

mental interest, and the interest of the residents of the District of Columbia—by means of a centralized head, or whether these three are going to be coordinated in some other and lower level manner in the decisionmaking process.

Do you have any ultimate time frame for when we will begin to get a full picture of what the government of the District of Columbia is going to look like when you get this area of problem resolved?

Mr. HUGHES. Well, I am not in a position to give you any schedule for these other areas. I think the President, both last year in his comments on Reorganization Plan No. 3 and again this year in the context of these two plans, has made it clear that he sees the need, the District's need, for increasingly more authority commensurate with its responsibility in these areas. But I do not have any time schedule which we would propose—

Mr. BROWN. The need for the District Commissioner to have more authority.

Mr. HUGHES. That is right. That is correct.

Mr. BROWN. Which puts it back into the hands of the White House because the White House appoints the District Commissioner, is that right?

Mr. HUGHES. I think whatever authorities, again, the Commissioner receives, obviously subject to review by the Congress, would be dealt with in the context of the functioning Council and the other kinds of actions that we have talked about before.

Mr. BROWN. The Council which is appointed by the White House?

Mr. HUGHES. That is correct. There is no substitute—I think the President has made this clear, and I certainly reemphasize—there is no substitute for home rule as a means of expressing the will of the local population. We are trying, however, to enable the District government to have a broader base of communication with the population of the District and also to strengthen the hand of the Mayor-Commissioner in dealing with these problems.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Hughes, we could go on probably for all afternoon on this subject, but I find it difficult to understand why the principle of home rule is desirable, for instance, in the area of building location and undesirable, say, in the area of recreation planning.

Mr. HUGHES. I think home rule is a desirable thing, and if there were an elected Mayor and City Council there would be home rule. I do not think we have any argument on that score.

Mr. BROWN. Well, the problem here again is that it seems to me the recreation area is a function wherein home rule should play a very important part. The problem of how you plan the development of the District of Columbia as the site of the Federal Government and as the national monumental city and as the site of residence of those people who live there; how you coordinate those three interests which are broad, and compare that with the recreational interests of the people in the community which are limited pretty much to the people who reside in this community. How do you coordinate these two things in a governmental system is what was at issue last year when we were talking about the reorganization plan of the District of Columbia government generally; and I think it is maybe what is at issue in the conversation we have had today. And, so far, it seems to me that the direction is not abundantly clear but rather confused by