

we have adequate control and preventive measures, and I have indicated there have been some 85 cases.

Mr. WHITENER. We have had requests from the District Commissioners in the past for legislation relating to this.

Mr. WASHINGTON. You may well have it again, sir, under certain circumstances as I can see it. For instance, in this one, the area involved—and Dr. Grant has in this case worked with their own medical people, their own sanitation people—and several medical associations who are involved here—we even have had private citizens who have volunteered to provide food, an extra amount of food per day, which is a little different situation.

Mr. WHITENER. How many people do you anticipate will be coming into the city in connection with the current movement?

Mr. WASHINGTON. This is one of the difficult points to reach.

Mr. WHITENER. We have had the figure of—

Mr. WASHINGTON. 3,000 is a figure which sticks, just for the larger number of people that are beyond any imagination.

Mr. WHITENER. But the organizers of this particular program have suggested that it could be up to a quarter of a million people, have they not?

Mr. WASHINGTON. The latest this morning that I heard from Mr. Henry was that they expect 3,000—there will be some buildup—they do not expect, according to their terms, more than 10,000. We expect to be able to treat it on a day-to-day basis, and plan for it accordingly.

Mr. STEIGER. I think that you come up with another purpose of this hearing, Mr. Commissioner. I think that maybe you could help us. What you are saying is that the presence of the bond might preclude groups that are financially insolvent from demonstrating on District property?

Mr. WASHINGTON. Yes.

#### RESTRICTIONS ON WHERE TO ASSEMBLE

Mr. STEIGER. Okay. It would seem to me that the judgment we have to make is this: does it really deny a group the right to petition, the right to assembly, if we tell them there are areas that they cannot assemble on if they cannot post a bond? By your own testimony you have indicated that there are many areas within the boundaries of the District where they can assemble and they can petition, which the bond situation would not affect.

Mr. WASHINGTON. No, sir. If the bill is passed I am saying that we can withhold our restrictions—with a bond I would assume that we would have to put it on all.

Mr. STEIGER. My reading of the bill is that “no officer or employee of the government of the District of Columbia shall issue or sign a permit for parades in the District of Columbia, et cetera, et cetera.” It gets back to the heart of your explanation of the Shrine and the Legion permits which you granted. In the event that this bill is passed and the group could not post the bond, all it would mean is that they could not parade on District property. As I interpret that, if that is the case, our judgment then is not a withholding of the permission to petition, a denial of a person to petition. I do not personally think it is.