

response in this area within the limits of the number of men that you have and your movement in the city was excellent.

I think it does show pre-planning. The indications that I have here are that you had your complete operation on the street the same night that a spontaneous riot occurred. We are all concerned over the situation throughout America and the response of Metropolitan Departments to do what, in effect, is an entirely changed situation on a street.

I agree with your decision of starting with massive force in the area. I agree with your conclusion to pull the officers out of 14th and U when there were 50 to 100 people and there were only two officers, until you could mobilize your strength. I think that if you don't have overwhelming strength in an area, then you must rely on ultimate force.

Ultimate force in a crowded metropolitan area, when the shooting starts, cannot help but lead to extremely heavy casualties among the innocent.

I am concerned as to whether or not your present plans envision a group of people to move in and assist you on a rapid basis to get that build-up of force sooner than you had this last time. I am not critical of your last operation.

Finally, I would just like to say that I think this Police Department made more arrests than any other city in America. I think they responded very well. I know there have been some people who said that they didn't, but I, for one, want to compliment you, Chief Layton, and you, Commissioner, for the operation that took place.

You were there on the streets. You were there that night. You were out in your car there and I think that is very good. I am glad to have you in Washington.

Mr. Dowdy. Mr. Mathias.

Mr. MATHIAS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Adams has given me a preface for what I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, because I was on the streets in Washington on two of the nights of the disorders.

May I direct my remarks to Chief Layton, Secretary McGiffert, and Mr. Murphy.

I think all of us owe a considerable debt of gratitude to the Military, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and Mr. Murphy. The remarkable individual efforts that I saw made during the disorders by various members of these units was of the highest order.

It seemed to me to exhibit an extraordinary amount of discipline, training, judgment and restraint.

I saw the Police disarm a group of men who had machetes; and it was done in a very professional manner, and yet it was done with restraint and with full observance of the proper police procedures.

I happened to be on upper 14th Street when a man rushed up and he cried, "My woman is in that building," and the building was just a mass of flame. Without any question, without any hesitation—the fire ladder went right up against the building. The firemen made an effort to find out if the woman was actually in the building.

Out on Benning Road troops were controlling that area and using some stores there as a command post. It was a unit of paratroopers—and I have never seen a more disciplined performance on the part of Military units.