

Mr. MULTER. Chief Layton and you both agree there should be no reprisals taken against any of these men because they differ with your views or what you are doing in the reorganization?

Deputy Chief WILSON. No, sir. It is certainly not with respect to the point before this committee.

If they disagree with reorganization, this is something else. But in terms of this, no, sir. There certainly will be no reprisals from the Department because they have made representations of their positions to the committee.

Mr. WINN. Were you at the meeting?

Deputy Chief WILSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. WINN. Do you not represent the police?

Deputy Chief WILSON. Yes, sir; I do. I was the representative of the Chief of Police at that meeting.

Mr. MULTER. The meeting was called by the Chief?

Deputy Chief WILSON. The meeting was called at the direction of the Chief. There were two sessions because the detectives worked separate shifts, two sessions in one day, and at the sessions were the Chief of Detectives, myself representing the Chief, Mr. Murphy who was there for the purpose of explaining ICP rationale for their recommendations, not as a direct representative of the Chief.

Beyond that, as I say, I do not recall the statement attributed to him, but I am not in a position to deny it because they were three-hour sessions and a great deal of discussion was off-the-cuff, so I am not in position to defend what he may or may not have said.

I think this is basically the point. The citation of the statute that was put into the record regarding detectives being sergeants is a citation which refers to the grade of detective sergeant, not to all detectives exclusively.

There is a long history of the way in which various detective ranks were established and I will be glad to put it in, but I do not think it is necessary.

Mr. MULTER. Before we leave that point, I have no reason to doubt the law is exactly as read to us. If that is so, how can you by reorganization of the Department violate that statute?

Is it not necessary that you come to the Congress and get that law changed before you can by a reorganization plan give up or change that position?

Deputy Chief WILSON. Positively. That statute which was read pertains to the existing grade of detective sergeant which we will have to change in the Police and Firemen's Salary Act in order to eventually eliminate it. We do not propose to eliminate it so long as the present incumbents or those detectives who achieve that grade remain with the Department. It is true we will eventually need to have that law changed.

Mr. MULTER. Does that finish your statement, sir?

Deputy Chief WILSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. MULTER. Is it not true when these men joined the force, these 138 men, and then accepted the assignment of detective, they at that time had the right to believe that they could continue in the Police Department and gradually move on up the ladder of promotion, remaining in the detective force rather than the uniform force?

Deputy Chief WILSON. That is correct, that is the reason for the Chief's policy of continuing the detective-sergeant examination for two more times.