

CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN WASHINGTON

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, D.C.

The Full Committee met, pursuant to recess, at 10:40 a.m., in Room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Honorable John L. McMillan, Chairman, presiding.

Present: Representatives McMillan (presiding), Abernethy, Dowdy, Whitener, Sisk, Diggs, Fuqua, Fraser, Adams, Jacobs, Walker, Kyros, Nelsen, O'Konski, Harsha, Mathias, Horton, Broyhill, Winn, Gude, Zwach, and Steiger.

Also present: James T. Clark, Clerk; Sara Watson, Assistant Counsel; Donald Tubridy, Minority Clerk; and Leonard D. Hilder, Investigator.

The CHAIRMAN. The Full Committee will come to order.

Mr. Murphy, will you come to the table, and Chief Layton, Chief Galotta, and the Under Secretary of the Army, and any other people that are around here.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Chairman, this is Mr. Bress, United States Attorney, who was good enough to come in accordance with your invitation.

The CHAIRMAN. We will be happy to have him sit at the table with you.

Mr. Murphy, I want to thank you and the other gentlemen for taking time to appear before our Committee this morning. We hope that we will be able to bring to light some of the rumors that have been flying around ever since you arrived; as to what the police were doing on the first day and night of the April civil disturbances; and a number of other accusations that have been made, and the reason for not stopping some of the looting that appeared here in the Nation's Capital on these days.

You might make a little statement first as to the type of orders that were given by you or whoever gave out the orders.

I would also like to have the orders given the troops by the Under Secretary, please. I would like to know if you were given authority to use force in handling these people, and whether they were permitted to walk in and take anything they wanted, as those are the rumors that have been flying around.