

all has responsibility for deciding where bureaus should be placed, was that it should go to the Department of Justice, and that decision was approved by the President and announced in the crime message. Under those circumstances quite obviously we in the Treasury Department, having seen the way that this was argued out, and having seen the decision, we fully support the decision.

Chairman BLATNIK. Mr. Edwards, you are very interested in this area.

Mr. EDWARDS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Following along the same line I assume the way you talk that you really don't have your heart in it.

Mr. HENDRICKS. Mr. Edwards [laughter], I can't admit that I do not fully support this program, and what I fully support my heart is in it 100 percent.

Mr. ERLBORN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. EDWARDS. Surely.

Mr. ERLBORN. Along this line, I would like to know, have you ever found yourself in a position where you had publicly disagreed with the decision that had been made by the President?

Mr. HENDRICK. Mr. Erlenborn, I'm trying to think whether that has happened. As of the moment it so happens that I do not believe I have been in that position.

But I want to say that I feel that I retain my right to freedom of expression. And should I disagree I would certainly feel that I had the right to express my disagreement. But I am a strong supporter of President Johnson's regime. And I say quite honestly that we are fully in support of this plan.

Mr. ERLBORN. Before this decision was made—

Mr. EDWARDS. Excuse me. You are not running for President, are you?

Mr. HENDRICK. Not this year, sir. [Laughter.]

Mr. ERLBORN. Before this decision was made by the Bureau of the Budget and the President, I'm certain there were meetings and discussions involving Treasury, FDA, and the Justice Department. Did you participate in these discussions before the decision was made? Someone from your Department obviously must have.

Mr. HENDRICK. I certainly was consulted on the proposal and given an opportunity to express my views.

Mr. ERLBORN. Would it be fair to ask, were your original views in line with your present views, or did you see the light as the discussion went on?

Mr. HENDRICK. That's a perfectly fair question. As you can imagine, I'm a human being with ordinary human reactions. My first impression was to think that it would be too bad to lose this Bureau.

Mr. ERLBORN. Thank you. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Hendrick, what are the functions of the Special Assistant to the Secretary for Enforcement?

Mr. HENDRICK. The Special Assistant to the Secretary for Enforcement was a job which was created following the Warren Commission recommendations.

The principal recommendation, insofar as this job was concerned, was to have someone who was familiar with enforcement who would be on the Assistant Secretary level supervising the Secret Service.