

lead the Poor Peoples Campaign will somehow be able to maintain order and that those dissident groups connected with it will somehow turn out to be less vicious than their words have lead us to believe. Federal agencies have bent over backwards to avoid giving any idea that the right of freedom of speech will in any way be abridged and both the general public and the leaders of the campaign have been kept in the dark as to what D-Day will bring.

When I introduced H.R. 16941, it was my feeling that the minimum action which Congress should take would be to require that those who apply for permits to parade in the District should post a bond to cover the cost of any destruction which might result. I believe that the subcommittee should consider the possibility of amending H.R. 16941 to include therein the sense of H.J. Res. 1256 which was introduced by the Virginia delegation in the House. This resolution would place a limitation on the use of park lands of the United States and other public space situated within the District of Columbia and reads as follows:

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That, except as may hereafter be provided by Act of Congress, it shall be unlawful to use the Capitol Grounds, the Mall, the Washington Monument Grounds, the grounds around the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, or any other real property of the United States or the District of Columbia within said District for the purpose of camping or erecting thereon any temporary shelter or other structure. This statute shall not exclude establishing campsites and/or recreation areas from time to time, pursuant to an Act of Congress, or the bivouacking of military personnel on public properties in the District of Columbia.

As I understand it, the primary issue before the subcommittee today is whether or not any permit will be issued to allow parades, demonstrations or other assemblages of the campaign now in progress—either in the streets of the District of Columbia or on grounds owned by the Federal government. Apparently there has been an impasse between the Department of the Interior and the District of Columbia government with respect to what type of government action can be taken to limit such assemblages or whether those seeking to parade, demonstrate or have assemblies can in any way be restrained from doing so in the absence of a permit being issued. Apparently the leaders of the demonstration are fully aware that policies and regulations of the departments concerned would preclude the granting of such permits on a regular basis. I understand that Boy Scout groups and other such organizations have from time to time sought the right to assemble on the Mall or to have camping privileges on government lands in various parts of the District of Columbia. Such permission has been denied as a matter of policy and according to my understanding such permission will continue to be denied under the regulations which now exist. The question then arises as to what action the policy authorities and/or the security officers of the National Park Police or any other agency will take if and when violations of the regulations are obviously being made.

I would urge this committee to report out a bill which will forth-