

am sure that there are many people who, because of the close and unfortunately sometimes abrasive contact they have with police officers, view them differently than people whom they think of as their public servants.

Mr. BROYHILL. More often than not—I make this as a question, not as a statement—more often than not, the charges then that some people make toward the police department such as police brutality, are made in ignorance?

Mr. MURPHY. Oh, definitely.

Mr. BROYHILL. Ignorance, that is, on the part of the citizens?

Mr. MURPHY. When a police officer is required to use necessary force in making an arrest, frequently citizens who do not understand the process think this is police brutality. Unfortunately, there are just gross misunderstandings of what a police officer must do in protecting citizens. And so we receive many complaints that are labeled brutality or police misconduct which when the facts are looked at turn out not to be anything like that.

Mr. BROYHILL. How about the need for additional prosecutors? Do you feel we have enough in the Corporation Counsel's Office at present or properly support the police department?

Mr. MURPHY. I really cannot say, Congressman, that I am familiar enough with that specific issue. I am concerned about log jams in the criminal justice process after the cases leave the police department. The process is, unfortunately, slow. I would hope it could be expedited.

Mr. BROYHILL. One more question, Mr. Chairman. The gentleman from California mentioned the authority used to set up the office of Commissioner of Public Safety. This was one of the problems, or one of the doubts that some of us had in regard to the reorganization plan, whether we were extending greater authority to the new Commissioner to completely reorganize the District of Columbia government, which the former commissioners did not have the authority to do, and whether this authority might get into some areas, some territories that might be objectionable to the Congress. You stated in answer to a question by Mr. Sisk that you had one assistant and two stenographers.

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, sir.

Mr. BROYHILL. Now, the information I have here—and I do not want to contradict you, Mr. Murphy, but let me see if this information is wrong—is that you have two assistants and Battalion Chief Zeis—

Mr. MURPHY. Zeis.

Mr. BROYHILL. —as well as Inspector Hough, and then the police sergeant assigned to a police car for you, and a special legal counsel assigned to you, plus your stenographic staff. Is that correct?

Mr. MURPHY. No, sir. I have an assistant. I do not have a special legal counsel. It happens that the incumbent is an attorney, but he is my executive assistant. I have two stenographers. Inspector Hough, who is my aide, continues to function in the police department. Battalion Chief Zeis has other duties which he will continue to carry out. Sergeant Slater is assigned to assist me with clerical functions and in driving me when it is necessary.

Mr. BROYHILL. Well, I was not criticizing the necessity for having these people. I think the question was directed to whether or not we were piling more expenses on the operation of the District government.