

America and the great Baptist Church in such an unbelievable manner. I deplore the decisions of the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior which deny to them the same privileges accorded to another group which has descended upon Washington and been given an official permit to set up an encampment on park lands.

The people of this Nation will not long tolerate such abuses by their Government.

PARK POLICE

Mr. GUDE. Mr. Castro, you spoke about the arrest procedure. You have 308 patrolmen in the police force?

Mr. CASTRO. Mr. Gude, we have 363 authorized police positions in the organization. Fifty-five of these were authorized in the current fiscal year, meaning 1969. However, because of the very rigid personnel restrictions we have now, we cannot fill them.

As a matter of fact, out of 363 authorized positions we have 277 filled as of today.

Mr. GUDE. Your park policemen receive the same pay increase as the District police?

Mr. CASTRO. Yes, sir.

Mr. GUDE. Has this made any difference?

Mr. CASTRO. I am sure it has. Chief Wright can address himself to that better than I can.

Chief WRIGHT. We have many more applicants appearing. We can give more encouragement toward employment.

Mr. GUDE. You say you cannot fill the positions? Why?

Mr. CASTRO. Because of the restrictions imposed on us by the Congress and the Bureau of the Budget.

Mr. GUDE. In the course of their duties, your officers have to make arrests in the same manner as the Metropolitan Police, in such areas as DuPont Circle?

Mr. CASTRO. We exercise concurrent jurisdiction, but because it is a park the presence of the U.S. Park Police is more evident than that of the Metropolitan Police, although the Metropolitan Police make arrests there, also.

Mr. GUDE. As far as the workload is concerned, to a certain extent your officers are handicapped in the same way the Metropolitan Police are?

Mr. CASTRO. More so. The District Government does not have to observe personnel ceiling restrictions as we have to observe them. In other words, if they are authorized to fill 3,000 positions they can fill them as long as they are able to get men.

In our case because of our ceiling problems we cannot fill perhaps over 300 of them. This is my problem.

Because of personnel ceiling limitation, we can fill only 1,269 of our authorized 1,590 positions.

Mr. GUDE. It was not the intent of Congress in cutting funds that it should apply to police of the National Capital Parks or anywhere else in the government sphere.

To get back to the job of the policemen who worked under you, I wondered about this backlog in the Court of General Sessions and