

justice, health, and convenience for the poor and the rest of America.

These are the combustibles that fire up a riot.

But even if there were no riots, even if every impoverished section of America remained quiet and uncomplaining, the conditions are wrong. They are wrong socially, politically, and morally. And they just must be corrected—wherever they exist.

Through the Economic Opportunity legislation, you have provided a variety of mechanisms in the best traditions of America to right these wrongs.

The 4,000 pages of testimony accumulated in these hearings provide ample evidence they are working.

But what about these charges that employees of antipoverty programs have been involved in stimulating, encouraging, and participating in acts of violence?

We have canvassed the cities and have found that these allegations are simply not true.

To the contrary. In most every one of the 1,050 communities where community action exists, there is ample evidence that the CAA is calming fears and frustrations: bridging the communications gap between the poor and the rest of the community, providing the opportunities that put people to work, giving them training and education, and showing them that health and justice exist for them right where they live.

These efforts are recognized across the Nation.

The Honorable Harold M. Tollesfson, mayor of Tacoma, Wash., and the president of the National League of Cities said:

We are distributed at recent charges . . . that the anti-poverty program has been responsible for stirring up unrest. The anti-poverty program in city after city has been responsible for just the opposite of that.

Because of the riots and the problems they reflect, Cardinal O'Boyle of Washington yesterday called for the development of a stronger antipoverty program "whatever the cost."

Last Friday, John Lindsay, the Republican mayor of New York, defended the antipoverty program strongly when asked if the arrest of four young participants reflected the failure of the program.

It is not the failure of the program, he said. Since July 1, we have recruited 35,000 youngsters . . . in the Neighborhood Youth Corps. If you only recruit youngsters who never had a problem or never will have a problem, then the program is a failure.

Let me back up these comments with additional facts.

In the 27 cities that have had riots this summer, there are 12,128 persons who are direct employees of OEO-funded agencies. Most of them are neighborhood workers, health aids, clerical staff, community organizers, and live in or near the ghetto neighborhoods in which the riots occurred.

In these 27 cities, a total of 6,733 persons were arrested. In the same 27 cities, six of the 12,128 paid poverty workers were arrested. To date, none of the six has come to trial and none has been convicted.

A second chart shows in 27 cities, the total estimated damage to buildings in the ghettos is \$273,652,800. OEO pays the rent on 491 facilities in these 27 cities. These are local neighborhood centers, sub-centers, outreach centers, from which the war on poverty attempts