

Mr. AYRES. The point is, he has some things to tell us in executive session and he has told me personally on the phone in a conversation that he would like to come down and have the opportunity to testify. I think that as a mayor and former colleague he is certainly entitled to that privilege.

Mr. SHRIVER. May I make one comment, please?

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead, please.

Mr. SHRIVER. If any Member of the Congress or mayor or private citizen has information about individual people that they can substantiate that such and such a person did something wrong, we want that information and wherever that kind of information has been given to us we have acted I think pretty fast.

I am not saying we are perfect because we are not, and we certainly cannot police all of these things perfectly all over the country all the time but when facts come to us about an individual we have an interest that is equal to yours, I think, maybe it is even more of an interest on our part to get rid of any foul ball, odd ball, or any kind of balls that are in the program.

Mr. DANIELS. Two of our colleagues now serving 2 years in the House, Congressman Rodino and Congressman Joseph Minish, come from congressional districts representing parts of the city of Newark. Is it not true, Sargent Shriver, last Friday morning pursuant to the request of Mayor Addonizio at least one of those Congressmen conferred with you pursuant to the Newark situation?

Mr. SHRIVER. That is right.

Mr. DANIELS. Was any representation made to you at that time that the poverty workers in the city of Newark invited or were directly involved in the riot that took place?

Mr. SHRIVER. No, the only thing that has been said to me is similar to what I tried to describe to Mrs. Green a few minutes ago. In a particular meeting somebody might have said something which somebody else was thought too hysterical or too inflammatory and maybe with the mayor there he might have felt there was some mechanism for separating out, so OEO was not responsible for what some member of a neighborhood of directors, a nonpaid person who wasn't in any way connected with the program, except that he was on a neighborhood board that that fellow says something today the mayor thinks, we get blamed for it.

He felt there should be some way to separate out employees from these kinds of peripheral people, neighborhood advisors and so on, who sometimes say things that he thinks are not justified.

There are other people who say just the opposite of what this person did was beneficial rather than harmful.

Mr. DANIELS. To your knowledge was any statement made by Mayor Addonizio, any member of the official family of the city of Newark, critical of the antipoverty program and recommending its dissolution?

Mr. SHRIVER. No, there was none. Not only did both of those Congressmen speak to me but I have spoken two or three times to the mayor and it was in response to their request and Timothy Stills' request, head of the community action agency up there, that we inaugurated this extra community action inspection which I announced last Friday. We did that because they asked us to do it. We did it last Friday and