

1 Newark Housing Authority's Survey. This Area is  
2 blighted because the majority of the structures  
3 in the area are dilapidated. This area is  
4 blighted because the majority of the structures  
5 were found to be depreciated or obsolete in the  
6 recent re-appraisal study. This is a blighted  
7 area both by housing conditions and environmental  
8 conditions.

9 This area clearly meets all the condi-  
10 tions of blight in the New Jersey State Law.

11 Thank you Mr. Chairman.

12 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Thank you very  
13 much Mr. Walker, and the time is now 10:27.

14 The next speaker is Mr. Ulice Ward. Is  
15 Mr. Ward present?

16 A GENTLEMAN: No, Mr. Ward is not  
17 here. My name is James Walker, and I reside in  
18 the City of Newark.

19 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: For the record,  
20 ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Walker is on the list  
21 of speakers submitted by Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Moore.  
22 The Chair asks Mr. Walker if you will please give  
23 your full name and where you reside and whom you  
24 represent, please.

25 MR. WALKER: My name is James Walker

1 and I reside on Custer Place in the City of  
2 Newark. I am a poverty worker, and I speak for  
3 the people of the City of Newark.

4 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Mr. Walker, you  
5 may not have heard the Chair tell the previous  
6 speaker that all speakers will have thirty minutes  
7 to make their presentation, and an additional ten  
8 minutes to sum up. You may start, Mr. Walker.  
9 It is now 10:29.

10 MR. JAMES WALKER: Mr. Chairman,  
11 prior to your Chairing this meeting and according  
12 to the ground rules established in the last night's  
13 meeting -

14 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Will you speak  
15 a little louder please.

16 MR. JAMES WALKER: According to the  
17 ground rules established for last night's meeting,  
18 and I think it was read into the minutes here,  
19 that all people shall be heard. If the information  
20 that I have is pertinent to the issue at hand I  
21 don't see how you could reasonably confine me to  
22 thirty minutes, and I will accept the thirty  
23 minutes under protest.

24 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Thank you very  
25 much.

1 MR. JAMES WALKER: The last speaker  
2 here pointed out many areas what the planning  
3 Board, and he is an expert, has found for blight  
4 in the City of Newark. The one issue that he did  
5 not present to the people is, we understand these  
6 are blighted areas, but what provisions has this  
7 Planning Board made for the relocation of indivi-  
8 duals?

9 Last evening Mr. Richardson presented to  
10 you concrete facts that you are speaking in terms  
11 of re-locating anywheres from 780 to 1,800 people,  
12 and that really you are talking in terms of dis-  
13 placing something from 50 to 70 thousand people,  
14 and once again I ask the expert has he adequately  
15 researched and told us, or you, where these people  
16 will move.

17 Our problem at the present time, and I  
18 happen to live in the South Ward, I am here but  
19 I am not a part of the blighted area, I happen to  
20 reside in a building where my rent in the last  
21 month has risen \$28. And as the people move from  
22 the blighted area into my particular area they are  
23 displacing people there, people who will have to  
24 move because their incomes do not justify the  
25 increases in rents.

1 I wonder if the expert has taken this  
2 into consideration or has the Planning Board taken  
3 this into consideration.

4 Presently in my building, which is com-  
5 prised of a three-room apartments, we have seven  
6 and eight people living in three rooms because  
7 they have moved to declare other areas blighted.  
8 And people must have somewhere to live. They must  
9 have somewhere to live.

10 You yourself have placed on the Statutes  
11 ordinances stating that X number of square feet  
12 must be provided for each individual residing in  
13 an apartment. Have you also taken this into con-  
14 sideration when you drive people into the area  
15 and make them move into other areas? This again  
16 is one of the questions.

17 Now, in the case load we move into  
18 education. As they leave the blighted areas and  
19 move across into the South Ward, the East Ward and  
20 North Ward, what provisions have you made for pro-  
21 viding these children with adequate educational  
22 facilities?

23 At the present time, under the present  
24 structure we have 35 to 40 children per classroom.  
25 Many of these children attend half day sessions.

1 We have a drop-out rate here in the City  
2 of Newark for high school groups, a drop-out of  
3 35 percent, and this is not my figure. This is a  
4 figure that was submitted by Mayor Addonizio and  
5 in requesting Urban Renewal funds.

6 What provisions have you made for these  
7 children? You are creating another problem here.  
8 You are declaring one area blighted and you are  
9 moving to blight other areas.

10 Now, gentlemen, you asked me my name.  
11 You asked me my address. And for the record I  
12 would like to know where each one of you gentlemen  
13 reside.

14 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Mr. Walker we  
15 are listening. You will continue please.

16 MR. WALKER: Yes I will, but once  
17 again I ask you if you have the privilege of asking  
18 me my residence I also should have the privilege  
19 of asking you yours.

20 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: The reason for  
21 that request is very obvious, and it should be to  
22 you as well as to everybody else. At all our  
23 meetings conducted here we always ask the name  
24 and the address of the one who speaks, and whom  
25 they represent, whether in a Public Hearing such as

1 this or a Public Hearing that we hold on other  
2 purposes. That is simply a request which is  
3 ordinary in our Planning Board.

4 MR. JAMES WALKER: I agree with you  
5 sir, but once again I ask you where do you reside.  
6 Because I would like to know whom you represent.  
7 Because I cannot see how you could adequately  
8 represent me having no vested interest in the City  
9 of Newark.

10 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: You will continue  
11 with the assurance that I --

12 MR. JAMES WALKER: I cannot hear you.  
13 Would you speak louder.

14 CHAIRMAN COCUZZA: Please continue with  
15 the assurance that you are speaking to a taxpayer.  
16 Please continue.

17 MR. JAMES WALKER: Well sir, you may be  
18 a taxpayer but I question the validity of Mr. Booker  
19 serving on this Board. Mr. Booker happens to  
20 reside in the City of Scotch Plains. I cannot  
21 understand him being appointed to a Board that must  
22 displace people where he has no vested interest in.

23 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: You will please  
24 continue.

25 MR. JAMES WALKER: I am speaking -- you

1 know, this is germaine to your Urban Renewal  
2 Problem, because it says that we must have fair  
3 representation, and fair representation cannot be  
4 granted where a person does not reside in the City  
5 of Newark.

6 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Are you through?

7 MR. JAMES WALKER: No, I am not through.

8 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: You must remember  
9 that all of this transcript will be studied by the  
10 Planning Board.

11 MR. JAMES WALKER: Pardon me sir?

12 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: All of the trans-  
13 script will be studied by the Planning Board.

14 MR. JAMES WALKER: Well studied, yes, but  
15 we have found that studied means very little in  
16 the City of Newark. We have had many types of  
17 study on Urban Renewal and we have seen it railroad-  
18 ed. I am talking about things that are germaine  
19 to Urban Renewal, to this Blight Hearing. Now,  
20 we have had many hearings. And whether they are  
21 partial or not I would not say.

22 Now, getting back to the point at hand  
23 now, gentlemen, you sit there, and many of you I  
24 believe deep down in your hearts are honest, but  
25 some of you I question the honesty of, of some of

1 the people on the Planning Board, because consi-  
2 dering, considering the uprooting and the upheaval  
3 of the many families are you actually concerned  
4 with where the people could go?

5 Mr. Danzig said, and I happen to have  
6 had a great deal to do with Mr. Danzig about seven  
7 or eight years ago, Mr. Danzig was so little aware  
8 of the problems of the City of Newark that his  
9 Planning Board, or his department, did not know  
10 that there was nothing like two million dollars  
11 floating around begging for housing in the City of  
12 Newark, and he stands there and he puts on one of  
13 his experts to locate the money. And I am not sure  
14 that that money was ever located, because I see no  
15 evidence of it.

16 Now, once again, the educational facilities  
17 here. In educational facilities here, in recent  
18 Board issue that has come up in this chamber, you  
19 have shown the educational department has shown,  
20 that the educational facilities are inadequate, but  
21 you gentlemen here are considering uprooting 50 to  
22 70 thousand people, and creating another problem.  
23 You are really moving to destroy the City of Newark.  
24 Because gentlemen when you say that you are doing  
25 this in the interest of better facilities in the City

1 of Newark, you are really moving to destroy Newark.  
2 You are moving to destroy it.

3 You have done many things here. You have  
4 in your initial meeting denied the press coverage  
5 here. Last night, I suppose, on advice of legal  
6 counsel you reconsidered this matter, and frankly  
7 I would say on the basis of that that you have been  
8 utterly discriminatory in your moods here. That  
9 evening, your Chair, your Chairman, your Uncle Tom,  
10 moved here to disqualify a gentleman. We asked  
11 you here on the floor last evening if you have a  
12 truly preconceived plan for the hearing, and you  
13 stated no. Under the rules of the land, if you  
14 gentlemen will observe the U. N. if the government  
15 will observe parliamentary procedure, I am certain  
16 that you, the Board can. But you refuse to do it.  
17 You had a man arrested, and he happens to be in  
18 court at the present time.

19 We state here that if you are not going to  
20 be fair in a situation in public, how can we expect  
21 you to be fair in a situation dealing with thousands  
22 of others in private.

23 I say one thing, gentlemen, and I say this  
24 to you, that one way or the other you must take into  
25 consideration what is happening here. You must take

1 it into consideration, what is happening here. You  
2 scheduled a meeting where all people interested in  
3 blight hearing could be heard, knowing full well  
4 that the people who want to be heard are gainfully  
5 employed and cannot be here. Many of them are  
6 gainfully employed cannot be here, and you who are  
7 being paid by our tax dollars sit here this morning  
8 and they have families to support, the very same  
9 families that you hope to uproute. They cannot  
10 afford to take time from their jobs. They do one  
11 thing, and they must work. This is once again a  
12 preconceived plan to disenfranchise the little  
13 man.

14 You sit here and how can you say that  
15 this is a fair and open hearing to discuss blight  
16 when those concerned are not here?

17 As I look in your faces I see one thing.  
18 I see one thing. Utter disregard for human values.  
19 We are not fighting for civil rights. We are here  
20 fighting for human rights, human rights, and  
21 frankly gentlemen I don't think that you have one  
22 ounce of decency within your bones, because you  
23 cannot conceive of human rights. Because as I turn  
24 to the expert over here, who happens to be a paid  
25 expert, where does this gentleman, who once again

1 is planning to dislocate 50 to 75 thousand people  
2 -- is he a resident of the City of Newark? Or is  
3 he giving his opinion, or does he provide an  
4 opinion, an unbiased opinion? No.

5 The masses that may be have stated that  
6 we want this land, we want to box the niggers into  
7 a particular area so that they will never be able  
8 to elect an official in the City of Newark. But  
9 we know what to do.

10 I look at you, and I have a son who is  
11 fighting in Viet Nam, who was recently wounded, and  
12 I wonder should he be there. He is protecting your  
13 interest. He is protecting my interest. And he  
14 is protecting the interest of all. And yet I  
15 wonder the rate of people being wounded and killed  
16 in Viet Nam to protect you gentlemen sitting on  
17 this rostrum. I wonder if any black child knows  
18 what he is doing. I really wonder. When we sit  
19 here, when your children are in college and when  
20 my child can never be able to go to college because  
21 number one you have to provide us with adequate  
22 education so that my child cannot never attempt  
23 to attend medical school that you attempting to  
24 build in our community. And I sit here and wonder  
25 if the wounds that he received were worth it. I

1 know that they are not.

2 I also am a veteran of the past war, and  
3 I volunteered the day after we declared war on  
4 Japan. As I sit here today I would not volunteer  
5 to cross the street for this government. We have  
6 a rule in our family that none of us has ever been  
7 drafted. I hope that my son's children, if he is  
8 fortunate enough to have children, can examine what  
9 you gentlemen do today and point up that this is  
10 not your country. Number one, when we speak of  
11 fighting for civil rights, it is not something that  
12 we have to fight for. Up in the council chamber  
13 we are deserving of civil rights. And this is  
14 something that we do not have to fight for civil  
15 rights. A citizen does not have to fight for civil  
16 rights. The council should provide for those rights,  
17 and what you are telling us, that I have to fight  
18 for civil rights, and that a 1964 amendment has  
19 to be provided, that I am not a citizen, and if I  
20 am not a citizen then I cannot be in your army.

21 You talk about society. The Irish-  
22 Scotch came to this country to become Irish Americans,  
23 the Frenchman comes to this country and he becomes  
24 a French-American, the Italian comes to this  
25 country and he becomes an Italian-American. But

1 when negroes were brought here they become negroes,  
2 just negroes. And I state here that it is about  
3 time that we, and my brothers behind me here, start  
4 examining what you have done, what you have  
5 established, and I say one thing, that we are not  
6 workers, and until you give us our human rights  
7 we cannot ever be citizens of this country.

8 Now, you stand here gentlemen this  
9 morning, and he told us that he went in and  
10 examined many buildings that needed repair in this  
11 area. Well, I happen to know that your inspection  
12 department does not function 90 percent of the time,  
13 and I could tell you some of the locations that  
14 they're supposed to inspect each morning. They  
15 have coffee when they are supposed to be out here  
16 really looking in buildings.

17 We have health standards established  
18 here in the City of Newark. Would you tell us now  
19 that all of these buildings are blighted. But in  
20 the past what have you done about examining these  
21 things and making the absentee landlords clear up  
22 some of the matters? Nothing. So some day  
23 now, with something like 70 to 95 million dollars  
24 coming into the City of Newark, you make a sudden  
25 decision that all these things are blighted, a

1 sudden decision. You knew that they were blighted  
2 years past but you did not give a damn. You really  
3 did not care. But because before they reached this  
4 stage you could have made some sort of a suggestion  
5 or even warned these people to make repairs.

6 Your Planning Board, your Board of  
7 Health and many of your City agencies have not  
8 provided the services to the people. They have  
9 not provided services to the people.

10 You sit there and in many instances you  
11 smile because you know deep down in your hearts  
12 this is true. Now, I am interested because I  
13 have talked to some of the people from your Board  
14 of Health on Sunday morning being at 11:15 A.M.  
15 sitting down with five cars having coffee. This  
16 is the type of thing that we provided for with  
17 our taxes. And now, you sit here and tell me  
18 that this gentleman over here has gone out and he  
19 has obtained full information that all of these  
20 buildings are blighted. We would like to know  
21 when did he go out, when the hell did he go out  
22 there. Many of the committee sitting here have  
23 never been. You walk down the street and you  
24 look at a building and you say this one needs to  
25 go. So the next thing you know you move your

1 bulldozer in there. You don't care about human  
2 lives, the only thing you care about is the  
3 95 million dollars that can come into the City of  
4 Newark. You really don't care.

5 I did not come here as a expert. Of  
6 course I am not an expert, I am a human being con-  
7 cerned not only with the black people but with  
8 you sitting here, because somewheres along the  
9 line you must answer to your deeds. And as you  
10 stop and look at your lives and say to yourselves  
11 have you honestly provided all the people with  
12 opportunities. And you talk about the buildings  
13 that you know was put up here in the City of Newrk,  
14 and you talk about the Collonade, the Hallmark  
15 and the rest of the buildings on Mt. Prospect  
16 Avenue, knowing full well that people in this area  
17 could never move in there where the rents start  
18 at \$174. per month and go to \$350., and you know  
19 damn well that none of us who are being displaced  
20 can afford to pay that kind of money.

21 And now, the Newark Star Ledger building,  
22 you cleared that land and suddenly a building went  
23 up, but no housing. I could take you around the  
24 City here and everytime I close my eyes there is  
25 another building lot. You have lots of land vacant,

1 for something like a year or a year and a half, or  
2 two years, and you're talking about building. So  
3 where do the people who have lived in those build-  
4 ings, where have they gone? Or is this another  
5 pre-conceived plan that you must clear the land  
6 and to let them get out of the City of Newark.  
7 Every morning when we look around we see bulldozers  
8 there clearing other pieces of property. Did you  
9 ever stop to think what happens to the people,  
10 where do they go, where do they live? Are you  
11 concerned with the children sleeping? Or, are  
12 you honestly concerned with -- and tell me, you  
13 hold your head down -- but honestly can you look  
14 public in the eye and hold your head up? That's  
15 right sir, hold your head up are you really con-  
16 cerned, are you concerned, are you really concerned.  
17 And what we see of in the past assures us that you  
18 don't care. You really don't care. The gentleman  
19 who spoke kindly to me, he really does not care.  
20 He is being paid that salary. He will take that  
21 salary and he will leave for Short Hills, to  
22 Madison, or wherever it may be and the only real  
23 thing he knows about Newark is when he comes into  
24 Newark on the bus or on the train in the morning  
25 and he would say look at what those niggers done,

1 Look what they have done to their property.  
2 Knowing that we may own the property. And many,  
3 many of you are in the same position. You know  
4 nothing about the City of Newark, and if you are  
5 honest you will say so.

6 We know. We live with these conditions.  
7 We live with the roaches, with the bedbugs, the  
8 rats. We live with them on a daily basis. And  
9 you say well hell, we are not going to take care  
10 of your property. Why should we. We paid you  
11 too much money for what you got now. Why should  
12 be take care of the property.

13 You talk about blighted. YOU have  
14 blighted it. We did not. It is your property.  
15 It was you. You had the right. You had the right  
16 to go in there and make some sort of repairs. But  
17 no, I live in a building where I pay exhorbitant  
18 rent, and look at what I am getting. I have a  
19 ceiling that is falling down. I called the Board  
20 of Health, and they have not sent anybody yet.  
21 And yet I am paying top rent. Top rent. And I  
22 know full well that you are not going to do anything  
23 about it. You don't care. YOU really don't care.

24 What does he know about the ceiling in  
25 the bathroom falling? He knows nothing about it

1 at all. What does he know about the halls and  
2 the things falling? He knows nothing about it  
3 at all. And your Health Department -- recently  
4 we had to go make a complaint about this woman  
5 who was living in the house that was rat-infested  
6 he went in there, turned on the light, and the  
7 rats made a patch as they crossed the place. We  
8 called your Health Department, and they sent no  
9 one out. We went to the welfare department and  
10 they were not aware of this situation. And they  
11 said, well, there is nothing we could do. We went  
12 into a house that has no bathroom, and there are  
13 four children which is against your ordinance.  
14 We had to go to the welfare department and teach  
15 them how to read their own manual because they did  
16 not know. And I was there, and a gentleman over  
17 there has to be taught somewhere along the line  
18 how to read what he is about. Because he does not  
19 know. Mr. Becker did not know. He could under-  
20 stand you he know that he is a different person.  
21 Because he has been brain-washed over the years.  
22 He is not a man because had I been in that place,  
23 with the knowledge that I have been faced with I  
24 suppose that this would be something that I would  
25 care about and someone would know about it this

1 morning because I would have killed myself. And  
2 gentlemen, you, I don't expect you to do anything  
3 to me. You are here to perpetuate a society, and  
4 we understand the society that you are to perpetuate.  
5 But once again, the negro, or the black man here  
6 in the City of Newark has reached something like  
7 50 percent of the population, and we understand  
8 what you are trying to do here, you are trying to  
9 keep that backward, you are trying to put a whole  
10 office and many buildings too, and now, you are  
11 trying to do all of these things, but with a  
12 society and with perpetuating the society, and in  
13 perpetuating the society you hope that in 1970 to  
14 once again sterneroller in the black people. But  
15 we are here to tell you that this will never  
16 happen. That this is the last time for this.

17 Now, you tell us that you are doing this  
18 in the name of civic pride, organization or  
19 reconstruction committee, we know it is not true,  
20 and Mr. Richardson pointed out last night you  
21 are throwing a noose around the black community  
22 here in the City of Newark. You are narrowing it  
23 down. Now, with the highways, and with the  
24 Garden State Parkway all and all within the noose,  
25 and there is only one thing left to do now, get the

1 beam and throw the noose over it, and that beam  
2 that you hope to do this with is political. You  
3 hope to draw this tight.

4 I would dare say that after you have  
5 come through with all the highways and the rest  
6 of your Urban Redevelopment that you will then  
7 attempt to stick in another project and once again  
8 narrow the field. We understand this. And of  
9 course if you at this time approve this blight  
10 hearing we will, as we have recently stated, we  
11 will stand in the streets and in front of the  
12 bulldozers and if necessary throw our children in  
13 front of them. Of course this is deadly,  
14 because if the parents could sacrifice then we  
15 as black people here are prepared to make some  
16 sacrifice.

17 You say that it would cause a loss of  
18 life. And with the existing structure as it  
19 stands at the present time I have no life. I have  
20 nothing. I am only a part of a man because as you  
21 see me I am only part of a man. You have provided  
22 me with lack of opportunity, jobwise. You tell  
23 me to go out and get some training and you will  
24 have a job. We know this to be a lie because we  
25 saw what happened to Mr. Wilbur Parker. He has

1 prepared himself and he is ready for the job now.  
2 So we know this. Its all right if you are half  
3 prepared now why insist upon this structure that  
4 is half licked. You may as well die and die as  
5 men. And I think we are prepared to do this. This  
6 is the one thing that your little minds cannot  
7 conceive. The people have reached the stage that  
8 they are prepared to die, and you see it here.

9 At one time we were afraid of the police  
10 department. That day ain't here any more. We are  
11 not afraid of the police department. You could put  
12 us in jail, but for everyone you put in the jail  
13 there will be another one to take his place, and  
14 when we run out of men and when we run out of the  
15 women and when we run out of the children then by  
16 that time you may run out of jails. And you know,  
17 the condition that exists here at the present time  
18 are no different than those that exist in  
19 Mississippi, the only difference is that you have  
20 trained dogs here. But we expected dogs also. But  
21 here you see when you set your dogs, and you have  
22 trained pups, you will start to come back and you  
23 you keep on coming back, and in the final analysis  
24 before it is over if you kill one of us then some  
25 of you too must die. Some of you too must die. We

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are only asking here that you provide justice so that this thing will never arise. No one wants to fight, no one wants to die, but if we must die we will.

Mr. Ellis out there some time ago stated that upon taking something away from the community from a minority group, which we are no longer in minority, we are now a majority here in the City of Newark, that you must put something in its place. You tell us now that you are about to ready to move and that you will give us 570 new dwelling and I say here 570 dwellings, or 1,000, 1,200, or 1,500 is only a drop in the bucket. You must actually sit down and use your office with good intent. We don't say that a medical school is a necessary thing here in the City of Newark, but we do say that before you have a medical school that we must have housing for our people. Mr. Danzig stated, you know, that we have made great plans to provide housing here in the City of Newark. You know this is a lie. We know it is a lie, and the people here know it is a lie. If you are really speaking in terms of truth, when you destroy dwellings you must put up other dwellings in its place. You are talking in terms of a medical com-

1 plex. And Mr. Danzig says that when you have  
2 housing you will have better jobs for the people  
3 in the community. What about our educational  
4 system? The only jobs that any of our people  
5 could ever hope for is janitorial jobs. Janitorial  
6 jobs, and he knows this also. Mr. Danzig has  
7 stated over the period of years that he is a friend  
8 of the black people. Yes, he was a friend of the  
9 black people when he did not have that 35 or 40  
10 thousand dollar job and with that interest to  
11 protect. He came up the hill, and if I remember  
12 correctly Mr. Danzig was a product of Prince Street  
13 and he has gone a long way to disassociate himself  
14 from where he comes.

15 I say this here, that no man who is a  
16 great man can disassociate himself from his past.  
17 He can never disassociate himself from his past.  
18 Because as long as one man remains at the bottom  
19 of the ladder, Mr. Danzig is also threatened  
20 because that man will rise up one day and pull  
21 him by the leg and pull him back down into the  
22 pitfalls of hell. And gentlemen, this also goes  
23 for you. You are not overly protected in your  
24 position at the present time, because as it stands  
25 right now the day will soon come when you think

1 you are being fully protected all hell will  
2 break out, and there will be no place you could  
3 hide. And there will be no place to hide.

4 You know, when things start and riots  
5 break out, as they broke out last night in three  
6 different places, and as we have heard one of our  
7 councilmen say that when a riot breaks out I'll  
8 stop it, and you know damn well that no Uncle  
9 Tom could stop nothing. You could not stop even  
10 going from here to there. He cannot stop us from  
11 going to sleep in the council chambers. Now, how  
12 can he attempt to stop a headless mob. He can't  
13 attempt to do a thing.

14 Now, there are many things that you are  
15 hoping to provide for us. Shopping centers? We  
16 have all of that. You are not going to give us  
17 much credit for that anyhow. And you are not  
18 going to give us any of the construction work.  
19 YOU are not going to give us any of the contracts  
20 under this Urban Renewal, and of course we are  
21 so far behind in any of the other big cities that  
22 we have not made any provision for us to come in  
23 to some of the construction work. You are not  
24 thinking along these terms. You are thinking  
25 about the rest of the whole time and giving us

1 nothing. But we pay taxes in this City, and we  
2 are going to get some of the benefits from it. We  
3 are going to get many of the benefits. And one of  
4 the benefits we are going to get and that we need  
5 right now is housing. We are going to get housing.  
6 Before you are going to do anything on this here  
7 thing you are going to give us housing. You are  
8 going to give us housing, and it won't be this  
9 1,700 units or 1,900 families, because the 1,700  
10 units would not even take care of the abbut five  
11 thousand right now. And as of December in the  
12 City of Newark you did not have four available  
13 apartments in the City of Newark. Now, how in the  
14 hell are you going to provide housing for 1,700  
15 families, and all of the housing that Mr. Danzig  
16 states is under construction is not sufficient?  
17 And we are talking about the black man who has  
18 one, two, three, four and five children. Mr.  
19 Danzig has not said a thing about this. He has  
20 not said a thing about that. Now, we understand  
21 that many of the buildings have been destroyed,  
22 and when I say destroyed you may as well have taken  
23 a bomb and leveled them. You may as well taken a  
24 bomb and leveled them because the same thing  
25 displaced the people. What provision has been made

1 for these people? Mr. Danzig honestly did not  
2 state here, and he is talking in terms of the  
3 senior citizens, and you know it is with everybody.  
4 And he is putting out 1,200 units for senior  
5 citizens. And I say gentlemen here, I say here,  
6 that before you could think about building a  
7 medical school here in the City of Newark you are  
8 going to build housing.

9 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: May I interrupt?  
10 Your thirty minutes are up. You have an additional  
11 ten minutes to sum up -- please.

12 MR. JAMES WALKER: Yes. In summation  
13 you know we could talk about blight hearings,  
14 about experts, and once again I am speaking and  
15 I am not an expert, not an expert in Planning,  
16 redevelopment, urban renewal, but I believe I am  
17 an expert in living, in human decency. And I say  
18 here that if you don't give us housing in this  
19 City of Newark prior to your Medical College, that  
20 your Essex County College, that blood will run  
21 down the streets of Newark, your blood and my  
22 blood, and I state this. It will be a matter that  
23 you cannot control, because as you displace people  
24 as you displace people and they have nowhere to  
25 go they will have one avenue to seek justice

1 through, and this is you. And I will tell you  
2 many of you say that I live out of the City of  
3 Newark, well, I agree with you and hope that you  
4 assess them for their action when a riot does  
5 break out, because I won't be able to do anything  
6 about it, I doubt that you will. I hate to see  
7 a riot, because I feel here that you have within  
8 your power the opportunity to do something con-  
9 structive for the City of Newark. Newark has  
10 become a model city, such as New Haven has in the  
11 past, but if you attempt to steamroller this you  
12 will be a black mark against the urban cities.  
13 Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER COCUZZA: Mr. Walker the  
15 Chair is very much impressed by your human concern.  
16 Thank you very much.

17 The next speaker for the Housing  
18 Authority is Mr. Samuel Warrence. It is now  
19 11:00 o'clock.

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