

neglected, and overlooked. In recent years with the increasing concern about "summer tensions" money and programs were frantically sought to patch up quickly organized activities aimed at cooling things down.

We found that recreation activities were fragmented and divided between the Recreation Department, the National Capital Parks, the public schools, with other agencies involved from time to time and more recently the Youth Programs Division of the District government. There has been little or no effective coordination of these activities.

It is for these reasons that we favor the reorganization plan which will result in the Recreation Department becoming an integral part of the District government. We believe that this will help eliminate the duplication and the lack of coordination among the various recreation programs and aid in the development of a greatly accelerated recreation program.

But there are still other problems that need to be pointed out and which we hope will be corrected once the reorganization plan goes into effect. I have reference to the glaring inequities and shortcomings in the present recreation facilities and programs. We found that the best services and most extensive programs as well as the best qualified specialists were to be found in the higher income areas. We therefore recommended that priority should be given to the low-income areas of the city in the allocation of facilities, programs, and personnel. Closely related was the recommendation that the overall recreation budget for the city should be tripled from the present \$7.6 million.

On the (hoped for) assumption that the reorganization plan would be approved, we recommended that a new Community Recreation Board be appointed by the Mayor, with a membership of 15, which would include representatives of community recreation councils, the young people, and the various Government agencies involved in recreation programs.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, we urge approval of Reorganization Plan No. 3 placing the recreation program within the District government with the added hope that Congress will provide the necessary funding to the District which will make possible the urgently needed expansion and improvement of the District's recreation program. With your permission, we would like to submit our task force report as part of our testimony for inclusion in the record.

Mr. BLATNIK. Is that your task force report?

Mr. SEGAL. That's right.

Mr. BLATNIK. That will be filed with the subcommittee but will not appear in the printed proceedings, merely for purposes of economy. It will be available for all members of the committee and the other persons interested in the proposal.

Maybe we will start with you, Mr. Segal. I did not realize that funding was such a serious problem. Your recommendation is that the present \$7.6 million be tripled by Congress, is that correct?

Mr. SEGAL. Yes, sir.

Mr. BLATNIK. Who would present the budget request to the Congress? That would go to the District of Columbia Committee, would it?

Mr. SEGAL. Yes. What we visualize—

Mr. BLATNIK. Maybe you would help us. Who would submit the original budget request?