

When asked what the black community opinion was of the Bureau, Patrolman Turner told us that probably 80 percent of the people in the black community had never heard of the Bureau. Of those who ~~were~~ ^{are} aware of its existence, he felt that they ~~were~~ ^{are} generally distrustful of its credibility because it is an integral part of the police department. We were told that there had been upward of 50 complaints of police brutality filed in the aftermath of the July disorders. This had necessitated an increase in the work load of the investigatory staff and also the addition of some more investigators.

Prior to the July disorders, we were told that each investigator carried one or two investigations ~~for~~ ^{per} a month. This has increased with ^{increased} the number of complaints growing out of the July disorder. Only today are they starting to clear up some of the riot related complaints. We were told that the Bureau and the Commissioner is aware of the pressures under which the officers were working during the July disorders and that probably many of the sanctions imposed for riot related misconduct would be lenient except in extreme cases such as the Algiers incident. (This, by the way, was not investigated by the Bureau but was handled by Homicide Bureau.) We were told that it would probably be impossible to clear up many of the complaints growing out of the riot disorder, because of the fact that there was no way ~~in~~ which to identify the police officers involved, since ~~the complainants~~ ^{were unavailable} did not have badge numbers. The police wore no badges during most of the riot. Nor could ~~they identify~~ ^{be identified} a particular squad car by number or by license plate since both numbers and license plates were taped

over during much of the disorder.

When asked about this policy of the removal of badges, we were told that this was done because the identifying insignia of the police officer made the officers easy prey for snipers. The leadership of the Bureau said that it recognized the definite need to change the image of the police force in the Negro community. They expressed hope for a change in the recruitment policies of the department with the retirement of some of the old line recruiting officers, and their replacement by younger people and some additional Negro recruiting officers.

Inspector Heffernan stated that he thought the image of the Bureau of the police department was changing somewhat since there had recently been two high level promotions of Negro officers, and that the number of officers had increased over the last two or three years from approximately 130 to 234. Each of the interviewees admitted that the July disorder had resulted in a serious setback in relations between the police and the community. Inspector Heffernan particularly noted that the attendance at meetings between the precinct officers, members of his Bureau, and community persons in the precinct houses, had declined after the riot and were only at present starting to pick up again.

Interviewer's Evaluation. The appointment for the interview discussed above was made with Patrolman Reginald Turner, for the purpose of talking to him alone. However, when members of the team arrived at the offices of the Citizens Complaint Bureau,

Police Officers Association was unhappy with the Citizens Complaint Bureau because the Bureau was sharing its findings with the Department of Justice, the FBI, and the Michigan Civil Rights Commission.

Patrolman Turner later telephoned a member of the team and stated that the picture was not quite as rosy as painted in the afternoon interview. He stated that contrasted to the two black officers who had recently been promoted there were dozens like himself who had been on the force for ten years or more and were still patrolmen. He has taken and passed the written exam for promotion but has never been promoted because his superior officers have not given him good performance scores. He stated that discrimination definitely exists within the Detroit Police Department.