

special agents. A police officer without the benefit of all that legal training will on occasion have a case loss in court. I think he must be mature enough and we must help him to understand it is no reflection upon him. But I agree with you, Mr. Chairman, that we must, and I pledge to you as my responsibility, I will do all I can to give that support.

Mr. McMILLAN. I certainly agree with your statement. I think if we expect to keep the police we already have, we must give them some assurance that they have the backing of the top level.

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, sir.

Mr. McMILLAN. If necessary, they should explain some of their actions to the men on the beat. I think there has been a time when there was not enough communication between the top level and the low levels in the department.

Mr. MURPHY. I think that is a very serious problem, Mr. Chairman, and we are working on it.

Mr. McMILLAN. I am certainly looking forward to seeing great improvements along that line in the Nation's Capital.

Mr. MURPHY. Thank you, sir.

Mr. McMILLAN. I certainly agree with you that there is no other city we can compare Washington with in the United States. We have more than 100 embassies here, we have the Congress, we have the Supreme Court, we have the White House, and we have seven or eight million visitors to the Capitol every year. There is no other police department in the world that has to meet that type of service. For that reason you have to be selective in your recruitment. Just anybody will not fill the requirement for the Nation's Capital police problem. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WHITENER. While we are discussing this problem of support of the police on the beat, recently I had a visit from some of the wives of our police officers who gave detailed report upon what they construed to be abuse of police officers by at least one member of the Judiciary in the community. Of course, we know that a judge is appointed for a fixed term of years.

I suppose there is not much you can do about it. What do you propose as an answer to that if the allegation be true?

Mr. MURPHY. I propose, Mr. Chairman——

Mr. WHITENER. Their statement, if true, presented a rather ugly picture of judicial abuse of police officers.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Chairman, I think it is my responsibility to indicate to every officer in this Police Department that I will stand behind him. That is my firm resolve.

Mr. WHITENER. But you are not a judge.

Mr. MURPHY. I realize that, sir, and I realize that what I can do about a judge mistreating a police officer, if any judge should do that, is quite limited. But within the limits of what would be appropriate for me to do, sir, as far as a public statement might be concerned, or my reassuring that officer of my support of him, I will do that. I intend to do it.

Mr. WHITENER. If you make the public statement too strong, the judge will have you down there for contempt of court.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the dangerous territory which one could tread in commenting upon the actions of a member of