

utive branch right on over here to the leadership in the Congress itself. And, as I understand it, even showing their defiance, they kept many of the Government officials, members of the Cabinet, who have responsible jobs to do, they kept them waiting for three or four hours, and then they showed no remorse or any regret for having kept them waiting for that period of time but, rather, made the comment, "We have been waiting some 350 years, so let them wait for three hours."

But this shows you the attitudes. Now we are not dealing with a Boys Scout demonstration. We are not dealing with a parade by the American Legion. We are not dealing with a Shriners parade. All of these groups uphold America. All of these groups are helping to build a stronger America. All of these groups are patriotic citizens. And not a member of these groups, so far as I know, has ever had any Communist implication or involvement.

But some of the leaders of this particular group here have definite Communist affiliations or backgrounds. And you can rest assured that the militants and those with Communist backgrounds are going to capitalize on this particular situation, and they will try to make trouble right here in the Nation's Capital.

I want to say one thing further in support of the bill that Mr. Abbitt and Mr. Fountain spoke of, in behalf of several of us on these bills which have been introduced. There is nothing new in the matter of requiring a bond. We required a bond of the American Legion. We required a bond of the Shriners. We even required a bond of the Boys Scouts. Is it not logical that we would require a similar bond for any group which is going to be using the grounds here of the Nation's Capital?

But again, I say that we are not dealing with the normal set of circumstances. And so as a consequence I really guess we are having to look at this in an entirely or from an entirely different angle.

I might say further, as evidence of the fact that the city officials and the officials of the Department of the Interior believe that we continue to have a very tense situation, an explosive situation in the District of Columbia and parenthetically, I am a member of the Baptist denomination and I am proud of it, but it could be any denomination—the Baptists requested the use for three days from the 10th to the 13th of October, for a parade on the occasion of their continental celebration, to march on the Nation's Capital and have a rally around the Washington Monument. I understand that was the basic plan. They requested that permit, not at this time, but for October 10 and 13. Mr. Fitch of the National Park Service notified them that they would not be granted the permit.

This Baptist group has never been guilty of any violence, may I remind you, members of the committee, as is certainly true of the leadership of this particular group in most of the places they have been where the cities have suffered the violence. But this Baptist group was denied the permit by the Department of the Interior to use the Nation's Capital, and the reason for the denial of this permit and request was the tense and explosive situation which existed in the Nation's Capital.

How can we tell the American citizens, those who are law-abiding in one instance, "You cannot do it," and then knuckle under to the mob on the other side?