

The sergeant who was in command happened to be a constituent of Mr. Ashmore's from South Carolina. I think we owe a personal debt to the troops for their excellent attention to duty. This series of disorders was, after all, not unprecedented in the history of Washington, but unprecedented in our lifetime in Washington.

So I think these brave men deserve credit. I think the community can feel a considerable degree of confidence, and this Committee can demonstrate such confidence by very properly seeking to investigate weaknesses that need to be strengthened. But I don't think these hearings here should engender a feeling of lack of confidence in the forces that must be going to maintain law and order.

We have got to maintain law and order. There is no doubt about it. The question is, how do we proceed so that we can maintain law and order in the right way.

FUTURE PROTECTION

Now, I would like to ask Mr. Murphy this question: are you satisfied with the arrangements that now exist to maintain civil order in Washington in the forthcoming months? Do you feel perfectly satisfied in your own mind, barring totally unforeseeable situations, that the City is under control?

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Mathias, I am satisfied that as a result of the plans that have been laid for some period of time and the refinements that have occurred in recent weeks, in which all of us have had an opportunity to participate, not only Chief Layton and Assistant Chief Wilson, but many of the people in other units, lower ranking people in the Department, that we are well prepared, that we have an improved alert system, that our intelligence efforts are better than they have ever been before, and that we have a good meeting of the minds on the necessity for supplementing our own forces.

First of all, bringing our own forces up to greater strength, should that become necessary, by extending the workday from eight to 12 hours, and cancelling days off, if necessary, and putting the National Guard on a militia status.

Then beyond that, the potential for having Military units very close by, and even pre-positioned if it becomes necessary for us to handle very large crowds, or if it is necessary for us to make many arrests.

So that we are considering, Mr. Mathias, not only a response to any disorder or violence, but all of the preventative steps that could be taken by our own Department and the National Guard and the Military, so we can be in the best possible posture for any eventuality.

Mr. DOWDY. There was a quorum call on. I will be willing to come back tomorrow.

Mr. MATHIAS. Mr. Chairman, I can conclude in about 60 seconds.

Mr. Murphy, now, I direct this equally to Chief Layton: is there any request that you have to make of this Committee? Is there anything which we, as Members of the Congress, Members of the House District Committee, could do to promote a more efficient and better job?

Mr. MURPHY. One piece of legislation currently pending that we support is the bill concerning our police reserve. The police reserve officers volunteered their services; however, they must purchase their own uniforms and they are not protected by insurance of any kind. We think that would be of assistance to us.