures but the Fish and Wildlife Department would have them. The increase in fishermen annually is absolutely amazing and I am sure it is going to continue that way.

Do you do a lot of water skiing there?

Mr. NEWMAN. Yes, quite a bit. It is not as popular as I originally thought it would be, but we do have great amounts of water skiing. Most of the people come to fish and sightsee.

Senator BIBLE. What camping facilities do you have at Amistad at the present time?

Mr. NEWMAN. At Diablo East we have a temporary campground and we have water and chemical toilets there, the sites are spread out on top of a hill where we have got them fenced in so they can't spread any further.

Senator BIBLE. I noticed something about the free use of the water behind Amistad because it is on the international boundary. What does that mean? Can you go in the water and not pay anything?

Mr. NEWMAN. He referred to the legislation establishing the reservoir and that means that once you are on the water you can go from one country to the other without checking through customs. Once you land in Mexico you are subject to those customs. Once a citizen of Mexico lands in our country he is subject to our customs.

Senator BIBLE. Can the State of Texas impose a fishing license to fish?

Mr. NEWMAN. On the U.S. side.

Senator BIBLE. How do I know when I get on the water where I am, on which side?

Mr. NEWMAN. They have established a series of buoys for about 30 miles until you reach the canyon section and it is up to you to determine whether you are on the U.S. side or the Mexican side.

Senator BIBLE. If I catch a fish on the Mexican side and don't have a license what happens to me?

Mr. NEWMAN. They have never checked fish yet, so I don't know.

Senator BIBLE. I don't know whether I will be the guinea pig or not but do they have a Mexican fishing law that requires a license?

Mr. NEWMAN. They do.

Senator BIBLE. How much would I have to pay? This could be unfavorable publicity for a U.S. Senator to get caught, without a license.

Mr. NEWMAN. \$3.75 for a 30-day fishing license.

Senator BIBLE. What does it cost if I fish on the U.S. side?

Mr. NEWMAN. \$3.25. That is annual.

Senator BIBLE. Even for out-of-staters?

Mr. NEWMAN. That is correct.

Senator BIBLE. That is a typical Texas bargain. How about hunting in that area?

Mr. NEWMAN. We have opened certain sections of the reservoir lands for public hunting. We have to be rather selective in the sites we have because some of our land isn't fenced to separate us from private lands. We can't turn the public loose on public land with the possibility of trespassing, so we have to select areas that are fenced. Last year we had about 7,000 acres open, but this year it is going to be greatly reduced due to rising water. We have quail and duck shooting. We went with the State for a special season on deer and waterfowl. We have it open for waterfowl but there are never any birds there during the season.

Senator BIBLE. I think I have no further questions at this time.

Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. I have no questions.

Senator BIBLE. I have appreciated your appearance here today.

Our next witness is Mr. Hilary Doran, Jr., Texas State Representative.

STATEMENT OF HON. HILARY DORAN, JR., A TEXAS STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. DORAN. Chairman Bible, Senator Hansen, I share the distinction with Congressman Fisher of representing Del Rio and Amistad in my district in Texas. I do have a prepared statement. I will not read it. I would like to hit a few high points. Your committee has copies, and copies will be made available to the news media.

Senator BIBLE. Very well. And without objection your full statement will be incorporated in the record.

Mr. DORAN. I would like to hit on a few points. One, we in Texas are especially appreciative of the senior Senator from Texas, Senator Tower, because we feel he is one of the President's most able floor lieutenants and we feel his emphasis with OMB is considerable. We are also extremely proud of Senator Bentsen who is a former member of the House and is now bringing distinction and leadership to the United States. Congressman Fisher is one of the most senior and respected members of the House of Representatives and we in Val Verde County appreciate him. At the last contested election he received over 80 percent of the vote from that county which is indicative of the support and feeling we have for him.

Senator BIBLE. He is held in high respect here too. I will tell you that.

Mr. DORAN. We feel fortunate to appear before this subcommittee because it is composed of Senators from western States and, Chairman Bible, you kind of ruined my homework in a way. I had done a little homework on Lake Mead because we are in a similar situation. Not to be repetitious we are a national recreation area now. We are not designated as such and we need that designation. We need that designation so we can fight for project by project under independent rules to make it more effective for the National Park Service to administer Amistad just as I am advised and have read that Lake Mead has progressed so much further since it produced the designation.

Senator BIBLE. I think the record will show that, and I used that as a parallel because it does seem to me that these two areas are similar in many respects. The one rather striking distinction being, of course, that Lake Mead is not an international boundary and Amistad is. There is that real mark of distinction, but other than that the general pattern of the two areas is very similar.

Mr. DORAN. Also, further, both Senator Towers' and Senator Bentsen's bill are almost identical and I would like to note that these bills just designate Amistad as a national recreation area. There is no mandatory appropriation of any money for any acquisition of land. It is strictly a "may" proposition and I believe I am correct that any money used to acquire land on the Federal level would come out of dedicated funds. In other words, would not involve a new appropriation. I might be incorrect in that but I have tried to do my homework. It would come out of the water conservation funds at the Federal level. The money is there. I also would like to advise the chairman that the Governor's office has written Mr. Hartzog on April 3 of this year and expressed his interest because it was through the Governor's office that approximately \$20,000 was made available for Texas Tech University to initiate a study of the Amistad area and the Governor

is interested. He is a trout fisherman mainly, but we have him down several times trying to interest him in bass and catfishing.

The State of Texas has moved to meet its responsibility. They have now under active consideration, they are moving to try to negotiate on a purchase of approximately 5,100 acres. These acres contain approximately 350 archeological or pictographic sites so the State of Texas, it too has its dedicated funds. The State of Texas has poured money into this.

We have a pretty good working relationship with the Federal Government.

Senator BIBLE. At that point, if I might, Mr. Doran, if the State of Texas is going to develop Indian pictographs in this area that is now in private ownership, why should the Federal Government do the same thing? Would you draw the distinction?

Mr. DORAN. The distinction is made in the purchase of land basically. Amistad is a part, a recreation area that is just suited for Federal supervision and control.

Senator BIBLE. What lands does the State legislature of Texas provide money for?

Mr. DORAN. The Park and Wildlife Department. The legislature has made no direct appropriations, but Park and Wildlife has designated funds and they are currently pursuing purchasing these 5,100 acres. Where the supervision would lie, I am not advised, but I feel that Amistad proper the lake as it now exists is properly a Federal program.

Senator BIBLE. I agree.

Mr. DORAN. It is too big for the State, too big for the county.

Senator BIBLE. I am trying to draw the distinction as to why the State of Texas should on one hand be indicating that they want to purchase this private land so as to preserve it, and I think that is a worthy objective, and at the same time the Federal Government is interested in the same area.

Mr. DORAN. In my opinion, I feel, as I stated at the outset, we would like to be designated a national recreation area.

Senator BIBLE. What you are saying is that you would think it preferable to have it developed as one entire area under one management and that to be the National Park Service, and the land to be acquired federally by the National Park Service. Is that what I understand you to be talking about? Correct me if I am wrong.

Mr. DORAN. I am not in the habit of correcting U.S. Senators.

Senator BIBLE. That is all right. Everybody else does.

Mr. DORAN. Basically that is correct. What I am trying to bring out is the State of Texas is interested in this project and they are working with Mr. Newman. They have built 7 miles to one of the existing marinas, the Rough Canyon Marina. It is called Recreation Region 2 to avoid being mixed up with another one. But it is the first recreation road built by the State of Texas, Park and Wildlife all now are trying to work out an agreement to assist in the building of both ramps and I feel that the county of Val Verde has constituted it as a commission and let me back up just 1 second to bring the chairman up to date, that the citizens and elected officials have moved to assume their obligations and their role as sort of local trustees for the Nation and also to preserve the purity and integrity of the waters of

the lake and to provide access to the people, not only of Texas but the entire United States.

My comments are directed toward the 50 States of the Union, the citizens of those 50 States. We feel we are trustees for the Nation, local trustees albeit. Amistad is an easy drive for over two-thirds of the population of Texas which exceeded 11 million people.

Again, you being from a western State, as Senator Bentsen pointed out, distances do not mean as much to Westerners as they do to folks that live in other parts of the United States. The cost recreational ratio at Amistad is excellent. It is the 16th largest manmade body of water on the continent. It does have pictographs, it does have just a lot of water and we in the western part of the United States and Texas, when you see that much water you almost become covetous, when you care for it, you appreciate it because we live in a dry area of the State but we are not selfish. We want to share it.

I was fortunate enough to be the author of House Bill 718 which was passed by the Texas Legislature last year. This was pioneering legislation because it was the first of its kind for Texas. It authorized the county of Val Verde to provide, enforce and designate and build areas around the county of Val Verde. This went out to a buffer zone.

The Val Verde County Commission moved to meet its obligations under this legislation. Senator Stilson handled it in the Senate. It was a project of many, many people around the Del Rio area. We are trying to protect this unique lake. We are trying to keep the waters pure, we are trying to keep the fly-by-night developers out. We are trying to provide a buffer zone so that this water, this lake, this recreation area can be preserved for our children and their children's children.

Lastly, in conclusion, I have not received official authorization, but I feel I speak for the whole delegation from our area. We certainly would like to extend a cordial and friendly invitation to the chairman and any Senators of his committee to observe firsthand the potential of Amistad and more or less test the waters.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much. I hope I can avail myself of that invitation. I appreciate your appearance this morning. I think you have made a very helpful contribution.

(Mr. Doran's prepared statement and subsequent additional remarks follow:)

STATEMENT OF HILARY B. DORAN, JR., MEMBER TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
DEL RIO, TEX.

#### THE NEED TO ESTABLISH AMISTAD RESERVOIR AS A NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

##### I.

Background—Amistad Reservoir actually had its beginning at a point in history that signified international cooperation along the Rio Grande with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848. Pursuant to this historic treaty and subsequent agreements between the United States and Mexico, Amistad Dam was constructed and on May 31, 1968, its gates were closed and it began to impound water. It was here that, although not duly constituted, Amistad National Recreation Area became operational and the National Park Service assumed the administrative responsibilities for the United States portion of the Reservoir. Even today, although not officially recognized as Amistad National Recreation Area, this facility is functioning in anticipation of formal and hopefully, final approval by legislation currently pending in this Congress. It should be pointed out that Amistad's functioning as a National Recreation Area is not presumptive but only because it is the most logical course under the present circumstances due to its natural assets and attributes.

## II.

## BASIC GOVERNING PRINCIPLES : CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AMISTAD DAM

Starting with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and coming down through International agreements, Public Law 86-605, officials reports and memorandums and other documents, the following general categories govern the basic operating principles for the Amistad Dam Reservoir :

- (1) Flood control ;
- (2) Controlled release of water for downstream irrigation needs ;
- (3) Conservation of water resources ;
- (4) Recreation of water resources ;
- (4) Recreational use ;
- (5) Domestic and municipal uses (if the necessity arises) ;
- (6) Agricultural and stock raising activities ;
- (7) Electric power generation ;
- (8) Other industrial uses ;
- (9) Any other beneficial use which may be determined by appropriate authorities in the future.

The above categories are not necessarily listed in order of priority but an attempt has been made to place them in this manner.

## III.

## AMISTAD RESERVOIR OBJECTIVES ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED

With the closing of the Dam's gates in 1968, and continuing through the present, the objectives of flood control, controlled downstream release of water, conservation of water resources and in a limited extent water oriented recreational activities have been accomplished.

Insofar as can be ascertained at the present there is no planning underway for the installation of turbines or other equipment for the purpose of electric power generation, and so far as is known none is contemplated in the foreseeable future. The recreational aspect that has been partially accomplished needs to be pursued immediately so that its objective can be fully met.

## IV.

## BACKGROUND REASONS FOR AMISTAD RESERVOIR TO BE DESIGNATED AS A NATIONAL RECREATIONAL AREA

Approximately a decade ago, the Federal Government took a new look at their role in providing outdoor recreation for Americans. The National Park Service had been the primary Federal Agency for acquiring, preserving and protecting the great out-of-doors. Until this time, the National Park Service would establish a National Park only if large parcels of land were involved. Obviously, there were some superlative natural features or characteristics which distinguished the proposed site and made it worthy of preserving indefinitely. To accomplish this preservation, a vast expense of less attractive land was generally purchased to serve as a buffer. Needless to say, this practice required the acquisition of large expanses of real estate.

About ten years ago the Federal Government realized that it was not meeting the needs of the public with regard to outdoor recreation. It embarked upon a new program to make outdoor recreation opportunities more available to all Americans. A chief ingredient in this program was the National Recreation Area. These National Recreation Areas were generally created from the public domain. Often they were much restricted in size, and sometimes the entire buffer area was eliminated.

In many respects, this policy was advantageous. The land which would have comprised this buffer strip zone could be used productively for agricultural purposes and could remain on tax roles. Also, less tax revenues were needed to purchase the land originally. On the other hand, certain new problems had been spawned. The Federal Government no longer protected the outdoor recreation resource with a buffer strip and a void has been left in effective management. The need for responsible management of adjacent land is a problem that has now fallen on the shoulders of State and County levels of government.

This describes the situation that existed at Amistad Reservoir until May 17, 1971. On this date, House Bill 718 was passed by the Texas Legislature to au-

thorize the County of Val Verde to provide, enforce and designate zoned areas and building regulations around Amistad Reservoir.

Obviously Legislation of this nature, the first of its kind for the State of Texas, was not accomplished on the spur of the moment. It was the result of several years of coordinated efforts by local citizens, County officials, Texas Tech University and the office of the Governor of the State of Texas. All these parties had but one goal in mind. It was to meet the urgent problem that would arise if development around the lake area was allowed to continue in an uncontrolled manner. It was to maintain the integrity of the Amistad Reservoir for maximum recreational use but in a fashion to insure that environmental and ecological protection would be insured for the purity of the waters impounded and ecological protection would be insured for the purity of the waters impounded by Amistad Dam.

This legislation authorized the Commissioners Court of Val Verde County to appoint a Zoning Commission to carry out the intents and purposes of this new law. The Val Verde County Commissioner's Court has constituted itself as the initial Zoning Commission and is currently meeting the duties and responsibilities contained in H.B. 718, as passed by the Regular Session of the 62nd Legislature.

The above action corroborates that the citizens and elected officials of Val Verde County and the State of Texas are moving to assume their obligations and responsibilities to avert problems which would be inherited at some time in the future. This action is an insurance policy, one which will protect the short run and long run, cultural, economic, and environmental interest of not only Val Verde County residents but people throughout the United States. It is a pioneering attempt to pass on to generations not yet born a vast expanse of water that will remain pollution free and where a man's eye can search a seemingly endless horizon while his mind becomes aware of a feeling of solitude and sense of freedom and to preserve for future generations a place where land is open to the sky and time seems to pause and man can be alone with himself.

v.

AMISTAD RESERVOIR'S POTENTIAL AS MEASURED UNDER CRITERIA APPLIED BY THE RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROPOSALS

1. Amistad Reservoir is spacious, containing more than 67,000 acres at conservation pool level with 43,500 in the United States, this acreage is more than the minimum requirement of an aggregate area of 20,000 acres of land and water surface for a recreation area.

Amistad Reservoir is approximately a days drive for over two-thirds of the population of the State of Texas which, according to the 1970 census, is in excess of eleven million people. It should also be mentioned that the above figures do not include citizens of Mexico. It should be noted that Texans, in general, travel 150 miles or more on weekend trips. Contrary to some parts of the State and to other populated areas in the United States, West Texas recreationists travel much greater distances, thinking nothing of traveling 300 miles or more in order to enjoy a weekend of recreation and relaxation.

2. Amistad with its limited facilities is now providing a showing of high visitor use and has the capacity of providing an even higher and more effective rate of use. It has been estimated that after proper development more than 15,000 visitors can be accommodated each day without conflict or damage to the Lake's environment. Good access roads, an outstanding recreational lake and the lure of Mexico attracts people from across the entire United States.

3. Amistad, with its developments as present limited to two areas, already draws patronage from throughout Texas and the adjoining States, especially New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. Winter visitors from the North seeking relief from the cold are increasing in number each year. It is conservatively estimated that more than twenty per cent of the visitors are from States other than Texas.

4. Optimum recreational benefits can only be achieved through Federal participation. Each development requires a launching ramp, utilities, roads and parks, campgrounds and picnic area. Concessioners will invest private funds for marinas, motels, restaurants and other associated visitor facilities. It should also be noted that the cost recreational ratio is excellent at Amistad so that for every dollar spent substantial recreational benefits will result.

5. More and more people today are seeking a quiet place to relax and at the same time to be closer to nature where they can partake in varied recreation opportunities. This is one of the outstanding and attractive features of Amistad with its non-urban character. Good State and Federal road systems are available and access to Amistad can be achieved within a few hours from most any section of the State. Many urban areas are served by Amistad including those with a low income and minority group population. Further, recreational features are available the year round. Boating, fishing, sightseeing, etc, can be achieved throughout the twelve months. In this regard, it should be mentioned that there are other outstanding recreational facilities now in operation such as Lake Mead and Glen Canyon that despite their remoteness attract a huge influx of visitors. Glen Canyon in 1970 attracted 907,500 people while Lake Mead attracted 4,897,000 visitors.

6. There is a mystique and romance associated with all of West Texas but that stretch of the Rio Grande which intersects with the Pecos and the Devils Rivers is especially appealing. Here, where a vast expanse of open varied land is interspersed with rugged cliffs and valleys, a colorful epoch of history unfolds. It is hard to separate man from this land. Today, even as it was in the past, man and his activities are regulated by the natural elements of water, heat and distance. Here, too, ones eye can search a seemingly endless horizon while his mind becomes aware of a feeling of tranquility and inner peace. This is a land and a climate that will insure the type of people attracted to it will be involved in outdoor recreation. Amistad Reservoir is the sixteenth largest man made body of water on the North American continent and is capable of service to the American people in a great outdoor fashion. While outdoor recreation is the cominant resource purpose, it is enhanced even further by distinguished archaeological values of importance to science and to posterity. American people are demanding two things currently regarding their recreational pursuits. First, better and more complete services. Secondly, much of the American public today participates in a search for personal enrichment through meaningful recreation pursuits. Amistad has the natural capacity to meet both challenges in an outstanding manner.

7. Presently there are no City, County or State recreational facilities that can offer the type and quality of recreation that is available at Amistad. There are no potential sites in the general area that can meet people's needs in recreation in the foreseeable future.

#### VI.

A major aspect that can not be overlooked when discussing Amistad Reservoir is the international nature and roll it tills. It is a body of water that is shared between two great nations, and one that has in the past and is currently developing a climate of cooperation between the Government of Mexico and the Government of the United States in unifying their efforts in planning and developing for a great international recreational area. It should also be noted that local and regional officials in Mexico cannot help but be impressed by the proper, efficient and sound development of Amistad Reservoir in the United States by the Federal, State and County governments in their respective roles.

#### VII.

##### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE PRESERVATION

More than 350 archaeological sites have been recorded near the Pecos and Devils River confluence with the Rio Grande. This area enjoys the distinction of having one of the oldest, largest and most notable concentrations of Indian pictographs on the North American continent. These pictographs represent a span of time from the days of Spanish conquest and back as far as 8,000 B.C. These sites are utterly irreplaceable. As these sites become easily accessible by boat for the first time, the invaluable cave pictures which have survived for centuries may be extensively vandalized during the next few years. Already in a few of the caves which have been accessible to the public for many years, the paintings have been scratched, chipped, smoked, painted over and shot at. Legal protection of this national treasure is not enough. Day to day supervision is desperately needed.

#### VIII.

##### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST AS PERTAINS TO AMISTAD RESERVOIR

1. Proper and adequately funded development of Amistad Reservoir will, in an indirect fashion, alleviate local unemployment in the Val Verde County area

which currently is set at 9%. It should also be added that Val Verde County has been designated as an economically distressed area, a designation which hopefully in the near future it will not qualify for.

2. Amistad Reservoir is the largest body of fresh water within a 400 to 500 mile radius.

3. The visitor count at Amistad is competitive now with other more established recreational areas. Some of the areas that it exceeds now and, in some instances more than double, are Prince William Forest and Big Bend National Park. Other areas that it approximately equals now are Padre Island National Seashore and Carlsbad Caverns.

## IX.

Situated as it is, Amistad Reservoir and its surrounding area constitute a distinctive area of the United States. It is here because of the vast expanses that distance mitigates contract. Here there is no easily identifiable geographical boundary. Nonetheless, there is a definite impact resulting from the presence of Amistad Reservoir.

It makes little difference whether a traveler is approaching Amistad Dam from the East, West or North, the experience is very much the same. As one traverses the undulating topography of Val Verde County he tops one more rise and suddenly a great sheet of water spreads broadly across the desert lands. Blue waters splash endlessly against the sheer limestone cliffs and spreads over the rocky low land. It is an awe inspiring sight: Water in such purity, in such volume, in such a thirsty land. Nature today still predominates around Amistad. With the designation of this area as a National Recreation Area this predomination of nature will be insured for our children and their children's children.

In closing, the author of this presentation would like to confess to liberal plagiarism of information and suggestions by many concerned people in Val Verde County and throughout the State. A plea of guilty must also be entered as to the adoption of excerpts of published reports concerning Amistad and in this respect it should be noted that two publications deal with Amistad extensively and should be taken into consideration regarding the designation of this area for a National Recreation Area. These two publications are the *Master Plan for the Proposed Amistad National Recreation Area* prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior and National Park Service and the second is *Amistad: Guidelines for Tourism and Recreation Development of an International Resource* published by Texas Tech University.

Any mistakes in this report are strictly the author's but the facts presented have tried to be set forth in a logical, conservative and sound fashion to assist in Amistad Reservoir becoming designated as a National Recreation Area. It has been a privilege to appear before this distinguished group, and in closing I would like to thank you for your courtesy and attention.

Respectfully submitted,

HILARY B. DORAN, JR.,

Member, Texas House of Representatives, Del Rio, Tex.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Austin, Tex., April 10, 1972.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Re S. 688 and S. 1295, bills "To establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas."

DEAR CHAIRMAN BIBLE: Pursuant to your request for additional information regarding the Hearing you chaired on April 6, 1972, I am forwarding under separate cover four (4) maps covering the years 1968 through 1971. These maps are official Texas Highway Department District Traffic Maps prepared in cooperation with the United States Department of Transportation and they reflect traffic counts which show the annual average 24-hour traffic on all highways in the vicinity of the International Amistad Reservoir.

I would like to point out that this annual average 24-hour traffic count does not reflect the peak or slack traffic periods during the year.

I have taken the liberty of utilizing only one traffic count covering these four years, that being the junction of United States Highway 90 and United States Highways 277 and 377, located approximately 5 miles North of Del Rio, Texas, and spanning both major portions of the International Amistad Reservoir. Using

only this one point it shows that the vehicle count has continuously risen from 1968 through 1971 as follows:

1968 -----	1, 175, 300	1970 -----	1, 321, 300
1969 -----	1, 241, 000	1971 -----	1, 383, 350

I obtained the above figures by projecting the annual average of 24-hour traffic times 365 days. I would like to stress that these figures and the information included on the Traffic Maps reflect only vehicle counts and do not reveal the number of passengers in said vehicles.

An informal projection of the above figures for the year of 1976 shows an annual vehicle count of approximately 1,800,000.

In my opinion the above information significantly and factually answers the argument that the Amistad Recreation Area is far removed from major population centers.

In closing I would like to speak to the statement made by Mr. George Hartzog who is the Director of the National Parks Service and also to the letter you received dated April 5, 1972, from Mr. John Larson, Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. Hartzog in his statement, which I am informed was actually the position of the Office of Management and Budget, was erroneous where on Page 2 it was stated "that the existing recreational use can be accommodated and facilities developed adequate to meet the reasonably foreseeable demand, under the existing cooperative agreement with the Commission. The inactment of this legislation is therefore not necessary to provide increased recreational benefits at this time."

The truth of the matter is that the existing recreational use is not being accommodated and adequate facilities are not now and are not being developed anywhere near to meeting the high priority recreational needs of Amistad.

Turning to Mr. John Larson's letter of April 5, 1972, I would direct your attention to the fourth and fifth paragraphs of his letter. Here again it is stated that "there exists adequate authority for Park Service management and recreation development." In my opinion this authority is anything but adequate.

What is needed and needed now is the designation of Amistad as a National Recreation Area in order that the National Park Service will be placed in a position to properly protect and develop this great unspoiled natural recreational resource of international significance.

I am confident that you and the other members of your Subcommittee as well as the full Senate Committee will not allow ecological damage to be done to this great international reservoir but instead will act not only to preserve it but also to make the abundant water oriented recreational facilities it possesses available to millions of Americans for generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

HILARY B. DORAN, JR.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness will be Mr. Grover Pitts.

**STATEMENT OF GROVER PITTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE WEST TEXAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; ACCOMPANIED BY PHILLIP ARLEDGE, PRESIDENT OF THE DEL RIO, TEXAS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chairman, I am vice president of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce. We have some 3,500 members representing some 350,000 citizens of that area from Fort Worth to Amarillo to El Paso down through Del Rio. I am sorry our president, Mr. Scott, couldn't be here this morning, but I have a prepared statement. I would like to present it without reading it.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection the full statement will be incorporated in the record.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Pitts follows:)

STATEMENT OF GROVER PITTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE WEST TEXAS  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

We wish to make this statement on behalf of Mr. A. L. Scott, President, Mr. Charles Langford, Chairman, Tourist Development Committee and our members who represent agriculture, industry, commerce and the professional leaders in the Western 60% of the State of Texas. We have around 3,500 members, but when you consider that more than 90% of these members are organizations, we actually represent more than 350,000 West Texans. A map of our service area is attached.

The West Texas Chamber of Commerce endorses the contents of this statement and would further like to emphasize the following important points.

1. The concern of many, many people that the environmental and ecological protection would be insured for the purity of the Amistad waters has been demonstrated by the efforts and culmination of passage of state legislation, the first of its kind for the State of Texas, authorizing the County of Val Verde to provide, enforce and designate zoned areas and building regulations around Amistad. This action is proof that the citizens, elected officers of Val Verde County and the State of Texas have assumed their responsibilities and obligations to preserve and enhance a National Recreation area for the entire nation.

2. The National Amistad Recreational area will be within a day's drive of eleven million people, in the United States and untold thousands in Mexico. It should be noted that Texans, in general, travel 150 miles or more on weekend trips. Contrary to some parts of the State and to other populated areas in the United States, West Texas recreationists travel much greater distances, thinking nothing of traveling 300 miles or more in order to enjoy a weekend of recreation and relaxation.

3. It has been estimated that after proper development as a National Recreation area, more than 15,000 visitors can be accommodated each day without conflict or damage to the Amistad environment.

4. Outstanding state highway access, a fantastic recreational lake and the lure of Mexico will attract people from across the entire United States. With only two areas developed, Amistad draws patronage from throughout Texas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and winter visitors from the northern states.

5. Cost recreational ratios are excellent for Amistad so that for every dollar spent substantial recreational benefits will occur.

6. One of the distinct features of the Amistad National Recreational Area will be its non-urban character and the year around suitability for recreation.

7. While outdoor recreation is the dominant resource purpose, Amistad is enhanced even further by distinguished archaeological values of importance and value to science, to the general public and to posterity.

8. Development of Amistad as a National Recreational area will primarily, secondarily and tertiary generate a new economic input to the economy throughout the southwestern part of the United States.

9. A major aspect that cannot be overlooked when discussing Amistad as a National Recreation Area is the international value of its role. It can become a vehicle for further cementing the bond of friendship between Mexico and the United States and it can serve as a model and inspiration to our neighbors to the south in national recreational planning development and management.

It is of particular concern to the West Texas Chamber of Commerce that this area be developed in an orderly and rapid fashion so that further deterioration of the ecological aspects will not continue. This being a unique situation in that Amistad is located on the International Border demands that the Texas side be as accessible as possible to the 678,000 tourists that visited it in 1970. If we can attract the majority of the tourist traffic to the Texas side, then the United States Parks Service will be able to control the environmental climate for the area. If the Mexico side continues to be the most accessible and the most attractive, then we are assured of almost no ecological and environmental controls on that side. Unfortunately, pollution and despoliation do not recognize the center of the Rio Grande River as a boundary and will transgress upon the American side.

In closing, let us remember the vastly increasing populace pressures on the existing National Parks and Recreational Areas and the inevitable continuing increase of such populace demands for recreational areas. Amistad could by being designated a National Recreation Area contribute much to helping to relieve:

1. The people pressure on existing National Parks and Recreation areas.
2. Provide the necessary ingredient of recreation to the lives of millions of Americans.

We must provide the vehicle to let Amistad reach its full potential of service to the nation.

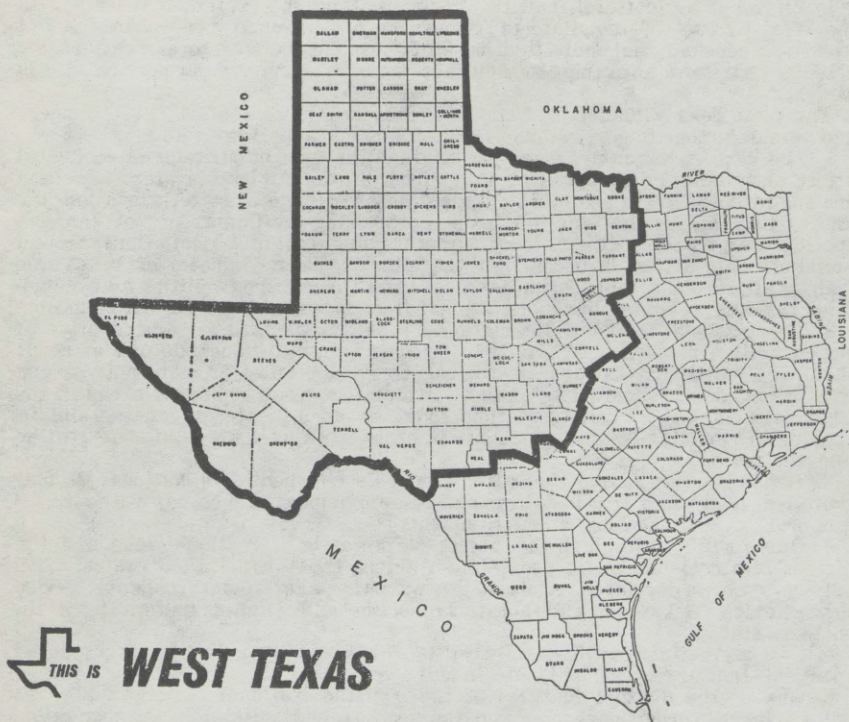


FIGURE 1A

Senator BIBLE. Please introduce the other gentleman at the witness table for the record.

Mr. PIRTS. Yes, sir; Mr. Phillip Arledge, president of the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce.

We would like to reiterate what has been said this morning.

Senator BIBLE. Feel free to emphasize any particular statement. I think, probably, you have made the case for the area. It seems to me that you might like to make a comment to the point that the Secretary of Interior makes in one sentence and he is talking about Amistad and he says "as to these lands, which constitute a major segment of the proposed national recreation area, there exist adequate authority for Park Service management and recreation development." I think what OMB is saying is that the Park Service has all the authority that they need right now, why enact additional law. And if the Congressman or either one of the Senators wishes to cover that point, I think it would be very helpful to the committee because it seems to me that is the key issue of this project.

I don't think there is any question about the need of developing this area and developing it as quickly as we can, and preserving the archeological wonders that you have, but the administration seems to be say-

ing that you already have the authority to move ahead at Amistad. Is that right, or is it wrong? Would you like to comment on that? I would ask any of your people here who would like to make a comment on that one point. I personally am convinced that this is a great area. I think you have sold me on that, and I feel it should be preserved. The administration seems to be saying it is already preserved, you already have the authority to do everything you have to do there. You said, notwithstanding that we want it designated as a national recreation area. Why do you want it designated or operated any differently than what you have now?

Mr. ARLEDGE. I am the president of the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce. Consistently we have large crowds that move into the area on weekends, that go to the lake, and it is impossible to get into the water. These people are out of San Antonio, Dallas, Odessa and Midland. You can drive down and see cars. I would say roughly 20 to 30 percent of the cars are from New Mexico. These are common working people looking for outdoor recreation.

As it stands today I would say close to 75 percent of the people that are going on this lake, to the tune of 700,000 people, are going through one marina located at Del Rio. When they come from New Mexico they have to come into Del Rio and go into this one ramp. Two boating ramps are impossible to accommodate the people that go into the lake.

Sentor BIBLE. Even admitting that, if it is true, I don't know whether it is true or isn't true and I am going to ask the Park Service to give me a comment to this very sentence in the Secretary of Interior's report.

Admitting that you don't have the facilities that you need at the present time, why can't you obtain them under the present authority of the Park Service? That is my question and I would solicit comments from the Director and he can pause and think about it and we will keep the record open for a week for this purpose and either of the two Texas Senators or Congressman Fisher or anybody else from Texas who wants to study this and make comments on it. You can probably make a comment better after you read the official report and we will furnish you with that report and you make whatever comments you want to.

It seems to me this is what it narrows down to. The Department is agreeing with you that this area is worth preserving and so forth, and it should be developed, but they say you have all the authority you need now. I would solicit written comments on this after you have studied the report because I think that becomes the major issue. Would you do that, Mr. Congressman, after you have studied it? I don't want everybody to come up with an off-the-hip response to the Secretary's report. We are going to see that each of you or your representatives are furnished copies of the report and you in turn can advise us as to why you want the national recreation area designation.

Do you have anything further you would like to add? Maybe you would like to study the Department's report. This only reached us this morning and obviously, as it was dated April 5, you have not seen it until now, I assume, and I hope you will make those comments, after reviewing the report.

STATEMENT OF CHRIS ALDRETE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO  
SENATOR BENTSEN OF TEXAS

Mr. ALDRETE. My name is Chris Aldrete. I am executive secretary to Senator Bentsen.

I would like to just mention, he made a comment in reply to the question. Senator Bentsen repeatedly tried to set up a conference with Mr. Hartzog and Senator Tower and Congressman Fisher to be present so that we could discuss the bills and the nature of this proposal. Those repeated efforts were futile, Mr. Chairman, and this has come as a surprise to the Senator—the statement of the Secretary.

Senator BIBLE. Yes; I am not questioning you. I think everybody is trying to work in the same direction but I want you to study the report and give your comments on it and, if you disagree with it, say so.

I think, just as an off-the-cuff observation, this is very similar to Lake Mead's international area. That didn't start growing and getting the muscle to get the job done until we gave it almost independent autonomy. I would think this might be a similar type of problem. I suggest that you consider this and give some written response. I realize there are difficulties in working these problems out.

Yes, Mr. Congressman.

Mr. FISHER. Very briefly, I think the chairman has pointed to a very important point and as it relates to the statement that has been furnished to the committee of yesterday. We feel very strongly that we need the stature associated with official designation of a national recreation area at Amistad. We feel that as a result of it the funding for the developments will be accelerated and made more orderly in the future. We feel that the authority for expansion in the area where the architectural features are located will enable them to police it up there even if the State acquired the perimeter which we hope it will. It would save the Federal Government the cost of buying land but the State would not have the authority or they are not prepared to police it, to keep the vandals out. That is for the Park Police to do and the boats as they go up into these areas, and therefore, the acquisition of additional land not covered by what the State would probably acquire, because they are pretty well limited to the architectural features, I am told, is highly necessary in order to provide additional marinas some 40 or 50 miles from the dam which are badly needed, but they need more access lands in order to install marinas and provide the accommodations the public needs.

Probably Lake Mead and some others could have gotten along without designation but I am sure you would confirm the fact that it made it much better and much more orderly for the development to meet the requirements of the future if it does have that official designation.

Mr. Chairman, the Park Service informs me that without this legislation it will not be able to acquire perimeter land in the Comstock-Langtry area, in order to install marinas and other access facilities, some 50 miles of the upper stretches of the lake will continue to be practically inaccessible for visitors.

Launching sites in that area are considered absolutely essential. It would disperse the crowds who want to get their boats on the water

and alleviate the traffic jams and long delays now experienced by visitors near the dam site and in the lower area. And it would save miles of travel by thousands of people who approach the lake from the west and northwest.

It should be emphasized that this legislation is in accord with the master plan prepared by the National Park service in its proposal for an Amistad National Recreation Area. It is obvious that, except for the OMB, the Park Service would be in here supporting and justifying this bill all the way.

Senator BIBLE. That one sentence is a very effective answer. That is the point I wanted to meet head on and I compliment you on the same. I can certainly testify as to the growth of Lake Mead when it was removed as a second class citizen under the Bureau of Reclamation. As I see it that situation is not dissimilar to the arrangement you have here. This in no way infers that the International Boundary Commission isn't doing a good job. I think what you are saying is, if you have National Park status you could do a better job at Amistad.

I do appreciate your appearing here this morning and I again solicit your comments on this official report. These will be helpful because other members of the committee are going to say what is the answer to that sentence and I can say Congressman Fisher said the answer was you need more stature and the designation of a National Recreation Area and I can quote him. I would suggest that you take along the report and within a week you give us whatever additional comments you have.

What you are telling me is we just can't do as good a job under the present set up as we can under the banner of the National Park Service. You write me that.

Mr. ARLEDGE. I would like to submit for the record substantiating documents representing the 50 counties of South Texas Chamber of Commerce in support of the Amistad National Recreation Area.

Without objection they will be incorporated.  
(The documents follow:)

SOUTH TEXAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*San Antonio, Tex., April 3, 1972.*

Senator ALAN BIBLE,  
*Chairman, Senate National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: We strongly urge favorable consideration of legislation to designate the Amistad Reservoir area near Del Rio, Tex., as a national recreation area.

This unique and beautiful area is of great interest and importance to people all over the 50 Texas counties served by this organization. Even with inadequate facilities, the lake drew more than 700,000 visitors last year from all parts of Texas and several other States as well.

We would further point out that a national recreation area at this site on the U.S.-Mexico border could serve as an important tool in the furtherance of good relations between the two nations.

Again, a favorable finding by you and your sub-committee is urgently requested.

Cordially,

PLEDGER B. CATE, Jr.,  
*Executive Vice President.*



We cannot afford not to take advantage of establishing and setting aside these national interest areas for the use of our people now and in the future.

Your support will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

ROY C. SPARKMAN, *President.*

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AUSTIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*Austin, Tex., March 30, 1972.*

Mr. GEORGE F. GREGG,  
*Del Rio Chamber of Commerce, Del Rio, Tex.*

DEAR GEORGE: I noticed that your bill on the Amistad National Recreation Area is coming up before the Senate National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee. I certainly hope it will receive a favorable hearing.

In the event you are not aware of it, a telegram was sent by Mr. Jack Polk, our vice president for Tourism & Recreation, to our two senators and also to Congressmen Fisher and Mahon. The telegram read as follows:

"Request your support for current effort to designate Amistad Lake near Del Rio as National Recreation Area, so that critical facilities development funds may be available. Office of Management & Budget should know many Austin area citizens as well as tourists to Texas are among the 700,000 annual users of the important Amistad recreational area."

The best of luck on this undertaking.

Sincerely yours,

VIC MATHIAS,  
*Executive Vice President.*

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PORT LAVACA-CALHOUN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*Port Lavaca, Tex., March 24, 1972.*

*President,*  
*Del Rio Chamber of Commerce, Del Rio, Tex.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: The Port Lavaca-Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, at it's regular monthly meeting on March 16, 1972, voted unanimously to support your efforts in regards to the hearing before Senator Alan Bible's Senate National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee on April 6.

We understand that if the now limited facilities serving the park were expanded it could better serve those now using the park and it would also entice thousands of others to do so.

Our chamber records many visitors in it's office who, after touring the coastal area, do plan to make the swing up the Rio Grande.

It is our feeling that many out of State visitors who would travel to an improved Amistad Park, should your request be met favorably, will also make it a point to visit our recreational facilities as well as others throughout the state.

Therefore we lend our support to your request that Amistad be established as a national recreation area.

Sincerely,

CURTIS REECE, *President.*

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DIMITT COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*Carrizo Springs, Tex., March 22, 1972.*

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, It had been the policy of the Dimmit County Chamber of Commerce to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities now servicing the recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United State's campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the Dimmit County Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities as outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Areas at the earliest possible date.

JOHN L. MOGFORD, *President.*

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RESOLUTION—AMISTAD RECREATION AREA

Whereas, the Laredo Chamber of Commerce has been asked to support the Administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at our above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities is now servicing the recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States' campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the Laredo Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities as outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce on this 30th day of March 1972.

JAVIER GARZA,  
*President.*  
GEORGE H. URBINE,  
*Executive Vice President.*

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RESOLUTION—MOULTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE

MOULTON, TEX., *March 22, 1972.*

Whereas, it has been the policy of the Moulton Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities is now servicing the recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States' campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the Moulton Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities as outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

EMIL J. BERAN, *President.*

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RESOLUTION—KARNES CITY COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Whereas, it has been the policy of the Karnes City Community Chamber of Commerce to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities is now servicing the recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States' campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the Karnes City Community Chamber of Commerce respectively requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities as outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area to the earliest possible date.

A motion was made, duly seconded, and carried unanimously that the above Resolution be adopted in a Board of Directors meeting held on March 21, 1972 in the Chamber office, Karnes City, Texas.

B. R. SHERRILL, *Board Chairman.*  
 JAMES A. MCLANE, *President.*  
 (Mrs.) PEGGY MCLANE, *Secretary.*

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RESOLUTION—UVALDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Whereas, it has been the policy of the Uvalde Chamber of Commerce to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities is now servicing the recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States' campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the Uvalde Chamber of Commerce respectively requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities at outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

Approved on this date, the 20th day of March, 1972, By the Board of Directors of the Uvalde Chamber of Commerce.

GEORGE WENTZ, *President.*  
 CAL NEWTON, *Executive Vice President.*  
 (Mrs.) BETTY SPURGEON, *Secretary.*

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RESOLUTION—SMITHVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Whereas, it has been the policy of the Smithville Chamber of Commerce to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities is now servicing the recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States' campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the Smithville Chamber of Commerce respectively requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities as outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

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RESOLUTION—LA PRYOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Whereas, it has been the policy of the La Pryor Chamber of Commerce to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the U.S. Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity; and,

Whereas, their project with its present limited facilities is now servicing the

recreation needs of a vast number of citizens in the southwestern portion of the United States; and,

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States' campaign against pollution and campaign for the provision of adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States;

Now therefore, the La Pryor Chamber of Commerce respectively requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities as outlined in "Parkscape, USA" in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

MIKE COX, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

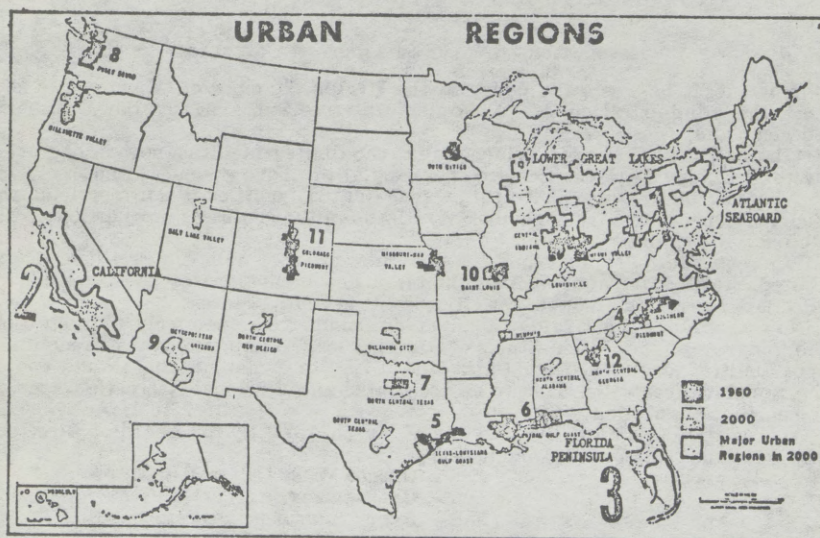


FIGURE 3A

The United States in year 2000—Population experts say the United States will add 100 million people over the next 30 years. In effect, President Nixon has warned, this means adding a new city of 250,000 persons each month from now until the end of the century—or constructing a Tulsa, Dayton or Jersey City every 30 days. One population expert has projected how major urban regions can be expected to develop by 2000. The map shows how 12 major urban regions will account for 85 percent of the entire national increase—with Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, San Francisco Bay, Detroit and Washington accounting for one-third. San Antonio and Austin would blend into an urban region covering a massive area of central Texas.

Mr. PITTS. For the west portion of Texas we have some additional 50—

Senator BIBLE. That is part of your statement. I understand Mr. Gregg would like to make a statement.

**STATEMENT OF GEORGE F. GREGG, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
OF THE DEL RIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Mr. GREGG. I wanted to call to the chairman's attention something I think everybody who has testified this morning has overlooked.

I hear the National Park Service saying they have enough authority. I stand on the ramp down in Del Rio when they have 682,000 visitors

and they have six men to try to supervise this. They don't have enough authority or enough money. If we can get it designated as a National Recreation Area then they will have the stature they need and possibly the personnel and the marinas and facilities that the people of United States deserve and we don't feel that the National Park will ever be able to fulfill the needs of the people of the United States. But the statement was made a while ago—they have enough authority.

If they have enough authority they are not using it and they are not putting enough funds into the project. They cannot supervise that 74-miles lake with 20 people and provide adequate supervision of the people that visit the lake.

Senator BIBLE. I think that is a very clear statement. I think it is also a completely responsive statement and that it is the type of comment I have been trying to elicit. It is very helpful just as the statement from Congressman Fisher was completely helpful. Thank you very much.

Do we have other witnesses from Texas? Is there any Texan here who would like to record his name as being in favor of the project? The more people who say they are for it, the better chance we have.

Mr. FISHER. I think Senator Bentsen introduced all of the Texans who are here.

Senator BIBLE. He did.

Mr. FISHER. Everyone of them have come at their own expense to be here and show their interest.

Senator BIBLE. That is the type of interest I want the record to reflect and if by chance there is somebody who was not mentioned by Senator Bentsen, I wish you would stand up, give your name and address and say I am for the bill or against the bill.

Mrs. WELCH. We are Mr. and Mrs. Welch, Mesquite, Tex., we support the bill.

Mr. SHELTON. I am Harold Shelton, Fort Worth, Tex., and I would like to say that I am for the bill.

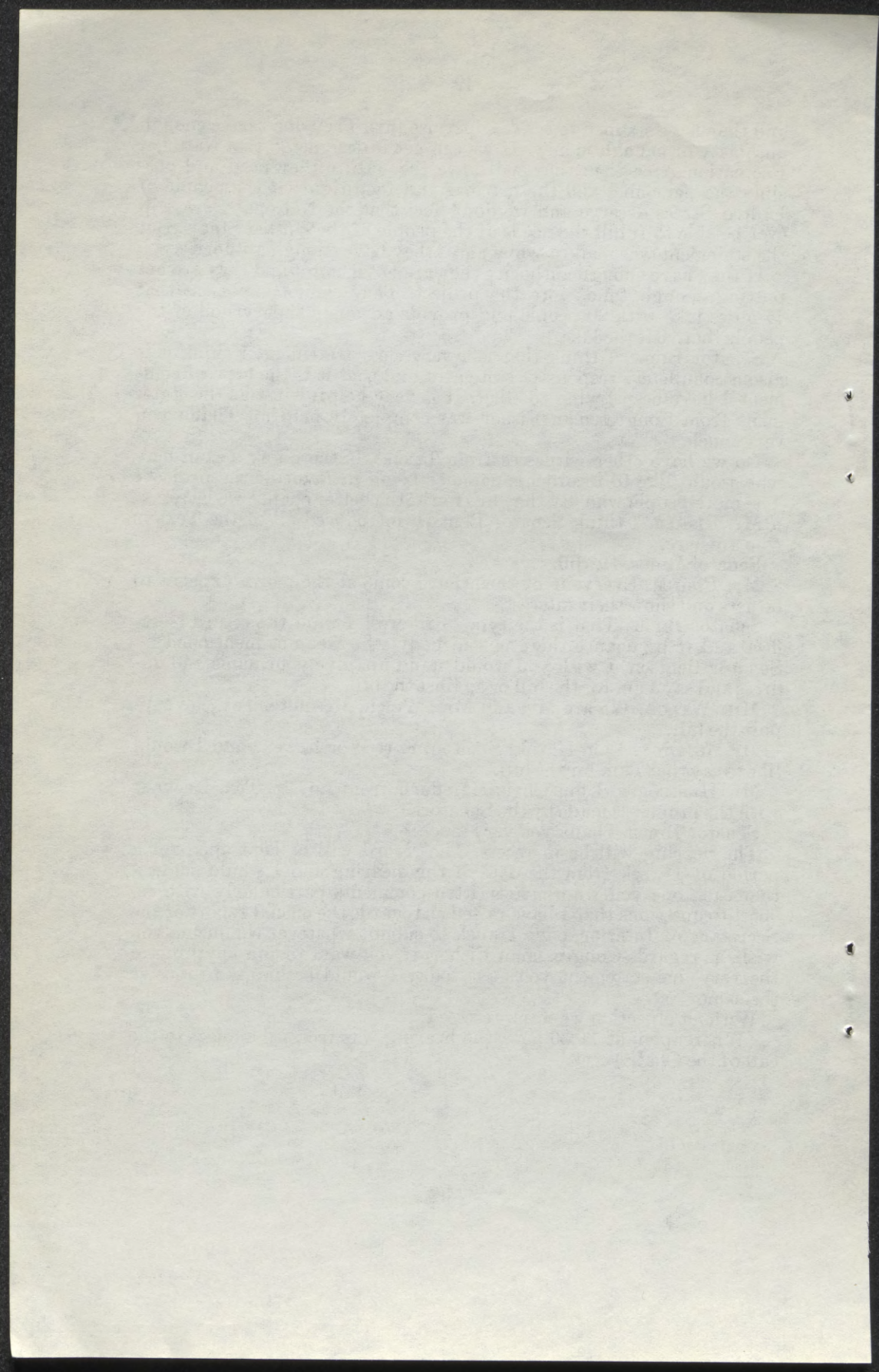
Mr. HARSBORFF. I am Chris Harsdorff from Lovett, Tex. I concur with the proposals made by the Senators.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much.

The hearing will be in recess. The record will be kept open for a period of 1 week from the date of this hearing and I would suggest that each one you who have written comments particularly with respect to questions that I have raised as regards the official report of the Secretary of Interior, have 1 week to submit whatever comments you wish, as regards Congressman Fisher, if you want to add anything to the very fine statement you gave today I would be happy to receive the same.

Without objection we stand recessed.

(Whereupon, at 11:30 a.m., the hearing was recessed subject to the call of the Chair.)



## APPENDIX

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(Under authority previously granted, the following statements and communications were ordered printed:)

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION,  
Washington, D.C., April 14, 1972.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for the invitation and opportunity to comment upon proposals which would establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in Texas. We would appreciate it if this letter could be made part of the record of the current hearings.

Our principal concern about these bills are the sections relating to hunting and fishing. As we have testified on several occasions recently, we are hopeful that the phrase "fish and wildlife management" can be removed from sections 4 of both S. 688 and S. 1295. This phrase would continue to raise the question over Federal management of resident species of fish and wildlife. We continue to believe that this is a true responsibility of the State wildlife agencies concerned and recommend that this phrase be deleted.

Sincerely,

LOUIS S. CLAPPER,  
*Conservation Director.*  
SAN ANTONIO, TEX., April 5, 1972.

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The Hon. Senator BIBLE,  
*Chairman, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN BIBLE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS: My wife and I would like to make a statement concerning Senate Bill 1295 to establish an Amistad National Recreation Area. Eloise Stoker is an Instructor of Arts at Incarnate Word College and I am an Associate Professor of Art at Trinity University, both in San Antonio, Texas. We teach courses in the history of American Indian Art.

We feel that Senate Bill 1295, authorized by The Honorable Lloyd Bentsen, should contain strong measures for the protection of the ancient cave paintings in the proposed Recreation Area. These murals, executed by the "so called" Pecos River Culture, which extends back 10,000 years, are the oldest Indian paintings in the New World and because they are large, complex ceremonial murals they are particularly important in the study of American Indian Art History. Our classes find the study of these paintings fascinating and the research field trips into the canyons of the painted caves are memorable experiences.

The canyons seem cut off from the rest of the world; so going into the shelters seems like going back in time. There are paintings on ceilings, paintings covering hundreds of feet along cave walls, painted figures fifteen feet high, human figures abstracted with amazing sophistication, earth colors beautifully interwoven. Primitive art history students are astonished, just as we continue to be. For after years of study, there is always something new not noted before. Surely these paintings and their natural canyon galleries should be preserved for the enjoyment and enlightenment of ourselves and coming generations.

Yet these valuable murals are presently in danger of being completely destroyed by the hands of vandals, who can now reach the shelter sites because of the construction of Amistad Reservoir. In every instance where pictographs

have become so accessible by the general public, the paintings have been ruined by vandals within an astonishingly short period.

If Senate Bill 1295 does not authorize that these precious art works be preserved as a National Monument we feel this Recreation Bill would do great harm by destroying the rich heritage left by the ancient aboriginals of Texas. We would like to recommend that there be a Recreation Area *and* protection for the pictographs. Specifically the scenic canyons and the rock shelter caves with their paintings be preserved in a natural, undeveloped manner. Tours and patrols led by Park Service Rangers could use small trails. An Interpretive Center or Museum might best be built on Highway 90 near Amistad Reservoir.

Please have this letter read into the hearing record for Senate Bill 1298.

Respectfully,

JIM STOKER,  
*Associate Professor of Art, Trinity University.*  
ELOISE STOKER,  
*Instructor of Art, Incarnate Word.*

STATEMENT OF JIM AND ELOISE STOKER, SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

As regards Senate Bill 1295 to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas, the Sierra Club, South Texas Group, supports the concept of an Amistad National Recreation Area if any legislation enacted concerning this region contains strong provisions for the preservation of the scenic, scientific, and historic values of the Amistad area. Because of the unique archeological and rock painting sites of this region, specific provision must be written in for the protection of the pictograph canyons since they will be further endangered by any act increasing the development and use of Amistad Reservoir for recreation. This committee should take the responsibility of securing for the present and future generations this priceless resource, the oldest and most extensive collection of aboriginal rock paintings in the New World. These colorful murals were created by a culture reaching back 10,000 years into our past and are sheltered in scenic limestone canyons containing some interesting and rare flora including the last surviving Texas Pistachio trees.

It should be remembered that in building Amistad Reservoir and opening the area to crowds seeking recreation both legislative and administrative branches of this government became in fact responsible for the fate of these paintings; and should not now shirk this responsibility by either refusing needed legislation, ignoring the recreation area, or by passing insufficient legislation which would encourage increased development and use of the area without protecting the pictographs. The Sierra Club, South Texas Group supports a third alternative, a bill which establishes an Amistad National Recreation Area and at the same time makes provision for the protection of the canyons of the painted caves.

The Indian rock painting murals of the Pecos River Culture found in the rock shelters in the region of the proposed Recreation Area should be set aside as a National Monument and be fully protected by the National Park Service. These caves and their environment should be left as natural as possible, with but a minimum of small developed trails for tours and patrols. An Interpretive Center and Museum could be constructed on Highway 90 near Amistad Reservoir.

It is imperative that these, the most ancient Indian paintings in the New World, be protected for the enjoyment and enlightenment of present and future generations. If they are ignored, they will be destroyed; in every instance where aboriginal pictographs have been easily accessible by the general public they have been vandalized into oblivion. Do not let that happen with this precious heritage.

Again, we stress, protection for the Amistad Area pictographs should be assured before any bill is passed establishing an Amistad National Recreation Area.

EASTLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*Eastland, Tex., April 3, 1972.*

HON. HENRY JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The Eastland Chamber of Commerce urges the favorable report by your Committee of the Bill to establish Amistad National Recreational Area near Del Rio, Texas for the following reasons:

1. To insure urgently needed and orderly development of the recreational potential of this area.
2. To preserve the quality of the area and Amistad waters.
3. To provide an additional economic input to the economy of all West Texas and Texas.

Thank you for your consideration we remain  
Sincerely yours,

MARCUS S. O'DELL, *President.*

L. S. PAWKET AND Co.,  
*San Antonio, Tex., April 3, 1972.*

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,  
*Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SCOOP: The attached clipping from the San Antonio Express indicates that your Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee will conduct a hearing on April 6, 1972 regarding establishment of "Amistad National Recreation Area" based on a proposal of Senator Lloyd Bentsen.

Amistad Lake and surrounding area are really something and are ripe as can be for development.

I'm going back on memory but you may recall that Ed Gondeck and Perry Smith made a call to your office to get acquainted with you at my suggestion but you were not in your office. Your people, however, treated them very courteously which they appreciated. The reason they were in Washington was for a meeting with Secretary Udall regarding a project for Amistad.

Ed worked up a beautiful set of plans for a tower which would house a public area for novelties, curios, refreshments, etc., a six or seven story motel above and going up a little higher, some suites plus a communications center tower was proposed in connection with a marina and other appurtenances. As I understand it, the plans and the feasibility report were submitted to Mr. Udall who apparently looked on them favorably.

A corporation had been formed to negotiate and build the tower, etc., but something like lack of money or something else turned the matter to the point of "no conclusion". It is my understanding that some of the Del Rio stockholders may have become too greedy or were looking for what would have been essentially a "free ride". Actually, the details I do not know but I have seen the tower plan, the site plan, feasibility study and the "relief" of the pertinent section of the Lake area. It occurs to me that the studies and work done may be of interest to you in further development of the recreation areas.

Ed was apparently out of town practically all week because I have not been able to get in touch with him in order to bring myself up-to-date, but I am sure that he continues very interested and my analysis of what he and his group have to offer should be highly desirable in connection with the development.

While I have no direct personal interest in the matter, I am calling it to your attention not only because I think it worthwhile to "Uncle Sammy" but also I like to give my friends a hand if I can.

Here's hoping that your efforts for the "big chair" continue most satisfactorily to you.

Yours very truly,

L. S. PAWKETT.

[From San Antonio Express, San Antonio, Tex.]

#### HEARINGS SET ON AMISTAD RECREATION AREA MEASURE

WASHINGTON (AP)—A bill to establish the 65,000 acre Amistad National Recreation Area along the Mexican border in Texas will be the subject of hearings by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Chairman Henry Jackson, D-Wash., said Thursday.

The hearing will be held April 6 in Washington. The Amistad National Recreation Area proposal was introduced before the Senate by Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Tex.

Sen. Jackson said 90,000 people live within a 100-mile radius of the proposed recreation area. Some 2.3 million live within 250 miles and another 7.7 million within 350 miles.

"The zone contains 15 metropolitan centers, including those of San Antonio, the Dallas-Fort Worth complex and Houston. Amistad, with its present limited development, already draws patronage from throughout Texas and adjoining states, especially New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Louisiana, Jackson said.

"Amistad can handle 15,000 people per day. It is estimated that one million people per year will visit this area during its first five years as a national entity," Jackson added.

Sen. Bentsen said he was pleased that hearings on his proposal have been scheduled.

"The American people are demanding two things currently regarding their recreational pursuits. First, better and more complete services. Secondly, much of the American public today participates in a search for personal enrichment through meaningful recreational pursuits. Amistad has the natural capacity to meet all challenges. Boating, hiking, camping and fishing are excellent in the area proposed for this new national recreation area. At the same time, my proposal will preserve for our nation the plants and animals of the historic chaparral county, together with an appreciable intermingling of species of plants and animals from the great Chihuahuan desert. This is truly 'an oasis in the desert,'" Bentsen asserted.

The area would consist primarily of lands already owned by the federal government, along the borders of the Amistad Dam Reservoir near Del Rio.

"Amistad Reservoir is the 16th largest man-made body of water on the North American continent and has enormous potential for recreational use. The area also enjoys the distinction of having more than 350 archeological sites including the oldest, largest and most notable concentrations of Indian pictographs in North America, dating as far back as 8,000 BC. These invaluable paintings have survived for centuries and will be protected under provisions of Sen. Bentsen's bill," Jackson concluded.

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BLANCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
Blanco, Tex., March 30, 1972.

Senator HENRY JACKSON,  
Senate Office Building,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: We the citizens of Blanco, Texas are vitally interested in the establishment of the Amistad National Recreation Area.

In this day of urban blight, pollution of the environment, juvenile crime, drug abuse, etc., we all need a refuge from time to time. Several of our National Parks are so crowded that entrance permits are being put into use.

Property must be acquired and dedicated *now* to provide the peace of mind, and recreational facilities required by future generations. Property costs are increasing so lets act now.

You are urged to favorably report the Amistad Bill.

Very truly yours,

BOB WEIR, *President.*

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TEXAS ELECTRIC SERVICE Co.,  
Midland, Tex., April 4, 1972.

HON. HENRY JACKSON,  
Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I understand that on April 6th your committee will hold hearings on a bill to establish the 65,000 acre Amistad National Recreation Area near Del Rio. The establishment of this national recreation area is very important to West Texas and needed in order to better serve the pleasure and relaxation needs of the people in this large area.

I urge your committee to report the bill favorably.

Sincerely,

C. W. BARCLAY.

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AMARILLO, TEX., March 30, 1972.

Senator JACKSON,  
Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: It is very important to the southwestern part of the United States that your Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee report favorably the bill concerning the Amistad National Recreation Area.

It will not only help provide recreation benefits to all the people, but it will also help create jobs throughout our entire area.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

LARRY S. MILNER.

DEL RIO, TEX., April 11, 1972.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation of the Senate Committee on  
 Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

Re S. 688 and S. 1295, bills to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BIBLE: With reference to your request for additional information concerning the statement by Mr. George Hartzog, and letter of reference from Mr. John Larson, concerning adequate power and existing recreational facilities to above statement with the following facts: According to the State of Texas highway count of cars in 1971, which was 1,383,350 with reference to arteries leading into the Amistad Reservoir Area, multiplied by the National Park Service figure of 3.5 persons per car, you can readily see we had 4,841,725 individuals that past Amistad Reservoir in 1971.

The National Park Service certified that we officially served 683,000 visitors on the existing facilities in 1971. The latter figure compared to the 4,841,725 you can readily see the recreational potential if, I repeat, if we had proper facilities.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hartzog, with making reference to adequate facilities that could be developed was possibly talking about the five additional sites the Federal Government now owns that are on the national park's master plan. At the present time, the National Park Service also does not have authority to purchase the two sites they list on the master plan, in upper reaches of this reservoir, and is called for in this legislature.

By designating Amistad as a national recreational area, they would have the authority to purchase the additional sites and have a better avenue for construction money to make the seven sites operational.

Mr. Chairman, enclosed with this letter is a clipping from the San Antonio News & Express, which makes reference to the lack of facilities, lack of concern of the National Park Service and the possibility of reverting the Park Service back to the International Water and Boundary Commission. These type stories are appearing in metropolitan papers all over the State of Texas.

Our city and county have worked diligently to maintain the ecological balance of nature around this reservoir and at the present time we do not see where any other organization other than the National Park Service could maintain firm rules, regulations, and control. But this organization can not be expected to service the people of the United States on the limited funds that are now available to them.

Mr. Chairman, we have been privileged to see the letter and traffic maps sent to you by Texas Representative Hilary B. Doran. We respectfully request that his letter and maps along with this letter, be made an official part of the Senate hearing on Senate bills 6888 and 1295, held before you, April 6, 1972.

Respectfully,

PHILLIP ARLEDGE,  
*President, Del Rio Chamber of Commerce.*  
 GEORGE F. GREGG,  
*Executive Vice President.*

DEL RIO, TEX., April 11, 1972.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, Senate Interior and Insular  
 Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We respond to your request for additional comments on S. 688 and S. 1295, similar bills "to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas." After reviewing the statement of the Department of the Interior and consultation with our representative at the hearing of April 6, Mr. James Long, we find it mandatory to introduce testimony which we feel must not have been available for consideration by the Office of Management and Budget.

We feel that enactment of legislation such as Senator Tower's bill, S. 688 or Senator Bentsen's bill, S. 1295, either of which would establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas, is essential for the following reasons: (1) The area rightfully deserves the immense prestige and the benefits thereof of being declared a national recreation area. In fact, the geographical location and the name of the project, Amistad (friendship), dictate consideration and possibility of declaring the Amistad area an international recreation area.

(2) Acquisition of at least two additional park sites as indicated by the National Park Service is essential for the comfort, safety, and enjoyment of the visiting American public and our neighbors from the Estados Unidos Mexicanos.

(3) Acquisition of additional property now in private ownership is essential if our National Park Service is to protect, preserve, and interpret the invaluable archeological sites, as indicated in previous testimony, this is the largest concentration of well-preserved pictographs in the world. It should be noted that vandals and the increasing humidity caused by the rising reservoir have already begun to have effect on these priceless treasures.

We wish to concur with the statement submitted by the Department of the Interior that "This situation requires that new authorization be limited to the acquisition and development of recreation resources which are of national significance, and which do not duplicate existing facilities." However, we respectfully submit that contrary to the opinion of the Office of Management and Budget, the Amistad Recreation Area does meet the qualifications just mentioned.

The Amistad Recreation Area is not only of national, but of international significance. To agree otherwise, one would have to totally discount:

(1) Three joint Presidential visits to the site.  
 (2) University of Texas study, the Nature of United States-Mexico Border Development, March 1967.

(3) The program Nacional Fronterizo of the Estados Unidos Mexicanos.  
 (4) Archeological studies of prominent universities, Smithsonian Institute, and the National Geographic Society.

(5) Many national publications and a national TV program which pinpoint Amistad as one of America's newest recreational hotspots.

(6) The transcontinental highway (U.S. 90) and railroad (Amtrac route) both of which bisect the reservoir area.

(7) Many travel investment statistics and trends, such as the fact that 9.9% of all numbered boats in the United States during 1968 were within an easy one day drive of Amistad.

(8) Land purchases by out-of-State residents adjacent to Amistad Reservoir.

(9) 2,656,567 persons entering from Mexico at the Port of Del Rio during 1971.

(10) Population studies indicating huge metropolitan areas in Southwestern United States fully developed by 1990.

(11) History of the Southwest, i.e. Spanish explorers, Judge Roy Bean, 5th U.S. Calvary, Texas Rangers, and USAF Z-2 missions.

(12) Present visitor use of Amistad Recreation Area including out-of-State use.

(13) Objectives of "Parkscape, U.S.A."

(14) Mobility of today's population.

Mr. Chairman, we further submit that although Texas is blessed with some 57 major impoundments, none of them have or can offer the recreation experience to the American public like Amistad, should it be developed to its full potential according to proposed planning of the National Park Service.

The closest Federal recreation areas are Sanford and Arbuckle, both having merit, but neither rating a higher development priority than Amistad. It should be noted that Amistad has been approved for the designation as a national recreation area since 1963 and that some of the funds in the \$1.8 billion "backlog" are allocated to this project.

Amistad is a unique project. The National Park Service has conceded control of property adjacent to the project which are not required for public use to the custody of private ownership. On the other hand, private ownership has conceded the right of individual access for boat launching. Can this concept be successful? We believe that prudent and responsible men are more concerned than ever about our environment and that the proper balance between governmental control and private development can be successfully achieved. We wish to reaffirm our support of management by the National Park Service of those lands clearly charged with a public interest.

Mr. Chairman, we urge your favorable consideration of this pending legislation and respectfully mention that time is of the essence in its passage.

Respectfully submitted,

DEL RIO BOARD OF REALTORS, INC.  
 By REGGIE BOLDING, *President*.

DEL RIO, TEX., April 11, 1972.

Senator JOHN TOWER,  
Texas, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

Re S. 688 and S. 1295, bills to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area in the State of Texas.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BIBLE: With reference to your request for additional information concerning the statement by Mr. George Hartzog, and letter of reference from Mr. John Larson, concerning adequate power and existing recreational facilities to above statement with the following facts:

According to the State of Texas highway count of cars in 1971, which was 1,383,350 with reference to arteries leading into the Amistad Reservoir Area, multiplied by the National Park Service figure of 3.5 persons per car, you can readily see we had 4,841,725 individuals that passed Amistad Reservoir in 1971.

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By designating Amistad as a national recreational area, they would have the authority to purchase the additional sites and have a better avenue for construction moneys to make the seven sites operational.

Mr. Chairman, enclosed with this letter is a clipping from the San Antonio News 4 Express, which makes reference to the lack of facilities, lack of concern of the National Park Service and the possibility of reverting the Park Service back to the International Water and Boundary Commission. These type stories are appearing in metropolitan papers all over the State of Texas. Our city and county have worked diligently to maintain the ecological balance of nature around this reservoir and at the present time we do not see where any other organization other than the National Park Service could maintain firm rules, regulations, and control. But this organization cannot be expected to service the people of the United States on the limited funds that are now available to them.

Mr. Chairman, we have been privileged to see the letter and traffic maps sent to you by Texas Representative Hilary B. Doran.

We respectfully request that his letter and maps along with this letter, be made an official part of the Senate hearing on Senate bill 688 and 1295, held before you, April 6, 1972, respectfully.

PHILLIP ARLEDGE,  
*President, Del Rio Chamber of Commerce.*  
GEORGE E. GREGG,  
*Executive Vice President.*

FORT STOCKTON, TEX., April 4, 1972.

Senator HENRY JACKSON,  
*Senator Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The board of directors of the Ft. Stockton Chamber of Commerce has this night voted to pass the resolution in support of activities to establish Amistad National Recreation Area near Del Rio, Tex. The chambers respectfully request that under the capable leadership of Chairman Henry Jackson the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee will carefully study the proposed Amistad Recreation Area bill and see fit to be in favor of it. Resolution to follow by mail.

Respectfully yours,

WELDON BAUGUS,  
*President, Fort Stockton Texas Chamber of Commerce.*

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., March 31, 1972.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,  
*National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce urges designation of the Amistad Recreation Area as a national recreation area. The Amistad area

serves as an important recreation area for more than 1 million San Antonio area residents and expansion and improvement of these facilities is vital to our future recreation requirements. We strongly endorse current efforts to obtain improvement of these facilities.

PAT LEGAN,  
*President, Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.*

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AMARILLO, TEX., April 6, 1972.

Senator HENRY JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

The Amarillo Chamber of Commerce supports the West Texas Chamber of Commerce proposal for Amistad Lake project.

JOHN DRUMMOND,  
*President, Amarillo Chamber of Commerce.*

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FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN MUNDAY,  
*Munday, Tex., March 30, 1972.*

Senator HENRY JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I am writing this letter to you relative to the bill to establish the Amistad National Recreation Area near Del Rio, Texas. This area will serve the needs of a lot of people who are looking for recreation areas, and it will also benefit all of West Texas since people from throughout the nation will be traveling through Texas to get to Amistad.

I am enclosing a Resolution from our Munday Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture supporting this recreation area and I would certainly appreciate it very much if you and your committee would approve this bill to establish the 65,000 acre Amistad National Recreation Area.

Yours very truly,

M. L. WIGGINS, *President.*

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HASKELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*Haskell, Tex., April 4, 1972.*

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The Haskell Chamber of Commerce in a regular meeting of the board of Directors held at 7 a.m., Tuesday, April 4th, voted to support and urge the passage of a bill to establish the 65,000 acre Amistad National Recreation Area near Del Rio, Tex.

It is our belief that this should be designated a National Recreational Area for many reasons, some of which are: To insure urgently needed and orderly development of the potential recreational facilities of this area; To preserve the quality of the area and Amistad waters, and to provide an additional economic input to the economy of all West Texas and Texas in general.

As you know, the smaller towns and cities are now having a struggle for survival and we in Haskell fully realize what the tourist traffic means to our economy. We are situated at the cross roads of U.S. Highway 277 and U.S. Highway 380 and the potential tourist travel on these two major highways can mean a great deal to our economy.

We are of the opinion that even though Haskell is several hundred miles away from the proposed National Recreation Area, that it will still be felt to a great extent by our business men and women.

Respectfully Yours,

REX FELKER, *Executive Vice President.*

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SEMINOLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
*Seminole, Tex., April 1, 1972.*

Senator JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The Board of Directors of the Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce would like to request that the Senate Interior and Insular

Affairs Committee report the Bill to establish the 65,000 acre Amistad National Recreation Area near Del Rio. We consider the area very unique (free from pollution), and would like to solicit your assistance to enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

May we again encourage you to report this Bill; aiding your country in the fight against pollution and helping provide adequate recreation areas for the people of this country.

Thank you for your consideration to report this Bill.

Sincerely,

CARROLL HARALSON,  
*President, Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce.*

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OLTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE,  
*Olton, Tex., March 29, 1972.*

Senator HENRY JACKSON,  
*Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee,*  
*Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SIR: We would like to urge you and your committee to report the Bill to establish Amistad National Recreation Area favorably. Your committee has full support from the Olton Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

If we are able to help you in anyway in the future, please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. BILLIE WILKINSON, *Secretary.*

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RESOLUTION—LITTLEFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LITTLEFIELD, TEX., *April 6, 1972.*

The Littlefield Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture encourages the Congress of the United States to designate the Amistad Recreation Area located on the United States and Mexico border close to Del Rio, Tex., as a National Recreation Area.

The above was approved by the Littlefield Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Board of Directors this 6th, day of April, 1972.

DOYLE PATTON,  
*President.*  
W. M. PAYNE,  
*Executive Vice President.*  
D L. JONES,  
*Witness.*

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COUNTY OF VAL VERDE,  
*Del Rio, Texas, April 10, 1972.*

Senator BIBLE,  
*Old Senate Office Building,*  
*Washington, D.C.*

SIR: May I take this opportunity to tell you it was a real pleasure to hear such a Proceeding as you held your hearing on Amistad to make it a National Recreation Area.

I have never seen a chairman more informed as you were and it really shows you did your homework.

I am a County Commissioner of Val Verde County and I am in charge of 500 miles of shore line above 1144.3 elevation. We have passed legislation and are enforcing regulations to keep Amistad clean. I know it is cheaper to do it now than 10 years from now. We have two zones, one described by Meets & Bounds that regulates distribution of population, lot sizes, structure heights, roads, water and electricity. We have a regulation set out by the Texas Water Quality Board giving us authority to regulate sewage plants and septic tanks, placement and construction.

We have been doing our part and let me say Mexico looks to us for examples and they are like Eagles high in the sky that take in everything we do.

I know we will get a favorable report from the Senate hearings due to the interest you and your Colleagues showed. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to write this letter to a gentleman from Nevada.

Amigo,

L. D. BUBBA WHITEHEAD.

P.S.—Bryon quoted "Until taught by Paine we really know not what good water is worth."

L. D. B. W.

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, It has been the policy of the ----- Chamber of Commerce to support the administration of the Amistad Recreation Area by the United States National Park Service; and,

Whereas, there has been evidence that the limited facilities now in operation by the National Park Service are operating at or above capacity, and

Whereas, this project with its present limited facilities is now serving the recreational needs of a vast number of citizens in the Southwestern portion of the United States; and

Whereas, the following request seems in accordance with the President of the United States campaign against pollution and campaign for provisions for adequate recreation areas for the citizens of the United States,

Now, therefore, the ----- Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States of America seek to improve outdoor recreation opportunities, as outlined in Parkscape USA in a manner that would enable the Amistad Recreation Area to be designated as a National Recreation Area at the earliest possible date.

The above resolution was subscribed to and signed by the officers of the following Chambers of Commerce:

Andrews County  
Burkburnett  
Cisco  
Colorado City  
Eastland  
Fort Stockton  
Haskell  
Iraan  
Kimble County

Lockney  
McCamey  
Munday  
Muleshoe  
Odessa  
Olton  
Seminole Area  
Tahoka  
Throckmorton

