

Section 2(5) of these bills would transfer to the proposed Police Commissioner the functions, powers, and duties of "the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution with respect to the National Zoological Park Police Force."

The duties and responsibilities of the Zoological Park Police differ from those normally expected of a police officer and thus require special training and experience. The Smithsonian Institution therefore considers that direct control over the police enforcement responsibilities attendant with the National Zoological Park is in the public interest.

It is incumbent upon the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to assure public safety for the millions of visitors. This responsibility encompasses measures of enforcement including a 24-hour vigilance over a large park area with some 3,000 wild animals.

The National Zoological Park Police also serve as information guides and continuously assist the visitors to this wildlife habitat.

The Smithsonian Institution accordingly does not favor this legislation.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that from the standpoint of the Administration's program there is no objection to the presentation of this report to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES BRADLEY,
Acting Secretary.

Mr. Dowdy. The North Washington Council of Citizens Associations, Mrs. Ernest Howard.

STATEMENT OF MRS. ERNEST HOWARD, PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS

Mrs. Howard. I have a short statement, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, since the vilification of the policemen has become the order of the day and since policemen are the protectors of our lives and property, we are glad to endorse H.R. 14430 and H.R. 14448.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that there is an organized conspiracy at work in the nation to discredit the law enforcement officers of this land, and especially in our city. This is a technique that is directed toward the discrediting of the police in the eyes of the public.

Groups are trained in crushing police opposition, to discredit police officials among the rank and file, and to check and rifle administrative and security units. Even on routine calls, their lives are now endangered.

The police officer is now always on the defensive, both from City Hall and the criminals.

We can hold meetings, approve commissions, create new positions, create more committees, and we can make speeches in other cities and quote statistics ad infinitum but this will not solve the problem of crime and disorder in the Capital of the United States, which is Washington, D.C.

These attacks are dangerous for two reasons: One, they are fanatical, disciplined, and skilled in the underground method.

Two, their strategy and technique is to centralization, a campaign against the police in one state being a campaign in another, and so on throughout the other countries of the world.

We believe the police officer in our Nation's Capital should not put himself in a defensive position every time he responds to a call. We can no longer afford to allow the police officers to be dealt with or relegated to the same level as the criminal. There is only one way to