

CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN WASHINGTON

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1968

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

The Full Committee met, pursuant to recess, at 11:10 a.m., in Room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Honorable John Dowdy, presiding.

Present: Representatives Dowdy (presiding), Abernethy, Whitener, Sisk, Diggs, Adams, Jacobs, Walker, Mathias of Maryland, 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.

Mr. Dowdy. The meeting will come to order.

We are having this meeting this morning to continue hearing Mr. Murphy. If you would come around, Mr. Murphy.

Mr. MURPHY. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PATRICK V. MURPHY, OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT, ACCOMPANIED BY JOHN B. LAYTON, CHIEF, METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT; DAVID G. BRESS, ESQUIRE, U.S. ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA; AND HON. DAVID E. MCGIFFERT, UNDER SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—Resumed

Mr. Dowdy. Do you want to begin, Mr. Diggs?

Mr. Diggs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The report of the City Council's public hearings on the Rebuilding and Recovery of Washington from the civil disturbances of April, 1968, on page 2 says:

Citizens can be grateful for the rapid, courageous, and sympathetic response of the Police, Fire Departments, Armed Services, Health and Welfare workers, the Urban Coalition, Sanitation and Inspection crews, and many other private groups and individuals.

I just wanted to underscore that the Police Department and the Fire Department, both agencies under the jurisdiction of our witness, have been the recipient of this compliment from the members of the City Council of the District of Columbia which, I think, needs to be underscored because one might get the impression from certain criticisms that the activities of those Departments during that disturbance was not properly appreciated.