

TURNER CONCERNED

Turner, who has advocated council representation on the UCC, said it has "been a source of deep concern and even sadness to me that more Newarkers were not found to assist Tyson as top level staff members.

"In the selection of a staff," Turner asserted, "I am certain efforts were made to get the best person possible for each job to be done * * * I do not consider that Tyson is running a one-man show or that he is autocratic."

As to the tabling of programs such as neighborhood rehabilitation, teacher aids and to senior citizens as charged by Addonizio and Bernstein, Turner declared:

"There is no evidence that Tyson has prevented any program from being considered, nor did I see any concrete evidence submitted during this investigation that Tyson or his staff prevented a program from being enacted."

Turner said he could not "concur that any pork barrel or grab bag has been created by UCC."

The Central Ward councilman also challenged the majority's contention that the city could not legally contribute 10 per cent of the antipoverty funds (the federal government grants 90 per cent) to the UCC because it is not an official governing body.

Turner said he had been informed City Corporation Counsel Norman Schiff has prepared a legal opinion contrary to the contention of Addonizio and Bernstein.

"I rely upon the legal opinion of the corporation counsel and reject the claimed legal bar to the council contributing the necessary 10 per cent.

"The majority report," he added, "charges that the UCC has taken many of the aspects of a political-action pressure group. From my experience on the streets I have not observed the UCC to be a political force."

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Informed of the minority report, Addonizio and Bernstein said they were "amazed because Turner had been kept abreast of our report and concurred with it."

Addonizio said that when the three councilmen were quizzed by staff members of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, who is investigating the use of federal funds in anti-poverty programs. "Turner was most vocal in his criticism of Tyson."

"In fact," Addonizio said, "Turner wanted our report to concentrate on Tyson and the fact Newark Negroes have been excluded from top posts with the UCC."

"It is obvious," he added, "the tremendous pressure put on Turner by the UCC caused him to buckle."

A spokesman for the mayor said he is seeking common grounds for both parties in the hope a solution can be reached this week.

The mayor has conferred with members of the council and UCC officials in regard to both criticism and support of the city's war against poverty.

MINORITY REPORT OF COUNCILMAN IRVINE I. TURNER, MEMBER COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE ANTIPOVERTY PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, N.J., TO RALPH A. VILLANI, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, AND MEMBERS OF THE NEWARK CITY COUNCIL

I regret the necessity for filing a minority report as a member of the special committee to study the Anti-Poverty Program for the City of Newark. However, my deep concern with the problems of the City of Newark and the problems of the poor make this step necessary.

Unfortunately, I did not see a copy of the proposed report as released by Councilman Addonizio prior to its issuance. I was unable to attend the press conference convened for the purpose of releasing this report because of a prior commitment to meet with the Governor on State and Local problems.

Because of my recent illness, I was unable to attend all of the hearings and conferences relating to the investigation, and I was unable to participate in the private investigations conducted by other members of the committee. Nevertheless, I have kept abreast of the development of the Anti-Poverty Program in the city of Newark as an interested citizen and responsible elected official.

I have carefully read the report issued in the name of the special committee and have considered the exhibit as annexed thereto. I herewith disassociate