

to rent, "at very minimal prices," mostly efficiencies and some one- and two-bedroom units in the private apartment project, according to a city official.

FHA made the offer of financial assistance to such a program following the rioting. "The government decided to take the agency up on it," the official stated. He said most of the persons displaced already have been housed.

The arrangement with Envoy Towers, located at 2400 16th St. NW, stipulates that housing will be temporary until permanent accommodations can be found.

The official said the city would "prefer to rehouse them in permanent locations, rather than use temporary housing facilities. We'll use Envoy Towers but try to find permanent accommodations as soon as possible. FHA went along with it on that basis."

Another official, Peter T. Riemer, operations director of the District Redevelopment Land Agency, said most of the displaced persons needing emergency housing already have been taken care of.

"As of 5 p.m. last Friday we handled 237 cases, either families or individuals," Riemer said.

He said 159 have been relocated in public or private housing; four have been relocated in temporary housing; 61 have been referred to private housing but there has been no followup contact as to whether they accepted the housing. Thirteen cases are pending.

"The offer by FHA is most generous for temporary housing," Riemer said.

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PRESSURE GROUP FORMED—BUSINESSMEN ASK PROTECTION

(By Winston Groom)

A group of citizens is forming an organization to press for better protection for themselves and their businesses from what they call "militant minorities," it was announced today.

"We the People" is the organization's name, according to Abe Liss, president of the Midtown Business Association and head of the new group. Liss said the group held its first meeting Tuesday night, with about 200 persons attending.

According to the group's statement of purpose, the organization was formed because "the government has defaulted on its obligation to protect America." The statement adds that the group was organized "for the vast majority of citizens who are sick and tired of lawlessness," and that it will "demand the domestic tranquility guaranteed in the preamble to the U.S. Constitution."

Liss, whose television rental store was damaged during the recent civil disturbance, said the members attending Tuesday's meeting represented through their activities about 10,000 citizens of the District.

Among those present, he said, were Oscar Dodek, owner of D. J. Kaufmann's clothing store; John Immer, president of Washington's Federation of Citizens Associations, and R. N. Horton, head of the Uptown Progress Association, a Negro business group. Also present, said Liss, were representatives of Giant and the Greater Washington Food Wholesalers, auto dealer associations and finance associations.

Liss said more than \$1,500 was donated to start the organization, which he hopes will grow into a nationwide group. He also said they have hired a "nationally prominent" attorney to look into the possibilities of filing suit against the city for what he called "inadequate protection of property during the riots."

"The people of this country are afraid," said Liss. "They want to be protected by the government. People are scared to go out of their homes at night and they are buying guns to protect themselves," he said.

"We're all for social legislation," he said, "but at the same time we have got to stop this wanton disregard for the law. The people in this country have lost faith, in the government's ability to protect them."

The group will be a non-profit organization, is strictly non-political and is not intended as a "backlash" group, Liss emphasized. It is designed only to press for protection of citizens and their property, he said.

"We intend to be a very militant organization," he said. "We will do whatever it takes, legally, to restore law and order—even if it means marching on the Capitol."

Liss emphasized that the group would seek the support of all citizens and hopes eventually to enlist such people as Walter E. Fauntroy and other city council members into its ranks.