

is something which is accepted by members of the Department generally.

Mr. WHITENER. Well, gentlemen, if you have no further comment I express to you our appreciation for your presence. We will certainly give this matter every possible consideration.

I believe we would like to hear from these gentlemen who are giving their service in the reserve forces and get their views.

Chief LAYTON. We have Lieutenant Jani of the Eighth Precinct and Lieutenant Fletcher from the 14th Precinct originally and now assigned to our Special Operations Division.

Mr. WHITENER. Do you gentlemen have any comments you would like to make for the record about the reserve proposal which this bill contains?

Lt. FLETCHER. I have been a member of the Reserve Corps since 1950 and I think over the period of time I have given it a little better than 10,000 hours.

My experience with the Reserve Corps is one which I think all the members feel that they are giving something which they should give as citizens to help make this a better place for all of us to live.

I think that the bill now before us would be one of the greatest morale builders for the Reserve Corps we can have, uniform insurance. Those are the two things I hear them speak of most.

Mr. WHITENER. In your reserve program have you experienced any difficulty in getting a quick response from the reserve members when you needed them for some particular assignment?

Lt. FLETCHER. No. Most of my time has been in the 14th Precinct. On all occasions that I know of we have gotten in very quickly a large number. One night a little child was missing and as late as 11 o'clock at night I had 56 men in there by 12 o'clock.

Mr. WHITENER. What have you found as to cooperation with regard to employers with the members of your reserve forces generally?

Lt. FLETCHER. Generally I think it is very good. I work for the Federal Government and if you stop to think how much 10,000 hours is—last year I put in over 1300 hours, and that was because my officials at work permitted me to be on administrative duty.

Mr. WHITENER. What about the private employers of some of your people? Are they appreciative of the work of the reserve forces which are employed by them?

Lt. FLETCHER. Yes. Some of the department stores downtown and the utility companies have given us very good cooperation.

Mr. WHITENER. I would think that in your precinct the presence of these reservists, whether in uniform or not, would have a very salutary and wholesome effect and deter criminal activity more than we ever would be able to estimate. What would be your view?

Lt. FLETCHER. I would agree with you, sir.

Mr. WHITENER. This may be as important as filling in on a beat some night, the fact that you are there in a community and have some color of authority as police officers. Would you say that?

Lt. FLETCHER. Yes, sir. Even during the time there were a few whiskey store holdups, we placed them outside in uniform. We always feel that this helped keep the criminal away.

Mr. WHITENER. Do you have some thought on that point, Mr. Murphy?