

problems. I think that is a legitimate function of a community action program. I think your organization in that regard has been successful.

Mr. HANSAN. Thank you.

Mr. AYRES. I have had the opportunity to read your complete statement plus listening to your testimony and I understood that you testified previously that you are not a native of Cincinnati?

Mr. HANSAN. That is correct.

Mr. AYRES. What would prompt you to say, "Even in conservative, skeptical Cincinnati?" What makes Cincinnati stand out as conservative and skeptical?

Mr. HANSAN. Well, the person testifying after me can probably tell you better than I about the history of Cincinnati. All I can tell you is "conservative" is a word Cincinnati residents use with pride in referring to themselves in business, politics, education, and many other fields. In skeptical Cincinnati, I am referring to the fact there are many persons and there have been many persons who have questioned the philosophy and the purposes of the program as envisioned under the Economic Opportunity Act.

Mr. AYRES. The reason I ask is it is very unusual to find editorializing such as you have taken the liberty to do in statements brought before the committee of that particular nature. I am glad for your explanation. I would have to respectfully disagree with you and I am not from Cincinnati either.

You also mention educators, social workers, businessmen, civil rights leaders, and religious leaders have joined with them to ask for more help in combating our local problems. What part have religious leaders played?

Mr. HANSAN. Since creation of the community action programs and the general stimulation in the poverty problems, the archdiocese in the Cincinnati area has created a formal commission on poverty. In addition to that the archdiocese has made poverty one of three points for study by the newly created pastoral council and the various parish councils that relate to it. In addition, the council of churches has been one of the delegated agencies through the memorial community which started the Mount Auburn Council. In addition, members of these councils serve on our board and there has been an interfaith commission which is trying to figure ways and means for the lay people in all the faiths to become involved in affairs in community problems.

Mr. AYRES. Does Mr. Bob Taft work with this at all?

Mr. HANSAN. Not directly, although he is a warm supporter of the kind of activity in the community councils. That is all I can say about that.

Mr. AYRES. The chairman discussed the possibilities of sending investigators into your areas where there was some doubt as to the effectiveness of your programs but he did not think that field hearings would be necessary. Do you feel perhaps this committee could gain by talking to these local leaders on a firsthand basis? You know, it is much cheaper for us to take a few members of the committee to Cincinnati than for you to bring these people here.

As far as the Chairman is concerned, I love him dearly; but I do feel it incumbent upon me to point out that it does not cost that much to take a few members of this committee out on a field hearing. Many of our members have been to Sweden, England, Italy, France, in fact,