

Mr. BROYHILL. You still have the restriction that you must get your recruits from the Park Police or from the Metropolitan Police force? I know of certain instances in which you wanted to obtain certain personnel from the Metropolitan Police Department, these people wanted to be transferred, but you could not get the cooperation of the Metropolitan Police Department in obtaining those particular people.

I believe that from the standpoint of recruitment and training, this legislation would be of assistance to you in helping to streamline this procedure.

So far as the protection of the President and the responsibility of the Secret Service is concerned, and in relation to the Secretary of the Treasury, I think all of this can be handled satisfactorily.

Mr. HUMPHSTONE. I am happy to hear that, Mr. Broyhill.

Are there other questions we can answer?

Mr. DOWDY. Thank you very much.

At this point, we will insert into the record the letter of the General Counsel of the Treasury to Chairman McMillan on this proposed legislation.

(The letter referred to follows:)

THE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE TREASURY,
Washington, D.C., April 4, 1968.

HON. JOHN L. McMILLAN,
Chairman, Committee on the District of Columbia,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Department would like to take this opportunity to comment on H.R. 14430 and H.R. 14448, identical bills, "To establish a Commissioner of Police for the District of Columbia," which are pending before your Committee.

The proposed legislation would consolidate the five separate police forces now operating in the District of Columbia; i.e., the Metropolitan Police, United States Park Police, Capitol Police, White House Police, and National Zoological Park Police. These forces would all be under the complete jurisdiction of a Commissioner of Police appointed for a four-year term by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate, acting jointly. A nine-member Advisory Commission would also be appointed by the Speaker and the President pro tempore.

The Department would be strongly opposed to the provision in the proposed legislation which would transfer to the Police Commissioner the functions, powers, and duties of the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the White House Police. As you are aware, section 202, title 3, United States Code provides that the White House Police shall be under the control and supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury and shall perform such duties as the Secretary may prescribe in connection with the protection of the Executive Mansion and grounds, White House offices and the President and members of his immediate family. The Secretary has delegated his functions under the aforementioned statute to the Director of the Secret Service. Pursuant to the provisions of section 3056, of title 18, United States Code, the protection of the President and members of his immediate family is also a statutory responsibility of the Secret Service. It is the Department's position that the protection of the President and his family is best accomplished by placing the responsibility for such protection under the direction and control of one organization. The agency responsible for Presidential protection is the Secret Service. To remove the White House Police from under the direction and supervision of the Secret Service could compromise and weaken the existing protection system, and result in a fragmentation of the authority and responsibility for the protection of the President of the United States.

The Department has been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection from the standpoint of the Administration's program to the submission of this report to your Committee.

Sincerely yours,

FRED B. SMITH,
General Counsel.