

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 19, 1965 -- 9 a.m.

Continuation of Public Hearing Re. Petition of the American Civil Liberties Union for investigation of alleged Police Department practices and for establishment of a Police Review Board in the City of Seattle.

Mr. Luke, Chairman

All members of the City Council present except Mr. Miller who was excused because he was representing the City of Seattle in Olympia. (Present -- Mr. Alexander, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Eckmann, Mrs. Edwards, Mr. Best, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Luke). Mr. Massart was Acting Mayor and was present throughout the hearing.

Also present were A. L. Newbould, Corporation Counsel and the following members and staff of the Human Rights Commission: Elliott Couden, Charles M. Stokes, Rev. Lincoln Eng, Mrs. Kirby D. Walker, Johnny Allen, Rev. Samuel B. McKinney, John Eichelberger and Y. Philip Hayasaka.

The Committee considered:

- File No. 252114, petition of the A. C. L. U. for investigation of alleged Police Department practices.
- File No. 252113, Petition of N.A.A.C.P., et al., supporting the A.C.L.U.'s petition re. alleged Police Department practices.
- File No. 252130, Petition of Ben Daniels, Inland Bonding Company, et al., supporting Seattle's Police Department and charging that claims of Police brutality are unfounded and part of a national campaign.
- File No. 252129, Petition of Paul K. Thompson re. alleged Police Department practices.

Chief of Police F. C. Ramon presented the case for the Police Department. He and all the witnesses were sworn in by the Chairman of the Special Committee -- Councilman Wing Luke.

The Chief of Police, after presenting his statement, called on:

Deputy Chief M. E. Cook, who was questioned by A. L. Newbould, Corporation Counsel, after he had finished speaking. Councilman Carroll and Councilman Alexander also questioned Chief Cook.

The Chief of Police then proceeded to reply to the statements made at the hearing of the Special Committee on January 22, 1965 by the following persons:

Richard Variot, Kenneth Spencer, Richard Hoidal, Norman Hoppman, James E. Saxon, Clayton Hosteller, Maximillian Contreras,

The Special Committee recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

Communications were then received and read from Mayor J. D. Braman and King County Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll.

The Chief of Police then proceeded with his reply to the A.C.L.U. petition by discussing Mrs. Browning's statement; also statements of Alan Froelich and Mr. Ed Wood.

The Chief of Police then called on Gordon S. Clinton, private attorney and former Mayor of Seattle, for a statement. Following his statement, Mr. Clinton was questioned by Mr. Newbould, Corporation Counsel.

The Chief of Police then called on Mr. Richard D. Auerbach, formerly with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. After making a statement, Mr. Auerbach was also questioned by Corporation Counsel Newbould.

The Chief of Police then summarized his case and the Committee recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

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The Special Committee reconvened at 1:35 p.m. On a call of the roll, all members were present except Mr. Miller, who was excused. Mr. Massart was present as Acting Mayor.

The hearing then continued with Councilman Ted C. Best questioning the Chief of Police. Corporation Counsel Newbould and Councilman Carroll also questioned the Chief of Police further.

The Chief of Police concluded his presentation and the following persons from the audience were then sworn in and presented statements:

Mr. Wayne Wright, representing Mr. Philip D. Hamlin.

Mr. Wright then called on Mr. Harley Hudgens who was questioned by Mr. Wright.

Mr. Philip Hamlin was then called to make a statement and was questioned by Mr. Wayne Wright.

Mr. Fredrych P. Nelson, Bremerton, Washington

Mr. Robert Olson, representing the Citizens' Committee for Effective Law Enforcement, made a statement and presented Exhibit No. 10.

Mr. Donald E. Hetzel made a statement and presented Exhibit No. 14.

Mr. Millard Larson made a statement and presented Exhibit No. 15

Mr. Lawrence Timbers made a statement and presented Exhibit No. 16

Mr. Larry H. Abraham, Western Washington Coordinator of The John Birch Society, made a statement and presented Exhibits Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. Alvin Ziontz, Attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, was then granted 10 minutes to make a summation.

Motion was made by Councilman Mitchell, and seconded by Councilman Alexander, that the request of the American Civil Liberties Union for a Police Review Board be DENIED. Motion carried unanimously.

It was then moved by Mrs. Edwards, and seconded, that a Special Committee of the City Council be appointed to confer with the Mayor, Chief of Police and Corporation Counsel in regards to procedure in handling complaints against the members of the Police Department. Motion carried.

The meeting of the Special Committee of the City Council adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

List of Exhibits presented at the hearing are as follows:

- Exhibit No. 9 - Seattle Police Dept. file re. Mrs. Ola P. Browning. (2/11/65)
- Exhibit No. 10 -- Citizen's Committee for Effective Law Enforcement, by Robert Olson./
- Exhibit No. 11 -- Greater Seattle Committee to Support Our Local Police
- Exhibit No. 12 -- "Message from the Director" -- F.B.I. Law Enforcement Bulletin of January, 1965.
- Exhibit No. 13 -- Statement entitled "Alleged Police Brutality" by Philip D. Hamlin
Affidavit of Harley Hudgens in Support of the Seattle Police Dept.
and/or the conduct of arresting officers.
Affidavit of Elsie Anderson in Support of the Seattle Police Dept.
and/or the conduct of arresting officers.

Affidavit of H. D. Anderson in Support of the Seattle Police Dept.
and/or the conduct of arresting officers.
- Exhibit No. 14 -- Citizens's Committee for Effective Law Enforcement -- statement by Donald E. Hetzel, Chairman (2/11/65)
- Exhibit No. 15 -- Statement of Millard Larson -- Against formation of a Police Review Board.
- Exhibit No. 16 -- A Report on Police Review Board, by Lawrence Timbers (2/19/65)
- Exhibit No. 17 --Release of The John Birch Society, Belmont, Massachusetts (J. H. Rousselot)

List of Exhibits (continued)

- Exhibit No. 18 -- Twelfth Report of the Senate Factfinding Subcommittee on Un-American Activities, 1963 -- California Legislature.
-- Reference Page 39.
- Exhibit No. 19 -- Hearing before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate -- 87th Congress, 1st Session - June 13, 1961 -- "A Communist Plot Against the Free World Police"
- Exhibit No. 20 -- Summary Report of the Select Committee on Communist Aggression -- House of Representatives, 83rd Congress, 2nd Session, Under authority of H. Res. 346 and H. Res. 438 -- Dec. 31, 1954.
- Exhibit No. 21 -- Copy of "People's World" -- Saturday, November 28, 1964 containing an article entitled "Alarm spreads over Birch Cops".
- Exhibit No. 22 -- The September, 1963 Bulletin of The John Birch Society.

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