

(Mr. Ayres moved that the committee instruct the staff through the chairman to make an immediate investigation of the involvement of poverty workers in Newark and that Mayor Addonizio be invited to testify before an executive session of the full committee at an early date. Mrs. Green suggested that Mr. Ayres might want to include an invitation to Mr. Timothy Still, president, United Community Corp. in Newark in his motion since Mr. Still could balance the testimony by presenting the other side.)

Mrs. GREEN. The two points I would like to make are, one, that it was to be in executive session because I don't think anyone on the committee wanted any Roman holiday or any open hearing where the flames might be fanned, and, secondly, I think the committee was interested in having a very balanced presentation and not to take advantage of an explosive situation.

Mr. Shriver, in your statement, you certainly have given facts and figures in terms of the number of arrested. I think there is still concern on the part of some of the committees. I have the concern since I talked to people in Portland and there were very minor riots, disturbances there last night, minor at least compared to other places, concerned not over the number of poverty workers that might have been arrested.

It seems to me this evades the charges that have been made or an answer to the charges because the charges have been in terms of involvement. Do you think it would be wise before we go to the floor with this and those of us, and I am one of those, who do not want to see the poverty program eliminated, though I would make some changes, to really have a study of the involvement so that we could also present the facts as they are either by this committee or by your office. And is your office making a study of the involvement of the poverty workers, as Mayor Addonizio and others have charged, in addition to just arrest which you cite?

Mr. SHRIVER. First of all, let me say we have made such a study and we continue to make them at all times, frankly, long before this and any time anyone is charged—and it turned out to be true in a couple of cases—but very seldom something improper was being done by an official or a person connected in some way to an antipoverty program. Wherever we have had a case of that sort brought to our attention since we started we inspected it and we have acted in all of the cases where we have any power to act—where we had power to act and where the evidence showed that we should act.

Involvement is sort of a broad, abstract word in any situation and it is difficult to pin it down in some places. But let me give you an illustration which I think is on the point you are talking about.

Up in Rochester earlier this past week the city manager of Rochester issued a statement that some officials connected with an antipoverty agency had said things which he felt were unwise, and which he thought should not have been said which he thought created tension. This was interpreted by some people as meaning that they were inciting a riot. In fact, the headline in one newspaper said these statements were inflammatory. We looked into that case. Obviously we are very much interested in it. What actually happened there is as follows:

It turns out that a Negro was hurt or wounded in a fight with a policeman. The Negro community there got very much aroused about it. The director of the community action up there, a man by the name of