

20 feet from him and he refused to drop it—I am sure that officer would shoot him. That is what he should have done.

Mr. BROYHILL. I am afraid the violators have gotten another impression. Certainly, in view of the statements made by the Attorney General in response to what Mayor Daley said, I think the American people just misunderstand how firm the policeman here in Washington can be, and probably would be in an instance such as I have mentioned.

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, sir.

Mr. BROYHILL. Do we need more policemen, Mr. Murphy?

Mr. MURPHY. Congressman, we were short about 385 officers at the time I took this position; and I am happy to report to you that with your cooperation and other cooperation, we have been able to reduce that to 164 men at last count.

So we have only 164 vacancies now, and hope to reduce it further—all the way, sir.

Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to address a question to the Chair.

Mr. BROYHILL. I will yield the floor if that is what you are getting at.

Mr. MATHIAS. I am just wondering—obviously, the five-minute rule isn't going to work for us here. There are 15 minutes left and I am sure more than three members want to address some questions to Mr. Murphy.

The CHAIRMAN. We will go as long as we can, until we have a quorum call, and if we can't get through, we will just have to come back another day.

Mr. Whitener.

Mr. WHITENER. Mr. Murphy, would you, as an individual, shoot a burglar who is breaking through the windows of your home or an arsonist who is engaged in the act of setting fire to your place of business?

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, sir; if I were protecting my home or if I were a businessman and protecting my place of business, I would have no hesitation about using ultimate force. As I say, if that were the only way in which I could make the arrest. I would use all means short of the ultimate force, but if there were no other possibility of making that arrest, but to use ultimate force, I would not hesitate to use it.

Mr. WHITENER. But you have intimated that this would require the exercise of a great deal of discretion on the part of the police officer when he was protecting your house or your place of business.

Now, that officer, in protecting the community, why could he not, without any hesitancy, exercise the same legal rights that you would exercise in the protection of your own life and property?

Mr. MURPHY. Well, sir, perhaps I should explain further. Even if my own home were being attacked and my wife and eight children were in that home, I would be gravely concerned about the line of fire of my shots, because I live in the neighborhood where homes are close together.

I would be gravely concerned about all of the circumstances and whether or not I could not arrest that individual without resorting to ultimate force. I wouldn't hesitate to draw my gun. I know this is a problem that so many of our good citizens have difficulty with. But, sir, I must make clear that we impose upon our police officers a tremendous responsibility.