

would not go in that Resurrection City and would let them do as they pleased? Who issued that order?

Mr. CASTRO. Mr. Chairman, I do not believe such an order was issued. I don't recall issuing such an order and I am sure the Chief didn't issue such an order. Under the permit issued to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference they were to provide marshals to do their own policing, but this did not preclude the National Park Police or the Metropolitan Police from coming on the scene. I don't know how the story got abroad that the Park Police or the Metropolitan Police could not come on the scene. This is not so and certainly no order was issued to that effect.

Mr. Dowdy. This was what happened, was it not?

Mr. CASTRO. I don't think so, Mr. Chairman. There were many occasions when the Park Police went in and made arrests where necessary.

The impression is also current that the Park Police were instructed not to make arrests in Resurrection City. This is not true, sir. We certainly did not instruct our Park Policemen not to make arrests in Resurrection City. We asked them to use judgment and restraint, but they were not told not to make arrests.

Mr. Dowdy. One of the judges, I forget who it was, made the comment he was amazed that such an instruction was given. Actually, they set up an independent country which governed itself within the United States. Of course if there was not an order or a tacit understanding, it was amazing to me that such a rumor got out, if it was a rumor.

Mr. CASTRO. The closest thing we came to was an understanding—not an instruction—to the Park Police, because of the explosive nature of this exercise, that they must use the best judgment they had ever used in their lives and also must be somewhat restrained, and we think that decision was correct.

Mr. Dowdy. You said you knew it would be an explosive situation?

Mr. CASTRO. It could have been, sir.

Mr. Dowdy. Now, knowing that why was a permit issued in the first place?

Mr. CASTRO. Because this was a determination that was made by officials in addition to or higher than myself. It was a determination made jointly by a number of the interested agencies in the District, including the Interior Department, the National Park Service, the Justice Department, and the District of Columbia Government. This was not a unilateral decision. It was a joint decision made by a number of agencies that have responsibilities within the city.

Mr. Dowdy. And knowing the explosive nature of the situation, that decision was made anyway?

Mr. CASTRO. I made the allusion to explosiveness unwisely. It was potentially explosive but the decision was made to grant the permit and again I say this was not a unilateral decision.

PERMIT FOR RESURRECTION CITY

Mr. Dowdy. Could you give us for the record a copy of the agreement you had with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference?

Mr. CASTRO. Yes, indeed.

Mr. Dowdy. Thank you. It will be made a part of the record at this point.