

was there involvement of the paid poverty employees in the riot or in incidents that incited others to riot?

Mr. MALLARD. Not to my knowledge.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Quie.

Mr. QUIE. I think that, in the time that I have I would just as soon have Mr. Bernstein, if you would, finish the statement you were making. I think you were trying to develop that some of the poverty workers were involved in inciting people prior to the riots and leading up to the time.

I would just as soon have you bring that to a head, if you would.

Mr. BERNSTEIN. We are discussing the involvement of the poverty workers and the political implications, and I described to you where some of the so-called political outs who had run for office and had lost and were involved in the poverty program were using this in my estimation as a stepping stone for obtaining political power.

In this picture here before the board of education taken in the city council chambers, you have this demonstrated where you have Mr. Richardson and Mr. Gibson, both former candidates that were leading, and Mr. Wheeler is up here, that were leading this demonstration in the city council chambers before the board of education against the appointment of Mr. Callahan to the position of secretary.

Also in the picture you have Mr. Melvin Higgins, who is an employee, paid employee of the community action programs.

Mr. QUIE. For whom do Mr. Richardson and Mr. Gibson work?

Mr. BERNSTEIN. Mr. Richardson is a member of the Trustee Board of the Poverty Program. He is not a paid employee, but he has an awful lot of power in that sense.

Mr. Gibson is the president of the united community organization. Again he is not a paid employee, but he has a lot of power within the organization. I think we should concern ourselves not only with the paid employees, but those who are not paid who are involved.

Mr. QUIE. Who appointed these two individuals to their present positions?

Mr. BERNSTEIN. They were elected through the structure of the United Community Corp.

When this was formed, it was very hard to get the average citizen involved and the people who became involved initially were the civic leaders, so called, and the so-called civic civil rights leaders.

The poor did not become involved, so the control of the United Community Corp. went in the direction of these people who took the time because they were politically motivated to become interested, and, as I say, to use it as a stepping stone.

Mr. QUIE. Did you see these individuals other than that one, at the time the question of the appointment of the secretary came up before a council meeting where they incited people?

Mr. BERNSTEIN. We had an ordinance on rent control that came before us and a number of these individuals, and I think your staff is in Newark now studying the tapes of the meeting, to get the names and the speeches that were made by these individuals who appeared before the city council at these hearings to speak up.

A number of these individuals, both paid and unpaid, appeared before the city council when the city council had an emergency meeting