

thinking in terms of having you take on the responsibilities, but did he at any time talk with you and express to you his view on how you should conduct this office?

Mr. MURPHY. We had a discussion about the functions and what my role would be, and he did ask me questions about my philosophy concerning police operations and law enforcement. While Commissioner Washington served in New York City he had a large police department under him, and he described to me his familiarity with the operations of that agency. I explained this view, that I felt as a Director of Public Safety one of my functions would be to provide the leadership and control and policy for all three agencies. And he expressed the view that he wanted someone who would be fair but firm because of the importance of these functions in the District government.

Mr. HORTON. If you found a police chief was not in tune with your philosophy and not able to carry out the program as you envisioned it, would it be your feeling that you would have to recommend the removal of the chief to Commissioner Washington?

Mr. MURPHY. Congressman, I feel that if unfortunately a point were ever reached where I was of the opinion that I could not work harmoniously with either Chief or the Director of the Office of Civil Defense that I would present my case to Commissioner Washington and explain that and urge that he decide whether he wanted the Chief to remain or me. I would decide not to stay if I felt I could not work harmoniously with a chief whom the Commissioner was satisfied with. But I would state my case and leave it to the Commissioner to resolve that matter.

Mr. HORTON. I said earlier, that it seems to me we are going through some growing pains and I am sure you will admit that there have been some problems—

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, sir.

Mr. HORTON.—in the growing process. What is your analysis at the present time of the relationship between your office and the police department?

Mr. MURPHY. Excellent.

Mr. HORTON. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Diggs.

Mr. DIGGS. Mr. Murphy, what is the present machinery for processing citizens' complaints, and do you propose any overhaul of this machinery or any changes in this machinery?

Mr. MURPHY. At present, Congressman, the citizens may present a complaint either to the police department or to the Human Relations Office of the city government, or to someone in the District Building. And these matters can be investigated by the police department.

Commissioner Washington has expressed his strong belief in the police department investigating these matters. However, if a citizen chooses to make a complaint outside of the department to another part of the District government a matter could be investigated in that way.

It has been my experience in the short time that I have been in the office that the investigation of citizen complaints within the police department, specifically in the Internal Affairs Division, has been very thorough and fair and yet we will continue to review the process.

Mr. DIGGS. I have no more questions, Mr. Chairman.