

themselves to be threatened, or to subject themselves to extortion and not call these matters to the attention of the Police out of fear. If this kind of fear escalates in the community, then I think we will have an extremely dangerous situation.

I am confident now that many businessmen, who, two or three weeks ago were hesitant to come to the Police Department with information and complaints, have since come forward and given us the kind of information without which we cannot conduct a very effective investigation.

Mr. DOWDY. We have got to have some confidence, of course, that we will get some protection from the law. We have got a situation here much like an invading army placing levies on the businessman, telling them they have to feed them or they are going to destroy them.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Bress tells me he has some information he would like to present.

Mr. BRESS. With respect to the subject of extortion of local business, Mr. Chairman, I think it would be well for the Committee to know that beginning early in April there were some such reports. The matter has been investigated. It has not yet been presented to the Grand Jury.

My office is keeping in daily contact with the squad of the Police Department who are engaging in developing the investigation along the lines that we have suggested.

Mr. DOWDY. Mr. Adams?

CITATIONS AND ARRESTS

Mr. ADAMS. First, Mr. Bress, I would like to follow through with the comments that were being made by Mr. Horton. A number of us offered amendments which were finally adopted by the Congress in the ominous anti-crime bill for the use of citations as a method of handling large numbers of people with certain types of misdemeanors.

According to the Report on Civil Disturbances in Washington, Title VII of the anti-crime bill was used quite extensively in this last riot situation. Did it, in your opinion, prove to be effective?

Do you think it should be changed in any way?

Mr. BRESS. The citation procedure as spelled out in the D.C. Crime Reduction Act, I think, is desirable and under normal peaceful conditions in the community, it can be effective.

Mr. ADAMS. I also understand that you used it after these people were in jail for curfew violations. In other words, the Police had to clear the streets in order to get at the actual perpetrators of the crime, so they picked everybody up. I understand this system was a method whereby the people that were picked up for curfew violations could be moved out of the city rapidly so that you could get at the remaining felonies and other misdemeanors.

Mr. BRESS. That is precisely what did happen. It was too much of a burden on the limited facilities of the courts to bring 8,000 people in within three or four days, so that the citation procedure was very helpful in curfew violation cases where a curfew violator was kept overnight, not released back into violations.

Mr. ADAMS. Right. In other words, held out of the area.

Now, Mr. Murphy, I think we should put into perspective what happened in this city, because I think it is very bad if we preach fear