

We will make your whole statement a part of the record, as I have already stated.

(The prepared statements submitted by Mr. Kalavittinos follow:)

THE CAUSE OF RIOTS AND THE REMEDIES AND SOLUTIONS

(By George Kalavittinos, Washington businessman—born and raised in the District of Columbia)

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Councilmen and Ladies. I am appearing before you today as a simple citizen in order to express my sincerest views and recommendations with reference to the chaotic circumstances existing in our Washington Community. I have lived all my life in this community and I want to list my background.

I am George Kalavittinos, born February 11, 1921. I have attended the following elementary and junior high schools in the District of Columbia:

Seaton Elementary School—2nd and I Streets, N.W.

Blake Elementary School—North Capital & K Streets, N.W.

Gales Elementary School—Mass. Avenue and New Jersey, N.W.

Henry Polk—7th Street between O & P Streets, N.W.

Langley Junior High School—1st and T Streets, N.E.

Jefferson Junior High School—6th Street, S.W.

McKinley High School—Drop-out, because of marriage.

I am the father of two children—a son, 28 years of age, and a daughter who is 25.

I am also a grandfather.

I left home when I was 15 years old. I have four brothers and two sisters. I have sold produce and newspapers on the streets and corners of 7th Street, N.W., 5th and Florida Avenue, N.E., in the Farmers' Market. I also lived for many years in several integrated neighborhoods where my immediate neighbors were *Negro* families. There were also Jewish, Italian, and other minority group families. We socialized without incident.

I entered the U.S. Army just after Pearl Harbor and was wounded severely. After many months' hospitalization, I was discharged and returned to civilian life, whereupon I went into the rooming-house business and became a real estate broker and owner of several pieces of property in the City of Washington.

My parents, who came to the United States from Greece, struggled very hard to make a living and with their determination and hope they knew they would conquer poverty. I am pleased to say that this was accomplished.

Mr. Chairman, you will note that my life has not been "all peaches and cream." I want to state that this problem is not a black and white problem, as I see it, but a "man-to-man" problem. Due to poor leadership on both sides, I would say that black people are terribly misguided, and white people are too. What is the solution? In my opinion, the solution is proper planning for public good, regardless of race, color, or creed.

Referring to the recent riots here in the District of Columbia, I feel that it did not take the death of Martin Luther King to explode the situation. This is the crutch so many have used as their excuse for such behavior. The person who did the most to trigger the so-called riots, who got the riots started, was the speech made by Stokely Carmichael when he called upon Negroes to "retaliate" for King's death and to get guns.

A planned guerrilla warfare is now in our land with criminal approaches, and it is comprised of misleading elements, such as the demagogues Stokely Carmichael, H. Rap Brown, and other "punks" like them, who do not have any proposal for better communities. They are the "blind leading the blind." There appears to be great emphasis in the "Mafia-approach" resulting in the threatening of some black people with loss of life and property.

I do not regard the recent disorders experienced in the Nation's Capital as riots. To me this was vandalism, arson, thievery, etc. planned by the demagogues and the criminal elements of this city many months before. They knew which places to hit, when to hit, and how to hit. If anyone thinks there is no criminal conspiracy in this city they are sadly mistaken, for one only has to read the headlines through the past several years to justify what I am saying. There has been looting of our business communities for many years. I personally have had numerous experiences where I have been approached to buy clothes with labels