

funded, that it would in fact be another human removal program and could very well lead to great unrest and disorder in that area.

It has taken us two and a half days, maybe 3 days now, depending upon what happens this afternoon, to get through to the Urban Renewal Administration the kind of problem we think they are dealing with.

I would heartily endorse the idea that there should and must be ways found for much more effective involvement of the supposed beneficiaries of programs on the part of the Federal agencies.

Mr. GOODELL. Let the record show that he underscored the word supposed. I do anyway. Thank you very much for your testimony.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Quie, do you have any questions?

Mr. QUIE. I will do this real quickly because Congressman Goodell asked some pretty good questions involving the poor, and in spite of what has happened in some of the communities, I am strongly for, as I have always been, the involvement of the poor. I think this is still the key to eventual involvement of people in the ghettos and rural depressed areas.

You mentioned the riots and the national tragedies that we have witnessed. You say they result from years of frustration, helplessness and denied opportunities.

The unrest that I have intimate experience with, is that which I have seen in the rural area. When times get worse, the people there get upset. Violence occurs when prices go down and their income has been greatly reduced.

Despite the fact that we have not brought the people out of poverty in 3 years of the so-called war on poverty and with many, many years of substantial Federal expenditures to help these people, I have the impression that they are slightly better off than they were 3 years ago and at least not worse off.

Am I wrong on that, or has there been a regression for these people?

Mr. BOONE. I would not say that there has been an absolute regression. I think one of the problems is that the progression has been so limited and so small and when there is, in fact, grinding poverty, and in so many of our urban and rural ghettos, and at the same time affluence, the riches of the Nation and in fact sometimes the promises of the Nation have been so great and so visible, it is that highly visible, relative difference that I believe becomes the spark for and the catalyst for the kind of upheavals that we see today.

Mr. QUIE. You would say, then, that it would be wiser for the Federal Government to make promises within that which it can deliver rather than make promises and thereby embarrass the Congress into delivering to the extent of the promises?

Mr. BOONE. Two things, Mr. Quie. One, I heartily agree that to promise more than you can produce is disastrous, and I believe it has already produced certain kinds of disastrous consequences.

Secondly, however, as I have tried to make clear in testimony, I think it is high time that the Nation reevaluate its priorities and make some basic decisions as to whether it is prepared to fight a war against poverty or is prepared only to launch skirmishes.

Mr. QUIE. We seem to find the same difficulty in our war in Vietnam and in our war on poverty in this country. They both seem to be running pretty much at a stalemate from what I have been able to observe