

heard the phrase of "long hot summers" before this event of 1968. I believe that after the assassination it became intense, there were intense emotions in the city of Washington—and it probably would have erupted. I think it would have been better at that time for the local police force, who commendably did an excellent job in my opinion, to have augmented their forces when it became apparent they could not handle the situation—or it should have become apparent—and 24 hours were lost before Federal troops were brought into the city. And during that time there were vandalism and arson throughout.

I think it is as if a man were to come to you and tell you that a tidal wave, such as I read about on the West Coast, would happen within three days, and you waited until the three days before you moved out all of the people and protected their property. I think it was a case—the evidence is—where it was there, that it would happen. I think this was too big a thing for the local police to handle.

Mr. WINN. What you are saying is that, as the Committee has heard in the last several days, the police did the best they could under the circumstances?

Mr. HAASE. Yes, sir, under the circumstances.

Mr. WINN. That seems to me to be about the whole story in a nutshell.

Many of us think, too, that after the experience we had in Detroit, where there was a long lapse before the troops were moved in, that possibly the District of Columbia could have moved earlier. There seems to be some discrepancy there as to how soon they moved in.

Does the Washington Board of Realtors have any recommendations to make on types of protective improvements, other than maybe additional policemen or Federal troops?

We cannot continue to move Federal troops in and out.

It cost us over \$5 million to bring them in here in April.

Mr. HAASE. I think that looting is a crime; that vandalizing is a crime, and that these crimes should be met with extreme measures. I, for one, believe in the strict policy of law enforcement.

You saw in the papers, you saw in Time Magazine, and in Life Magazine, and in other news media, people running in and out of the stores.

Mr. WINN. Could you get your Board to go on record on that statement, to enforce the laws the way they are written?

Mr. HAASE. I certainly will try.

FINANCING RECONSTRUCTION

Mr. WINN. I think many of us would appreciate it if the businessmen would come out as a group and let the authorities know how they feel. Do you agree with the witness before you that the real estate people and the mortgage companies will not lend, or are very reticent about lending in neighborhoods such as the few that were badly hit?

Mr. HAASE. Absolutely.

Mr. WINN. And so there is a big movement underway to get additional money put in by the lending agencies and the insurance companies into these same districts to rebuild these districts, making a big front-page splash about the money they are going to put in there, but