

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.
Mr. Nelson?

POLICE PRECINCTS

Mr. NELSEN. Mr. Murphy, it seems to me that you suggested a consolidation of police precincts sometime back. What has happened to the consolidation?

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, Mr. Nelsen.

At the time that I took this position, Chief Layton had proposed a consolidation of precincts. We are all strongly in support of it in the Police Department, and myself. The matter did come up before the City Council, and some citizens appeared at a public hearing and raised objections to this.

My own view continues to be a very strong view that we should move ahead with the consolidation of precincts as rapidly as possible, because it would provide us a large number of additional police officers on the streets. Now, Chief Layton has assigned one of his inspectors to discuss with community groups and citizen groups the problems and the merits of this proposal.

Chief Layton advised me only yesterday that he has had some success in winning more support for this. I hope, Mr. Congressman, this being a very strong hope, that we could begin promptly.

Mr. NELSEN. It is my understanding that the City Council vetoed the idea?

Mr. MURPHY. No, sir. They still have it under consideration, and Mr. Hechinger, the Chairman, is now considering what action to take about it.

Mr. NELSEN. One more question.

It is reported that Mr. Carmichael brandished a gun on the Thursday nite of the riot and advised his friends to go home and get a gun and come back. Now, what happened to the investigation of Mr. Carmichael, and who is handling the investigation?

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Nelsen, our Department, the Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have worked together on this matter. The investigation is still in progress. I would prefer not to disclose all of the developments,

Mr. NELSEN. To be brandishing a gun is a violation of the law, is it not?

Mr. MURPHY. Well, Congressman, yes. I am not sure that the evidence concerning that fact is clear evidence. There may be conflicting evidence about that.

Mr. NELSEN. Are we assured that the investigation will continue and that action will be taken if a case is made on Mr. Carmichael?

Mr. MURPHY. It is still a very active investigation.

POLICY IN EFFECT

Mr. NELSEN. One more question.

Dealing with the flexible response policy—isn't it true that this became a policy of the Police Department before your time, but it originated in the Justice Department?

Mr. MURPHY. Congressman, we have dealt—I have dealt since shortly after taking this position, very closely with Military authorities. The Attorney General has been assigned some responsibility in