

As you know, people were not calmed down. The police precinct was stoned and the riots in Newark had officially started.

We have a number of incidents that happened prior to the starting of the riots—the appointment or attempted appointment of a secretary to the board of education which was opposed by some in the community and again led by antipoverty people in opposing this person.

We have had a number of other incidents that happened.

The medical center in the city of Newark which again the area boards played an important part in trying to stop this intimating that they represented the people in the area who did not want the medical center but contrary to this three surveys were run, one by an independent survey group which showed that 75 percent of the people did want the medical center.

Yet, under the leadership of the United Community Corp., the legwork being done by the area boards, specifically numbers 2 and 3, they ran their own surveys and they also found that the people in the area wanted the medical center.

But yet the United Community Corp. persisted in fighting this and saying the people opposed it and loaded the meetings to protest this.

But ironically, the people they loaded the meetings with did not live in this area. As a matter of fact, they loaded the meetings with people not only from outside the area but rabblers from other States—New York and Washington.

So you can see from these few brief remarks and I hope to be able to elaborate more if I am questioned that my conviction really is the community action program through its area boards played an important part in setting off the riots in the city of Newark.

Mr. GARDNER. The next gentleman is Mr. Tony DeFino, chairman of Area Board No. 9.

**STATEMENT OF TONY DEFINO, CHAIRMAN, AREA BOARD 9,
NEWARK, N.J.**

Mr. DEFINO. I represent Area Board 9. At the inception of the poverty program the people in the area felt we did not need this Area Board 9 because people in Area Board 9 were able to keep up their homes and better themselves without the help of the poverty program.

Now the community action program came into our area and said you must have an area board. They would load the meetings with people who didn't live in Area Board 9 and say "well, you must have an area board: we have to have nine boards; this is the way we want it."

We would give the vote and this particular area board did not want to have it and yet they would override us. The fact that we were for the poverty program, we said put it where the program would be of use to the people who need it.

Of course, a few responsible citizens and myself in the area, if we had not taken over the board, we would have been taken over by radical boards that have taken over this particular poverty program.

Here you have a community action program, as Councilman Bernstein said, where there is a medical college site. We would go to a meet-