

TO AUTHORIZE THE EXCHANGE OF CERTAIN PUBLIC LANDS
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AVIATION FIELD NEAR YUMA,
ARIZ.

FEBRUARY 10, 1926.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the
state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. DRIVER, from the Committee on the Public Lands, submitted
the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7911]

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7911) to authorize the exchange of certain public lands and the establishment of an aviation field near Yuma, Ariz., having considered the same, report it to the House and recommend that it pass with the following amendments:

In line 5, page 1, after the word "for," strike out the word "and" and insert "a public."

In line 1, page 2, after the word "a," insert "public."

The purpose of this legislation is to secure 160 acres of land in compact form adjacent to the city of Yuma in Arizona for an aviation field. The land of that vicinity is, as a rule, in character rugged, with steep slopes and quite irregular in formation, presenting some difficulty in securing mesa lands of sufficient extent to provide a suitable place for the landing and taking off of airplanes.

The tract described is the only suitable one in that immediate vicinity, but in this particular tract 120 acres expressly described is in private ownership. Through the offices of the public authority at Yuma an agreement has been effected with the owners for an exchange for public lands of equal value, the determination of which value being committed to the Interior Department.

Yuma is located near the border line of Mexico and in line with aviation activities now or hereafter to be carried on in that section and proper provision is made for the maintenance and operation of the property without expense to the Government, and with the further provision in case of necessity for the property to be taken over by the Government.

A copy of a favorable report from the Secretary of the Interior is attached hereto,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 2, 1926.

Hon. N. J. SINNOTT,
*Chairman Committee on the Public Lands,
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. SINNOTT: I have your request for report on H. R. 7911, "To authorize the exchange of certain public lands and the establishment of an aviation field near Yuma, Ariz."

The bill proposes to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue unrestricted patent for any public land in sec. 9, T. 9 S., R. 23 W., Gila and Salt River meridian, Arizona, in exchange for the E. $\frac{1}{2}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ and the NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the same section, township, and range, in order that the entire SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the section may be reserved for an aviation field.

As the legislation now proposed closely follows my recommendation to Senator Stanfield of January 15, 1926, in reply to his request for report on S. 2307, I can see no objection to the enactment of the bill in its present form.

Very truly yours,

HUBERT WORK.

