PIECEMEAL APPROACH TO RESOURCE PROBLEMS WILL NOT SUFFICE FOR SIXTIES, UDALL SAYS IN ADDRESS AT WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION

"The prime lesson of conservation today is that the piecemeal approach of the past to resource problems will not suffice in the 1960's," Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall told 500 delegates and others attending the Presidential Conference on Conservation in Washington today.

"Conservationists cannot operate on the momentum of the past," he said. "The quiet conservation crisis of the 1960's has resulted neither from folly nor ignorance, but from our very success as a Nation. It is the conviction of this Administration that a new effort of Rooseveltian proportions must be made if we are to secure an adequate resource base for the future."

"A new effort is needed because we must now concern ourselves with the whole range of resources: with energy and metals, forest and forage, soils and water, wildlife and fish. But we are also concerned with all these things in combination, for together they make up the natural world—the outdoor American that is such a vital part of our national heritage.

"It is President Kennedy's view that the land depends upon us as much as we depend on the land, and his thinking is reflected in the fact that his budgets have strengthened all of our existing conservation programs."

The Administration's conservation goals and purposes were summarized by Secretary Udall as follows:

- Exploit science to "create" new resources and enlarge the use of existing resources;
- Give new vigor to traditional programs;
- Unlock the resources of the sea;
Reserve for their high human uses the remnants of the American wilderness;

Establish a land conservation fund to ensure the acquisition of key conservation lands;

Wage an all-out attack on water and air pollution;

Help cities save open space and plan their growth;

Grow adequate timber supplies for future needs;

Save the remaining shorelines for public use;

Learn to husband fresh water, and seek the means of extracting it from the sea;

Plan now the water development of all river basins;

Preserve a viable habitat for waterfowl and wildlife;

Mount a vigorous campaign--with invigorated State and local participation--to enlarge the opportunities for outdoor recreation;

Earmark military reservation lands as an ultimate conservation reserve for Federal, State and local governments;

Establish a Youth Conservation Corps to work in the vineyard on most of these problems, and above all

Share our conservation know-how and conservation ethic with men everywhere.

Paying tribute to the conservation leadership in Congress, Secretary Udall said:

"If the 87th Congress achieves the goals we anticipate it will write a record of conservation accomplishments second to none."

He said there was good reason to anticipate that measures that Congress will enact would include the Wilderness Bill, formation of a Youth Conservation Corps, creation of a Land Conservation Fund, a Farm Bill with new conservation provisions, a Federal-State shoreline acquisition bill, two additional National Seashores and expansion of the Tule Lake (Calif.) Wildlife Refuge.

Reflecting action in outdoor recreation, Secretary Udall said the new Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, strongly recommended by President Kennedy and the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission is "now a going concern."
Secretary Udall strongly urged increased use of research, education and planning to develop and protect our water and land resources and said scientific inquiry in new fields was opening new vistas from power distribution to finding new sources of food.

Touching on research currently being conducted by the Department of the Interior on the potential of fish protein concentrate as a world food source he said:

"Our own national needs for animal protein are adequately met by our livestock and fishing industries, but elsewhere more than half the earth's population suffers from a grave deficiency of animal protein. I am convinced that this deficiency can be overcome through the development of means of extracting and packaging fish protein in a form that can be distributed and marketed inexpensively in the inland areas of Asia, Africa, and South America. Such an exciting conservation development would bring health and new hope to more than a billion people throughout the world."

Urging an end to conflicts stemming from sharpening resource problems, Secretary Udall said:

"Controversy between park enthusiast and hydroelectric power advocates, dam builders and salmon fishermen, industrial needs and scenic values—all of these will become more frequent and more divisive unless we construct and adhere to a higher order of conservation statesmanship. Insistence on a purist "all or nothing" position on complex issues can only dilute our influence. The resulting inaction will mean lost opportunities in a period of 'last chances.'"

He urged conservation delegates to avoid being "excessively defensive about the basic values that motivate us."

"It is fallacy to attempt a justification of conservation solely in short run economic terms," he said. "Conservation of every resource cannot produce the same margin of profit as concentrated exploitation. Social values must be equated with economic values; the overriding need of men for an environment that will renew the human spirit and sustain unborn generations requires some sacrifices of short term profits."

"Above all, we bear the responsibility for convincing the Nation that our resource budget can no longer remain unbalanced at the expense of fiscal expediency, that the resource base must be its fair share of reinvested national output."

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