

Beginning about the middle of September 1962, Private Hunter was permitted to work on foot patrol without being accompanied by an experienced officer.

In addition to the specific training outlined above, the 11th precinct gives regular instructions to police officers on various aspects of police duty during the regular police rollcalls.

It may be pertinent to point out that Private Hunter, like 72 percent of the police officers of this Department, was an ex-serviceman. He had 4 years' service in the U.S. Navy, during which he undoubtedly received some training in self-defense and was exposed to various disciplines which are often helpful in preparing a man for police work in a quasi-military organization.

With respect to this question of yours, I want to reemphasize, as I have already pointed out, to others, that there is no indication that lack of training had anything to do with the unfortunate death of Private Hunter. Certainly it is possible that a more seasoned police officer faced with a similar situation might have (but, too, he might not have) recognized the danger and disarmed the person arrested.

CONCLUSION

Notwithstanding the fact that there is no indication that lack of training resulted in the death of Private Hunter, I am concerned with the overall need for expeditious completion of the advanced recruit training course by all personnel of this Department and for considerably increased emphasis on all aspects of advanced in-service training for officers and members of the force.

Because of our need for much more space for training facilities, and because of our current need for as many men as are available for patrol duty, I anticipate that it may take as long as 10 years to bring the total training program of this Department up to what I would consider an ideal level. Along these lines, I have been seeking over the past 2 years to obtain additional space for our training facilities, and have recommended to the Board of Commissioners inclusion of new training facilities in the current public works program of the District.

Notwithstanding the fact that I fully recognize the need for even more emphasis on training within this Department, I am able to report to you with some pride that in May 1958 the Judicial Conference of the District of Columbia Circuit adopted a resolution commending me for my actions up to that time in emphasizing initial training courses and in instituting in-service training courses within this Department. I am also proud to be able to state that, notwithstanding our own recognized additional training needs, this Department is often called upon to assist other police departments in setting up their own training programs and that the police personnel from the Armed Forces police department and from police departments of surrounding jurisdictions often attend our recruit and our advanced training courses. The U.S. Park Police sends selected park police personnel to our recruit training courses on a regular basis.

In addition to the foregoing statements, I am forwarding for your information copies of the training pamphlets and materials furnished to every member of this Department for their personal study. (You undoubtedly have copies of the police and traffic regulations of the District; therefore, although copies of those publications are furnished every member of the force, I have not included them in the accompanying material.)

I hope that you will convey to Senator Hartke my appreciation for his interest and the interest of his subcommittee in the training problems now facing this Department. I will appreciate whatever help the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia can provide to assist me in attaining an ideal advanced training program as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT V. MURRAY, *Chief of Police.*

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT,
November 18, 1963.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Committee on the District of Columbia,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: My purpose in writing this letter, which I hope you will include in the record of testimony regarding H.R. 7525, is threefold.