

the decision-making process. Mr. McGiffert will understand that more clearly than I do.

We communicated our reports, our situation reports, directly to Military authorities. How the Attorney General came into the picture is something I am not thoroughly clear on. I am sorry, I can't help you with that.

Mr. NELSEN. Now, the theory behind the flexible response is that it would save lives; property would be secondary. But isn't it also true that the flexible response policy may be directly responsible for the crime and arson that has followed in the wake of the riots? I understand we have had many incidents of arson, extortion and thievery almost every day and every night since the riots.

So perhaps the flexible response policy seems to have accelerated the loss of life and limb more than it has prevented it. I think this should be taken into account. I might mention the Army. When troops are carrying guns, and not even loaded guns—it seems to me this is rather a joke. Why have a gun at all? This I can't understand.

Why send them down there with an empty gun? It seems to me this is rather amusing.

Mr. MCGIFFERT. They carry ammunition, Mr. Nelsen, and they can load and fire on the instructions of an officer.

Mr. NELSEN. No more questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Dowdy.

Mr. DOWDY. Mr. Murphy, I am curious about just what your views are. From what you said here this morning, you are apparently laying the blame on Chief Layton for everything that has happened around here, and you had nothing to do with it.

Just exactly what are your views?

Mr. MURPHY. Sir, as Director of Public Safety, I am responsible for the direction and control of Police Department, Fire Department, and Office of Civil Defense.

Mr. DOWDY. Chief Layton is responsible for all of this stuff. Why haven't you done something about it instead of sitting there telling us he is to blame for it?

Mr. MURPHY. I certainly never intended to imply that, Congressman. I have the highest regard for Chief Layton. I have stated publicly many times, and it is my conviction, that Chief Layton is one of the finest police administrators in this nation.

I tell you, sir, that I would not have accepted this position with Chief Layton as the incumbent Chief of Police if I did not have this great respect for him and this fine Police Department, which he deserves much of the credit for developing in the past few years.

Mr. DOWDY. Now, you state here, contrary to what has been in the newspapers, radio, and television at the time, that the police were not instructed not to arrest these looters. In other words, reporters tell me that you are giving this "the light touch," and that was while the looting was going on.

Mr. MURPHY. I am not familiar with that quotation, sir.

Mr. DOWDY. Were you misquoted?

Mr. MURPHY. I am not familiar with the quotation.

Mr. DOWDY. Were you misquoted?

Mr. MURPHY. I can't say, sir. If I could see the whole article—