

It is probably the fault of the Congress, or possibly the District Commissioners in failing to provide sufficient money to adequately staff and give the facilities to St. Elizabeths that its needs.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Chairman, there is no question about that fact, that St. Elizabeths has been overloaded for years and has never had its required appropriations for either physical facilities or, which is vastly more important, for the manpower at the present price of psychiatrists as compared with the price of psychiatrists before they became so popular some years ago.

The fear clearly is that it is insecure in two aspects, first, physically insecure, so that dangerous persons who are in fact, criminally confined, can escape and can again attack the population and, secondly, it is insecure in the sense that there is a lack of confidence in the test measures of the staff of St. Elizabeths as to the tests they apply in the final release of the prisoner.

I am sure that this very largely motivates the public.

The CHAIRMAN. I am interested in this field very much. I have asked the staff to check out every single case, since the *Durham* decision, as to what has happened to defendants who have been acquitted by reason of insanity, if they have been committed to St. Elizabeths, how long they have been held there, when were they released, and what test was applied when they were released. I was very much impressed yesterday by the testimony of Dean Pye, the testimony of Dr. Overholser, and Dr. Guttmacher, from Baltimore, and particularly Dr. Overholser to the effect that, statistically, that those committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital were institutionalized for a longer period of time than they would have been if they had been convicted of a crime as a sane person.

To me, this is a very interesting statistic, and I am going to ask the staff to check it out so we will have a case history of this, because I think this is a message that should go to the community as soon as we have established its veracity.

Mr. ROBERTS. Senator, I think that is of the utmost importance, and I would like to suggest, with reference to the environment in which most of the thinking, considering this legislation, has occurred.

For example, in U.S. News & World Report, the October 21 issue, which is coming out or was coming out at the time of your hearings, there is a many-page interview with Robert B. Murray, the Chief of Police——

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; I read it very carefully.

Mr. ROBERTS. And this, of course, sets forth, I presume, in the words of the Chief of Police, to a large degree that certainly to some degree, in the words of the writers of the interview, a very strong position which, in effect, says nothing at all about any inquiries into the criminal rate which may be available to the prosecution methods but, on the whole, attributes the entire increase in crime and the alleged desirability of the District of Columbia as a home for criminals to deficiencies in the system of judicial execution, to the improper conduct of the bar, and to the weaknesses of the system at St. Elizabeths.

I think that in order for the committee to fully consider the aspects of the omnibus bill the committee should realize, as I know it does, that there have been for several years now certainly since the *Durham* rule and before, a very strong and persistent publication of conclu-