

Mr. WHITENER. And I might say my subcommittee has worked on it and brought out pretty good crime laws which some of my friends did not support.

Mr. ADAMS. I might reply, Mr. Chairman, that you will find that we did.

The CHAIRMAN. On behalf of the Committee, I want to thank you, Mr. Murphy, for coming down here and making yourself accessible to all these questions. I want you to know that we want to cooperate with you, if possible, but we just want to know where you are going. I think you have given us a pretty good explanation this morning of your position in connection with Chief Layton. I think that was the main problem, as to how your position fits in with the Chief of Police. We appreciate your taking time to come down and answer all the questions that have been asked this morning. I know some had more questions that they wanted to ask, but we only had a certain length of time in which to do it.

I, for one, wanted you to know that we will cooperate with you and Chief Layton in every way to make this a safe city.

Mr. MURPHY. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. Some pertinent newspaper comments and letter from the policemen's association will be included in the record at this point.

(The matters referred to follow:)

[The Evening Star, Feb. 7, 1968]

MURPHY CURBS POWERS OF LAYTON, NAMES AIDE

(By John Fialka, Star Staff Writer)

District Safety Director Patrick V. Murphy announced yesterday he will be making most of the policy decisions in the Metropolitan Police Department, bypassing Chief John B. Layton in that capacity.

Murphy also named Deputy Chief Jerry V. Wilson to head the Field Operations Bureau, which handles the largest segment of day-to-day police business. Wilson will become an assistant chief, replacing Assistant Chief Howard V. Covell.

Covell, who is scheduled to retire in September, will remain with the department in his other role, as executive officer.

MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

After a closed meeting with most of the department's high officials yesterday, Murphy said he will be spending most of his time actively managing police matters in his office at headquarters.

"Obviously, I will be making many of the decisions that previously were made at Chief Layton's level," Murphy said.

"Sometimes I will act through Chief Layton and sometimes I will go directly to Wilson," he added. "It will be flexible. I am a real liberal when it comes to organization charts."

Layton, who was appointed chief in December 1964, said Murphy's new role would cause him "no problems."

He praised Murphy's select of Wilson to head field operations, and said he had "high regard" for Wilson's abilities as a planner and an organizer.

Today, Murphy issued a statement about Layton's position which he said he hoped would clarify "erroneous impressions" that may have been created yesterday.

"I met with Chief Layton after the meeting last night, and we agreed that some mistakes had been made and also agreed that we want to work together. I am happy to have him as chief and he said he wants to work with me. He is the operating head of the police department."

"True," Murphy added, "I will be making most of the policy decisions. His role didn't change as a result of anything that happened yesterday . . . it changed when the director of public safety was appointed."