

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman, I cannot say we have ever lacked backing at the top. I will say that since Commissioner Washington has been appointed he has done a great deal to stimulate support. He has done a great deal to get support from all levels of Government for us. I do not mean by this to imply there was a lack of support before, because I cannot say that there was. However, he has received support direct from the President in our recruiting efforts to help us with military recruiting.

Commissioner Washington met, as you probably know, with Police officers of the city at the request of the Policemen's Association, and pledged his support to them. I think we have every indication that we are getting full support from Commissioner Washington.

Mr. McMILLAN. There was one instance that was well advertised throughout the country when we had a carnival here a few years ago. We had a so-called little riot. I think you remember it.

Mr. WILSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. McMILLAN. There were eight policemen injured and I understand not one person was arrested. No one was convicted. Just recently a man was arrested and placed in a paddy wagon and he kicked the paddy wagon to pieces. Some of the policemen were brought before the trial board. Those things are not very conducive to young men who would like to join the force. They must have protection from those higher up.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman, these are problems of being a police officer in a big city these years. We have to approach it and look at it and take a professional view of it and accept it as a part of the job. I do not know that we have had, as I can recall, any police officer who has been dismissed from our Department as a result of anything that even appeared to be an unfounded complaint by police officers. As you know, your committee found as a result of Mr. Harney's report that complaints against police officers do concern the officers, and the Department tries to show that it supports them. The only thing that we can do in these cases is to stress that we are supporting the men and are working with them and ask that they take a professional view of the fact that complaints made by citizens have to be examined and considered on their merits.

Mr. McMILLAN. I have checked the 11th Precinct.

Are you giving Captain Davis full support? I understand he is trying to do a real good job in that precinct. Is the Police Department giving him full support from the top to the bottom?

Mr. WILSON. Absolutely, sir. We have given Captain Davis full support, and we have had full support from the Mayor with respect to matters in the 11th Precinct.

Mr. McMILLAN. How can hoodlums rock the whole police station and throw bottles at the station, and these people were not even arrested?

Mr. WILSON. I could not testify on that, Mr. Chairman. I was not at the scene, and I have not really studied the report fully enough to testify precisely what took place there.

Mr. McMILLAN. I hope we can get together, and I hope someone connected with the Police Department can give the police some protection, from privates all the way up. We cannot expect men to join the Metropolitan Police force and get hit and heads busted open with no one to protect them.