

all the time. I think your police response in this case was based on accurate planning.

But in this case, this was a spontaneous, as opposed to an expected or pre-planned type riot, because of the death of Dr. King, was it not?

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, Congressman. We had no advance information.

Mr. ADAMS. Obviously not. You didn't know this was going to happen then. I understand this happened at 8:26 on Thursday night. It is my understanding that by 12:00 o'clock that night you had the better part of 2,000 officers on the street, which is less than 2½ hours; isn't that correct?

Mr. MURPHY. By shortly after 12:00, we had about 2,000. As Chief Layton explained earlier, we were up to 2500 officers by 2:00 or 3:00 a.m.

Mr. ADAMS. It is also my information now that by the middle of the afternoon on Sunday you had made over 4200 arrests. That information is in the Report on Civil Disturbances. Now, I understand that of these, over 900 were for looting and 700 for disorderly conduct and other offenses; is that correct?

Mr. MURPHY. Yes, sir; as Mr. Bress pointed out, about 1,000 felony arrests, which were the lootings—

Mr. ADAMS. It is also my understanding that the Police Department; and Chief Layton, you can correct me on this if I am wrong, used tear gas?

Chief LAYTON. Yes, sir, we did.

Mr. ADAMS. You used massive amounts of force going down the streets, officers linked arm in arm to clear the streets; is that correct?

Chief LAYTON. We used a large number of officers, not necessarily linked.

Mr. ADAMS. Down the streets to clear them?

Chief LAYTON. Down the streets to clear them—14th Street, particularly.

Mr. ADAMS. I was pleased to hear the report that you are down to only 164 vacancies, because a number of us since we arrived on this Committee, when there were 400 vacancies have been very concerned with the recruitment problem. This indicates that you are getting the men in.

POLICE FORCE REQUIRED

I would like your opinion on this, Mr. Murphy, and yours, too, Chief Layton, if you would like to comment on it. In the central cities, when handling riots where you are involved with large numbers of people, do you think an authorized force of 3,100 is adequate and if not, what is your feeling as to what we should be considering?

Mr. MURPHY. Well, Congressman, we have not reached a final decision. We hope to fill the remaining 164 vacancies very shortly, and we are considering whether a request should be made. Obviously, more officers can provide more protection. We are trying to take steps to get more officers on the street. That is why we would like this precinct consolidation program to go through.

It would give us perhaps a couple hundred more officers on the street. As crime has increased, I think it is an obvious fact that the number of police officers per hundred or per thousand crimes is diminishing.

Mr. ADAMS. What is your feeling now in terms of the necessity for a readily available reserve force; and I want to emphasize in this that