

back leading into one of the warehouses, and there was a hole in the warehouse. They had something like 200 portable televisions in there, probably 100 typewriters and the Lord knows what else. The gang was looting all of these things. It was an organized gang. So, he immediately went out and got an officer and told him about this hole. "They have broken into my place, and they are looting," he tells him. He looked down and he said, "It is almost curfew time. Get off the street, or else we will have to lock you up." So, the boy left. He was worried. So, he goes to one of his friend's houses, and he repeated the story to him. I do not know what was done. Nothing was done.

The whole day, they paraded and they looted. They went through a house next door and on down the street.

The Metropolitan Police Department had been a very efficient organization, very efficient, always had done a wonderful job. If they were not given orders not to do anything, why would this thing have occurred?

And for any individual to prove that they were given such orders is impossible, because the orders are not given to a layman but to the members of the police department.

That is the story.

As to removing the debris or the building, it is really out of reason to order us to do it. My income is gone. My brother's income is gone. We will collect some insurance.

The next question was: Would the insurance company pay off?

I have been paid for my building, which is about one-half of the value of the building, I guess, if we want to rebuild it. The insurance companies are paying off, that is, my company is.

Mr. WINN. Do you know, percentagewise, how many in businesses similar to yours are going back in?

Mr. PARKS. I think that probably that three-quarters of them would like to go back. I do not think that any of them will go back unless they are assured of protection. How can you possibly rebuild a business and go back in when fellows like this issue statements: "Build them up and we will burn them down." And he, incidentally, is being paid by you and the rest of us. He has a Government job—Marion Barry, and he teaches these boys that work under him the black power movement. This is not any imagination. I have been around these people.

Mr. WINN. I think we are familiar with his operations. You do not think that anybody will go back into business under the present circumstances?

Mr. PARKS. I would think 50 per cent will go back in providing they are assured of protection.

Mr. WINN. Thank you.

Mr. WHITENER. You mentioned what you had out in front of your building. I happened to have been up through that area. Was your building the one where they actually tore the metal open?

Mr. PARKS. No, sir, my building was the only building with the rail still standing. It was the only one. The walls were down, but the railing was standing up. They did not destroy that railing. The only time it came down is when they came along and hit the building.

Mr. WHITENER. We certainly thank you for being with us.