



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

L-175799

OCT 22 1971

Dear Senator Matfield:

On July 20, 1971, you forwarded a file dealing with alleged improper acts on the part of Government personnel in the condemnation of property located on the Rogue River, north of Madford, Oregon. The property was previously owned by Mr. John F. Lunlap and acquired by the Corps of Engineers for use in the development of the Lost Creek Reservoir Project. On August 20, 1971, we met with Mr. Samuel H. Sallicat, of your office, and agreed that, in view of the final judgment as to the value of the property established by the Oregon District Court, an examination into the appraised values would not be appropriate.

Since Mr. Lunlap raised questions as to how certain features of his land were represented during the proceedings, we visited the project site and photographed the subject property to determine whether it had easy access to adjacent highways. We reviewed the records developed by the Corps of Engineers in Washington, and examined the field office file on the case which we obtained from the Corps' Portland District Office. Copies of the photographs of the property that were taken and an accompanying map are enclosed.

Our examination disclosed no evidence of impropriety or illegal acts on the part of Government personnel in the conduct of the proceedings which resulted in the acquisition of Mr. Lunlap's property. As the enclosed photographs indicate, the subject property abutting the adjacent highway, for the most part, is so steep as to provide limited access. In this regard, our review of the transcript of the court proceeding showed that the question of access and the quality of roadways adjoining Mr. Lunlap's property was explored during the court proceeding.

We trust the information we have provided will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

R.F.KELLER

Deputy Comptroller General
of the United States

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Enclosure

The Honorable Mark O. Matfield
United States Senate

[Alleged Improper Acts
in the Condemnation of
Property.]

7/15/75/092243