

Mr. CRAMER. I asked that Mr. Bress come prepared to answer the question: When and under what circumstances, if at all, would a Member of Congress be guilty of any of these crimes himself? Under this exception which you referred to on page 4, beginning on line 14. In other words, not the act of a Member of Congress "* * * which is performed in the lawful discharge of his official duties."

Mr. BRESS. I have considered that suggestion yesterday, Mr. Cramer.

Mr. CRAMER. That is what the gentleman is talking about, is it not?

Mr. BRESS. My answer to it is this: If it is the desire of this committee to make these provisions wholly inapplicable to a Member of Congress as distinguished from an employee of the Congress, the simpler way to do it is to divide paragraph (c) into two sentences. In the second line, line 15, second line of the paragraph, put a period there instead of a comma after the word "Congress." The first section would read,

Nothing contained in this section shall forbid any act of any Member of the Congress * * *.

And then insert to begin the second sentence:

Nor shall anything in this section forbid any act of any employee of a Member of Congress * * * which is performed in the lawful discharge of his official duties.

Mr. WALDIE. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRAMER. Yes.

Mr. WALDIE. It seems to me that on page 2, line 7, which says, "It shall be unlawful for any person or group of persons except as authorized by regulations which shall be promulgated * * *"—it would occur to me that that gives you all the avenue you need to exempt these people. They ought to be exempted but I personally would think it would be a grave mistake to exempt Members of Congress or their staffs from the provisions of this law which is designed to prevent violence and disturbance from any source.

Certainly the gun-collection situation could be handled very readily under the regulations that might be promulgated by the Capitol Police.

Mr. BRESS. I quite agree with that. That was the second alternative.

Mr. CRAMER. Is that the second alternative, through rules and regulations relating to guns?

Mr. BRESS. That is correct.

Mr. CRAMER. The Capitol Police Board is made up of whom?

Mr. BRESS. I think—

Mr. CRAMER. Sergeant at Arms of the House and Senate?

Mr. BRESS. And the Chief of the Capitol Police.

Mr. CRAMER. The Capitol Architect?

Mr. BRESS. Architect of the Capitol and the two Sergeants at Arms.

Mr. CRAMER. The persons making the regulations are those who are employees of the House and Senate?

Mr. BRESS. That is correct.

Mr. CRAMER. The protection available, as the gentleman from Texas suggests, which I too think should be accomplished, could be accomplished through those regulations?

Mr. BRESS. Yes, sir.