

CRIME AND VIOLENCE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SPECIAL INVESTIGATING SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, D.C.

The Special Investigating Subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:05 a.m., in Room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Honorable John Dowdy (Chairman of the Special Investigating Subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Dowdy (presiding), and Broyhill.

Also present: James T. Clark, Clerk; Hayden S. Garber, Counsel; Sara Watson, Assistant Counsel; Leonard O. Hilder, Investigator, and Donald Tubridy, Minority Clerk.

Mr. Dowdy. The Special Investigating Subcommittee has been called today to receive testimony from several representative groups in Washington with respect to crime and violence in the District of Columbia. The District of Columbia Committee has received over recent months many calls, letters and complaints from businessmen and Government employees, private employees and other citizens of Washington, with respect to the breakdown of law and order here in the District.

The Committee thought that it would be enlightening and helpful to hear the firsthand experiences of some of the local businessmen and citizens, and perhaps also receive their recommendations as to further appropriate steps which the Committee and the Congress might take to alleviate the distressingly unsafe conditions in the District.

We are pleased to have our colleague, Mr. Machen of Maryland, with us this morning. I know you were particularly interested in having this hearing. I am sorry that other matters that we have had hearings on in the Committee have prevented us from getting to it earlier.

We will be pleased to hear you.

STATEMENT OF HON. HERVEY G. MACHEN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Mr. MACHEN. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you for scheduling this hearing in response to my letter of May 24, asking that additional witnesses be heard on the crime situation in the District of Columbia. The witnesses who will appear, I believe will represent a real cross section of your involved citizens and business and working community and government employees.