

Mr. McMILLAN. I promised those property owners they would have the opportunity at the proper time to express themselves. I just wanted to ask you this while you were here if you knew anything of such orders.

Chief LAYTON. No, sir, I would like to have the opportunity to explore that further.

Mr. McMILLAN. You will be called to testify at the same time.

Mr. WASHINGTON. I might say, too, that beyond the public hearings that we have had, I have made myself available to talk to practically every business unit in this city in the past week—from the Board of Trade to the Uptown and Downtown people—have spoken to retail-wholesalers, the hotel people. I have learned a lot about the troubles, from the Restaurant Association, which I had in my office on Friday, and from a number of the companies, such as Safeway and Giant Food Stores who have had particular problems. I just wanted you to know that I have personally had these groups in. We had a session with one of the gentlemen back here, trying to understand and trying to get to the problem. I am not trying to say that we are not human. I am only saying that wherever we have information we would like to get whatever other information there is. We want it. We want to be in a position to act upon it. We want to be in a position for an orderly restoration of law and order.

Mr. McMILLAN. I want you to know that I have confidence enough in you and that I think you want to see the law enforced as best as possible in the Nation's Capital.

Mr. WASHINGTON. Thank you, sir. I am trying to do my best.

PRECEDENTS FOR THIS LEGISLATION

Mr. WHITENER. Let me at this point say to you, Mr. Commissioner, I think you understand that most of us on this committee want to assist you in any way possible and anything I might ask you I do not want you to interpret as being with personal hostility. But I would like to point out to you that we cannot ignore that a precedent has been established by your own government and your predecessors over the years. We have had on numerous occasions direct requests from the District government for the enactment of legislation relating to visits of various organizations to the District of Columbia. In 1965 the Commissioners wrote to the Congress and requested legislation with reference to the visit of the American Legion National Convention to Washington. They said in that report that this convention was estimated to bring into the District around 25,000 to 35,000 people and that it would generate a need for increased help on the part of the municipal government, and that the Commissioners are authorized and directed to make regulations to preserve peace and order, and to regulate traffic, and to issue licenses to vendors. It went on to say that it would require the American Legion of the 1966 Convention to indemnify to save harmless the District of Columbia, the federal government against loss or damage and liability and it authorized the requirement of an insurance policy or a bond or both in such a manner subject to terms as these officials may deem adequate to protect the interests of the respective governments. They went on to point out that legislation similar in scope to this resolution had been enacted in past years when con-