

I don't think we have any more questions.

We appreciate your taking the time out of  
a very busy day and week to come here and  
talk with us.

\* \* \*

**MALCOLM TALBOTT, Sworn.**

**EXAMINATION**

**BY MR. GOLDMAN:**

**Q** Mr. Talbott, for the record would you just  
briefly state your full name and where you live and your  
position, both professional and civic, and briefly your  
background.

**A** All right. My name is Malcolm B. Talbott  
and I live in the City of Newark at 375 Mt. Prospect  
Avenue.

I am the Vice President of Rutgers, the State  
University for the Newark campus and the Co-Chairman of  
the Committee of Concern, which is a citizens group in  
the City of Newark.

I assume that this is the reason why I am before you.  
The other Co-Chairman with me is Oliver Lofton, a  
member of your Commission.

**Q** Would you briefly summarize the purposes of  
the Committee of Concern.

1           A     I not only will summarize it, I have a  
2 document which will save your young man a lot of time.

3           45     I think it will be much more useful to him.

4           there were some     MR. GOLDMAN: Mark that as an exhibit

5           for the record.

6           as its first goal. (Document marked Exhibit C-89 in

7           evidence.)

8           Q     Would you just describe what it is.

9           A     Yes, I will. The Committee of Concern was

10          formed during the civil disorders which occurred here

11          in Newark to help restore peace.

12          This was its first purpose.

13          I think the organization was somewhat unique at the

14          time in Newark. It represented not only a reservoir of

15          a great many diverse people but it was something that

16          started on its own initiative without really anyone

17          calling it together.

18          of Mr. Dickinson DeBervouse, a member of the bar in Newark,

19          and I at the University received calls from a number of

20          people who were concerned on Saturday that something be

21          done to restore peace to what was then this riot-torn

22          city.

23          He called me and we decided we should get the people

24          who had called him and the people who had called me

25          together.

1 This was approximately 20 people. We set a time  
2 for gathering together at the Robert Treat and about  
3 45 people showed up and before the meeting was over  
4 there were some 56 people present.

5 This was on Sunday afternoon. The Committee took  
6 as its first task communication between those who were  
7 there represented and the Governor, who was in the  
8 Sussex Street Armory at that time, to let him know that  
9 there was a group of other citizens in addition to  
10 some other groups who were interested in doing everything  
11 we could immediately to restore peace to this city.

12 I think that it served as a kind of catalyst and  
1 still does for bringing together certain segments of  
2 our city who were not before, by the way, associated  
3 closely with each other or in communication very deeply  
4 with each other, to act, I hope, to eliminate what I  
5 would call conditions in what I now term the target area  
6 of this city, attitudes, deprivations which exist in that  
7 part of the city and which perpetuate the difficulties  
8 which I think gave rise to the disturbances which were  
9 held. The money that we think is going to have to be

10 Now the principal objectives of this committee is  
11 first of all to give its full efforts toward the adoption  
12 of measures which will indeed eliminate or alleviate the  
13 problems of the ghetto and, by the way, the problems of

1 the city that are in that particular target area for  
2 these are so interrelated that you can't separate one  
3 from the other.

4 The short-range goal was to have us focus on the  
5 current actions that would actively demonstrate a kind of  
6 renewed interest in this community and a continuing--  
7 and I emphasize the word "continuing"--concern about the  
8 urban problems and the long-range goals, you know, are  
9 those nice big precatory well-sounding things like erasing  
10 poverty, blueprinting in detail, timetables for action,  
11 working out cost estimates, assigning some responsibilities  
12 to people who we believed or groups that we believed  
13 had not previously assumed those responsibilities that  
14 might well have done so, and we hoped to be ingenious about  
15 methods and sources of revenue and also do something about  
16 suggesting the kinds of administrative structures that  
17 might carry out some of these programs.

18 We knew that there had to be understanding and  
19 agreement at all levels of government as to the goals of  
20 any programs because, quite frankly, they sit on the  
21 tap of the money that we think is going to have to be  
22 added to the personal resources that will solve these  
23 problems.

24 Therefore, if we were to have long-range commitments,  
25 it became immediately necessary for working through estab-

1 lished existing governmental structures.

2 The Committee decided to use its offices to  
3 communicate, therefore, to federal, state, local govern-  
4 ments, business, other private sectors of the economy,  
5 proposals which could be adopted promptly.

6 Believe me, no magic wand, long-range solution  
7 of problems, but the kind of thing that could be  
8 achieved during the near future and we hoped would be  
9 instrumental in reducing some of the tensions that  
10 existed within the community.

11 Now in order to do that, we agreed to assist  
12 actively with the coordination between existing organiza-  
13 tions and agencies which were now engaged in various  
14 anti-poverty, social, economic service activities and  
15 I might add, we have representation of all of these within  
16 this committee, and we would like to suggest, we thought,  
17 some over-all priorities about who should move where  
18 first with what.

19 The committee want to displace parallel or overlap  
20 functioning organizations and in short, we would like  
21 to see some created where there was none that a task  
22 should be given to solve.

23 We also wanted to involve individuals and organiza-  
24 tions who hadn't previously worked actively toward the  
25 solution of the problems in this city and I think to

1 encourage the continuing participation of those individuals  
2 and groups who had already done a great deal for this  
3 city. In the area in which these individuals have

4 place. It was also the desire of the committee in a very  
5 personal way to assist individuals from all walks of life  
6 to assume leadership roles where they hadn't done this  
7 before, in undertaking the solving of these community  
8 problems and in order to do this, one of the things which  
9 we did waste to try to identify what I think many of us  
10 already recognized, those problem areas, and get people to  
11 work on them or at least thinking immediately about this,  
12 and those areas which came out where, of course, as you  
13 might well expect, education, health and welfare, planning  
14 and zoning problems, communications, community participa-  
15 tion, police and legal affairs, jobs or employment,  
16 manpower, whatever you want to call it, economic develop-  
17 ment from the little business to the big one that has  
18 800 jobs, surely voter registration, doing something about  
19 the deplorable condition of the housing that exists  
20 within the city, doing something again about recreation  
1 and cultural opportunities within an area where none  
2 existed.

3 Let me digress for just a little very strong visual  
4 thought.

5 Within this city, if you don't go on the other side

1 of the railroad tracks into the Ironbound area, you can  
2 find 7 recreational areas.

3 In the area in which these disturbances took  
4 place is one of those 7.

5 MR. GIBBONS: Would you describe the  
6 recreational areas?

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, I will.

8 And except for two of the recreational areas,  
9 which are Washington Park, Lincoln Park and  
10 a third one, Military Park in Downtown Newark,  
11 Waverly Park, the smallest of them all, is the  
12 one that is in the area where the disturbances  
13 took place.

4 If you see this on a map, what you  
5 find is all around the perimeter of the  
6 central part of the city and indeed, parts  
7 of the North Ward, West Ward and the South  
8 Ward, you will find Weequahic Park, West Side  
9 Park, Branch Brook, plus the 3 downtown and  
0 plus Waverly and Waverly is the small one  
1 and it is in the area where we have the prob-  
2 lems.

3 Well, that is just a little digression.  
4 I described them for you because it does  
5 happen that the recreation areas are pretty

1 faraway from where the people lived who got  
2 involved in this.

3 We also have a code enforcement and  
4 here we are talking about health and housing  
5 codes.

6 We have a committee on labor and one  
7 on youth.

8 Now we have tried to set out--and I  
9 will indicate in here--the kind of course  
10 that should follow so that we didn't go  
11 off in a diffuse thing of people just crying  
12 out in any way, shape or form as to what  
13 should be done.

14 We also identified in each of these  
15 committees particular things which they should  
16 undertake and I have reports which I would  
17 like to mark for you, if you care to look at  
18 them, of what has happened in each of these  
19 committees.

20 I have a little more graphic way of  
21 showing you that in just a moment.

22 MR. GIBBONS: Will you describe each  
23 report and have him mark it as a committee  
24 exhibit?

25 THE WITNESS: For example, each of the



1 committees which I mentioned before has with  
2 it a report on what progress has been made.

3 For example, the employment committee  
4 has with it some of the things that have been  
5 done by the group that has been working here.

6 The Economic Development Committee,  
7 the Committee on Police and Legal Affairs,  
8 and as I say, I will give you this somewhat  
9 more detailed when I give this to you which I  
10 think will save your time.

1 MR. GIBBONS: Let him now mark each of  
2 those as a committee exhibit.

3 (Documents marked Exhibits C-90 to  
4 C-102 in evidence.)

5 (Document marked Exhibit C-103 in evi-  
6 dence.)

7 THE WITNESS: C-103 is the pamphlet  
8 entitled "Committee of Concern" and this is  
9 an indication of kind of organization which  
10 exists in the Committee of Concern, plus a  
1 definition of the committees and the activities  
2 which they have engaged in, as well as an  
3 indication of the priorities and sources of  
4 support for the Committee of Concern.

5 Kidd, Now I think we can go through this

1 rather quickly.

2 I would like to do that at this point.  
3 There are two Co-Chairmen for the Committee  
4 of Concern, Oliver Lofton, who is the  
5 Executive Director of the Newark Legal  
6 Services Project, and Malcolm Talbott  
7 who is before you now.

8 We have one Vice Chairman, Monsignor  
9 Dooling, from the Archdiocese of Newark.

10 We have an authorization for 4 additional  
11 Vice Chairmen and these posts have not been  
12 filled for the specific reason that you  
13 will find that there are some other additional  
14 authorizations that have come to this committee  
15 and we have not filled them because we wanted  
16 to flesh it out with people that we thought  
17 might generally be willing to work with this  
18 committee that were not originally willing  
19 to work because they were either too frightened  
20 or apprehensive, or they wanted to hold back  
21 until they see how this committee really  
22 performs, whether it is safe to work with it  
23 or not, in my opinion.

24 We have a secretary, who is Mrs. Marian  
25 Kidd, who is also President of the Welfare

1 Mothers and who lives in Central Ward, and  
2 Thern Marshall, of the National Newark &  
3 Essex Bank, is our Treasurer, and we have  
4 one staff assistant and fortunately I have  
5 been able to have two for the last 3 weeks,  
6 who is full-time as well as a secretary who  
7 who works with him and my own secretarial  
8 staff, which is greatly over-burdened by this  
9 work at the university but is willing to do  
10 it.

11 There is also an Executive Committee of  
12 the Committee of Concern that is made up of  
13 6 people and on that Executive Committee are  
14 Kenneth Gibson, who lives in the City of  
15 Newark, George Richardson, and I think a number  
16 of these people whom I am mentioning have  
17 appeared before your Commission already,  
18 by the way, Albert Black, from the Newark  
19 Human Rights Commission, E. Carroll Garathy,  
20 students from the Seton Hall Law School, who  
21 who is a Senior Vice President of Prudential  
22 in Personnel, Abe Sudrin who is the Executive  
23 Director of the Essex County Jewish Community  
24 Council, and Jessie Allen, who is a profes-  
25 sional person working with Area Board 3 of the  
United Community Corporation.

1 There are 3 additional people authorized  
2 to be added to this Executive Committee.

3 These will contain, we hope, more  
4 people from the Italian-American Community,  
5 from the Spanish-speaking Community and more  
6 people from business who will help us to  
7 flesh out those things that are authorized  
8 but not yet filled.

9 The next page relates to the subcommittees  
10 and the only thing that I need to do, having  
11 already mentioned them, is to give you some  
12 idea of who the Co-Chairmen are who work on  
13 these committees.

14 I would like to do that. At the time  
15 this was drawn, under the Code Enforcement  
16 Committee, we had no Co-Chairmen who were  
17 existing.

18 We have since organized a group of 8  
19 students from the Seton Hall Law School, who  
20 as you will find later are taking on a special  
21 project in relation to Code Enforcement.

22 In our communications as Co-Chairmen  
23 we have Miss Constance Woodruff, who is an  
24 organizer for the International Ladies Garment  
25 Workers Union who lives in Newark, and Mr. Henry

## Talbott

1                   Arnsdorf, who is Vice President of Public  
2                   Relations in the corporate home office of  
3                   Prudential.

4                   In the Community Participation Committee,  
5                   Mr. Raymond Scruggs, who works for A.T. & T.  
6                   but who lives here in the City of Newark, is  
7                   the only Co-Chairman who presently exists.

8                   In the Coordinating Committee, which  
9                   is a committee I have not previously mentioned  
10                  but whenever we have 2 or 3 committees that  
11                  work with each other and they need coordination,  
12                  we use the people out of here to do that  
13                  coordination and the Co-Chairmen of that com-  
14                  mittee is Reverend Tucker from the Mt. Zion  
15                  Baptist Church in North Newark, and Mrs.  
16                  Beatrice Chasen, who is from the Essex County  
17                  Council of Jewish Women, part of the National  
18                  Council of Jewish Women.

19                  In the Economic Development Committee  
20                  our Co-Chairman here are Bruno Nancuso, who  
21                  is a Vice President of the National State Bank  
22                  of Newark, and Mr. George Kelsey, who is  
23                  the Executive Director of the Inter-racial  
24                  Council on Business Opportunities, commonly  
25                  called I.C.B.O.

Our education co-chairmen are Fred Meens, who is the President of one organization, the Organization of Negro Educators, and Mr. Mayer, who was the Chairman of the Newark Committee For Better Public Schools, with whom the Education Committee of the Committee of Concern merged some 5 weeks ago.

So there are now two co-chairmen.

In the employment co-chairmanship we have Mr. Vincent Biunno, who is from the Worthington Corporation, and Bill Mercer, who I think has appeared before your committee also, from the B.I.C.C.

On the Health and Welfare, Dr. Clarence Beverley, who represents an organization of Negro doctors.

He is an anasthesiologist at Beth Israel Hospital, and Ed Kirk, who is the Executive Director of the United Community Fund and Council of Social Agencies of Essex County.

Our housing co-chairmen are Philip Hoffman--

MR. GIBBONS: Can I interrupt you for a minute?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

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1 MR. GIBBONS: Do you have this in  
2 writing?

3 THE WITNESS: I can give it to you.  
4 It might be easier.

5 MR. GIBBONS: We are much more interested  
6 in what you have to say than in the names.

7 THE WITNESS: All right. I will give  
8 you this in writing at a little later point.

9 Let's turn to the activities. The thing  
10 I am interested in seeing is the kind of thing  
11 which a group of citizens without any money  
12 except \$1,800, by the way, has been able to  
13 do through ingenuity.

14 Now this doesn't mean that resources were  
15 not given to the committee to work because  
16 they were.

17 Indeed they were given and given willfully  
18 and willingly, willfully in that it was an  
19 agreement with the objectives which I think  
20 I have already stated, and willingly in that  
21 they were volunteered and not sought.

22 They were offered freely. That means  
23 the full-time staff assistance.

24 It also means that Mutual Benefit,  
25 New Jersey Telephone, Public Service Gas

1                   & Electric and the Prudential Insurance  
2                   Company do all of our mailing, all of our  
3                   typing, all of our printing, all of our  
4                   micrographing that we need done.

5                   Indeed this was prepared in one of  
6                   their shops, as you might well expect.

7                   I might add that the university also  
8                   as part of our community relations activity  
9                   makes use of staff people who are in our  
10                  Bureau of Community Services, as staff who  
11                  work with us in organizing this and we have  
12                  in that Bureau 4 full-time people such as  
13                  a Home Economist, a minority group specialist,  
14                  an urban agent and an administrator plus  
15                  secretarial assistance.

16                 The activities of these committees in  
17                 Code Enforcement, what we had with some 12  
18                 law students who came from Seton Hall who  
19                 said "We would like to get into a particular  
20                 problem.

1                   will "We would like to take a pilot area to  
2                   show what can be done."

3                   We had them meet with Mrs. Stalts and  
4                   Mr. Lembo, who is the Commissioner.

5                   Yes. They got turned off to some degree, I



1 think, but it is hard to keep a man who  
2 has been through college and is presently  
3 established in law school down.

4 I assure you they won't be kept down  
5 and they are working on the storefront in the  
6 Central Ward, and choose a specific area  
7 of approximately 3 blocks.

8 They know the law, We will protect  
9 them from practicing law before they are  
10 authorized to do so, I assure you.

11 They will do necessary investigations  
12 with voluntary cooperation.

13 They want to show what can be done  
14 in a limited area to discover what is happening  
15 in the city with regard to housing.

16 I think indeed it will be a very graphic  
17 way of showing this.

18 This may also lead to rehabilitation  
19 within that area.

20 It may also lead to some activity that  
21 will prevent violations because of the procedure

22 that is set up before violations can form a  
23 basis for fine.

24 Q Now you said that they were turned off.

25 A Yes.

1 Q What do you mean by that?

2 A We try to work through already existing and  
3 established operations. When I say turned off I mean  
4 this: You know, I walk through this city. I am not  
5 afraid but I am a man and it is a little bit like the  
6 postman walking by dogs.

7 The postman who is afraid gets bitten.

8 If I mind my own business and observe, I can see.  
9 I also drive through this city all the time and it doesn't  
10 take long for me to recognize what has already been stated,  
11 by the way, by Mrs. Stalts and Mr. Lembo, that there may  
12 be 80 percent of the housing in this city which is  
13 deficient if you really want to go after it for code  
14 violations.

15 What do you do?

16 Do you empty out 80 percent of the housing?

17 Now the dimension of that problem is, yes, you have  
18 to take care of very serious things. They say, of course,  
19 that it becomes difficult to do this, but it is interesting  
20 to note that there is a 6-hour day that is a normal work  
21 day among city employees.

22 I think you know that we might expect a little more  
23 when we are in crisis from city employees and that indeed  
24 we might expect a little more by way of ingenuity on what  
25 we do.

1 Maybe we have to empty out some places while we  
2 repair them temporarily to at least comply with minimal  
3 aspects.

4 We have been so long delayed in rehabilitating  
5 housing that some of it is no longer habitable.

6 This I know from seeing myself.

7 Now how do I know?

8 Well, all I have to do is to go to Prince Street  
9 where some of us may have gone on Sundays, you know,  
10 to buy onion rolls or visit the street that was open  
11 for shopping always on Sundays.

12 I can walk into one hallway and I can see the slant  
3 of the stairway and, by the way, smell the urine which hap-  
4 pens to involve a little health violation.

5 I can also see that there is no lock on the door.

6 I can also see, by the way, that there are broken  
7 window panes.

8 I know somehow or other that the owner doesn't live  
9 in that house.

0 I can also give again a specific kind of testimony  
1 of being inside people's houses on Quitman Street and  
2 Camden Street and 16th Avenue and seeing the plaster fall  
3 while people are paying rent and, by the way, often that  
4 rent is paid by the public for welfare recipients, a  
5 very interesting expenditure of public funds.

1 I can also take you to a section of the city that  
2 is located between Elizabeth Avenue and Clinton and  
3 show you what used to be single-family homes that now  
4 have multiple occupancy.

5 If you care to live there for a week you will find  
6 that where single families once lived when there were  
7 3 times a week collection but where now multiple  
8 families live in divided single-family houses, refuse  
9 collection takes place two times a week.

10 I can give you another basis for health violations  
11 against people who can't keep cans covered and closed  
12 because there is too much refuse to keep them covered  
13 and closed.

14 Q Is the sum and substance of what you say then,  
15 coming back to this turned-off concept, that even--

16 A The turned-off concept is this, and that is  
17 with the available forces which they have they cannot  
18 handle the problems that exist in this city and they have  
19 no money to hire additional people.

20 Q It is your view that with the available forces  
1 and with the available resources a better job could be  
2 done with better administration, is that the implication  
3 of what you say?

4 A I think that is always true. You bet it is.

5 For example, I think I could do a better job at the

1 university.

2 Q Do you think that a substantial difference  
3 could be made with good and efficient administration?

4 A Yes, I do.

5 Q It would really make a big difference to the  
6 people in the city?

7 A Yes, indeed. I do not think, by the way,  
8 that Newark is unique in this problem.

9 Now I have done the same thing in Jersey City down  
10 in the Van Vorst area. I have done the same thing in  
11 central Paterson or Passaic or Trenton, our nice state  
12 capitol, and Camden, around where the university is,  
13 or not very far from it.

14 Q Speaking about Newark now---

15 A Or back town Atlantic City, just to name  
16 another one.

17 Q --and focusing on this aspect, as you can  
18 imagine we have heard a great deal of testimony about the  
19 shortage of resources, the inadequacy of resources and  
20 there is no question that that is backed up not only in  
21 Newark but elsewhere, but focusing on the problem of  
22 what to do with the available, has your committee, those  
23 people concerned with various areas, come to some conclu-  
24 sions about specific things that are not being done right  
25 with what is available and what are they?

1 A Well, one of the things that I wanted to--

2 Q Could you cite some? I don't mean that you  
3 have to go across the whole range.

4 A I think you will find that one of the things  
5 I proposed be done is to have what I call the blueprint  
6 study of who should do what with what really is so  
7 easily recognizable as problems.

8 For example, it is possible that some things are  
9 beyond the ability of local government to accomplish  
10 without assistance from federal government and, by the  
11 way, without some extraordinary laws being passed by  
12 the state to enable things to be done.

13 When I talk about a blueprint I am talking about  
14 assigning responsibilities to people who should move  
15 singly or together or groups or organizations.

16 For example, many of the black people of this town  
17 believe that the business groups that are here can wave  
18 a magic wand and suddenly there will appear on the  
19 horizon 43 acres of new housing.

20 Now you know we've got some pretty good business  
21 organizations here but they've got no such magic wand.

22 Therefore, the assignment of this task may indeed  
23 be let us give some financing but there has got to be  
24 some rent supplement which has to come from somewhere to  
25 enable private people to build housing or you are not going

1 to get used the magnificent sums that are available from  
2 the insurance industry because they cannot build and  
3 rent these houses at the prices necessary to finance  
4 them out at the interest that must be paid.

5 3 percent money, yes, you can do it.

6 I am an old hand at this because the university  
7 knows how to get 3 percent money for some of the things  
8 that we might do.

9 You can't do it with 5½, 6 with some points added  
10 too.

11 So I am suggesting that you need a blueprinting  
12 for doing this.

13 Q But again, this gets into the area really  
14 of resources and facilities from elsewhere.

15 A You asked me for an example. I gave you one.  
16 I can give you other things.

17 Q What is possible within the city with avail-  
18 able resources?

19 A Yes. All it takes is individual ingenuity  
20 in some of these instances to do many of the things that  
21 are involved.

22 MR. GIBBONS: What are some of them?

23 THE WITNESS: All right. I will get  
24 to that but I would like to just, first of

25 all, call your attention to one of the things

1 about which is done by our communications committee,

2 the appeal to responsible citizenship and this

3 cost this Committee of Concern some \$1,200.

4 It was done at a time when we had the

5 canine crisis here.

6 Q What date This is not the only thing that was

7 A And done. We sitting down here who also

8 agreed. We did move with other groups,

9 mobilizing them, organizing them to the

10 Mayor and in conference but not publicly,

11 secured a pledge from Mayor Addonizio that

12 he would not implement, should it be passed,

13 the urging of the canine corps.

14 There are a number of such things that

15 happened, I might add, that don't become

16 public knowledge or public notice and

17 sometimes by the way, you don't get the kind

18 of agreement which was given at that point.

19 Q Are you Indeed you don't. You get instead

20 the kind of thing that happened, to my know-

21 ledge, to 5 different groups who went prior

22 to the time of the disorders in this city,

23 what prior to the summer, starting in March, April

24 and May, saying something must be done, and

25 who were told without exception "Don't worry



1 about this. We have everything under control."

2 Q Who said that?

3 A I will state this specifically. Mr. Nalfronte  
4 sitting on one side of Mayor Addonizio, who agrees with  
5 him.

6 Q What date was that?

7 A And Mr. Stalte sitting down here who also  
8 agreed.

9 Q Can you remember the date, roughly?

10 A I have the dates on my calendar. They were  
11 in March, April and May, 3 occasions, and subsequent  
12 meetings I might add, held in a conference room at  
13 Prudential at which there were present also members of  
14 the Department of Community Affairs, who heard the same  
15 story.

16 Nonetheless, some people did go ahead and try to  
17 do voluntary things on their own which were, you know,  
18 like 75 drops of rain when you need a good soaking shower.

19 Q Are you since starting this committee getting  
20 full cooperation from the city?

21 A I have as full cooperation as anybody can get  
22 from his city government.

23 Q What is your definition of "as full cooperation  
24 as anybody can get"?

25 A I thought I would have to explain that smile,

1 which doesn't appear on the record.

2 I think as full cooperation is this, and that is  
3 that I think the city has working for it many people  
4 who are discouraged about the prospects for what will  
5 happen in the city, whose political forces emerging which  
6 may in 1970 remove all of the people who presently think  
7 they have their opportunities in city jobs from positions  
8 that aren't subject to Civil Service, and I really  
9 believe this is so.

10 I find less leadership coming out of the City Hall  
11 than I think should come.

12 I find leadership having to come from other sources.

13 Now I must say that there are some exceptions and  
14 the mobilization that seems to be taking place now in  
15 a few offices seems to be pretty good.

16 For example, Bernard Nertman, who is in the Economic  
17 Development Office in Newark, seems to be taking initiative  
18 and moving.

19 I don't know how this is going to come out or  
20 what will result from it but it is really trying to get  
21 other people to join with the city to do things and I  
22 think this is a great idea.

23 I do think, however, that there is less of a leader-  
24 ship than we have seen in other cities.

25 I mention specific cities like Detroit, Philadelphia,

1 for example, or New York City, across the river.

2 There are all kinds of things that can be done  
3 as I see it by a group like this.

4 For example, why should a Committee of Concern  
5 composed solely of volunteers be the ones who assist  
6 the National Council of Negro Women to get to work with  
7 the National Council of Jewish Women to get black and  
8 white women of working classes together to talk with  
9 each other, to understand that they were both afraid  
10 and why they were afraid?

11 Why should they be the ones to organize that, to  
12 bring citizens within the same community into communication  
13 with each other?

14 I think the answer to that is very simple and that  
15 is some of the white people are angry at the Mayor and  
16 the city government.

17 Some of the black people dislike at a minimum or  
18 others hate the city government and therefore will not  
19 follow the leadership of it.

20 This is as simple as I can put it.

21 I am not being simplistic in saying this. I have  
22 experienced this.

23 You see, I suppose that a university and a professor  
24 is easily acceptable to a lot more groups of people,  
25 especially if he looks a little unpressed or like you remember,

1 Professor Sly and his tennis shoes. He could walk in  
2 where everybody else was in a black tie and you were  
3 somewhat shocked by his tennis shoes but after a little  
4 while you forget it and yet he could have gone anyplace  
5 in any of our city slums and he would have been imme-  
6 diately accepted there too.

7 Because we get this we can hear and I think hear  
8 more nearly the truth because there is no belief that  
9 we are seeking for something from the people with whom  
10 we talk.

11 I think sometimes, by the way, that the University  
12 is psychologically 5,000 miles away from the people who  
13 live on the hill, unless you are willing to go to the  
14 hill to talk to the people.

15 It is equally true, by the way, that psychologically  
16 there is 5,000 miles distance between the North Ward  
17 and Vailsburg and the people who live in the Central, the  
18 South and part of the East Ward.

19 It is a distance that exists because of a lack  
20 of knowing each other.

21 It is a psychological distance that ends up in we  
22 and they, instead of he and I.

23 It is thinking of people as lumps instead of as  
24 individuals.

25 It encourages what I call the dumbbell configuration.

1 It is wisely said. Did you ever do exercises with  
2 a dumbbell, two big balls at either end with a little  
3 narrow handle in between and what you have is all the  
4 black people over here and all the white people over  
5 here and a few people running back and forth in here  
6 communicating.

7 That is exactly where this city was after the  
8 disturbances.

9 MR. MEYNER: Isn't it there now?

10 THE WITNESS: No, I don't think that  
11 it is all there now.

12 I think that it is still tending to be  
13 the dumbbell thing.

14 The thing that the Committee of Concern  
15 is trying to substitute for that is what I  
16 call diagonals of society and if you want to  
17 look at them as black and white checkerboard  
18 on this diagonal as it goes up and down from  
19 the top social to the bottom social, top  
20 economic to the bottom economic, put a couple  
21 of arrows for communication from top to  
22 bottom and I don't care if it is communication  
23 only at a planning stage when something is  
24 going to affect other people's lives, like  
25 causing them to move for the third time within

1 two years because of an urban renewal project,  
2 you better let them know by their planning  
3 with you where they are going to go and how  
4 they are going to be relocated and what  
5 assistance they will get in being relocated  
6 and if you don't do that at the planning stage  
7 of moving them out, you can expect a problem.

8 I might add you could expect a problem  
9 from me if you moved me 3 times in 2 years  
10 and especially if I had 4 kids and a wife and  
11 I only made \$78 a week and I didn't know where  
12 they were going to sleep if you moved me out  
13 because I haven't as free a choice as other  
14 people have as to where I can live.

15 You know, I can look at the communities  
16 bordering on Newark, white Hillside, white  
17 Irvington, white Bloomfield.

18 They are, aren't they?

19 Almost all are. Then I look at Newark  
20 and I find 50 percent black.

21 Is that natural?

22 Sure, middle-class or those who make  
23 it secure move to East Orange or out to  
24 Orange, which, by the way, is a little Newark.  
25 They have the same problems. Or, by the way,

1 even into West Orange along that street

2 that is like another part of West Orange.

3 Believe me, it sure isn't like up the  
4 hill, is it?

5 People not being able to have mobility  
6 in where they live is one of the great prob-  
7 lems and we have got to do something about  
8 this.

9 MR. GIBBONS: Do you think the admini-  
10 stration has done anything to achieve greater  
11 communication than existed right after it  
12 in early August?

13 THE WITNESS: I surely do.

14 MR. GIBBONS: I haven't seen any of  
15 it.

16 THE WITNESS: That who has done any?

17 MR. GIBBONS: That there is any more  
18 communication between groups in the City of  
19 Newark than there was in August?

20 THE WITNESS: Well, I don't think that  
21 people it has affected enough people.

22 I know It isn't that people don't try. Let  
23 me give you a specific example of a try.

24 The Newark Police Department, the city  
25 government, and the Human Rights Commission

1 getting Seton Hall and Rutgers to work with  
2 them designed the police-community relations  
3 program.

4 They asked for enough for the 1,500  
5 authorized policemen plus 200 crossing guards  
6 all to be able to go through this course.

7 The idea was to bring black citizens  
8 and policemen together to get each to under-  
9 stand what the other was trying to do.

10 Well, you know, they got out of Com-  
11 munity Relations Service the grand total of  
12 \$100,000.

13 That meant they ran a nice pilot project  
14 for 150, 10 percent of the full force, but  
15 none of the crossing guards who were in the  
16 police and 175 of 200-plus thousand Negroes.

17 That was real communication.

18 Now when we are talking about communica-  
19 tion, there is no structure that you can  
20 identify in this city of leaders of black  
21 people.

22 I know this. I can get someone to get  
23 me 200 welfare mothers.

24 I can get a man who can get the tenants  
25 in Walsh Homes in North Newark to reach them



1 on bulletin boards and loudspeakers, or  
2 a coordinating manager of 3 housing projects  
3 in the Central Ward to make sure that his  
4 managers get things out or the President  
5 of a tenant's league or an honorary President  
6 of a tenant's league or the President of a  
7 Parent-Teachers Association to reach those  
8 people but they don't really lead them.

9 I can identify specific people. Let's  
10 not forget that Ken Gibson, when he ran,  
11 got 16,000 votes and we also found the United  
12 Freedom Party polling 10,000 votes.

13 It is also true that whenever I talk to  
14 individuals who tell me they lead a lot of  
15 people, I find they lead about as many as  
16 I do when it comes right down to it, or to  
17 put it another way, maybe we identify the  
18 little pork chop preacher who has a storefront  
19 church as having a bigger congregation than  
20 he thinks he has and if you get Negro clergymen  
21 they will tell you honestly that they might  
22 have on their rolls 3,000 people who attend  
23 their churches but indeed they can't guarantee  
24 you what they will do.

25 They can guarantee you what two or three

1 hundred will do but that's about it.

2 I think they are the personification  
3 of the male Christ figure to some single  
4 women and these are the ones that they can  
5 get to do what they want to have done.

6 MR. GIBBONS: Has the Committee of Con-  
7 cern considered any recommendations for this  
8 Commission?

9 THE WITNESS: We think that you will  
10 probably come up with certain things.

11 We know that you will. You can't  
12 help but come up with certain recommendations  
13 that will come out of this.

14 I think that you can identify problems.  
15 If you want to you can identify, as you  
16 already have said you will, the tinder, and  
17 maybe the thing which actually touched it  
18 off. It is also a revelation to the black

19 woman You want to know something? the white

20 I could have told you that by reading  
21 "Anatomy of a Riot", and Philadel-  
22 phia Story in 1964 because, believe me, that's  
23 Newark and the parallels are exact, they are  
24 there. ing-class people.

25 It is just like in relation to control

1 of the riot, there are lots of books that  
2 tell you how to divide crowds, to control  
3 them and here we are.

4 I can't tell you exactly what to do.  
5 I can tell you this, and that is that there  
6 has to be some way of increasing communication  
7 between the people who live in the city who  
8 believe they have differences.

9 Now I can give you this kind of thing.  
10 I can, for example, find the wife of a white  
11 policeman who talks with a mother of children  
12 in the Central Ward who is employed at night  
13 and finds that that woman is frightened to  
14 death that her husband, the policeman, is  
15 going to hit her over the head if she does  
16 anything untoward, and I mean like go to  
17 the door before he does without hanging back.

18 It is also a revelation to the black  
19 woman to find out that the wife of the white  
20 policeman believes that this woman and her  
21 neighbors are going to kill her husband.

22 That happened, you know, and this is  
23 this group that I am talking to you about  
24 of working-class people.

25 Now when they find that out they also

1 find out, by the way, if you increase the  
2 communication, that they both want the same  
3 thing.

4 I heard Frank Titus speaking about  
5 Barringer.

6 Well, you know, the parents of the  
7 Negroes who are there want something better  
8 for their children than they had.

9 I might add the Italian-American parents  
10 want something better for their children  
11 than they had.

12 When you get people together under-  
13 standing they are moving toward this, it is  
14 easier for them to move together to get it.

15 So long as you have these people in  
16 this dumbbell configuration I don't see how  
17 you move anywhere to the solution to a problem.

18 The first thing is to accept the challenge  
19 of the fear that exists between different  
20 people and get communication going on about it.

21 If you've got a labor problem, let's  
22 say you have had a strike or you are negotiating,  
23 you can't solve it until you get some collective  
24 bargaining going, some communication around  
25 the table.

1 If you don't you will just go right on  
2 with no production, no pay.

3 The same thing is true here. If there  
4 are these fears you won't stop it until you  
5 do something about it.

6 I think that the way we have to do this  
7 is to use every agency we can to bring people  
8 together who don't want presently to know  
9 each other as individuals.

10 There is another fascinating thing.  
11 There are more people who come into this  
12 community every day and who lived here and  
13 they go out of this community.

14 We are now going around Pittsburg, the  
15 most highly gaining city in the country.

16 If only one of those people who comes  
17 in out of those who come in would relate to  
18 just one other person here, and I don't care  
19 if it is just to be interested in what is  
20 being done, we can solve a lot of problems  
21 or a great many of them and it can be done.

22 I don't know whether Frank Titus told  
23 you about the Camden Street School.

24 The idea of getting 46 women from the  
25 suburbs to come in and relate to kids to tutor

1 them, great idea, good for the kids, good  
2 for the women, by the way.

3 Or the idea of having people work in  
4 the Burnett Street School with pre-school  
5 kids to give individual attention, which they  
6 don't have otherwise, from somebody who is  
7 white.

8 It keeps the hate from developing.

9 Now I also happen to believe that  
10 there does exist in this community a certain  
11 hard core criminal element and I also believe  
12 what is known as separatists and these are  
13 black separatists, exist here who will have  
14 nothing to do with white people.

15 If I were to make a guesstimate--and  
16 I emphasize the guess--what we would end  
17 up here with I would say are about 5 percent  
18 of each of those in the population and in the  
19 white population I've got the extremist who  
20 wants nothing but to sit on his porch with  
21 his gun if he can get away with it and by  
22 the way, I have seen it when I have gone to  
23 my home in North Newark from Central Newark,  
24 sitting on the porch with a shotgun, double  
25 barreled across your knees, waiting, just

1 daring them to come into that part of the city.

2 Or I have seen the police guards at  
3 Louis & Tingalings, where a broken arm and a  
4 couple of his teeth, white and black,  
5 fencing and it is all on the police blotter.

6 You can find it.

7 Another kind of thing is seeing during  
8 the riots taking my housekeeper home over  
9 behind Beth Israel Hospital on Goodwin Avenue  
10 where she lives and when I have her in the  
11 car with me I have to go out Park Avenue  
12 to Irvington to come in from the other end  
13 and then I get stopped 3 times by National  
14 Guardsmen who stick their guns in the car  
15 window while they lean down and look and I  
16 have got to go around and ingeniously whiz  
17 across, finally coming directly into another  
18 street to get to her street and then I let  
19 her off at her home and see she gets inside  
20 and I come back and everything opens beauti-  
21 fully, for there I am in the car alone and I  
22 am not stopped once.

23 Well, almost, yes, down on Elizabeth  
24 Avenue I am almost stopped by a drunken  
25 Negro man who is staggering across the street.

1 who hits my car as I go by.

2 That is on Saturday that this happens  
3 during the difficult times.

4 Now you know, that separates us and  
5 it is the division that we've got and it is  
6 the dumbbell again but I think that we can  
7 get people back together again with communica-  
8 tion.

9 I find fear disappears when you know  
10 people as individuals, when you find you have  
11 the same experiences.

12 One of the things that Dr. Karl Menninger  
13 says, which are so true, is that you cannot  
14 understand the violent actions that people  
15 give because you would not have done that  
16 and the reason you wouldn't have done it is  
17 because your experiences are not like theirs.

18 Therefore, you would not have acted  
19 in this same manner.

20 Now Menninger gives us a very good  
21 insight in that people will use non-verbal  
22 violence as a means of communication when you  
23 don't hear what they have been saying for a  
24 while.

25 You know, I took the trouble to look up



1 statistics on an interesting riot across  
2 the river in 1862 in New York City which  
3 was a race riot, people against people, 1,200  
4 people lost their lives during that riot or  
5 what is in my immediate memory, having been  
6 born and reared in Ohio, in 1943 in Detroit,  
7 Michigan, where people were hauled off street-  
8 cars and killed in a race riot.

9 Now I go back then to Watts in 1964,  
10 1965, 1966, 1967, right down to now, and I  
11 count the numbers of cities that had dis-  
12 turbances of the kind that you are considering,  
13 gentlemen, and I think of all of the people  
14 who lost their lives in those disturbances,  
15 in 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, and you know,  
16 although I am very mindful of the loss of life  
17 that happened in Newark and in other places  
18 like Plainfield, the total of the people who  
19 lost their lives does not add up to those  
20 race riots in 4 years.

21 Now what you have had are people against  
22 property instead of people against people and  
23 if you understand that, then you understand  
24 how to begin to get people back in communication  
25 with each other.

1 MR. GIBBONS: I am going to have to  
2 interrupt you because we have another witness  
3 who it has been rather difficult to get a  
4 hold of.

5 We have to hear him tonight.

6 THE WITNESS: I am suggesting therefore  
7 that what you do is just look through the  
8 remainder of this.

9 You will see some of the things that  
10 we are trying to do.

11 I would merely like to suggest to you  
12 that we are making some progress.

13 For example, we have some 330 Negroes  
14 people who applied for I.C.B.O. Committee of  
15 Concern course in basic bookkeeping and  
16 accounting and business practices.

17 That's where I go at 8 o'clock, by the  
18 way, to work with that group tonight.

19 We only had room for 240. We've got  
20 90 stashed away and they haven't dropped out  
21 and they are all black.

22 MR. GIBBONS: Do you have any other  
23 exhibits you want to leave with us?

24 THE WITNESS: No. I will leave this  
25 and the only other thing I will say to you is

1 that I hope that you will read in one of the  
2 newspapers tomorrow our call for the formation  
3 of an urban coalition.

4 I have a call for that formation here  
5 and the release is due for 9 a.m. on Friday,  
6 December 8, which I would like to leave  
7 again with you as records and you can mark  
8 these two if you will and what we are trying  
9 to do and what the coalition is that we  
10 hope will act.

11 We are intending, we hope, to get  
12 larger portions of this community to come  
13 with us.

14 We think we have been able to show  
15 enough kinds of accomplishment in getting  
16 development corporations organized that have  
17 things like \$350,000 worth of credit now  
18 or the operation of a shopping center.

19 We have been able to get some housing  
20 groups operating.

21 We were able to discover in one week  
22 115 jobs if you go looking for them.

23 We were able to find at the same time  
24 that there were training programs turning out  
25 21 tree-trimmers when two got jobs and 50

1 upholsterers when you couldn't get a job  
2 without having experience.

3 It's very interesting. Somebody  
4 better coordinate that and somebody better  
5 develop the jobs and get the inventory together  
6 or we are wasting millions of dollars in  
7 assets and if nobody else will do it I am  
8 going to see that something is done about it.

9 This is a city in which people can  
10 live and there are going to be all kinds of  
11 wonderful things here and it is going to be  
12 a place in which people can enjoy living  
13 and living together effectively.

14 I think if you rally citizens again  
15 and you take the dimensions of problems  
16 and divide them, they are not impossible.

17 Sure, it is not going to happen tomorrow.  
18 It may even take 300 years.

19 But you know it will take 400 years if  
20 we don't begin now.

21 I intend to spend some part of my life  
22 as I think most people do in this 600-individual  
23 member, 67 organization Committee of Concern.

24 It is continuing to grow and it will move  
25 and go without question.

Thank you.

MR. GIBBONS: Mark those documents in  
evidence.

(Documents marked Exhibits C-104 and  
C-105 in evidence.)

\* \* \*

MAJOR VICTOR E. GALASSI, Sworn.  
(Joseph A. Hoffman, Assistant Attorney  
General, appeared.)

EXAMINATION

BY MR. FORTUNATO:

Q Major, would you give us very generally your  
background and experience as a State Police Officer.

A I am a Major in the New Jersey State Police.  
I have been in State Police service for 21½ years.

About 15 years of that 21½ years has been in the  
Criminal Investigation Section.

Q Is there a statement you would care to give for  
the record before answering any specific questions?

A Yes, sir. There is a general statement I  
would like to give at this time that more or less sets  
the scene as to the events that took place in Newark.

MR. HOFFMAN: This is a statement of  
Commander Victor Galassi, Commander of the