

# CERTIFIED COPY

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISOR  
OF THE LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION

COMMUNITY MEETING NO. 6

LE CONTE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
1316 NORTH BRONSON AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 15, 1992

CHIEF HUBERT WILLIAMS, DEPUTY SPECIAL ADVISOR  
KAREN RANDALL, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL  
LINDA PETERSON, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL  
JOHN BRINSLEY, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

PRESIDING

APPEARANCES:

CHIEF HUBERT WILLIAMS, DEPUTY SPECIAL ADVISOR  
KAREN RANDALL, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL  
LINDA PETERSON, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL  
JOHN BRINSLEY, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

PRESIDING

FACILITATORS:

JUNE LEHRMAN  
ARTURO QUEZADA

CAL NORMAN, SPANISH INTERPRETER  
JOE MISLISH, TIMEKEEPER

PAUL KREKORIAN, COORDINATOR

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1 7:30 P.M.

2 ---000---

3 MS. LEHRMAN: HELLO. I'D LIKE TO WELCOME  
4 EVERYBODY TO THE MEETING TONIGHT BEING HELD BY THE  
5 SPECIAL ADVISOR.

6 MY NAME IS JUNE LEHRMAN. YOU CAN'T  
7 HEAR. IS THIS BETTER?

8 IS THIS BETTER?

9 OKAY. IS THIS BETTER? YES. HELLO.  
10 WELCOME. I'D LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE MEETING  
11 BEING HELD TONIGHT BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL  
12 ADVISOR. MY NAME IS JUNE LEHRMAN. I'LL BE ONE OF  
13 YOUR TWO FACILITATORS TONIGHT. I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE  
14 THE OTHER IS ART QUEZADA, SITTING RIGHT HERE. WE'RE  
15 MEDIATORS HERE IN TOWN. WE ARE VOLUNTEERING OUR TIME  
16 TO --

17 (AUDIENCE VOICES.)

18 MS. LEHRMAN: FURTHER? OKAY. IS THIS BETTER?  
19 OKAY. IS THIS BETTER? OKAY. IS THIS THE WAY I  
20 SHOULD BE HOLDING IT? EVEN FURTHER? IS THIS OKAY?

21 SPEAKER: YEAH.

22 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. I CAN'T HEAR MYSELF WHEN I  
23 HOLD IT LIKE THIS SO I'LL RELY ON YOU TO TELL ME IF  
24 I'M DOING IT RIGHT OR WRONG.

25 MY NAME IS JUNE LEHRMAN. I'M ONE OF THE

1 TWO FACILITATORS FOR THE MEETING TONIGHT. THE OTHER  
2 IS ARTURO QUEZADA, WHO IS SITTING RIGHT HERE.

3 WE'RE MEDIATORS HERE IN TOWN. WE ARE  
4 VOLUNTEERING OUR TIME TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS MEETING  
5 RUNS SMOOTHLY JUST TO FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES AND TO  
6 FACILITATE EVERYBODY SO THAT EVERYBODY WHO'S  
7 SUBMITTED A SPEAKER CARD WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
8 BE HEARD.

9 THE FIRST THING THAT I'D LIKE TO DO IS  
10 INTRODUCE OUR TRANSLATOR, WHO IS SITTING ON THE STAGE  
11 OVER TO THE RIGHT. HIS NAME IS CAL NORMAN, AND HE  
12 WILL BE EXPLAINING THE EQUIPMENT THAT HE'S USING AND  
13 THE TRANSLATION PROCEDURES FOR YOU.

14 MR. NORMAN: I DON'T THINK AT THIS POINT THAT  
15 THERE'S ANYTHING TO EXPLAIN. I DON'T SEE ANYBODY  
16 USING A HEADSET. ANYWAY, IF YOU SEE PEOPLE USING  
17 THEM, THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE FOR.

18 (MR. NORMAN SPEAKING SPANISH.)

19 MS. LEHRMAN: AT THIS POINT THERE ARE A COUPLE  
20 OF PROCEDURES THAT WE NEED TO FOLLOW IN ORDER TO MEET  
21 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL  
22 DISTRICT, WHOSE FACILITIES WE ARE USING.

23 THE FIRST IS THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE,  
24 AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK EVERYBODY TO STAND, AND I'LL  
25 BE LEADING THIS.

1 WE PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE  
2 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR  
3 WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE,  
4 WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

5 THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
6 HAS REQUESTED THAT WE INFORM YOU THAT THE BOARD OF  
7 EDUCATION IS NOT SPONSORING THIS MEETING AND IS  
8 NEITHER APPROVING NOR DISAPPROVING WHAT IS TO BE SAID  
9 AT THIS MEETING. THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL  
10 DISTRICT HAS ALSO REQUESTED ME TO TELL YOU THAT THERE  
11 WILL BE NO SMOKING IN THIS AUDITORIUM.

12 AT THIS POINT I'D LIKE TO TURN THE  
13 MEETING OVER TO KAREN RANDALL.

14 MS. RANDALL: THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD BY THE  
15 OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD OF POLICE  
16 COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. AND I'D  
17 LIKE TO NOW INTRODUCE YOU TO CHIEF HUBERT WILLIAMS,  
18 WHO WILL BE PRESIDING AT THIS MEETING.

19 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, KAREN. GOOD  
20 EVENING. AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US.

21 I'M HUBERT WILLIAMS. FOR SEVERAL YEARS  
22 I WAS THE CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK,  
23 NEW JERSEY. I'M THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF THE  
24 NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT  
25 EXECUTIVES AND THE HEAD OF THE POLICE FOUNDATION IN

1 WASHINGTON, D.C.

2 IN MAY OF THIS YEAR THE LOS ANGELES  
3 BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED THE HONORABLE  
4 WILLIAM WEBSTER AND ME TO LOOK INTO THE QUESTION OF  
5 HOW THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS  
6 RESPONDED TO THE CIVIL UNREST THAT AFFECTED YOUR  
7 COMMUNITY IN LATE APRIL OF THIS YEAR.

8 SINCE MAY WE HAVE BEEN BUSY GATHERING  
9 INFORMATION FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES, INCLUDING LAW  
10 ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, FIRE OFFICIALS, OTHER  
11 GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES ON THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL  
12 LEVELS THAT ASSIST IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS LIKE THAT  
13 WHICH WAS EXPERIENCED HERE, LEADERS AND PUBLIC  
14 OFFICIALS IN THIS CITY AND MANY OTHERS. IT WOULD BE  
15 IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO COMPLETE OUR REPORT, HOWEVER,  
16 WITHOUT HEARING FROM THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS CITY  
17 WHO WERE MOST DIRECTLY IMPACTED BY THE VIOLENCE AND  
18 THE UNREST.

19 AS THE DEPUTY SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE  
20 POLICE COMMISSION, I'M HONORED TO BE WITH YOU ALL  
21 HERE TONIGHT, TO GET YOUR COMMENTS AND OPINIONS ABOUT  
22 HOW THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS  
23 RESPONDED DURING THE CIVIL UNREST AND TO LEARN WHAT  
24 YOU THINK SHOULD BE DONE TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE  
25 EMERGENCIES.

1 WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT TECHNIQUES YOU  
2 THINK WORKED AND WHAT TECHNIQUES YOU THINK DID NOT  
3 WORK.

4 THIS MEETING IS THE SIXTH OF SEVERAL  
5 MEETINGS BEING HELD IN COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THIS  
6 CITY. YOUR COMMENTS WILL BE VERY USEFUL TO ME AND  
7 OUR STAFF IN PUTTING TOGETHER OUR REPORT FOR THE  
8 BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

9 WE'RE VERY EAGER TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE  
10 TO SAY. I DO NOT PLAN TO SAY VERY MUCH BECAUSE MY  
11 PURPOSE HERE TONIGHT IS TO HEAR FROM YOU.

12 SEVERAL MEMBERS OF MY STAFF AS WELL AS  
13 OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE HERE TO HELP ME THIS EVENING.  
14 SITTING AT THIS TABLE WITH ME IS KAREN RANDALL, TO MY  
15 RIGHT, WHOM YOU'VE MET, LINDA PETERSON TO MY LEFT,  
16 AND JOHN BRINSLEY TO KAREN'S RIGHT. THE VOLUNTEERS  
17 THAT WILL HELP FACILITATE THIS MEETING ARE JUNE  
18 LEHRMAN. JUNE? AND ARTURO QUEZADA.

19 I'M SORRY. I'LL TRY TO SPEAK LOUDER.  
20 WE DO HAVE A PROBLEM HERE.

21 THEY WILL HELP REMIND US OF THE  
22 PROCEDURES THAT WILL APPLY AND AID US IN HEARING FROM  
23 AS MANY OF YOU AS POSSIBLE IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.  
24 MANY OTHERS ARE HERE TO HELP. THEY'RE ALL WEARING  
25 NAME TAGS SO THAT YOU CAN RECOGNIZE THEM.

1                   IT IS OUR HOPE THAT LOS ANGELES AND  
2 OTHER CITIES CAN LEARN FROM WHAT OCCURRED IN THIS  
3 CITY.

4                   I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE  
5 TONIGHT AND ASSISTING US IN THAT PROCESS. I WILL NOW  
6 INTRODUCE YOU TO ARTURO QUEZADA, WHO WILL REVIEW WITH  
7 US THE PROCEDURES FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING.

8                   MR. QUEZADA: THANK YOU.

9                   WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ALL OF YOU  
10 TONIGHT, AND WE REALLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO HAVE A  
11 PREPARED STATEMENT. IF YOU HAVE ONE, JUST HAND IT TO  
12 US. WE'LL SEE THAT IT GETS TO THE RIGHT PERSON.

13                   AGAIN, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK,  
14 PLEASE FILL OUT THE SPEAKER REQUEST CARDS THAT ARE IN  
15 THE BACK, AND WE WILL DRAW THEM AND WE WILL BE  
16 CALLING YOUR NAMES.

17                   YOU WILL HAVE THREE MINUTES TO COME TO  
18 THE MIKE AND SAY YOUR OPINION ON THE UNREST, WHAT  
19 HAPPENED IN APRIL 29, WHAT WORKED, WHAT DID NOT WORK,  
20 AND HOW DO YOU SEE IN THE FUTURE HOW THE POLICE  
21 DEPARTMENT AND OTHER AGENCIES SHALL RESPOND TO THIS  
22 UNREST.

23                   SO WITH NO INTERRUPTION, WE'RE GOING TO  
24 DRAW THE FIRST TWO NAMES.

25                   MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. I'M GOING TO CALL TWO

1 NAMES JUST SO THE SECOND PERSON KNOWS THAT THEY WILL  
2 BE NEXT.

3 THE FIRST NAME IS SUE KELLY, AND THE  
4 SECOND NAME IS BOB ANDERSON, AND IF EACH OF YOU WOULD  
5 PLEASE COME UP THIS MIKE WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN TO  
6 SPEAK.

7 BOB, YOU CAN WAIT UNTIL SUE HAS  
8 FINISHED.

9 SUSAN KELLY: MY NAME IS SUSAN KELLY. I RESIDE  
10 AT 821 NORTH MARIPOSA, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY ONE  
11 BLOCK NORTH OF THE CORNER OF MELROSE AND NORMANDIE.  
12 I WORK FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LOS ANGELES IN THE  
13 REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM.

14 IN ADDITION TO THE PAIN THAT THE RIOTS  
15 CAUSED ME PERSONALLY, THEY CONTINUE TO CAUSE MY  
16 CLIENTS, WHICH NUMBER ABOUT 250 PEOPLE, CONTINUOUS  
17 PAIN IN THE FACT THAT THE DEPARTMENT STORES AND FOOD  
18 CHAINS THAT THEY DEALT WITH NO LONGER EXIST. THEY  
19 MUST TRAVEL APPROXIMATELY 10 MILES IN EACH DIRECTION  
20 TO OBTAIN FOOD AT THIS TIME.

21 THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN MY OPINION,  
22 DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH PERSONNEL TO HAVE CONTENDED WITH  
23 THE SITUATION THAT OCCURRED BECAUSE WHEN THEY HAD TO  
24 PROTECT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WHICH WAS BEING ATTACKED  
25 IT LEFT NO ONE ELSE.

1 I FEEL VERY VULNERABLE. I'VE LIVED IN  
2 THIS COMMUNITY FOR 18 YEARS. I AM A NATIVE OF  
3 LOS ANGELES, AS IS MY FATHER. MY DAUGHTER, WHO'S 13,  
4 FEELS VERY VULNERABLE, AND I AM VERY UPSET THAT THE  
5 NUMBER OF POLICEMEN NOW HAS BEEN CUT TO LESS THAN  
6 WHAT IT WAS WHEN THERE WEREN'T ENOUGH TO START WITH.

7 THANK YOU.

8 MR. QUEZADA: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

9 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THE  
10 NEXT PERSON WHO SHOULD COME TO THE MIKE, PLEASE, IS  
11 BOB ANDERSON. MR. ANDERSON.

12 BOB ANDERSON: YEAH. I'D LIKE TO SPEAK BRIEFLY  
13 ABOUT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE I HAD DURING THE RIOT. I  
14 LIVE JUST ABOUT AT THE CORNER OF SYCAMORE AND  
15 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD. THAT'S WITHIN STONE-THROWING  
16 DISTANCE OF THE CHINESE THEATRE.

17 A GROUP OF US WENT OUT TO TRY AND  
18 PROTECT THE STORES ALONG THE BOULEVARD WHICH ARE  
19 ALMOST ADJACENT TO WHERE I LIVE, AND JUST OUR  
20 PRESENCE AND JUST THE FACT THAT WE WERE STANDING  
21 AROUND STOPPING THE OPPORTUNISTIC LOOTERS WHO WERE  
22 ROLLING AROUND AND JUST LOOKING FOR ANYTHING THEY  
23 COULD, WE WERE ABLE TO PREVENT THEM FROM BREAKING  
24 INTO THE STORES ALONG THE STREET.

25 HOWEVER, ABOUT 10 -- THIS IS ON THURSDAY

1 NIGHT, THE SECOND NIGHT OF THE RIOT, ABOUT 10:30 AT  
2 NIGHT, RIGHT NEXT TO C.C. BROWN'S, THE HOT FUDGE  
3 SUNDAE PLACE ON HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, A GROUP OF  
4 YOUNGSTERS BROKE INTO A SOUVENIR STORE THERE AND  
5 BEGAN LOOTING IT. LATER WE FOUND THEY LEFT A CAN OF  
6 GASOLINE BEHIND BECAUSE THEY HAD INTENDED TO TORCH  
7 THE PLACE. THAT WAS PRECISELY WHAT WE WERE CONCERNED  
8 WITH.

9 AT THE TIME THAT WE WERE STANDING OUT  
10 THERE TO PROTECT THE NEIGHBORHOOD, WE DECIDED THAT WE  
11 WANTED TO -- WE WEREN'T SO CONCERNED ABOUT THE  
12 LOOTING AS WE WERE THE FIRES.

13 SEVERAL OF US WENT DOWN TO BREAK UP THIS  
14 LOOTING THAT WENT ON, AND WE WERE ABLE WITHOUT ANY  
15 EFFORT AT ALL, REALLY, TO DRIVE THE LOOTERS OFF,  
16 ABOUT 20 YOUNGSTERS, WHO WEREN'T REALLY THAT  
17 DETERMINED TO STEAL T-SHIRTS, THAT ALL THEY NEEDED  
18 WAS A SHOW OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF SOMEONE, AND  
19 THEY SPLIT AND RAN.

20 HOWEVER, THERE WAS ONE YOUNGSTER IN A  
21 CAR -- I DON'T KNOW. HE WAS MAYBE 18 OR 19 YEARS  
22 OLD -- WHO AFTER WE DROVE THESE FELLOW OFF -- THREE  
23 OF US DROVE OFF ABOUT 20 PEOPLE -- HE PULLED A GUN  
24 AND STARTED SHOOTING AT US, AND HE SHOT I THINK THREE  
25 TIMES. IT WAS A LITTLE BIT DARK AND IT WAS HARD TO

1 SEE EXACTLY WHAT WAS GOING ON. BUT AS WE WERE -- AS  
2 I WAS LAYING ON THE BOULEVARD I NOTICED RIGHT UP THE  
3 STREET THERE WAS A LOS ANGELES POLICE CAR, AND LATER  
4 AS I FOUND OUT THERE WERE TWO OFFICERS IN THE CAR,  
5 AND LATER I FOUND OUT THERE WERE TWO OTHER ADDITIONAL  
6 UNITS AT THE CORNER OF SYCAMORE WITH ANOTHER FIVE  
7 OFFICERS, A TOTAL OF SEVEN OFFICERS WHO WITNESSED THE  
8 SHOOTING AND WHO WITNESSED THE LOOTING, AND THOSE  
9 OFFICERS -- THOSE OFFICERS DECLINED TO BE INVOLVED IN  
10 ANY WAY IN WHAT WAS GOING ON WHILE THE THREE OF US  
11 DROVE OFF 20 PEOPLE.

12 THOSE OFFICERS FINALLY, AFTER ONE OF THE  
13 PEOPLE WHO WAS WITH ME RAN ACROSS THE STREET WHILE  
14 THE SHOOTER WAS STILL SITTING THERE AT HOLLYWOOD  
15 BOULEVARD RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE ROOSEVELT HOTEL, WENT  
16 OVER AND REMONSTRATED WITH THE TWO OFFICERS IN THE  
17 CAR THAT THERE WAS SOMEBODY DOWN THERE SHOOTING AT  
18 US. THE OFFICERS VERY GRADUALLY BEGAN TO COAST DOWN  
19 TOWARDS THE SHOOTER, AND THE SHOOTER ESCAPED.

20 WHEN THE OFFICERS PULLED UP WE ASKED  
21 THEM TO GO AFTER THEM. ONE OF THE PEOPLE HAD THE  
22 LICENSE NUMBER OF THE CAR OF THE SHOOTER. THE  
23 OFFICERS WERE NOT INTERESTED. THEY SIMPLY REFUSED TO  
24 GET INVOLVED.

25 THE NEXT DAY, WHEN WE TALKED TO SOME

1 OFFICERS, THEY TOLD US THEY WERE UNDER ORDERS NOT TO  
2 GET INVOLVED WITH THE LOOTING, NOT TO STOP THE  
3 LOOTERS. THEIR ONLY JOB WAS TO PROTECT THE FIRE  
4 FIGHTERS.

5 SO IF YOU ASK ME WHAT WORKED AND WHAT  
6 DIDN'T WORK, THE COPS DIDN'T WORK DURING THE RIOTS.  
7 THEY TOOK IT ON DIRECTION FROM ABOVE, THAT DIRECTION  
8 TOLD THEM WHAT TO DO. THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN  
9 PROTECTING CITIZENS. THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN  
10 PROTECTING THE BUSINESSES. THEY WERE INTERESTED IN  
11 FOLLOWING THEIR ORDERS. AND THAT'S WHAT THEY DID  
12 FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, AND THOSE ORDERS WERE WRONG.  
13 THEY SHOULD HAVE DONE -- WHAT THEY SHOULD HAVE DONE,  
14 THEY SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT THING. THEY SHOULD HAVE  
15 DONE SOMETHING TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE WHO WERE IN A  
16 SITUATION WHEN THEY HAD THE WEAPONS AND THEY HAD THE  
17 MANPOWER. THERE WERE EIGHT OFFICERS AND ONE SHOOTER,  
18 AND THEY COULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING ABOUT IT, AND THEY  
19 REFUSED.

20 CHIEF WILLIAMS: MR. ANDERSON, THANK YOU VERY  
21 MUCH.

22 MR. QUEZADA: THE (INAUDIBLE) SPEAKERS, STEVE  
23 HAMPTON. DOROTHY FRISCH.

24 STEVE HAMPTON: MY NAME IS -- HELLO? MY NAME  
25 IS STEVE HAMPTON. FIRST OF ALL, I'D LIKE TO COMMENT

1 THAT -- FIRST OF ALL, I'D LIKE TO COMMENT THAT IN  
2 MEETINGS THAT ARE SUPPOSEDLY HELD TO GET PUBLIC  
3 COMMENT, THE CHAIR OF THIS COMMISSION IS SHOWING HIS  
4 CONTEMPT FOR THE PUBLIC BY NOT EVEN BOTHERING TO SHOW  
5 UP FOR IT TONIGHT. THAT'S A NICE TOUCH, GUYS.

6 THOSE OF US WHO LIKE ME WERE AT THE  
7 FRIDAY NIGHT MEETING OF THIS COMMISSION KNOW THAT IT  
8 BEGAN WITH A MAJOR DISRUPTION BY THE REVOLUTIONARY  
9 COMMUNIST PARTY, OR R.C.P., WHICH LASTED FOR ABOUT A  
10 HALF AN HOUR. IN FACT, THAT R.C.P. DISRUPTION WAS  
11 REALLY THE MAIN EVENT AT THE FRIDAY NIGHT MEETING OF  
12 THIS COMMISSION. AND YET IF YOU PICKED UP A COPY OF  
13 THE "L.A. TIMES" SATURDAY MORNING TO READ WHAT  
14 HAPPENED AT THE COMMISSION MEETING THERE WAS NO  
15 MENTION OF THE R.C.P. DISRUPTION WHATSOEVER. IN  
16 FACT, THE "L.A. TIMES" ARTICLE MADE IT SOUND LIKE ALL  
17 THE PEOPLE AT THE MEETING WERE CLAMORING FOR MORE  
18 COPS AND MORE REPRESSION. SUCH A BLATANT ACT OF  
19 DISINFORMATION AND THE REWRITING OF HISTORY EVEN AS  
20 IT HAPPENS IS FULLY WORTHY OF A TOTALITARIAN POLICE  
21 STATE SUCH AS THIS ONE. ANOTHER NICE TOUCH.

22 IN FACT, IN THAT I DETECT THE SINISTER  
23 HAND OF THE C.I.A. OR PERHAPS THE F.B.I. AND PERHAPS  
24 YOUR ABSENT CHAIRMAN, WHO NO DOUBT IS STILL CONNECTED  
25 WITH THE SHADOWY INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES IN SOME WAYS,

1 HAD A HAND IN SEEING THAT HIS PUBLIC HUMILIATION AND  
2 EMBARRASSMENT AND THE CONTEMPT SHOWN FOR HIM BY THE  
3 PEOPLE OF LOS ANGELES WERE NOT REPORTED TO A WIDER  
4 AUDIENCE.

5 WHAT WE SAW ON APRIL 29TH AND 30TH WAS  
6 THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE. THE OPPRESSED MASSES ROSE  
7 UP AGAINST THIS RACIST, UNJUST SYSTEM AND DELIVERED  
8 THE VERDICT OF HISTORY UPON IT. AND THE ONLY REAL  
9 CRIMES THAT WERE COMMITTED WERE NOT DURING THE  
10 REBELLION BUT THE VICIOUS REPRESSION WHICH TOOK PLACE  
11 AFTERWARDS.

12 THE POLICE BROKE DOWN DOORS IN BLACK AND  
13 LATINO COMMUNITIES AND SEIZED ANY PROPERTY THAT  
14 PEOPLE COULD NOT PRODUCE RECEIPTS FOR. THE I.N.S.  
15 WAS UNLEASHED TO TERRORIZE AND DEPORT MANY LATINOS.  
16 PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS WERE BANNED. THE FASCISTIC  
17 STATE OF CURFEW WHICH WAS -- LASTED FOR MORE THAN A  
18 WEEK TOTALLY UNNECESSARILY WAS APPLIED IN A TOTALLY  
19 RACIALLY DISCRIMINATORY MANNER. WHITE PEOPLE ON THE  
20 WESTSIDE COULD GO OUT AT NIGHT IF THEY WANTED, BUT  
21 ANY BLACK OR LATINO FOUND ON THE STREETS IN THE  
22 AFFECTED AREAS, AS YOU CALL THEM, WAS IMMEDIATELY  
23 SWEEPED UP BY YOUR GOON SQUADS IN UNIFORM.

24 THAT WAS THE TRUE CRIME. AND THAT'S  
25 WHAT YOU SHOULD BE INVESTIGATING, LADIES AND

1 GENTLEMEN. THAT WOULD BE A MUCH MORE INFORMATIVE  
2 TOPIC. WHY DON'T YOU INVESTIGATE THE ROLE OF THE  
3 C.I.A. AND THE F.B.I. AND THE MASSIVE REPRESSION AND  
4 THOUGHT CONTROL WHICH TOOK PLACE AFTER THE REBELLION?  
5 SINCE YOUR ABSENT CHAIRMAN ENJOYS THE DUBIOUS  
6 DISTINCTION OF HAVING HEADED BOTH NEFARIOUS AGENCIES,  
7 I'M SURE HE HAS ACCESS TO LOTS OF INSIDE INFORMATION  
8 ON THAT TOPIC.

9 DOWN WITH FASCIST PIGS. ALL POWER TO  
10 THE WORKING CLASS. LONG LIVE THE INTERNATIONAL  
11 SOCIALIST REVOLUTION.

12 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. THE NEXT SPEAKER IS  
13 DOROTHY FRISCH.

14 DOROTHY FRISCH: I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I NEED  
15 THIS, BUT IF YOU CAN HEAR ME I'LL USE IT.

16 I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO NUMBER TWO,  
17 WHAT WE CAN DO.

18 I'D LIKE VERY MUCH -- AND I RECOGNIZE  
19 THAT THIS IS A MONETARY THING AS WELL AS WANTING TO  
20 DO IT -- BUT I WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH IF, RAPIDLY AS  
21 POSSIBLE, TO SEE CHIEF WILLIAMS INITIATE AND  
22 INSTIGATE THOSE THINGS THAT HE DID IN PHILADELPHIA,  
23 ESPECIALLY, ESPECIALLY, THE AUXILIARY POLICE  
24 DEPARTMENT SECTIONS WITHIN EACH NEIGHBORHOOD, MUCH  
25 LESS THE GEOGRAPHICAL PORTIONS OF THE -- OF

1 LOS ANGELES. AND I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE A  
2 COUNTER -- WANT TO SAY REVOLUTION BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT  
3 I WANT -- SOMETHING DONE AT THE ACADEMY OR IN  
4 WHATEVER ORDER COULD BE DONE TO TRAIN THE NEW  
5 OFFICERS AND THE OLD LONG-STANDING OFFICERS TO BE  
6 HELPFUL TO US FIRST AND THEN TO CATCH THE CRIMINALS,  
7 TO HAVE A RAPPORT WITH THE NEIGHBORHOODS, BECAUSE  
8 THEY'LL GET MUCH MORE COOPERATION AND BE ABLE TO DO  
9 MUCH MORE IF THEY DO.

10 FOOT PATROLS, IF THE MONEY IS  
11 FORTHCOMING ANY WAY POSSIBLE. WE DON'T EVEN SEE  
12 NEIGHBORHOOD CAR PATROLS ANYMORE. THERE -- IF THEY  
13 ARE THERE -- AND I WORKED FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
14 FOR THREE YEARS AS A CIVILIAN AND LOOKED FOR OUR  
15 PATROLS, AND IN THE '80S WE DID SEE THEM AND  
16 GRADUALLY THEY JUST KIND OF DISAPPEARED INTO THE WOOD  
17 WORK, BUT ALSO FOOT PATROLS SO THAT WE KNOW WHO OUR  
18 COPS ARE.

19 THAT'S THE EXTENT OF WHAT I FEEL I CAN  
20 CONTRIBUTE. THANK YOU.

21 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

22 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. I'D LIKE TO CALL TWO MORE  
23 SPEAKERS NOW IN ORDER. THE FIRST WILL BE LAWRENCE  
24 TEETER, AND THE NEXT WILL BE JOHN WALSH. MR. TEETER.

25 LAWRENCE TEETER: THANK YOU. MY NAME IS

1 LAWRENCE TEETER. I'M AN ATTORNEY PRACTICING IN  
2 LOS ANGELES. I APPEARED AT A PREVIOUS HEARING. I  
3 WANTED TO ADD SOME ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS THAT I -- MY  
4 NAME IS LAWRENCE TEETER. I'M AN ATTORNEY PRACTICING  
5 IN LOS ANGELES. I APPEARED AT A PREVIOUS HEARING AT  
6 BERENDO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL. I WANTED TO COME HERE  
7 AND ADD SOME ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS THAT I HOPE WILL BE  
8 OF SOME ASSISTANCE TO YOU.

9 YOU HAD AN INITIAL SPEAKER WHO INDICATED  
10 THAT THE POLICE WERE DOING NOTHING AND THAT THEY HAD  
11 TOLD HIM THAT THEY HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO REMAIN  
12 ENTIRELY UNINVOLVED. THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WAS TOLD.  
13 WHEN I QUESTIONED OFFICERS DURING THE PERIOD IN WHICH  
14 THE NATIONAL GUARD WAS PRESENT IN LOS ANGELES ABOUT  
15 WHY NO ACTION WAS TAKEN, NOT ONLY TO STOP THE  
16 ACTIVITIES UNDER WAY AT FLORENCE AND NORMANDIE BUT TO  
17 SEAL OFF THE INTERSECTION, I WAS TOLD BY OFFICERS  
18 WITH WHOM I SPOKE, QUOTE, "WE WERE TOLD TO STAY  
19 ENTIRELY OUT OF THE AREA."

20 NOW, THIS IS INCOMPREHENSIBLE, COMING AS  
21 IT DOES FROM AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HAD DEVELOPED THE  
22 PUBLIC REPUTATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE RODNEY KING  
23 BEATING OF USING EXCESSIVE FORCE, TO HAVE ALL OF A  
24 SUDDEN TURNED AND RUN, ABSENTING ITSELF TOTALLY FROM  
25 A CONFLICT SITUATION, AND THE MOST INCOMPREHENSIBLE

1 ASPECT OF THIS IS THAT THE INTERSECTION WASN'T SEALED  
2 OFF.

3 IT'S ONE THING IF THE OFFICERS WHO WERE  
4 PRESENT IN THE AREA MAY HAVE FELT SOME RELUCTANCE TO  
5 GO INTO THE AREA OF THAT INTERSECTION WHEN IT WAS OUT  
6 OF HAND. BUT IT'S BEYOND MY IMAGINATION AS TO HOW  
7 ANYBODY CAN POSSIBLY JUSTIFY THE FAILURE TO POST  
8 PATROL CARS ONE BLOCK IN EACH DIRECTION AWAY FROM  
9 THAT INTERSECTION TO STOP VEHICLES FROM ENTERING IT,  
10 BECAUSE IT WAS THE VEHICLES ENTERING THE INTERSECTION  
11 AND THE BEATINGS WHICH FOLLOWED WHICH LED TO THE  
12 PUBLIC PERCEPTION THAT EVERYTHING HAD BROKEN DOWN AND  
13 EVERYTHING WOULD BE TOLERATED.

14 I THINK THAT THIS WILD OSCILLATION  
15 BETWEEN THE USE OF DRAMATICALLY EXCESSIVE FORCE AND  
16 THE COMPLETE ABSENCE OF THE USE OF ANY FORCE IS  
17 INDICATIVE OF ONE OF TWO THINGS: THE MOST CHARITABLE  
18 EXPLANATION IS THAT THE L.A.P.D. COMMAND STRUCTURE  
19 SIMPLY DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE TERM  
20 "REASONABLE FORCE." THE LAW PRIVILEGES THE USE OF  
21 REASONABLE FORCE, NOT EXCESSIVE FORCE, AND CERTAINLY  
22 THE TAXPAYERS DON'T PAY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO  
23 SIMPLY RUN AWAY FROM A SITUATION. THE LAW GIVES THEM  
24 THE RIGHT TO USE REASONABLE FORCE. THERE WAS NO  
25 REASONABLE FORCE. THERE WAS NO PRESENCE AT ALL.

1 THE SECOND THING IS I NOTICE FROM YOUR  
2 LIST OF CONCERNS TO WHICH WE SHOULD ADDRESS OURSELVES  
3 THAT YOU APPARENTLY CONTEMPLATE THAT THERE MAY BE A  
4 FUTURE EMERGENCY OF THIS TYPE. I THINK WE HAVE TO  
5 PLAN FOR A FUTURE CHARACTERIZED BY THE ABSENCE OF  
6 CIVIL DISTURBANCES OF THIS SORT. I DON'T THINK WE  
7 CAN STAND ANOTHER ONE. I THINK IF WE GET LABELED AS  
8 A BEIRUT OR BELFAST THE TOURIST INDUSTRY HERE IS  
9 FINISHED, BUSINESSES ARE NOT GOING TO WANT TO STAY,  
10 OUR ECONOMY WILL BE RANSACKED.

11 THERE'S A WAY TO PREVENT THIS. WE DON'T  
12 HAVE TO HAVE IT HAPPEN AGAIN. THIS CAN BE PREVENTED.  
13 IT MEANS PUMPING ENOUGH MONEY INTO SERVICES THAT  
14 SUPPORT THE EXISTING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE SO THAT WE  
15 DON'T HAVE VAST SECTORS OF OUR POPULATION WHO FEEL  
16 LOCKED OUT OF THE ECONOMY. WE HAVE TO SPEND THAT  
17 MONEY. THAT MONEY EXISTS. IT DOESN'T EXIST IN THE  
18 CITY BUDGET, THE COUNTY BUDGET, OR THE STATE BUDGET,  
19 BUT IT EXISTS IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET WHERE WE'RE  
20 SPENDING \$2 BILLION PER COPY FOR B-2 BOMBERS.

21 CHIEF WILLIAMS: COUNSELOR, JUST A POINT OF  
22 CLARIFICATION. IS IT YOUR POSITION THAT THE CITY  
23 SHOULD NOT PLAN FOR FUTURE EMERGENCIES THAT MAY  
24 OCCUR?

25 LAWRENCE TEETER: NO, NOT AT ALL. MY POINT IS

1 THAT WHAT THE CITY SHOULD TRY TO DO, FIRST OF ALL, IS  
2 TO PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF FUTURE EMERGENCIES, AS  
3 WELL AS PREPARING FOR THEIR OCCURRENCE. BUT I THINK  
4 WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT IF THERE IS ANOTHER  
5 DISTURBANCE ON THIS MAGNITUDE THE DAMAGE TO OUR  
6 ECONOMY AND OUR CITY'S REPUTATION WILL BE MUCH MORE  
7 SEVERE THAN THIS TIME AROUND, AND I THINK WE HAVE TO  
8 DO WHATEVER WE POSSIBLY CAN DO TO PREVENT ANOTHER  
9 DISTURBANCE OF THIS MAGNITUDE FROM TAKING PLACE, AND  
10 THAT MEANS GETTING AT THE CORE CONDITIONS WHICH  
11 CREATED IT.

12 THE MONEY TO DO THAT EXISTS, BUT IT'S IN  
13 SOMEBODY ELSE'S DEPARTMENT, LONG SACROSANCT FROM  
14 PUBLIC CRITICISM, AT ANOTHER LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT.

15 THE B-2 BOMBERS THAT ARE BEING BUILT  
16 RIGHT NOW, THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT. THE COLD WAR IS  
17 OVER. CONGRESS HAS INDICATED A DESIRE TO APPROPRIATE  
18 \$100 BILLION FOR STAR WARS. THE COLD WAR IS OVER.

19 MS. LEHRMAN: MR. TEETER, I'M SORRY TO  
20 INTERRUPT YOU BUT WE'VE GONE LONG OVER THREE MINUTES.  
21 I NEED TO ASK YOU TO SUMMARIZE.

22 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

23 LAWRENCE TEETER: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

24 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. MR. JOHN WALSH.

25 JOHN WALSH: MY NAME IS JOHN WALSH OF THE

1 YUCCA-ARGYLE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH.

2 HOLLYWOOD -- AND WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD.

3 WE FEEL UNWANTED. THE REVOLUTIONARY  
4 COMMUNIST PARTY DOESN'T THINK WE'RE IMPORTANT ENOUGH  
5 TO DISRUPT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS, LADIES AND  
6 GENTLEMEN.

7 I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THIS IS A VERY  
8 HIGH-DENSITY CRIME AREA. TAKING AN EVENING STROLL IN  
9 HOLLYWOOD CAN VERY EASILY TURN INTO A NEAR DEATH  
10 EXPERIENCE.

11 APRIL 30TH, THE RIOT. IT WAS NOTHING  
12 NEW FOR HOLLYWOOD. FIRES? WE HAVE ARSON HERE ALL  
13 THE TIME. THE HISTORIC ONTRA CAFE, THE HISTORIC  
14 HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY, THE HISTORIC STELLA ADLER  
15 THEATRE, ALL BURNED DOWN, MANY OTHER BUILDINGS. THIS  
16 AREA IS A SEMI-RIOT ZONE AT ALL TIMES.

17 WE HAD A NICE, BIG RIOT HERE AROUND --  
18 DO YOU REMEMBER THE HALLOWEEN RIOT? ANOTHER BIG  
19 RIOT. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE HERE IS WE GOT TO SEE IT  
20 ON T.V., AND WHEN FOLKS STARTED MOVING UP WESTERN,  
21 SOME FOLKS TOOK OUT THEIR RIFLES AND STARTED A LITTLE  
22 WILD WEST SCENARIO.

23 WE HAD A CAR IN FRONT OF OUR HOUSE FIRE  
24 BOMBED, IN FRONT OF OUR APARTMENT HOUSE, AND A FEW OF  
25 OUR NEIGHBORS TOOK OUT RIFLES. BUT WHAT IS THE CORE

1 ROOT WHEN YOU COME TO THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION?

2 WELL, THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION -- THERE'S  
3 A HISTORY TO THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION.

4 LET'S GO BACK 11 YEARS TO CAPTAIN  
5 FEINBERG. THE PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT  
6 CAPTAIN FEINBERG.

7 NOW, THERE ARE CHILDREN HERE IN THE  
8 AUDIENCE, SO I WON'T SAY WHAT THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE  
9 WERE DOING EXCEPT THAT THEY HAD ILLICIT RELATIONS  
10 WITH GIRL SCOUTS IN THE PARK OVER HERE, IN GRIFFITH  
11 PARK, AND WERE CAUGHT. THEY WERE STEALING FROM  
12 STORES AND SELLING THE THINGS THEY STOLE ON MELROSE  
13 OUT IN THE VALLEY, AND THEY WERE ALL CAUGHT, AND NO  
14 ONE WAS PROSECUTED. THAT'S IN THE "TIMES." THAT'S  
15 NOT A RUMOR.

16 WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT? WE HAVE HAD  
17 SIX CAPTAINS SINCE FEINBERG. WE HAVE CAPTAINS COME  
18 AND GO HERE. WE DON'T HAVE A STRUCTURE IN OUR POLICE  
19 DEPARTMENT.

20 NOW, WHY, I ASK YOU, DID THE CITY  
21 COUNCIL NOT GET RID OF GATES? BECAUSE GATES IS THE  
22 CORE OF THIS PROBLEM. WELL, I HOPE YOU'VE READ THE  
23 ROTHMILLER BOOK, AND I HOPE YOU INCLUDE THAT, BECAUSE  
24 THEY HAD DOSSIERS ON THE PRIVATE SEX LIVES OF ALL THE  
25 CITY COUNCILMEN. HEY, WE KNOW THAT. IT'S ALL IN THE

1 BOOK. THIS ONE WAS A HOMOSEXUAL, THIS ONE WAS THIS.  
2 THIS ONE WAS THAT. ALL THICK LIKE THAT. THE BOOK IS  
3 OUT. THAT'S WHY NOTHING HAPPENED. THAT'S WHY THE  
4 CITY COUNCIL WAS BEHIND HIM. BUT I JUST WANT  
5 YOU -- EVEN AS BAD AS CAPTAIN GATES -- AS GATES WAS,  
6 CHIEF GATES -- I MEAN HE HAD A PERSONNEL STYLE MIDWAY  
7 BETWEEN ATTLA THE HUN AND THE EMPEROR CALIGULA. OFF  
8 WITH YOUR HEAD. SIX CAPTAINS HERE. ULTIMATELY. THE  
9 REASON IT HAPPENED HERE AND IT HAPPENED NO WHERE ELSE  
10 IN THE UNITED STATES. WE HAD A FEW LITTLE  
11 FLICKERINGS OTHER PLACES. WHY ONLY IN L.A.? WHY THE  
12 WORST RIOTS SINCE THE 1860S, OVER A CENTURY IN THIS  
13 CITY? BECAUSE WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, WE HAVE THE  
14 MOST CORRUPT, VENAL POLITICIANS IN THE WORLD.  
15 THEY'RE THE ONES THAT LET THIS THING GET OUT OF  
16 (INAUDIBLE). SO WHO ARE WE GONNA BLAME? WE'RE GONNA  
17 BLAME THE POLICE. POLICE ARE JUST WORKERS. THEY CAN  
18 BE FIRED. GATES WAS FIRED. BUT YOU CAN'T FIRE THE  
19 POLITICIANS.

20 TWO-TERM INITIATIVE? WE SHOULD HAVE A  
21 NO-TERM INITIATIVE AND GET RID OF THEM RIGHT AWAY.

22 CHIEF WILLIAMS: MR. WALSH --

23 JOHN WALSH: I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT I HOPE  
24 THAT THIS COMMISSION IS AS GOOD AS THE CHRISTOPHER  
25 COMMISSION WAS. I HOPE THIS COMMISSION WILL COME OUT

1 AND NOT SAY THAT YOU CAN CHANGE IT A LITTLE BIT HERE  
2 AND YOU CAN CHANGE IT A LITTLE BIT HERE, BECAUSE L.A.  
3 IS, WHEN IT COMES TO THE BIG ORANGE, THE L.A.  
4 POLITICIANS ARE THE PITS. THANK YOU.

5 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, MR. WALSH.

6 MR. QUEZADA: OUR NEXT SPEAKERS, DOUGLAS  
7 CARLTON, VENUS DE MILO.

8 DOUGLAS CARLTON: I'VE GIVEN YOU A TWO-PAGE  
9 LETTER I'VE WRITTEN TO YOU SO THAT IF THREE MINUTES  
10 IS NOT ENOUGH -- I'VE GIVEN UP -- I'VE GIVEN MY  
11 (INAUDIBLE) PAGE LETTER TO YOUR PEOPLE TO MORE OR  
12 LESS TELL YOU WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY IN THREE MINUTES.

13 THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT IS  
14 DISCONNECTED FROM THE KIDS OF LOS ANGELES, FROM THE  
15 HOMELESS, FROM THE POOR, AND FROM THE SMALL  
16 BUSINESSMAN AND FROM MOST OF THE PEOPLE HERE. IN  
17 FACT, OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HERE IS DISCONNECTED FROM  
18 HOLLYWOOD. HOLLYWOOD HAS NO MONEY. HOLLYWOOD HAS NO  
19 JOBS. HOLLYWOOD HAS NOTHING EXCEPT A POLICE  
20 DEPARTMENT THAT'S DISCONNECTED, AND THE SOONER YOU  
21 TAKE SOME MONEY OR FIND SOME MONEY TO GET THESE  
22 POLICE TO DO SOME COMMUNITY ACTION AND GET RID OF  
23 THEIR REDNECK WAYS THAT DARYL GATES HAS PUT IN THEIR  
24 MINDS IN TEN YEARS, THE FASTER WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET  
25 THIS CITY TOGETHER. BECAUSE AS OF HOW WITH HOMELESS

1 AND JOBLESS, WITH DRUGS AND PROSTITUTION, WITH THE  
2 C.R.A. TAKING OUR MONEY, AND WITH ALL THE PEOPLE HERE  
3 WHO CAN'T EVEN GET OUT OF THEIR HOMES AND WALK ON THE  
4 BOULEVARD, THE BOULEVARD IS DEAD. THE BUSINESSES ARE  
5 DEAD, AND EVERYBODY IS LOSING EXCEPT FOR THE POLICE,  
6 WHO GO UP AND DOWN THE BOULEVARD AND JACK UP KIDS AND  
7 HOMELESS PEOPLE AND DO NOT GO AND JACK UP THE ROCK  
8 DEALERS RIGHT DOWN THE STREET ON THE CORNER OF  
9 WHITLEY AND YUCCA.

10 THEY SIT AT THE DONUT SHOP ON HIGHLAND  
11 AVENUE, BUT THEY NEVER TALK TO THE KIDS THAT ARE  
12 HOMELESS ON THEIR SKATEBOARDS ON THE BOULEVARD. ALL  
13 THEY DO IS JACK THEM UP AND HANG THEM UP AND PLAY  
14 RAMBO IN THIS TOWN.

15 I HOPE SOON THAT SOMEHOW THE \$1.7  
16 MILLION THAT MR. WOO IS SPENDING ON THE C.R.A. TO  
17 HIRE PRIVATE POLICE WOULD GIVE 10 HOURS EXTRA TO THE  
18 POLICE WE HAVE SO THEY CAN SHAKE HANDS WITH PEOPLE ON  
19 THE BOULEVARD, SO THEY CAN BE REAL AND TAKE OFF THEIR  
20 PLASTIC MASKS, SO THEY CAN GET OUT OF THEIR CARS AND  
21 STOP BEING SO DISCONNECTED BECAUSE IT IS THE  
22 GOVERNMENT THAT CAUSED THIS RIOT, AND IT IS THE  
23 DISCONNECTED GOVERNMENT THAT WILL CAUSE IT AGAIN.

24 20 YEARS AGO YOU HAD A RIOT. YOU HAVE  
25 THE SAME PROBLEMS TODAY. YOU ARE DISCONNECTED. AND

1 ALL OF YOU, EVERYBODY HERE, SHOULD GO DOWN TO THAT  
2 BOULEVARD AND MEET A HOMELESS KID AND GIVE HIM A  
3 QUARTER AND HELP HIM OUT AND SHAKE A HAND WITH A  
4 POLICEMAN. BUT THE SOONER WE GET WOMEN ON THE  
5 BOULEVARD IN POLICE UNIFORMS, THE SOONER WE GET MONEY  
6 TO THEM SO THEY CAN STOP AND BE -- AND MEET PEOPLE  
7 AGAIN, BECAUSE WE HAVE NO LOCAL POLICE, AND I SUPPORT  
8 MY LOCAL POLICE, DON'T YOU? IT'S TOO BAD WE HAVE  
9 NONE. THEY ARE AN ARMY FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE THAT COME  
10 HERE AND DON'T CARE. THANK YOU.

11 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

12 VENUS DE MILO: HI. YOU'RE GOING TO GO UP AND  
13 DOWN WITH THIS MIKE.

14 MY NAME IS VENUS DE MILO. I REPRESENT  
15 THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE OF HOLLYWOOD COMMITTEE. I HAVE  
16 APPROXIMATELY 2,000 MEMBERS, IF NOT A LITTLE BIT MORE  
17 THAN THAT.

18 FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO TAKE THIS  
19 OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU FOR HAVING THIS MEETING HERE  
20 TONIGHT AND ASKING FOR OUR INPUT. THIS IS WELL  
21 APPRECIATED.

22 YOU'RE ASKING FOR INPUT ON WHAT COULD  
23 HAVE -- WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE, WHAT DIDN'T WORK  
24 AND SO FORTH AND SO ON.

25 WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS -- WHAT I

1 WOULD LIKE TO DO IS ADD APPROXIMATELY SIX, EIGHT  
2 MONTHS BEFORE THE RODNEY KING BEATING, I WALKED INTO  
3 THE CITY COUNCIL -- I'LL TRY AND GET THROUGH THIS AS  
4 QUICK AS I CAN AND GIVE YOU SOME GOOD INPUT HERE.

5 I WALKED INTO THE CITY COUNCIL AT A VERY  
6 END OF A WOMAN'S STATEMENT, AND SHE HAD -- I DON'T  
7 KNOW WHAT THE COMPLAINT WAS, BUT IT WAS PRETTY  
8 SERIOUS, AND SHE HAD MENTIONED THAT IF THE CITY  
9 COUNCIL DIDN'T GET THEIR ACT TOGETHER, THERE WAS  
10 GOING TO BE ANOTHER WATTS RIOT. IT WAS IN THE AIR,  
11 IT'S STILL IN THE AIR. THE AIR IS NOT CLEAR.

12 NOW, DURING THE RODNEY KING BEATING OR  
13 THE TRIAL, I -- THE CITY COUNCIL, THE MAYOR, WAS  
14 AWARE THAT THIS RIOT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN, THEY DID  
15 NOT PUT THEIR ACT TOGETHER. THEY'RE PUTTING ALL THE  
16 BLAME ON THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT. I  
17 SUPPORT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. EVERYBODY IN MY  
18 COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. THERE ARE  
19 SOME BAD APPLES, AND THERE'S -- BUT THE MAJORITY OF  
20 THEM ARE GOOD COPS. SO MEANTIME EVERYTHING IS COMING  
21 DOWN ON THE COPS. AND I THINK THIS IS VERY UNFAIR TO  
22 THEM. WE NEED MORE COPS. THEY ARE OVERWORKED,  
23 THEY'RE PUTTING IN HOURS, THEY'RE GETTING EXTRA DAYS  
24 OFF. THOSE EXTRA DAYS OFF DOES NOT PAY THEIR BILLS.  
25 THEY DESERVE AN OVERTIME PAYCHECK JUST LIKE ANYBODY

1 ELSE DOES.

2 NOW, THE COUNCIL WAS AWARE OF THIS WHEN  
3 THE DECISION WAS -- WHEN THEY WERE WAITING FOR THE  
4 COURT'S DECISION ON THE RODNEY KING'S CASE. THEY DID  
5 NOTHING TO PREPARE THIS. AND LIKE I SAID EVERYTHING  
6 CAME DOWN TO CHIEF DARYL GATES.

7 MEANTIME -- I'LL GET TO IT. MEANTIME --  
8 IT'S TRUE ABOUT HOLLYWOOD. IT'S A DISASTER. CIVIL  
9 RIGHTS ARE BEING VIOLATED EVERY WEEKEND. I CAN'T  
10 SPEAK FOR ANYBODY ELSE'S STREETS, BUT I KNOW I CAN  
11 SAY ON BRONSON AVENUE BETWEEN HOLLYWOOD AND SUNSET  
12 WE -- THREE SATURDAYS AGO WE HAD A RIOT OF OVER 30  
13 GANG MEMBERS. SOMEONE HAD GOT SHOT AT ARBY'S. THERE  
14 WAS A SHOOTING AT THE CORNER OF SUNSET AND BRONSON.  
15 A COP STOOD ON THE CORNER. HE WAS SUMMONED. A  
16 PERSON WENT TO HIM AND SAID, "HEY, YOU GOT TO CALL  
17 SOME BACKUP HERE."

18 HE SAYS, "OH, LET THEM ALL SHOOT ONE  
19 ANOTHER OFF. FINE. PICK THEM UP. PUT THEM IN THE  
20 WAREHOUSE IF THEY WANT TO SHOOT EACH OTHER OFF." BUT  
21 WE'VE GOT A POLICE FORCE IN HOLLYWOOD. I BACKED THEM  
22 UP. NOT ALL OF THEM. I CAN'T SAY THAT FOR ALL OF  
23 THEM. AFRAID OF THEIR OWN SHADOWS AT NIGHT TIME.  
24 THEY'RE AFRAID TO GET OUT AND DO THEIR JOB, AND IT  
25 WAS UNBELIEVABLE. PEOPLE WERE SO AFRAID THAT --

1 THERE WAS OVER 30 GANG MEMBERS ON THE CORNER OF  
2 BRONSON -- YEAH. BRONSON AND HAROLD WAY.

3 I MEAN, THEY WERE HAVING A HELL OF A  
4 TIME WITH EACH OTHER, SHOOTING AND KNIFING AND  
5 EVERYTHING ELSE.

6 WELL, I THINK IT'S -- IT'S VERY  
7 IMPORTANT TO AVOID ANY MORE OF THIS KIND OF  
8 CATASTROPHE. WE NEED MORE POLICE. THE MONEY IS  
9 THERE, AND I DECLINE ANY COUNCILMEMBER TO SAY THAT  
10 THE MONEY IS NOT THERE. IT IS THERE. THE C.R.A. HAS  
11 GOT IT. IT BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE. PEOPLE OWN THESE  
12 PROPERTIES. THAT MONEY BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE.  
13 C.R.A. IS SUPPOSED TO BE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.  
14 BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? IT'S NOT. NOT ANYMORE.

15 THE OLD SAYING IS, "WHEN THE BUCKS COME  
16 ROLLING IN, DON'T GET IN THE WAY." SO WE'RE SUPPOSED  
17 TO KEEP OUR MOUTHS SHUT. I'M ASKING YOU NOW. PLEASE  
18 GET MORE POLICE. GET THE MONEY OUT OF THE C.R.A.  
19 AND GET MORE POLICE ON THE STREET. I'D APPRECIATE  
20 THAT. THANK YOU.

21 MR. QUEZADA: THANK YOU.

22 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

23 MR. QUEZADA: SHEILA MC KINNON AND LARRY GREEN.

24 SHEILA MC KINNON: GOOD EVENING. I DON'T  
25 ACTUALLY LIVE IN LOS ANGELES. I LIVED IN CARSON,

1 WHICH IS A LITTLE CHUNK OF LOS ANGELES, BUT I DID  
2 WITNESS THE RIOTS FROM MY HOUSE, AND I WOULD LIKE TO  
3 SAY IT'S NOT THE RESPONSE OF THE L.A.P.D. ON  
4 APRIL 29TH BUT THE RESPONSE OF THE L.A.P.D.  
5 THROUGHOUT THE YEARS. THEY ARE CONTINUALLY ABUSIVE.  
6 THEY CONTINUALLY DENY PEOPLE'S RIGHTS. WE HAVE A  
7 RIGHT OF SEARCH AND SEIZURE. DOES THAT NOT EXTEND  
8 ALSO TO THE RIGHT OF PROBABLE CAUSE OF A CRIME? THEY  
9 CONTINUE TO STOP PEOPLE JUST BECAUSE THEY LOOK LIKE A  
10 TYPE WHO'S GOING TO COMMIT A CRIME, AND THAT TO ME IS  
11 A DIRECTION VIOLATION OF MY RIGHT OF SAFE PASSAGE  
12 ALONG THE U.S. ROADS. AND I THINK THAT IF THE POLICE  
13 CAN RESPECT THE VERY LAW THAT THEY SWEAR TO UPHOLD  
14 THEN THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY CAN RESPECT THEM AND OBEY  
15 THE LAWS ON THEIR OWN. BUT IF THEY CONTINUE TO  
16 VIOLATE THAT VERY LAW, THEN WHY SHOULD ANYBODY  
17 RESPECT THE LAW THEMSELVES?

18 THANK YOU.

19 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

20 MR. QUEZADA: THANK YOU.

21 LARRY GREEN: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS LARRY  
22 GREEN.

23 I WANT TO ADDRESS THE TWO POINTS. MY  
24 OPINION IS THAT VERY LITTLE WORK AND VERY LITTLE --  
25 EVERYTHING DIDN'T WORK IN TERMS OF NUMBER ONE. IN

1 TERMS OF NUMBER TWO, I THINK THAT THERE HAS TO BE, IN  
2 ECHOING MR. TEETER'S REMARKS, MORE PLANNING. THERE  
3 WASN'T REALLY A PLAN, ACCORDING TO THE "L.A. TIMES,"  
4 AT LEAST. A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FROM THE MAYOR'S  
5 OFFICE AND THE CHIEF OF POLICE OFFICE, WHAT TO DO IN  
6 CASE OF A RIOT. THEY'RE PROBABLY -- THERE IS A  
7 LIKELIHOOD OF ANOTHER RIOT, INSURRECTION, WHATEVER  
8 YOU WANT TO CALL IT.

9 I WANT TO SEE A PLAN. FURTHERMORE, THIS  
10 COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ON TOP OF SEEING WHAT DARYL  
11 GATES' PLAN WAS. HE ALLEGEDLY HAD A PLAN. I'VE  
12 NEVER SEEN IT.

13 SECONDLY, I FEEL THERE SHOULD BE  
14 CONSTANT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE CHIEF OF POLICE  
15 AND THE MAYOR. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BELIEVE THIS  
16 OR NOT BUT I WAS -- HEARD ON THE NEWS THAT DARYL  
17 GATES AND TOM BRADLEY HARDLY SPOKE FOR THE LAST 13  
18 YEARS. THAT'S UNCONSCIONABLE. THIRD, I FEEL THAT  
19 THE POLICE CHIEF SHOULD RIDE IN THE SQUAD CARS, AT  
20 LEAST ONE NIGHT A WEEK, ALONG WITH THE MAYOR.  
21 FOURTH, IF I ECHO THE REMARKS OF THE OTHER PEOPLE.  
22 WE NEED MORE POLICE. AND NOT ALL POLICE ARE BAD.  
23 JUST BRUTAL POLICE ARE BAD. WE NEED AT LEAST 3,000  
24 MORE POLICE, AND WE NEED 800 MORE FIREMEN WHILE WE'RE  
25 AT IT.

1                   ALSO, MY FIFTH POINT IS I'VE GOT A WAY  
2 OF FUNDING THIS WHICH WE MIGHT RECOMMEND THAT'S  
3 TAXING NONRESIDENTS WHO WORK IN THE CITY OF L.A.  
4 THAT'S A WAY TO RAISE THE REVENUE.

5                   SPEAKER: (INAUDIBLE.)

6                   LARRY GREEN: THAT'S RIGHT. IF YOU WORK IN THE  
7 CITY OF L.A. -- IF YOU LIVE IN THE -- YOU KNOW, LIVE  
8 IN THE SANTA MONICA OR SAN PEDRO AND YOU WORK IN THE  
9 CITY, DO WHAT THEY DO IN NEW YORK AND MANY OTHER  
10 CITIES. LET'S HAVE A WITHHOLDING TAX.

11                   INFERENCE I WANT TO ADD AS A PURELY  
12 ASIDE -- HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT -- I'M RUNNING FOR  
13 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF L.A., BUT NOT BECAUSE OF THE --  
14 I WOULD HAVE SAID THESE THINGS ANYWAY. I'M RUNNING  
15 FOR MAYOR BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED IN APRIL. BUT I'M  
16 NOT HERE TO POLITIC. I'LL WIN ANYWAY.

17                   AND THE LAST POINT I WANT TO MAKE, THE  
18 LAST POINT I WANT TO MAKE, AND THIS IS THE MOST  
19 IMPORTANT POINT OF ALL. I AM NOT ANTI-POLICE. I AM  
20 NOT A SELF-HATING ANYTHING. I DON'T LIKE LABELS. WE  
21 HAVE TO BE UNIFIED IN THIS CITY, AND THAT MEANS  
22 EVERYBODY.

23                   CYNTHIA MC CLAIN-HILL, THE VERY  
24 WELL-KNOWN ATTORNEY -- OKAY. THAT'S -- ONE MINUTE IS  
25 AN ETERNITY FOR ME. THE VERY WELL-KNOWN ATTORNEY

1 CYNTHIA MC CLAIN-HILL, MY GOOD FRIEND, WHO ASSISTED  
2 ME IN THE MOVEMENT TO GET RID OF DARYL GATES, AND I  
3 MIGHT ADD UNDER MY REAL NAME, LAWRENCE GREENBLATT, I  
4 GATHERED 7,000 SIGNATURES TO GET RID OF DARYL GATES.

5 CYNTHIA MC CLAIN-HILL SAID IN AN ARTICLE  
6 IN THE "L.A. TIMES," "IT'S NOT A BLACK OR WHITE OR  
7 LATINO THING." IT IS NOT ABOUT THAT. I CAN DO  
8 SIT-UPS ALL DAY LONG. I'LL NEVER BE BLACK. I CAN  
9 SPEAK SPANISH ALL DAY LONG. I'LL NEVER BE LATINO.  
10 I'LL ALWAYS HAVE THIS NEW YORK ACCENT AND THIS JEWISH  
11 FACE. BUT, GOD DARN IT, IF I EVER, EVER, EVER AM  
12 GOING TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED ON APRIL 29TH HAPPEN  
13 AGAIN; AND WE NEED MORE MEETINGS LIKE THIS, CHAIRED  
14 BY THE MAYOR, WITH THE POLICE CHIEF -- AND WE'RE  
15 GONNA SEE THEM AFTER JULY 1ST. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

16 I DON'T EVEN NEED MY LAST 30 SECONDS. I  
17 WILL SAY IF ANY MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA WANT TO TALK TO  
18 THE NEXT MAYOR OF L.A., I'M HERE. MIKE WOO SAW ME  
19 THE OTHER DAY, HE SAID TO ME, "WHO ARE YOU?" I SAID,  
20 "MIKE, I'M THE GUY THAT'S GOING TO BEAT YOU ON  
21 APRIL 20TH."

22 THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

23 MR. QUEZADA: THANK YOU.

24 NANCY DOLINGER AND HONAH KRAMER.

25 NANCY DOLINGER: YOU TURNED IT ON.

1 MALE SPEAKER: I NEED A LIGHT. IT'S TOO DARK  
2 IN HERE.

3 NANCY DOLINGER: WELL, I CAN'T READ WITH IT IN  
4 MY EYES. I HAVE VERY SENSITIVE EYES. THANK YOU.  
5 YAY.

6 OKAY. I AM A WHITE FEMALE WHO WAS BORN  
7 ON FOUNTAIN AVENUE, GREW UP IN HANCOCK PARK, AND  
8 GRADUATED FROM USC.

9 IN THE EARLY '70S I MOVED TO ENGLAND FOR  
10 ONE REASON: FEAR OF THE L.A.P.D. THE SCREAMS OF  
11 TEENAGERS BEING CLUBBED IN THE GROIN IN THE VENICE  
12 POLICE RIOT OF 1970 ARE STILL IN MY HEAD. I'VE BEEN  
13 BACK IN L.A. FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AND NOW I'M READY TO  
14 LEAVE AGAIN.

15 I, LIKE THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE, THOUGHT  
16 THE GEORGE HOLLIDAY VIDEO WOULD FINALLY END THE  
17 BRUTALITY. WE WERE ALL WRONG.

18 ON THE DAY OF THE KING VERDICT I WATCHED  
19 T.V. HELPLESSLY AS NEWSCASTER AFTER NEWSCASTER IN  
20 THEIR HELICOPTERS BEGGED NEWSCASTER AFTER NEWSCASTER  
21 IN THE STUDIOS TO CALL 911. I WATCHED HELPLESSLY AS  
22 L.A.P.D. CAR AFTER L.A.P.D. CAR DROVE RIGHT THROUGH  
23 THE INTERSECTION OF FLORENCE AND NORMANDIE, DROVE  
24 RIGHT PAST THE TRUCK DRIVER INCIDENT. THAT L.A.P.D.  
25 COMMAND POST ON ARLINGTON COMPLETE WITH TANKS HAD

1 BEEN IN PLACE FOR THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE VERDICT.  
2 NONPREPAREDNESS IS A NONEXCUSE.

3 I SAW L.A.P.D. VIDEO OF THE OFFICERS  
4 INSIDE THAT COMMAND POST AT THE ONSET OF THE RIOTS.  
5 THEY WERE PLAYING CARDS, EATING, WATCHING THE ACTION  
6 ON T.V. THEY SAID THEIR ORDERS WERE TO STAY PUT.  
7 THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR THIS.

8 THE TEN OR MORE KILLINGS THAT L.A.P.D  
9 OFFICERS COMMITTED DURING THE RIOTS HAVE NOT BEEN  
10 MENTIONED SINCE JUNE 21ST IN THE "L.A. TIMES" WHERE  
11 IT WAS STATED THAT -- SORRY. I CAN'T READ THIS --  
12 FINAL RULINGS ON WHETHER THE OFFICERS ACTED PROPERLY  
13 OR NOT ARE NOT EXPECTED FOR AT LEAST TWO MONTHS.  
14 WELL, DOES THE L.A.P.D. KNOW WHAT NO JUSTICE, NO  
15 PEACE, MEANS? IF THE POLICE WANT TO GET BACK ON  
16 TRACK, HERE ARE MY SUGGESTIONS: TRAIN THE POLICE TO  
17 PROTECT AND TO SERVE, AS THEIR MOTTO STATES. CHARGE  
18 AND CONVICT THEIR OFFICERS OF BATTERY OR MURDER IF  
19 THEY COMMIT THOSE CRIMES. GIVE THEM SHOOTING LESSONS  
20 SO THEY CAN HIT A ROBBER, RIOTER, LOOTER, SUSPECT,  
21 INNOCENT BYSTANDER, IN THE LEG, NOT THE HEAD OR  
22 CHEST. REDIRECT THE CRACK TO WEST L.A., AND LET THE  
23 BUSINESSMEN REBUILD THEIR LIQUOR STORES TWO TO AN  
24 INTERSECTION IN WEST L.A. WHY WEST L.A.? REMEMBER  
25 THE ONE DRIVE-BY SHOOTING THERE? REMEMBER THE HUGE

1 POLICE RESPONSE TO THAT?

2 THE WAY THINGS ARE NOW, I PERSONALLY SEE  
3 THE L.A.P.D. AS A VEHICLE TO PERPETRATE AND  
4 PERPETUATE VIOLENCE AND RACISM. SO LET THOSE WHO  
5 REACTED THE ONLY WAY THEY COULD GO FREE. I SAY THIS  
6 REGARDING THE REGINALD DENNY INCIDENT BECAUSE AN EYE  
7 FOR AN EYE IS WHAT IT HAS COME DOWN TO.

8 HAS OUR SYSTEM OF LAW AND ORDER AND  
9 JUSTICE FAILED US THAT BADLY? HELL, YES, IT HAS. I  
10 APPLAUD THE SO-CALLED RIOTERS FOR STANDING UP TO A  
11 SICK, SICK SYSTEM, AND I AGREE THERE WILL BE NO PEACE  
12 WITHOUT JUSTICE.

13 THANK YOU.

14 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

15 MR. QUEZADA: MISS KRAMER OR MR. KRAMER?  
16 KRAMER?

17 MS. LEHRMAN: HONAH, HONAH KRAMER. HONAH  
18 KRAMER.

19 OKAY. THE NEXT TWO SPEAKERS WILL BE  
20 LEONARD SHAPIRO AND EUGENE HERNANDEZ.

21 LEONARD SHAPIRO: DON'T START MY TIME TILL I  
22 GET THIS MICROPHONE STRAIGHTENED UP.

23 I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD USE THIS  
24 MICROPHONE BECAUSE IF YOU HEAR IT LIKE I CAN HEAR IT,  
25 I CAN'T HEAR VERY WELL, AND IT KIND OF DOESN'T MAKE

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SENSE.

THERE ARE A FEW REMARKS THAT I'D REALLY LIKE TO MAKE TO THIS COMMISSION.

MY NAME IS LEONARD SHAPIRO. I PRINT THE "L.A. OBSERVER." DONE THAT FOR THE LAST 11 YEARS.

I THINK THIS ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS COMMITTEE FOLLOWS A PRECEDENT, AND NOT ONLY JUST THE LAST FEW YEARS. FOR THE ENTIRE 20TH CENTURY. FIRST WE HAVE UNREST, UPRISING, INTIFADA, RIOT, YOU CALL IT, AND THEN WE HAVE COMMISSIONS FORMED. AND THEN THESE COMMISSIONS ARE APPOINTED TO LOOK INTO WHAT HAPPENED AND SEE THAT IT WILL NEVER, NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN. AND SOME COMMISSIONERS DO A DAMN GOOD JOB.

IF ANYBODY'S READ THE OTTO COMMISSION REPORT ON THE INTIFADA THAT OCCURRED IN 1966 HERE IN WATTS, THEY'LL KNOW, THIS ENTIRE BOOK -- DID YOU ALL READ THAT BOOK? I THINK TO SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE YOU SHOULD READ THAT REPORT, AND YOU SHOULD READ THE MC CONE COMMISSION REPORT AS WELL AS THE CHRISTOPHER COMMISSION REPORT, WHICH IS RECENT, AND THE KOLTZ REPORT. THEY'RE ALL GOOD. AND THEY ALL YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING. AND THEY ALL TELL YOU WHY THE POLICE ACT THIS WAY, WHY THE PEOPLE ACT THIS WAY, AND WHAT YOU CAN REALLY DO TO MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T OCCUR AGAIN.

NOW, YOU SIT HERE AND YOU LISTEN TO

1 PEOPLE TELL YOU STORIES, EITHER OF INDIVIDUAL  
2 EXPERIENCES OR OF EXPERIENCES WHICH THEY KNOW HAVE  
3 HAPPENED BY WHAT THEY SAW ON T.V. THAT CRUCIAL NIGHT  
4 OF APRIL 29TH AND 30TH, WHAT HAPPENED THERE. HOW DID  
5 THE POLICE LET IT GET AWAY? AND SOMEBODY SAID IT  
6 HERE. THIS THING HAPPENS BECAUSE THE ENTIRE  
7 GOVERNMENT IS MADE IN THIS PATTERN, AND THE WORD IS  
8 CORRUPT, AND THE CLOSEST DEFINITION FOR CORRUPTION  
9 THAT YOU CAN COME TO -- AND I LOOKED IN THE  
10 DICTIONARY SEVERAL TIMES TO FIND OUT -- THEY SAY  
11 VENAL, TAKING MONEY TO PERFORM A SERVICE, BUT IT'S  
12 PROSTITUTION. PROSTITUTION AND CORRUPTION ARE  
13 SYNONYMOUS. SO ANY TIME YOU DON'T FIND -- AND YOU  
14 WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT DOES THE WORD CORRUPTION MEAN,  
15 YOU KNOW THAT IT MEANS CORRUPT -- IT MEANS  
16 PROSTITUTION. YOU DO THINGS, YOU TAKE MONEY FOR  
17 CERTAIN SOURCES TO DO CERTAIN THINGS. YOU ONLY PAY  
18 OFF THE PEOPLE WHO PAY YOU THE MONEY. AND THEN YOU  
19 SIT DOWN, YOU WONDER, "WHY DO PEOPLE GET ANGRY? WHY  
20 DO THEY GET ANGRY WHEN POLICE STOP THEM AND SAY, 'LAY  
21 DOWN ON THE CONCRETE ON YOUR BELLY FOR 30 MINUTES.  
22 LET ME HANDCUFF YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR BACK, GOD DAMN  
23 NIGGER,'" AND OTHER EXPLETIVES THAT THEY SAY THERE,  
24 WHATEVER THEY WANT TO. YOU'VE SEEN IT, AND THE  
25 CHRISTOPHER COMMISSION'S REPORT RIGHT ON THE TAPE.

1           THEY TAPED IT RIGHT ON BLACK AND WHITE. ALL KIND OF  
2           REMARKS ABOUT HISPANICS, ABOUT JEWS, ABOUT CATHOLICS,  
3           ABOUT WOMEN, ABOUT ANYBODY, AND THEN YOU WONDER, "WHY  
4           DO PEOPLE GET ANGRY? WHY DO THEY REVOLT? WHY DO  
5           THEY TAKE A CHANCE AND BREAK INTO A STORE THAT THEY  
6           NEVER OWN AND THEY COULD NEVER GET A CHANCE TO OWN  
7           AND THEY CAN'T WORK IN THERE? WHY DO THESE THINGS  
8           HAPPEN?" YOU GOT TO COME DOWN, YOU GOT TO MAKE THIS  
9           REPORT UP. YOU'LL MAKE THE SAME TYPE OF REPORT TOO,  
10          LIKE THE MC CONE COMMISSION REPORT AND THE RECENT  
11          REPORTS BY KOLTZ COMMITTEE, WHICH YOU DIDN'T READ,  
12          AND I KNOW YOU DIDN'T READ IT, AND I KNOW THE  
13          REPORTERS DIDN'T READ IT. THERE'S ONLY A FEW PEOPLE  
14          THAT BOTHERED TO READ THAT WHOLE REPORT BECAUSE IT'S  
15          TOO DIFFICULT. THAT'S WHY WHEN YOU MAKE A REPORT  
16          MAKE UP A GOOD SUMMARY SHEET. TWO, THREE PAGES OF  
17          YOUR SUMMARY. MAKE IT REAL GOOD. BECAUSE THAT'S ALL  
18          THE PRESS IS GOING TO READ. THEY'LL READ YOU A  
19          SUMMARY AND THEY'LL GLANCE THROUGH THE REST OF YOUR  
20          REPORT. THEY ARE NOT CONCERNED WITH THE BASIC  
21          CAUSES, BECAUSE IF THEY ARE CONCERNED WITH THE BASIC  
22          CAUSES THEY WOULD READ THE KERNER COMMISSION REPORT.  
23          THAT TELLS IT LIKE IT IS. THEY WOULD READ THE  
24          MC CONE COMMISSION REPORT. THAT TELLS WHY IT  
25          HAPPENED. THAT'S 25 YEARS AGO. AND YOU'RE STILL

1 SITTING HERE WRITING MORE REPORTS. THE CITY OF L.A.  
2 DOESN'T NEED REPORTS. THE CITY OF L.A. HAS REPORTS  
3 UP TO THEIR EARS. YOU KNOW WHAT'S WRONG. I KNOW  
4 WHAT'S WRONG. EVERYBODY HERE KNOWS WHAT'S WRONG.  
5 AND WHAT'S WRONG IS WE HAVE NONRESPONSIVE  
6 POLITICIANS, WE HAVE POLITICIANS WHO COULDN'T GIVE A  
7 GOOD GOD DAMN WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PEOPLE.

8 THANK YOU.

9 MS. LEHRMAN: EUGENE HERNANDEZ.

10 EUGENE HERNANDEZ: CHIEF WILLIAMS, MEMBERS OF  
11 THE PANEL. LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, WHAT I WITNESSED ON  
12 APRIL 29TH, 1992, WAS OF COURSE REVULSION, BUT THE  
13 BEATINGS OF REGINALD DENNY AND OF COURSE MANY OF THE  
14 LATINOS WHO WERE BEATEN UP THAT AFTERNOON REMINDED ME  
15 OF THE PRIORITY OF THE L.A.P.D.

16 AS A SOCIAL WORKER, WHEN I WAS WORKING  
17 IN SKID ROW AND I WAS TRYING TO ASK POLICE ASSISTANCE  
18 IN HANDLING THE CHILD ABUSE CASE, I REMEMBER THE  
19 POLICE TELLING ME THAT THEY HAD TO GO TO ARREST  
20 LATINO DEMONSTRATORS FROM LOCAL 11 WHO WERE SITTING  
21 IN THE HILTON HOTEL. TO THEM THAT REPRESENTED A  
22 HIGHER PRIORITY THAN HELPING ME, WHICH I THINK IS  
23 EXEMPLIFIED BY THE FACT THAT THEIR WHOLE PRIORITIES  
24 ARE SCREWED.

25 THE BOOK THAT WAS MENTIONED BEFORE,

1 ROTHMILLER'S BOOK, I THINK IS A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE  
2 THAT THE CORE OF THE L.A.P.D. IS RACISM AND  
3 BRUTALITY. AND THAT IS WHAT IS TRAINED AT THE  
4 ACADEMY.

5 THOSE WHO FORGET THE PAST ARE DOOMED TO  
6 REPEAT IT, AND I THINK THERE HAS TO BE A LESSON HERE  
7 THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE PANEL HAVE TO LEARN IS NOT  
8 ONLY WITH THE WATTS RIOT DID IT OCCUR IN LOS ANGELES,  
9 BUT THERE WAS ALSO THE ZOOT SUIT RIOT BACK IN 1943,  
10 AND SINCE 1943 CHICANOS HAVE BEEN THE MOST VICTIMS OF  
11 THE L.A.P.D. THEY HAVE WON THE MOST AWARDS FROM THE  
12 CITY COUNCIL FOR BRUTALITY AND KILLINGS, AND THERE  
13 HAS BEEN RIOTS IN EAST L.A., AND IN 1970 AND 1971  
14 EAST L.A. WAS THE MOST RIOTOUS AREA OF THE NATION.  
15 THEY DID NOT BREAK OUT IN A RIOT BECAUSE OF THE FACT  
16 THAT I THINK IT'S EXEMPLIFIED BY THE FACT THAT EAST  
17 L.A. IS A MORE STABLE COMMUNITY WHEREAS THIS AREA  
18 HERE IS A COMMUNITY OF LATIN AMERICAN IMMIGRANTS  
19 WHICH IS MUCH MORE INSTABILITY. BUT I THINK THE  
20 ESSENTIAL POINT THAT I WANT TO POINT OUT HERE IS THAT  
21 THE ROOTS OF ANOTHER RIOT ARE BEING GENERATED RIGHT  
22 AS WE SPEAK, AND I POINT OUT THREE SPECIFIC  
23 INCIDENTS. ONE, WHICH APPEARED IN THE "L.A. TIMES"  
24 LAST THURSDAY IN WHICH AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN OFFICER  
25 SIDED WITH BLACK MUSLIMS TO BEAT UP LATINO IMMIGRANTS

1 IN WHICH THE L.A.P.D. HAD NOT TAKEN A STAND, AND I'M  
2 GOING TO GO BEYOND MY MINUTE BECAUSE THERE'S NOT BEEN  
3 ENOUGH CHICANO INPUT INTO THIS COMMISSION IN ALL THE  
4 FOUR HEARINGS THAT I'VE HEARD.

5 SECONDLY, NOT FAR FROM HERE, THE  
6 L.A.P.D. BEAT UP LATINO DRYWALLERS AS THOUGH THEY  
7 WERE CRIMINALS WHEN THEY WOULD NOT HAVE HANDLED THAT  
8 IN THE SAME FASHION HAS THIS BEEN WHITE UNIONISTS.

9 AND THIRDLY, THE L.A.P.D. HAS ALSO BEEN  
10 SIDING WITH BROTHERHOOD CRUSADE WHEN THEY REFUSED TO  
11 ARREST THE AFRICAN-AMERICANS WHO ATTACKED THE LATINOS  
12 WORKING IN THE CONSTRUCTION.

13 I THINK THAT THAT POINTS OUT THE FACT  
14 THAT NOT ONLY IS THAT CREATING THE ROOTS BUT THAT'S  
15 CREATING THE SEEDS FOR A MAJOR RACIAL RIOT, AND FOR  
16 THE MEMBERS OF THE PANEL WHO DON'T KNOW IT, SOUTH  
17 CENTRAL L.A. AND THIS AREA HERE IS PREDOMINANTLY  
18 LATINO. IT'S NOT AFRICAN-AMERICAN. IT'S NOT KOREAN.  
19 YOU LOOK AT THE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE SCHOOL, AND  
20 THEY ARE LATINOS. AND I'M ASHAMED THAT THIS PANEL  
21 HAS NO LATINOS ON IT BUT NOTHING BUT HIGH-PRICED  
22 LAWYERS, AND I THINK THAT THE FACT THAT THAT  
23 INSENSITIVITY IS SHOWN ON THIS PANEL POINTS TO THE  
24 REASON THAT THIS PANEL WILL NOT COME UP WITH THE TRUE  
25 REASONS OF THE DISTURBANCE.

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CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

MR. HERNANDEZ, JUST FOR YOUR INFORMATION, OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE, THERE ARE NUMEROUS LATINOS THAT ARE WORKING ON THIS COMMISSION. THE PEOPLE THAT ARE HERE TONIGHT ARE NOT THE ENTIRE GROUP THAT ARE WORKING ON THIS. IF YOU HAD COME TO THE MEETING THAT WAS HELD LAST NIGHT, YOU WOULD HAVE SEEN LATINOS SITTING AT THE TABLE. THEY'RE HERE. THEY'RE PARTICIPATING. THEY'RE CONCERNED AS WELL AS OTHER GROUPS. WE HAVE A VERY GOOD, DIVERSE GROUP LOOKING INTO THIS PROBLEM.

MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. THE NEXT TWO SPEAKERS WILL BE TIM KELLY AND PAT WONG.

MR. KELLY?

TIM KELLY: THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

MY NAME IS TIM KELLY, AND I LIVE IN EAST HOLLYWOOD.

(AUDIENCE VOICES.)

TIM KELLY: MY NAME IS TIM KELLY. I LIVE IN EAST HOLLYWOOD. MY WIFE AND I HAVE LIVED THERE ALMOST 20 YEARS.

AND ONE OF THE UNIQUE THINGS ABOUT EAST HOLLYWOOD, AS ANYBODY WHO KNOWS THE AREA, IS IT'S ABOUT AS DIVERSE AS YOU CAN POSSIBLY GET. IT'S ALMOST LIKE LIVING IN A UNITED NATIONS SESSION.

1                   AND THIS -- BECAUSE OF THIS GREAT  
2 DIVERSITY OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS PART OF THE REASON  
3 WHY THE RIOTS DISTURBED ME, BECAUSE WHAT WE SAW WAS  
4 THE COMPLETE BREAKDOWN AND DISCREDITING OF THE CITY  
5 GOVERNMENT OF LOS ANGELES. THE MAYOR IS A CORRUPT,  
6 OLD, VAIN FOOL. THE POLICE CHIEF IS A PERFECT MATCH.  
7 THE TWO FOOLS HADN'T TALKED TO EACH OTHER FOR OVER A  
8 YEAR. THIS WAS IN THE "LOS ANGELES TIMES."

9                   I KNOW FROM PEOPLE ON THE COUNCIL THAT  
10 THE TWO OF THEM PATHOLOGICALLY HATED EACH OTHER.  
11 THEY COULDN'T STAND TO BE IN THE SAME ROOM.

12                   THE COUNCIL DESPISES THE MAYOR. ALMOST  
13 EVERY MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL THINKS THE MAYOR'S A  
14 BUFFOON AND A TOOL OF THE CHANDLERS AND THE "L.A.  
15 TIMES."

16                   SO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM. THE POLICE  
17 COMMISSION IS A BUNCH OF HACKS APPOINTED BY THE  
18 MAYOR. THE CHIEF HATES HIM. THE COUNCIL HATES BOTH  
19 OF THEM. AND WE HAVE A SITUATION WHEN THE RIOT  
20 STARTED IT WAS ALMOST LIKE -- IT WAS ALMOST  
21 UNBELIEVABLE. AN ITALIAN FARCE. THE MAYOR IS  
22 GABBING WITH THE PHARISEE -- FORGET HIS NAME -- THE  
23 MAYOR'S AT A CHURCH MAKING A WILDLY RACIST AND  
24 IRRESPONSIBLE SPEECH. THE GOD DAMN CHIEF OF POLICE  
25 IS OVER IN WEST L.A. AT A FUNDRAISER. THE CITY IS

1 GOING UP IN FLAMES. THEY CAN'T OPEN THE SAFE FOR THE  
2 RIOT PLAN. THE MAYOR'S STAFF CAN'T REACH THE MAYOR.  
3 THE MAYOR'S STAFF IS CALLING HIM AT THE CHURCH TO  
4 APPRAISE HIM OF THE SITUATION. THEY WON'T LET HIM  
5 TALK TO THE MAYOR. COMPLETE, UTTER BREAKDOWN.  
6 STUPID, VAIN, CORRUPT GUYS WHO IF THEY'D HAVE RETIRED  
7 FOUR YEARS AGO WOULD HAVE BEEN THOUGHT OF AS HEROES.  
8 BUT IN THEIR SENILE VANITY THEY DAMN NEAR DESTROYED  
9 THIS CITY.

10 OKAY. AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?  
11 THEY'RE DOING THIS TO PROTECT POLITICAL BASIS. THEY  
12 BOTH ISOLATED THEMSELVES WITH CLIQUES OF "YES" MEN.  
13 THE "L.A. TIMES" HELD THE STORY BACK TO ALLOW THE  
14 MAYOR TO GET RE-ELECTED BY ONE POINT. WE ALL KNOW  
15 THAT. OKAY. BUT WHAT'S HAPPENED TO OUR TOWN? WE'RE  
16 BECOMING BEIRUT. WE HAVE THE AFRO-AMERICANS AND THE  
17 KOREANS AT DAGGERS DRAWN. I MEAN, A COMPLETE SHOCK.  
18 THE FIRST TIME I KNOW OF TWO ETHNIC MINORITIES GOING  
19 AT EACH OTHER. THIS WAS TERRIBLE. WE HAVE PROBLEMS  
20 BETWEEN THE LATINO-AMERICANS AND THE AFRO-AMERICANS.  
21 WE HAVE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE LATINO-AMERICANS BETWEEN  
22 THE MEXICANOS AND THE CENTRAL AMERICANS. WE'RE  
23 TURNING INTO BEIRUT, LITTLE TRIBES, LITTLE  
24 NEIGHBORHOODS. EVERYBODY'S GETTING VERY CLANNISH.  
25 NOBODY'S TALKING ABOUT BEING AN AMERICAN.

1 I MEAN, IN EAST HOLLYWOOD WE'RE STILL  
2 VERY MIXED UP AND WE ALL GET ALONG. WE'RE NOT  
3 DEALING WITH THE OPPORTUNISTIC GANGS, WE'RE ALLOWING  
4 OUR TOWN TO GO THREE DAYS WITH NO CIVIL ORDER, NO  
5 COPS, NO FIREMEN, NO POST OFFICE. THE STORES ARE  
6 CLOSED. AND SITTING IN MY HOUSE IN EAST HOLLYWOOD  
7 EACH NIGHT I HAVE TO SMELL STORES BURNING, ONE, TWO,  
8 THREE BLOCKS AWAY, OR TURN ON TELEVISION AND SEE  
9 PEOPLE SHOT DEAD AT THE INTERSECTION OF BEVERLY AND  
10 NORMANDIE.

11 THIS IS INTOLERABLE. THIS IS  
12 INTOLERABLE. THIS IS NOT WHAT THE PEOPLE WANT.  
13 NOBODY WANTS THIS. EVERY HOMEOWNER IN EVERY  
14 NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE CITY WAS TERRIFIED.

15 WE HAVE GOT TO PULL TOGETHER. WE'VE GOT  
16 TO OPEN UP CITY GOVERNMENT. WE PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE  
17 75 MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SO NEIGHBORHOODS ARE  
18 ACTUALLY REPRESENTED. THANK GOD THE MAYOR APPARENTLY  
19 IS NOT GOING TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION SO WE'LL GET SOME  
20 NEW BLOOD AT CITY HALL. I THINK THE NEW CHIEF IS  
21 POTENTIALLY GOING TO DO A VERY GOOD JOB. I HAVE  
22 OPTIMISM. BUT IF WE DON'T HAVE OPTIMISM, IF WE CAN'T  
23 PULL TOGETHER, IN A YEAR WE COULD BE LIVING ON THE  
24 SET OF "BLADERUNNER," AND THAT'S SOMETHING WE REALLY  
25 DON'T WANT. AND I THINK WE HAVE TO BE HONEST WITH

1 OURSELVES AND PULL TOGETHER. OTHERWISE, IT'S  
2 "BLADERUNNER."

3 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

4 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. PAT WONG.

5 PAT WONG: CAN EVERYBODY HEAR ME? AM I OKAY  
6 HERE? A LITTLE CLOSER? OKAY. THANKS.

7 GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS PAT WONG, AND  
8 I AM THE COORDINATOR OF THE RIOT RELIEF PROJECT  
9 ADMINISTERED BY THE CHINESE-AMERICAN COALITION AND  
10 CHINATOWN SERVICE CENTER, AND I AM HERE TONIGHT AS  
11 THEIR REPRESENTATIVE FOR NOT ONLY THE CHINESE  
12 COMMUNITY BUT FOR SOME OF THE BROADER ASIAN COMMUNITY  
13 AS WELL.

14 YOU ASK US WHAT WORKED AND WHAT DIDN'T,  
15 AND FORTUNATELY WE HAVE A LOT TO SAY ABOUT WHAT  
16 DIDN'T WORK.

17 THE MOST COMPELLING QUESTION WE HAVE IS  
18 WHY WERE ASIAN-AMERICAN POLICE OFFICERS NOT  
19 IMMEDIATELY ASSIGNED TO AREAS WHERE THEIR LANGUAGE  
20 AND CULTURAL EXPERTISE COULD BE UTILIZED?

21 WE UNDERSTAND THERE ARE CLOSE TO 40  
22 KOREAN-AMERICAN OFFICERS IN THE L.A.P.D., BUT THESE  
23 OFFICERS WERE NOT ASSIGNED TO THE KOREATOWN AREA  
24 IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FIRST UNREST.

25 THE LACK OF DEPLOYMENT OF ASIAN-AMERICAN

1 OFFICERS IS MORE THAN AN OVERSIGHT AND MOST CERTAINLY  
2 REFLECTS A LACK OF PLANNING AND AN UNCONSCIONABLE  
3 MISUSE OF EXISTING RESOURCES.

4 THERE ARE OTHER QUESTIONS THAT DISTURB  
5 US AS WELL. WHERE WERE THE POLICE WHEN TWO  
6 ASIAN-AMERICANS WERE IN TWO SEPARATE CASES FORCIBLY  
7 REMOVED FROM THEIR CARS AND BEATEN? AS YOU HEARD  
8 FROM A PREVIOUS SPEAKER TONIGHT, POLICE WERE TOLD TO  
9 STAY AWAY FROM THAT AREA. IF NOT FOR THE  
10 INTERVENTION OF GOOD SAMARITANS AND, INCIDENTALLY,  
11 AFRICAN-AMERICAN INDIVIDUALS, BOTH VICTIMS WOULD HAVE  
12 BEEN PROBABLY LEFT FOR DEAD. AND UNLIKE THE HIGHLY  
13 PUBLICIZED REGINALD DENNY CASE, THERE ARE NO SUSPECTS  
14 IN EITHER CASE THAT WE KNOW OF.

15 WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO PROPER  
16 POLICE PROCEDURE WHEN THE BODY OF AN ASIAN-AMERICAN  
17 MAN WAS DISCOVERED IN A BULLET-RIDDLED PICKUP TRUCK  
18 IN THE MIDDLE OF ONE OF THE RIOT-TORN AREAS. NOT  
19 ONLY WAS THE VICTIM'S FAMILY NOT NOTIFIED OF THIS  
20 INDIVIDUAL'S DEATH, BUT THE TRUCK WAS RETURNED TO  
21 THEM WITH THE BULLETS STILL IN IT. OBVIOUSLY NO  
22 EVIDENCE HAD EVER BEEN TAKEN. THERE ARE STILL NO  
23 SUSPECTS IN THIS CASE AS WELL.

24 THERE ARE OTHER SIMILAR CASES THAT ARE  
25 TOO NUMEROUS TO CITE HERE, AND THEY WILL BE IN OUR

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WRITTEN STATEMENT TO THE COMMISSION.

I WANT TO MOVE ON TO THE SECOND QUESTION, "HOW SHOULD L.A.P.D. PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO FUTURE EMERGENCIES?"

I THINK WE ALL CAN HOPE THAT SUCH FUTURE EMERGENCIES WILL NEVER OCCUR AGAIN, BUT WE ALL KNOW THAT UNTIL THE UNDERLYING SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS THAT DIVIDE OUR MULTI-ETHNIC AND MULTI-CULTURAL CITY ARE ELIMINATED IT IS NAIVE AND UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT THAT SUCH EMERGENCIES, AS YOU TERM THEM, WILL SIMPLY GO AWAY.

WE SEE FIVE KEY CHALLENGES FACING L.A.P.D IN PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE. NUMBER ONE, SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE RECRUITMENT OF QUALIFIED BILINGUAL AND BICULTURAL ASIAN OFFICERS, INCLUDING CHINESE, JAPANESE, KOREAN, AND VIETNAMESE, AS WELL AS SUSTAIN RECRUITMENT OF HISPANIC, AFRICAN-AMERICAN, AND FEMALE OFFICERS. WITH THE EVER-INCREASING IMMIGRANT POPULATION IN LOS ANGELES, IT BECOMES IMPERATIVE THAT THERE BE ADEQUATE POLICE PROTECTION FOR THE ETHNIC POPULATIONS PUTTING BOTH FOOT BEATS AND CAR PATROLS IN THE AREAS OF DENSEST ETHNIC POPULATIONS.

TWO, DEVOTE ENERGIES TO ESTABLISHING STRONGER COMMUNITY RELATIONS IN ETHNIC COMMUNITIES,

1 INCREASE BILINGUAL AND BICULTURAL STAFFING IN THESE  
2 COMMUNITIES SO THAT A BALANCE CAN BE STRUCK BETWEEN  
3 CRIME INVESTIGATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

4 THREE, DEVELOP EMERGENCY COMMUNITY  
5 RESPONSE UNITS THAT UTILIZE BILINGUAL AND BICULTURAL  
6 OFFICERS. FOUR, MANDATE TRAINING FOR ALL NEW  
7 RECRUITS AND EXISTING OFFICERS TO EDUCATE AND  
8 SENSITIZE THEM TO CULTURE DIVERSITIES AND POTENTIAL  
9 AREAS OF ETHNIC CONFLICT. SUCH TRAINING SHOULD ALSO  
10 INCLUDE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDIATION SKILLS FOR RESOLVING  
11 CONFLICTS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS.

12 AN UNDERLYING THEME HERE THAT YOU'VE  
13 HEARD TONIGHT IS THE DEMAND FOR COMMUNITY-BASED  
14 POLICING, AND OBVIOUSLY THIS TRANSITION IS GOING TO  
15 REQUIRE MAJOR CHANGES, BOTH IN ATTITUDE AND POLICY,  
16 AND THESE CHANGES MUST START AT THE TOP. WE'LL BE  
17 COUNTING ON YOU TO LEAD THIS CHANGE. THANK YOU.

18 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MS. WONG.

19 MS. LEHRMAN: THANK YOU. I'D LIKE TO CALL  
20 MRS. -- I'M HAVING TROUBLE READING THIS NAME.  
21 WENGER? I CAN'T READ THE FIRST NAME. AND THEN AFTER  
22 THAT WILL BE CHRIS SHABEL.

23 CHIEF WILLIAMS: WILL THE SPEAKERS STATE YOUR  
24 NAME WHEN YOU COME TO THE MIKE, PLEASE.

25 LESLEY WENGER: GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS

1 LESLEY WENGER. CAN YOU HEAR ME? I LIVE ON SYCAMORE,  
2 JUST OFF OF HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD.

3 EVERY NIGHT WE'RE AWAKENED BY POLICE  
4 HELICOPTERS. THE ONLY TIME WHEN WE'RE NOT  
5 AWAKENED -- THE ONLY TIME WE WERE NOT AWAKENED BY THE  
6 POLICE HELICOPTERS WAS DURING THE RIOTS. THE  
7 HELICOPTERS WERE NOT UP DURING THE RIOTS. MANY OF US  
8 ARE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHAT WE SPEND ON THOSE  
9 HELICOPTERS AND WHAT EXACTLY THEY ACCOMPLISH, OTHER  
10 THAN WAKING EVERYBODY UP ALL THE TIME.

11 FREQUENTLY THEY'RE AROUND DURING THE  
12 DAY, AND NOBODY SEEMED -- IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SEEMS  
13 TO UNDERSTAND WHAT PURPOSE THAT SERVES. SINCE  
14 THERE'S ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE MOVING AROUND, WHAT CAN  
15 THEY POSSIBLY SEE FROM A HELICOPTER?

16 EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT THE  
17 POLICE COME AND CLOSE HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, FROM THE  
18 FREEWAY TO LA BREA. THEY DO THIS BECAUSE THEY DON'T  
19 LIKE PEOPLE FROM CERTAIN NEIGHBORHOODS COMING INTO  
20 HOLLYWOOD. THEY DON'T WANT HISPANIC YOUNG PEOPLE  
21 COMING IN, AND THEY DON'T WANT BLACK YOUNG PEOPLE  
22 COMING IN. THEY DID NOT CLOSE THE BOULEVARD DURING  
23 THE RIOTS, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD TIME TO DO  
24 IT, BECAUSE AS WE DISCOVERED, FOR THOSE OF US WHO  
25 WERE OUT THERE WATCHING THE LOOTERS, BOTH IN PERSON,

1 ON THE BOULEVARD AND ON TELEVISION, NOBODY DID ANY  
2 LOOTING IN LOS ANGELES UNLESS THEY COULD TAKE THEIR  
3 CAR WITH THEM. SO ALL THE PARKING LOTS THAT WERE  
4 CLOSED, LIKE THE GOOD GUYS, DID NOT GET LOOTED,  
5 WHEREAS FEDCO, WHICH LEFT THEIR PARKING LOT OPEN, GOT  
6 LOOTED.

7 THE REASON THE LOOTING OCCURRED ON  
8 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD WAS BECAUSE PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO  
9 DRIVE UP, AND IF NOBODY STOPPED THEM THEY COULD LOOT.

10 WE HAVE SEEN THIS ATTITUDE OF RACISM,  
11 WHAT APPEARS TO BE RACISM, AND ACTUALLY APPEARS TO BE  
12 THE SAME KIND OF THINKING THAT THE GANGS HAVE ON THE  
13 PART OF THE L.A.P.D., AND WE WONDER IF THE L.A.P.D.  
14 DIDN'T START IT. THEY'RE DETERMINING WHO GETS TO GO  
15 TO WHAT PARTS OF THE CITY, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THE  
16 GANGS DO. THE GANGS DECIDE YOU CAN'T MOVE OUT OF  
17 THIS LITTLE TERRITORY, SO THE L.A.P.D. HAS THE SAME  
18 MENTALITY. YOU KNOW, THEY DON'T WANT PEOPLE MOVING  
19 AROUND, WHICH IS NOT THE AMERICAN WAY AT ALL.

20 TWO WEEKS AGO, IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE ON  
21 SYCAMORE, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY, TWO POLICE  
22 OFFICERS STOPPED SEVEN HISPANIC YOUTHS AND HAD THEM  
23 LINED UP IN HANDCUFFS ON THE STREET FOR HALF AN HOUR.  
24 WHEN IT WAS FINALLY OVER AND THEY LET THEM GO, I WENT  
25 OVER TO FIND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED, AND THEY SAID

1 THAT THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD BEEN DRIVING A STOLEN  
2 VEHICLE, BUT THEY COULDN'T FIND OUT BECAUSE THE  
3 COMPUTER WAS DOWN. AND I SAID, "WELL, WHAT MADE YOU  
4 THINK IT WAS A STOLEN VEHICLE?" THEY HAD NO ANSWER.

5 AND I WONDERED, BECAUSE THESE KIDS  
6 LOOKED TO BE ABOUT 16 YEARS OLD. WHAT KIND OF  
7 RESPECT ARE THEY GOING TO HAVE FOR THE POLICE WHO  
8 JUST DECIDE TO STOP THEM FOR NO REASON BECAUSE THEY  
9 DON'T LIKE THE WAY THEY LOOK AND HAVE THEM STAND ON  
10 THE STREET AND HUMILIATE THEM IN HANDCUFFS IN THE  
11 MIDDLE OF THE DAY FOR HALF AN HOUR AND DON'T OFFER  
12 ANY APOLOGIES, AND THEN THEY CAN JUST GO?

13 AND I'VE BEN TALKING TO OTHER HISPANIC  
14 FRIENDS OF MINE SINCE THEN, AND APPARENTLY THIS IS A  
15 VERY COMMON OCCURRENCE IN LOS ANGELES. THEY DO THIS  
16 ALL THE TIME. THEY STOP BLACKS, THEY STOP LATINOS,  
17 THEY STOP ANYBODY WHO THEY DON'T -- YOU KNOW, THEY  
18 THINK DOESN'T BELONG SOMEWHERE. AND I DON'T SEE HOW  
19 WE CAN POSSIBLY GO ON LIKE THIS. WE HAVE, YOU KNOW,  
20 TOO MUCH OF A LATINO POPULATION HERE AND A BLACK  
21 POPULATION, AND EVERYBODY HAS A RIGHT TO MOVE AROUND  
22 WITHOUT BEING STOPPED IF THEY'RE NOT BREAKING THE  
23 LAW.

24 THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

25 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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MS. LEHRMAN: CHRIS SHABEL.

CHRIS SHABEL: HI. I'M CHRIS SHABEL. I'M THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOLLYWOOD-HIGHLAND DEMOCRATIC CLUB, AND I'M -- SORRY -- I'M AN ELECTED MEMBER OF THE PROJECT AREA COMMITTEE, TO MENTION JUST A FEW ASSOCIATIONS IN HOLLYWOOD.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE RIOTS -- LET ME PUT MY GLASSES ON A SECOND TO SEE WHAT I'M READING HERE -- ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE RIOTS, I DROVE DOWN VERMONT. I SAW PEOPLE LOOTING AND FIRES BEING SET. THE STATE TROOPERS WERE RINGING THEIR BUILDING AT -- JUST BY THE FREEWAY. AT THIRD AND VERMONT, THERE WAS ONE LONE POLICE CAR WITH ONE POLICEMAN LEANING AGAINST THE CAR AND ONE POLICEMAN TRYING TO DIRECT TRAFFIC AROUND THE FIRE SOUTH OF THIRD.

AT WILSHIRE, JUST SOUTH OF WILSHIRE, OFFICE BUILDINGS HAD THEIR OWN SECURITY ON THE ROOFS. I SAW ORDINARY PEOPLE WITH GUNS.

ON THE SECOND DAY, AT 6:00 A.M. IN THE MORNING, I WENT UP VINE TO -- FROM SANTA MONICA TO HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD. AT HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, WHERE ONE OF THE BUILDINGS HAD BEEN FIRED, THERE WERE BUSINESS PEOPLE TRYING TO PROTECT THEIR BUSINESSES AND THEIR GOODS.

I AND SOME OTHER ONLOOKERS STOPPED SOME

1 LOOTERS. ONE LONE POLICE CAR WITH ONE POLICEMAN IN  
2 IT PASSED BY.

3 ON THE THIRD DAY I WAS IN SOUTH CENTRAL  
4 HELPING OUT. ON THE FOURTH DAY I WAS AT WESTERN AND  
5 SANTA MONICA. IN ALL AREAS I SAW WHITES, BLACKS,  
6 ORIENTALS, LATINOS, LOOTING, BURNING, WITH GUNS,  
7 CLEANING UP AND COMPLAINING, AND THEY WERE ALL  
8 COMPLAINING THAT THE OTHER GROUP WERE GETTING THE  
9 FIRE TRUCKS, WERE GETTING THE POLICE, AND WERE  
10 GETTING THE GUARDS.

11 I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT WE WERE ALL IN THE  
12 SAME BOOT -- SAME BOAT. WE WERE NOT -- WE ARE NOT  
13 PREPARED FOR ANY DISASTER. WE HAD A POLICE CHIEF AND  
14 A MAYOR WHO DIDN'T SPEAK TO EACH OTHER FOR EIGHT  
15 YEARS, WHICH I FOUND ABSOLUTELY ASTOUNDING. WE HAVE  
16 A CITY COUNCIL WHO PAID OUT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR  
17 ABUSES BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OVER THE PAST FEW  
18 YEARS, AND I THINK -- WELL, I COULD GO ON, BUT I  
19 THINK YO ALL KNOW WHAT WE ALL KNOW, THAT THE CITY IS  
20 IN A MESS, NOT ONLY IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BUT IN  
21 CITY GOVERNMENT ITSELF.

22 WE HAVE -- THE POLICEMAN TAKES ORDERS,  
23 THE CAPTAINS TAKE ORDERS. IT GOES DOWN THE LINE, AND  
24 IT GOES RIGHT THROUGH TO THE CITY COUNCIL. THE MAYOR  
25 IS AT FAULT, THE CITY COUNCIL IS AT FAULT, AND WE

1 HAVE A CORRUPT SYSTEM WHICH DOESN'T SEEM TO GET ANY  
2 BETTER WITH THE PASSING DAYS.

3 IT WOULD BE REFRESHING TO SEE  
4 COMMUNITY-BASED POLICING. IT WOULD BE REFRESHING TO  
5 HAVE A CAPTAIN IN HOLLYWOOD THAT STAYS LONGER THAN  
6 TWO YEARS. AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN REFRESHING TO HAVE  
7 OUR COUNCILMAN PUSH FOR LEGISLATION THROUGH  
8 SACRAMENTO THAT ACTUALLY FUNDED POLICE OUT OF THE  
9 COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FUND. THANK YOU.

10 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, MS. SHABEL.

11 LET ME SAY, ARTURO, THAT WE'D WELCOME  
12 ANY WRITTEN COMMENTARY ANY OF YOU -- MANY OF YOU HAVE  
13 READ FROM YOUR NOTES. IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEND THEM,  
14 HAVE THEM TYPED, TALK TO ANYONE THAT HAS A NAME TAG  
15 ON. THEY'LL GIVE YOU AN ADDRESS. AND WE'D LIKE VERY  
16 MUCH TO RECEIVE THAT.

17 MR. QUEZADA: OKAY. NEXT UP IS NORM SWIRIN AND  
18 TUT HAYES.

19 NORM SWIRIN: HI. MY NAME IS NORM SWIRIN. I  
20 LIVE IN THE HOLLYWOOD AREA.

21 I'D FIRST LIKE TO TELL YOU THAT I AM NOT  
22 INTERESTED IN BLAME, I'M NOT INTERESTED IN FAULT.  
23 THEY ARE INHIBITORS TO DISCUSSION, SO I WILL NOT USE  
24 EITHER OF THOSE TERMS.

25 HOWEVER, THE DESCRIPTION OF THE POLITICS

1 IN LOS ANGELES THAT YOU'VE HEARD THIS EVENING SEEMED  
2 TO ME TO BE PERFECTLY ACCURATE. THAT NEEDS TO  
3 CHANGE. WE NEED TO HAVE A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IN  
4 THE CITY THAT FUNCTIONS. IF YOU HAVE A DYSFUNCTIONAL  
5 ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT, YOU HAVE A DYSFUNCTIONAL CITY.  
6 SEEMS VERY STRAIGHTFORWARD.

7 WITH REGARD TO CRIME AND CIVIL  
8 LIBERTIES, MY SPECTRUM IS VERY BROAD. I'M THE ONLY  
9 PERSON IN THE WORLD, I THINK, WHO IS A MEMBER OF BOTH  
10 THE GUARDIAN ANGELS AND THE A.C.L.U. I NEED TO GIVE  
11 YOU THAT PERSPECTIVE BECAUSE I THINK THERE ARE A LOT  
12 OF PROBLEMS ON BOTH SIDES OF BOTH FENCES.

13 THE MEETINGS THAT YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING  
14 AND THE NOTICE OF THESE MEETINGS SEEM TO BE AVAILABLE  
15 ONLY TO A CERTAIN SUBSET OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN  
16 THE CITY. IT'S APPALLING TO ME THAT IN THIS NICE,  
17 LARGE ROOM THERE'S SUCH A SMALL CROWD. IT HAPPENS  
18 BECAUSE, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, THERE ARE A COUPLE OF  
19 PRINT MEDIA THAT HAVE HANDLED THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF  
20 THESE MEETINGS, AND SINCE I WORK FOR THE CITY OF  
21 LOS ANGELES AT THE LIBRARY THAT WAS REBUILT TO  
22 REPLACE THE ONE THAT WAS TORCHED A NUMBER OF YEARS  
23 AGO, I HAPPEN TO HAVE FOUND A DOCUMENT THAT TOLD ME  
24 ABOUT THIS MEETING. BUT BARRING THAT I WOULD NOT  
25 HAVE KNOWN. THAT'S APPALLING. ABSOLUTELY APPALLING.

1 DIDN'T HEAR ONE WORD OF IT ON THE RADIO, NOT ONE WORD  
2 OF IT ON THE TELEVISION. NOTHING. IF YOU REALLY  
3 WANT OPINIONS FROM PEOPLE, YOU NEED TO OPEN UP THE  
4 SYSTEM. THIS IS ATROCIOUS.

5 CHIEF WILLIAMS: MR. SWIRIN, I'D LIKE TO THANK  
6 YOU FOR THAT COMMENT.

7 WE HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT ATTENDANCE,  
8 AND I THINK YOU OUGHT TO AT LEAST KNOW SOME OF THE  
9 STEPS THAT'S BEEN TAKEN TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC AS TO  
10 THESE MEETINGS.

11 MS. RANDALL: THANK YOU. WE HAVE GONE TO GREAT  
12 EFFORT TO TRY TO GET PEOPLE TO THESE MEETINGS, AND WE  
13 TOO ARE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED OVER THE ATTENDANCE,  
14 BUT WE HAVE TAKEN THE STEPS THAT WERE AVAILABLE TO  
15 US, WHICH INCLUDED PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN VARIOUS  
16 NEWS MEDIA, RELEASE OF ANNOUNCEMENTS AT THESE  
17 MEETINGS TO THE ENTIRE MEDIA, WHICH INCLUDES ALL OF  
18 THE NEWSPAPERS IN TOWNS, ALL OF THE RADIO STATIONS,  
19 TELEVISION STATIONS, CABLE STATIONS; AND WHAT YOU SAW  
20 WAS A DECISION BY SOME TO PICK IT UP AND OTHERS NOT  
21 TO. WE ALSO --

22 NORM SWIRIN: BUT IF THIS COMMISSION --

23 MS. RANDALL: -- DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE  
24 SCHOOLS, THROUGH THE COUNCIL PEOPLE'S OFFICES. WE  
25 APOLOGIZE SINCERELY IF YOU FEEL THAT THE NOTICE

1 DIDN'T GET OUT AS IT SHOULD HAVE, BUT IT WAS  
2 ACCESSIBLE, AND I THINK WHAT YOU SAW WAS CHOICE ON  
3 BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE THAT --

4 NORM SWIRIN: I HAVE NO DOUBT BUT THAT THE  
5 EDITORIAL STAFFS OF SOME MEDIA PAID LITTLE OR NO  
6 ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT YOU WERE GOING TO MEET,  
7 AND YOU HAD ACCESS TO THEM, AND YOU HAD ACCESS TO  
8 THEM THROUGH WHATEVER OTHER MEDIA YOU HAD AVAILABLE  
9 TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT CHANNELS -- WHATEVER DID NOT  
10 PICK UP ON YOUR INVITATION. AND THE FACT THAT THAT  
11 DIDN'T HAPPEN AND THE FACT THAT THIS ROOM IS SO EMPTY  
12 BLOWS ME AWAY. I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT IN ALMOST THE  
13 21ST CENTURY IN THE UNITED STATES THAT WE CAN'T  
14 COMMUNICATE WITH EVERYBODY.

15 MS. RANDALL: I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERNS, AND  
16 WE'VE GONE TO TREMENDOUS EFFORT TO PUT ON THESE  
17 MEETINGS, AND WE TOO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SEEN A  
18 GREATER TURNOUT.

19 NORM SWIRIN: I'M SURE YOU WOULD, BUT THAT CAN  
20 BE DEALT WITH IF PEOPLE TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TOWARDS  
21 SEEKING POSITIVE SOLUTIONS. IT DIDN'T HAPPEN. WHY  
22 IT DIDN'T HAPPEN I'M NOT SURE. THAT IT DIDN'T HAPPEN  
23 I KNOW.

24 MS. RANDALL: WE ARE GLAD THAT WE SEE THOSE  
25 PEOPLE THAT DID COME.

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CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH,  
MR. SWIRIN. WE APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS, AND --

NORM SWIRIN: AM I FINISHED? I STILL HAVE A  
COUPLE MORE THINGS.

CHIEF WILLIAMS: NO. THEN CONTINUE. I'M  
SORRY. I THOUGHT YOU WERE FINISHED.

NORM SWIRIN: NO. NO, NO. I JUST STOPPED FOR  
A MOMENT.

PART OF THE PROBLEM, I THINK, THAT GAVE  
RISE TO MUCH OF THE VIOLENCE HAS BEEN AN ONGOING  
PROBLEM DERIVING FROM WHAT I PERCEIVE TO BE THE BULK  
OF THE REAGAN LEGACY. WE LIVE IN, AS I SAY, ALMOST  
THE 21ST CENTURY UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THERE ARE  
PEOPLE LIVING ON THE STREETS. INTOLERABLE.  
INTOLERABLE IN THIS NATION. JUST DOESN'T MAKE ANY  
SENSE.

THE POVERTY AND THE OPPORTUNITY THAT  
PEOPLE PERCEIVED TO GRAB MATERIAL OBJECTS THAT THEY  
COULD OTHERWISE NOT GET LIES VERY CLOSE TO THE ROOT  
OF THE PROBLEM. THAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED. NEEDS  
TO BE ADDRESSED ON A NATIONAL LEVEL. APPALLING.

THE CHANGE FROM CHIEF GATES TO CHIEF  
WILLIAMS, I REALLY LOOK FOR A HUGE POSITIVE CHANGE,  
BECAUSE EVERYTHING THAT I'VE SEEN AND HEARD ABOUT  
CHIEF WILLIAMS APPEALS TO ME IN TERMS OF LETTING THE

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1 COMMUNITY GET INVOLVED IN WHAT'S GOING ON, AND THE  
2 FACT THAT CHIEF GATES, I THINK, INTENTIONALLY DID NOT  
3 PREPARE FOR COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO THE VERDICT SPEAKS  
4 EXCEEDINGLY LOUDLY ABOUT THE L.A.P.D.'S PAST FUNCTION  
5 ALONG WITH THE POLITICAL CONFIGURATION THAT EXISTS IN  
6 THIS CITY. AGAIN, INTOLERABLE.

7 I'M ALSO VERY INTERESTED IN THE  
8 NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM. AND HAD THERE BEEN AN  
9 ACTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM THROUGHOUT ALL OF  
10 THE NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, I DON'T  
11 THINK THAT THIS WOULD HAVE OCCURRED WITH THE  
12 EXTENSIVE VIOLENCE AND EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY PROPERTY  
13 DESTRUCTION.

14 I GOT TO TELL YOU THAT IN THE HOLLYWOOD  
15 DIVISION I WAS VERY ACTIVE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH  
16 PROGRAM A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO, AND THERE HAVE NOW  
17 BEEN EIGHT DIFFERENT PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH LEADERSHIP  
18 IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM OUT OF THE  
19 HOLLYWOOD DIVISION IN THE LAST THREE YEARS. WHERE IS  
20 THE CONTINUITY?

21 WHEN I WAS INVOLVED AS A NEIGHBORHOOD  
22 ORGANIZER -- SIR, I'M GOING TO WRAP IT UP VERY  
23 QUICKLY. WHEN I WAS INVOLVED AS A NEIGHBORHOOD  
24 ORGANIZER IN THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION, THE PERSON WHO  
25 WAS DOING SUCH AN OUTSTANDING JOB, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE

1 OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, WAS THE COORDINATOR OF  
2 NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM AT THE TIME. BECAUSE I  
3 THINK SHE DID SUCH A WONDERFUL JOB, SHE WAS REMOVED  
4 FROM HER POSITION. THE PERSON WHO REPLACED HER  
5 CAUSED THE THING TO FALL IN THE TOILET. DOESN'T MAKE  
6 ANY SENSE.

7 IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT CAN BE DONE TO  
8 IMPROVE THINGS, GET THE AUTHORITIES TO FUNCTION AS  
9 THEY SHOULD AND GET THEM CONNECTED WITH THE  
10 COMMUNITIES THAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT.  
11 THANK YOU.

12 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

13 (INAUDIBLE.)

14 TUT HAYES: MY NAME IS TUT HAYES. I'M NOT FROM  
15 AROUND THESE PARTS. BUT I AM ACQUAINTED WITH QUITE A  
16 LOT OF THE ACTIVISTS IN HOLLYWOOD, AND I HOPE YOU'LL  
17 LIKE MY INSIGHTS.

18 NEW YEAR'S, THE LOS ANGELES POLICE  
19 DEPARTMENT HAD A GUN ABATEMENT ROUTINE THAT THEY WENT  
20 THROUGH. IT SEEMS THAT IN NEW YEAR'S IN MANY  
21 SECTIONS OF THE CITY, PARTICULARLY BLACK SECTIONS OF  
22 THE CITY, PEOPLE FIRED THEIR GUNS INTO THE AIR, THEIR  
23 AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, THEIR SHOTGUNS, EVERYTHING.

24 WELL, THE POLICE WERE DETERMINED TO  
25 ABATE THAT, SO PRIOR TO THAT TIME THEY WENT INTO A

1 HOUSING PROJECT CALLED JORDAN DOWNS. LET ME SEE THE  
2 HANDS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARD OF JORDAN DOWNS IN  
3 WATTS.

4 JORDAN DOWNS HAS A REPUTATION SIMILAR TO  
5 THE CASBAH OF OLD. IT'S A LITTLE ROMANTICIZED. IT'S  
6 NOT AS WAY OUT AS IT'S PORTRAYED TO BE. BUT ANYWAY  
7 WHAT THEY DID IS THEY MOVED INTO JORDAN DOWNS WITH  
8 WARRANTS, AND THEY ARRESTED 50 LIKELY --

9 SPEAKER: I CAN'T HEAR YOU.

10 TUT HAYES: TOO CLOSE?

11 SPEAKER: YES.

12 TUT HAYES: THEY ARRESTED 50 LIKELY SUSPECTS  
13 WHO PROBABLY WOULD HAVE FIREARMS. 50 PEOPLE. YOUNG  
14 MEN, BLACK, IN JORDAN DOWNS. THEY FOUND NOT ONE GUN.  
15 THAT SHOWS YOU HOW THE POLICE INTELLIGENCE OPERATES.

16 I'M A LITTLE BIT CONCERNED ABOUT THE  
17 SHARPNESS OF THE HOLLYWOOD PEOPLE, AND THEY DON'T  
18 RECOGNIZE THAT THIS WAS A MEDIA RIOT.

19 LET ME GIVE YOU A CIVICS LESSON. THERE  
20 ARE THREE PORTIONS OF GOVERNMENT: THE EXECUTIVE,  
21 YOUR MAYOR; THE LEGISLATURE, OR CITY COUNCIL; AND THE  
22 JUDICIAL. IT WAS THE JUDICIAL PORTION OF THE  
23 GOVERNMENT THAT LET US DOWN. WE SAW ON MEDIA DON  
24 JACKSON'S HEAD SHOVED THROUGH A PLATE GLASS WINDOW IN  
25 LONG BEACH, CORRECT? WE SAW ON MEDIA LATASHA HARLANS

1 SHOT IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD. WE SAW ON MEDIA RODNEY  
2 KING'S BEATING. IN EACH INSTANCE THOSE THINGS WENT  
3 BEFORE THE JUDICIAL, AND THOSE PEOPLE CAME AWAY FREE,  
4 AND THERE WAS NO JUSTICE. THAT'S WHAT PROMPTED THE  
5 RIOT. IT'S NOT BECAUSE GATES AND BRADLEY DON'T TALK.  
6 WHAT'S THERE TO TALK ABOUT? HE CONTROLS THE POLICE  
7 COMMISSION THAT ALLEGEDLY ADMINISTERS GATES. HIS  
8 BOYS ARE WELL TUNED AND IN POWER TO DEAL WITH GATES.  
9 SO DON'T GET CONFUSED ABOUT THEIR LACK OF  
10 COMMUNICATION.

11 ONE OTHER THING IS WE HAD AN L.A.P.D.  
12 THAT WAS DEMORALIZED BECAUSE OF THE RODNEY KING  
13 ASSAULT. WHAT THEY SAW ON THE 29TH WAS RIGHTEOUS  
14 INDIGNATION IN THE MINDS AND HEARTS AND EYES OF BLACK  
15 PEOPLE IN THE STREETS. IT'S PRETTY HARD, NO MATTER  
16 HOW WELL ARMED YOU ARE, TO CONTEND WITH THAT,  
17 PARTICULARLY WHEN IT'S A QUARTER OF A MILLION PEOPLE  
18 IN THE STREETS AT ONE TIME, WITH 7,000 POLICE  
19 OFFICERS. IT WAS A LOGISTICS FIASCO. IF THEY HAD  
20 ARRESTED 30 PEOPLE FACE DOWN, HOW WOULD YOU TRANSPORT  
21 THEM? IN ONE L.A.P.D. CAR? I HOPE YOU KNOW THE  
22 SHERIFF HAS ALL THOSE LONG, BEAUTIFUL, BLACK BUSES  
23 THAT CAN CARRY 70 PEOPLE. L.A.P.D. DIDN'T HAVE THAT,  
24 AND THEY HADN'T COORDINATED IT WITH THE SHERIFF AS TO  
25 HOW TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE. IT WAS A LOGISTICS

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NIGHTMARE.

ONE OTHER THING IS THAT IF INDEED SOMETHING ELSE WERE TO OCCUR AGAIN, THE L.A.P.D. WOULDN'T BE NO BETTER PREPARED THAN THEY WERE NOW. THEY CLAIMED THAT AS THEY HAD -- THEY CLAIMED THAT THEY HAD HAD RAPID RESPONSE AND A MASSIVE SHOW OF FORCE, HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN SLAIN.

WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO TOLERATE (INAUDIBLE) OR SOWETO. I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU. BUT IF THEY WANT ME TO BE ON THEIR SIDE, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO SHOOT PEOPLE DOWN RANDOMLY BECAUSE YOU'RE TAKING A T.V. SET VALUED AT \$400. SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO IN THE EVENT SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENS, BUT I'M HOPEFUL THAT THE COMMISSION WILL FILTER OUT SOME OF THE COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ADDRESS YOURSELF AS TO WHAT PROMPTED THE DISTURBANCE, WHAT PORTION OF GOVERNMENT, THE JUDICIAL, THAT CAUSED ALL THIS TO HAPPEN TO BEGIN WITH, AND ULTIMATELY THERE WAS NOTHING THAT COULD EVER HAVE BEEN DONE TO FOREGO, FORESTALL, OR SEE TO IT THAT THIS DID NOT OCCUR. IT WAS SOMETHING THAT IF AMERICANS ARE TRULY WARM BLOODED WOULD HAVE DONE.

CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, MR. HAYES.

MR. QUEZADA: LESLEY WENGER? DON CLINTON?

DON CLINTON: MY NAME IS DON CLINTON, AND MY

1 WIFE AND I HAVE LIVED IN HOLLYWOOD AND LOS ANGELES  
2 OUR ENTIRE LIVES. WE WERE IN THIS VERY AUDITORIUM  
3 THE DAY AFTER PEARL HARBOR WHEN FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT  
4 ASKED CONGRESS TO DECLARE WAR ON JAPAN. SO WE HAVE  
5 DEEP ROOTS IN LOS ANGELES AND THIS AREA. WE ALSO  
6 HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, BUT  
7 MORE THAN THAT WE RESPECT THE OFFICERS. 99.9 PERCENT  
8 OF THE OFFICERS WE FEEL ARE WORTHY OF OUR RESPECT.

9 WE ALSO FEEL THAT THE COMMUNITY WAS WELL  
10 AWARE THAT THE RODNEY KING VERDICT WAS ABOUT TO  
11 HAPPEN. NOW, THE "WALL STREET JOURNAL" -- MANY  
12 PEOPLE HAVE QUOTED THE "L.A. TIMES." I WILL NOT. I  
13 DO NOT CONSIDER THE "L.A. TIMES" AS A RELIABLE SOURCE  
14 OF THE INFORMATION. BUT THE "WALL STREET JOURNAL"  
15 SAID IT IS NORMAL FOR COURTS TO INFORM CITIES AND  
16 POLICE DEPARTMENTS OF VERDICTS THAT ARE ABOUT TO BE  
17 RELEASED, AND THEY USUALLY GIVE THREE, FOUR, FIVE  
18 HOURS' WORTH OF NOTICE TO A CITY OR A POLICE  
19 DEPARTMENT. THAT DID NOT HAPPEN IN LOS ANGELES, AND  
20 TO ME THAT WAS THE GREATEST SINGLE FAILURE, BECAUSE I  
21 FEEL THAT HAD THE CITY OR MAYOR OR CITY COUNCIL  
22 AND/OR OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT -- HAD THEY BEEN  
23 PROPERLY INFORMED, I DO REALLY FEEL WE COULD HAVE  
24 BEEN PREPARED. I THINK OUR CITY WAS ILL PREPARED,  
25 UNFORTUNATELY. I DO FEEL THAT OUR CAPTAINS WERE

1 HOLDING A RETREAT, A CONFERENCE IN OXNARD. THAT'S AN  
2 HOUR'S DRIVE. HAD WE BEEN INFORMED AS A CITY, THOSE  
3 PEOPLE COULD HAVE BEEN RECALLED.

4 NOW, THAT'S WHAT WENT WRONG. I REALLY  
5 FEEL THAT WHAT WENT RIGHT WAS THE FACT THAT CITIZENS  
6 GOT TO SEE FIRSTHAND WHAT HAPPENS WITH WANTON  
7 LAWLESSNESS. I DO BELIEVE THAT IN THE WORDS OF OUR  
8 PRESIDENT -- THOSE WERE HIS WORDS, "WANTON  
9 LAWLESSNESS." I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE VERDICT WAS  
10 ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HAPPENING THAT WE SAW  
11 FOR THE NEXT SIX DAYS. I DO BELIEVE IT WAS AN EXCUSE  
12 FOR A HAPPENING THAT TOOK PLACE. I THINK IT WAS THE  
13 TRIGGER, THE CATALYST, IF YOU WILL.

14 I WOULD LIKE TO SAY BY WAY OF POINT  
15 NO. 2, "HOW SHOULD WE PREPARE TO RESPOND FOR THE  
16 FUTURE?" MY THOUGHT IS THAT DELEGATED AUTHORITY  
17 SHOULD COME TO A LOWER LEVEL WITHIN THE POLICE  
18 DEPARTMENT, THAT IT SHOULD NOT ALL REST WITH THE  
19 CHIEFS, THAT IT SHOULD REST IN THE HAND OF COMMANDERS  
20 AND CAPTAINS, TO HAVE A PLAN OF PREPARATION, TO BE  
21 ABLE TO IMPLEMENT IT ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN TIMING,  
22 THEIR OWN JUDGMENT, AND THEIR OWN APPRAISAL OF THE  
23 SITUATION. WE SHOULD NOT RELY JUST ON TOP MANAGEMENT  
24 TO MAKE ALL THOSE DECISIONS. THANK YOU.

25 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

1 MS. LEHRMAN: IS -- I BELIEVE THE NAME WAS  
2 LESLEY WENGER.

3 LESLEY WENGER: I ALREADY SPOKE.

4 SPEAKER: DIANE PLOTKIN?

5 MS. LEHRMAN: NO. I THINK THAT WE -- WE CALLED  
6 A NAME. WHAT WAS THE LAST NAME THAT WE CALLED?  
7 LESLEY WENGER. OH, DID YOU PUT IN A SECOND -- OH,  
8 LESLEY WENGER. YES, MA'AM, YOU'RE NEXT. SORRY.  
9 THIS WAS THE NAME I CALLED. IS THIS YOURS? LESLEY  
10 WENGER? NO.

11 OKAY. PLEASE BEAR WITH US. WE'RE  
12 GETTING A LITTLE BIT CONFUSED HERE ABOUT -- DON  
13 CLINTON SPOKE. DIANA PLOTKIN?

14 DIANA PLOTKIN: MY NAME IS -- AM I TOO CLOSE?  
15 MY NAME IS DIANA PLOTKIN, AND I'M PRESIDENT OF THE  
16 BEVERLY-WILSHIRE HOMES ASSOCIATION. AND OUR  
17 BOUNDARIES STEM FROM LA CIENEGA BOULEVARD TO LA BREA,  
18 THE NORTH SIDE OF WILSHIRE, TO ROSEWOOD, WHICH IS  
19 JUST ABOVE BEVERLY BOULEVARD. AND I CAN ONLY CONVEY  
20 THE EXPERIENCE OF THAT COMMUNITY DURING THE RIOTS AND  
21 THE LACK OF POLICE RESPONSE DURING THE RIOTS.

22 WE HAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD OF -- A GREAT  
23 PORTION OF THAT NEIGHBORHOOD EXISTS OF SENIOR  
24 CITIZENS WHO ARE AFRAID TO COME OUT OF THEIR HOMES  
25 TODAY BECAUSE OF THOSE RIOTS. WE HAVE YOUNG

1 FAMILIES, MANY OF WHICH LEFT THE CITY BECAUSE THEY  
2 WERE SO FRIGHTENED, AND THERE WERE MANY OF US WHO  
3 WERE THERE WHO WATCHED THOSE RIOTS. THE BEVERLY  
4 CENTER, THE BEVERLY CONNECTION, THE NIKKO HOTEL,  
5 WOULD HAVE ALL BEEN ON FIRE IF IT WASN'T FOR THE  
6 PRIVATE PATROLS THAT HUNG OVER THE GARAGES WITH GUNS  
7 AIMED AT PEOPLE DRIVING UP AND DOWN THE STREETS. IF  
8 IT WASN'T FOR THE BEVERLY HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
9 PATROLLING LA CIENEGA ON THE VERY WEST SIDE OF THE --  
10 THE EAST SIDE OF THEIR BOUNDARIES, WE WOULD HAVE HAD  
11 A LOT MORE PROBLEMS. THE POLICE DID NOT RESPOND TO  
12 THE WESTSIDE DURING THE RIOTS. THEY WERE BUSY  
13 ELSEWHERE, AND AS OTHER PEOPLE HAVE STAYED, THEY WERE  
14 TOLD TO STAY AWAY FROM THE LOOTING. WE HAD FIRES IN  
15 THAT AREA. AT PICO AND LA CIENEGA WE HAD SHOPPING  
16 CENTERS BURN DOWN WHERE THE NEIGHBORS WERE UP THERE  
17 WITH THEIR HOSES TRYING TO PUT FIRES OUT. THE POLICE  
18 CAME BY, DID ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. THE NEIGHBORS WERE  
19 HORRIFIED AS THEY SAW PEOPLE DRIVE UP WITH UZIS  
20 KEEPING PEOPLE AT BAY WHILE THEY LOOTED. THEY CALLED  
21 THE POLICE. THERE WAS NO RESPONSE.

22 WE WERE NOT COVERED, AND WE'RE VERY  
23 ANGRY ABOUT THAT. WE'RE VERY AFRAID OF COMING OUT OF  
24 OUR HOMES. OUR NEIGHBORS CAME OUT AND SAW YOUNG  
25 PEOPLE DRIVING UP AND DOWN OUR STREETS, YELLING AT

1 US. PEOPLE WENT IN AND CALLED THE POLICE. THE  
2 POLICE DID NOT RESPOND.

3 WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT? WE NEED AS  
4 MANY POLICE OFFICERS AS THE CITY OF NEW YORK. WE  
5 NEED COMMUNITY-BASED POLICING. WE NEED MORE SMALL  
6 DIVISIONS IN OUR COMMUNITY SO THAT PEOPLE GET TO KNOW  
7 THEIR POLICE OFFICERS. WE NEED A BETTER NEIGHBORHOOD  
8 WATCH RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNITY. WE DON'T NEED TO BE  
9 TOLD, "I'M SORRY. WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH POLICE  
10 OFFICERS TO COME INTO YOUR COMMUNITY TO HELP YOU."

11 WE HAVE STABBINGS ON OUR STREETS. WE  
12 HAVE ROBBERIES. WE HAVE CARS BEING STOLEN FROM IN  
13 FRONT OF OUR HOUSES, AND WE DON'T GET A POLICE  
14 RESPONSE. IF YOU HAVE A ROBBERY, YOU CAN WAIT 24  
15 HOURS BEFORE SOMEBODY COMES OUT TO INVESTIGATE. THAT  
16 ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. WE  
17 WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGE. WE NEED TO GET THE  
18 POLITICS OUT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. WE NEED TO  
19 LET THE POLICE OFFICERS DO THEIR JOB. WE NEED TO  
20 HAVE MORE MINORITY POLICE OFFICERS, AND WE NEED THEM  
21 DIRECTED TO THE AREAS WHERE THE MINORITY POPULATIONS  
22 ARE SO THAT THERE ISN'T A LANGUAGE BARRIER, SO THAT  
23 THERE ISN'T PROBLEMS WITH COMMUNICATION, AND WE NEED  
24 BETTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE POLICE OFFICERS AND  
25 THE PUBLIC. AND WE WOULD HOPE THAT THIS COMMISSION

1 WOULD START TO INVESTIGATE SOME OF THOSE THINGS AND  
2 BRING IN SOME KIND OF SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF  
3 THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. GET THE POLITICS OUT. WE  
4 HAVE ENOUGH CORRUPT POLITICIANS THAT DON'T DO  
5 ANYTHING. LET THEM NOT INTERFERE WITH THE DIVISIONS,  
6 AND THEY DO DO THAT. WE HAVE TRIED ON SEVERAL  
7 OCCASIONS TO TRY TO GET THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO STOP  
8 ISSUING LIQUOR LICENSES TO EVERY TOM, DICK AND HARRY.  
9 THE POLITICIANS JUMP IN THERE AND SAY, "THIS GUY GETS  
10 IT, THIS GUY DOESN'T." WE'RE TIRED OF THAT. WE  
11 DON'T WANT THAT.

12 YEAH. I'LL WRAP UP.  
13 GET THE POLITICS OUT OF POLICING,  
14 PLEASE.

15 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, MS. PLOTKIN.

16 MS. LEHRMAN: NEXT IS MRS. WINGE.

17 ABLYNE WINGE: TO THE PANEL, MY NAME IS ABLYNE  
18 WINGE.

19 MY ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION REGARDING THE  
20 L.A.P.D. LAG IN RESPONSE TIME IS WHAT I HAVE HEARD  
21 OVER AND OVER SINCE APRIL 29TH. THAT IS THE RESPONSE  
22 LAG WAS DELIBERATE AND THAT PUBLIC RESPONSE TO IT  
23 BACKFIRED ON THE L.A.P.D.

24 DURING THE MAYORSHIP OF YORTY I ATTENDED  
25 AS A COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER A MEETING ON LAW

1 ENFORCEMENT. AS I WALKED IN, AN ADMINISTRATIVE  
2 PERSON REPRESENTING THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT  
3 WAS SAYING, "WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TWO TYPES OF LAW  
4 ENFORCEMENT, ONE FOR THE INNER CITY AND ONE FOR THE  
5 SUBURBAN AREA." NEEDLESS TO SAY, I WAS SHOCKED TO  
6 KNOW THAT SUCH A POLICY WOULD BE ENACTED.

7 I IMMEDIATELY HIT THE FLOOR AND RAISED  
8 THE QUESTION, "DO YOU REALIZE THAT YOU WILL MAKE  
9 LOS ANGELES THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THE NATION?"

10 AS TIME PASSED, L.A.P.D. ATTITUDES  
11 BECAME MORE AND MORE HARDENED IN SOUTH CENTRAL  
12 LOS ANGELES. AS I AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS CONTINUE TO  
13 WORK WITH THE PARENTS' COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP IN  
14 SOUTH CENTRAL WHO WANTED A BETTER LIFE FOR THEIR  
15 CHILDREN, WE BEGAN TO FEEL THE OFFICERS' DISDAIN FOR  
16 OUR OPEN DISCUSSIONS AND CONCERNS ABOUT WHERE THE  
17 GUNS AND DRUGS IN PARTICULAR WERE COMING FROM,  
18 BECAUSE WE CERTAINLY WERE NOT BUYING THEM, OUR  
19 CHILDREN WERE NOT BUYING THEM. THEY DID NOT HAVE THE  
20 MONEY.

21 SEVERAL YEARS LATER, I AND ANOTHER  
22 VOLUNTEER WERE CALLED IN TO MEET WITH A SERGEANT FROM  
23 THE BOMB SQUAD. IF THE MEETING WAS AN ATTEMPT TO  
24 INTIMIDATE, IT FAILED. HE WAS A GENTLEMAN.

25 THESE WERE THE SAME GROUP OF PARENTS WHO

1 VOLUNTARILY PUT TOGETHER AN EDUCATIONAL PACKAGE TO  
2 IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION FOR THEIR  
3 CHILDREN AND THE LOS ANGELES CITY SCHOOLS. THAT  
4 PACKAGE WAS A COMMUNITY INPUT FOR TITLE 1 MONIES IN  
5 SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES.

6 AS YEARS PASSED, IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE  
7 POLICE SOUGHT TO CONTROL SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES  
8 WITH INCREASED SHOOTINGS AND KILLINGS. THE MEDIA  
9 BEGAN PRINTING NEGATIVE MESSAGES AND STORIES ABOUT  
10 SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES AND SENDING THEM ALL OVER  
11 THE WORLD, STORIES ABOUT BLACKS. THE POLICE, THE  
12 MEDIA, DAILY AND YEARLY, SHOWED NO RESPECT TO THE  
13 POINT OF CREATING A VERY VOLATILE ATMOSPHERE AT HOME  
14 AND ABROAD. THAT IN NO WAY COULD CONVERSATIONS  
15 RESOLVE.

16 BEFORE APRIL 29TH, IT SEEMED LIKE  
17 DYNAMITE WAS IN THE AIR. THE LESSON, RESPECT A FAIR  
18 PLAYING FIELD. RESPECT ZERO DISCRIMINATION. RESPECT  
19 JUSTICE. RESPECT.

20 MR. QUEZEDA: THANK YOU. FRANK?

21 MS. NEWBERRY?

22 MS. LEHRMAN: IT'S A VERY DIFFICULT NAME TO  
23 READ. FRANK NEWHAUS? AND THEN AFTER THAT NILES DE  
24 GRATE, AND I'M AFRAID THOSE WILL BE THE LAST TWO  
25 SPEAKERS. WE'RE JUST ABOUT OUT OF TIME.

1                   FRANK NEWHAUS: I EMPATHIZE WITH THIS PANEL.  
2                   YOUR FACED WITH A VERY DIFFICULT TASK. GOVERNMENT IS  
3                   FACED WITH A VERY DIFFICULT TASK, TO BRING PARADISE  
4                   HERE ON EARTH. I DON'T THINK IT CAN BE DONE. I  
5                   DON'T THINK YOU CAN GIVE EVERYTHING TO EVERYBODY,  
6                   SATISFY EVERYONE'S NEEDS, EVERYONE'S WANTS,  
7                   EVERYONE'S DESIRES.

8                   I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE SECOND PART  
9                   OF YOUR QUESTION, WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF A FUTURE  
10                  RIOT.

11                  I'D LIKE TO ANSWER THAT SOMEWHAT  
12                  OBLIQUELY. MY MOTHER IS FROM IRELAND, AND SO WHAT  
13                  I'M ABOUT TO SAY WILL PROBABLY SURPRISE A LOT OF  
14                  PEOPLE.

15                  THERE IS A VERY FAMOUS OR INFAMOUS GROUP  
16                  OF ITINERANT IRISH THIEVES KNOWN AS THE TRAVELERS.  
17                  THEY'VE BEEN FEATURED ON 60 MINUTES. THEY SPECIALIZE  
18                  IN STEALING AND DEFRAUDING OLD PEOPLE. THEY COME  
19                  KNOCKING ON THE DOOR WITH THAT CHARMING, LILTING,  
20                  IRISH BROGUE, AND THEY TALK THEIR WAY INTO THE  
21                  PEOPLE'S HOMES, AND THEY SAY, WHILE THEY'RE OCCUPYING  
22                  THE WOMAN IN ONE ROOM, THE OTHER ONE IS IN THERE  
23                  STEALING FROM THEM, AND THEY STOLE \$13,000 FROM ONE  
24                  WOMAN, \$3,000 FROM ANOTHER, AND I SAY THAT IF SOMEONE  
25                  WOULD GIVE ME ABOUT 30 SECONDS' WORTH OF IMMUNITY

1 FROM PROSECUTION, I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY TO  
2 DEMONSTRATE HOW I WOULD DEAL WITH MY KIND, MY FELLOW  
3 MICKS, MY FELLOW IRISHMEN. LET ME TELL YOU, THEY'D  
4 BE PUSHING UP SHAMROCKS. NO MERCY.

5 AFTER I'VE FINISHED WITH MINE, THEN  
6 WE'LL GO ON TO EVERYBODY ELSE.

7 INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, THE LARGEST GROUP  
8 OF PROPORTION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED  
9 STATES ARE IRISH. SO I SAY, "LET'S KICK THEM OUT  
10 FIRST." THEN WE WILL PROCEED TO EVERYONE ELSE, ALL  
11 THE REST.

12 THERE IS -- IF THERE IS A SOLUTION --  
13 YOU'RE REALLY FACED WITH A DIFFICULT PROBLEM. YOU  
14 CAN TAKE THE APPROACH THAT -- ARE YOU THE CHIEF FROM  
15 NEWARK?

16 CHIEF WILLIAMS: YES, YES, MR. NEWHAUS.

17 MR. NEWHAUS: OKAY. I'M FROM NEWARK  
18 ORIGINALLY, AND I FIND IT VERY INTERESTING TO -- I  
19 SAW A PIECE ON T.V. ABOUT HOW NEWARK TREATS THE CAR  
20 THIEVES. THE KIDS ARE SO BOLD THAT THEY BANG INTO  
21 THE COP CARS JUST TO SEE THE AIR BAGS GO OFF, AND  
22 THEY TAUNT THE POLICE. THEY TRY TO GET THEM TO  
23 FOLLOW THEM, BECAUSE THEY KNOW THE COPS CAN'T DO  
24 ANYTHING.

25 I SAY THIS IS AN INSOLVABLE PROBLEM. IF

1           THERE IS A SOLUTION, I WOULD SUGGEST IT WOULD BE THE  
2           SOLUTION THAT WE HAVE USED IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY.  
3           OUR FOREIGN POLICY FOR THE LAST 40 YEARS HAS BEEN TO  
4           SAY TO OUR ENEMIES, "NOW, LOOK. WHY CAN'T WE JUST  
5           SIT DOWN AND TALK?"

6                        SO I SUGGEST THAT WE INVITE PEOPLE WHO  
7           DON'T LIKE EACH OTHER FOR VARIOUS SOCIAL, POLITICAL,  
8           ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, OR ANY OTHER KIND OF REASON YOU  
9           CARE TO NAME. INVITE THEM TO SIT DOWN AND TALK, AND  
10          YOU BRING HENRY KISSINGER IN, AND YOU LET HIM SIT  
11          DOWN AND TALK TO EVERYBODY AND SHOW THEM HOW THEY CAN  
12          REDUCE THEIR TENSIONS.

13                      I'M AFRAID THAT YOU ARE FACED WITH A  
14          PROBLEM THAT HAS NO SOLUTION. SORRY.

15                      CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

16                      FRANK NEWHAUS: OH, WHAT YOU ARE WITNESSING IS  
17          THE DEATH OF THE UNITED STATES, INCIDENTALLY.

18                      MS. LEHRMAN: AND WHEN YOU HAVE THOSE MEETINGS,  
19          ALWAYS HAVE A MEDIATOR PRESENT.

20                      NILES DE GRATE: MY NAME IS NILES DE GRATE, AND  
21          I CAME DOWN HERE TO SPEAK ON YOUR QUESTION CONCERNING  
22          POLICE RESPONSE.

23                      I DON'T REALLY THINK -- AND I DON'T MEAN  
24          TO BE OFFENSIVE OR INDIGNANT TO YOU GENTLEMEN AND YOU  
25          LADIES. BUT THIS IS ABSURD. TO HAVE A COMMISSION TO

1 SELL OR TO RESPOND OR TO INVESTIGATE AS TO WHAT YOU  
2 ALREADY KNOW IS ABSURD AND IT'S A WASTE OF TIME AND  
3 IT'S A WASTE OF ADDRESSING THE REAL PROBLEM.

4 YOU PEOPLE HAVE EXTREMELY HIGH  
5 EDUCATIONS. MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS AUDIENCE ARE  
6 VERY WELL EDUCATED. WE LEARNED IN FRESHMAN YEAR  
7 COLLEGE SOME OF THE SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT WE'RE  
8 DEALING WITH RIGHT NOW AND HOW TO CORRECT THEM.

9 AN ANALYSIS. THE WAR THAT'S GOING ON IN  
10 SARAJEVO AND BOSNIA, YOU CONSIDER THAT A HISTORICAL  
11 REVOLUTION. BUT THE RIOTS THAT CAME OUT IN  
12 LOS ANGELES, YOU CALLED US HEATHENS, BARBARIANS, AND  
13 EVERY DAMN THING, OKAY?

14 THESE WERE -- THESE WERE THE SAME KIND  
15 OF SPECIES WITH TWO ARMS, TWO LEGS, A HEAD, AS OVER  
16 IN RUSSIA, AND THEY ARE ACTING LIKE HEATHENS, AND  
17 THEY ARE TRYING TO ANNIHILATE THE MUSLIMS OVER THERE,  
18 AND YET WE SEND TROOPS OVER THERE, WE SEND AID OVER  
19 THERE, AND HAD NOT IT BEEN FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN  
20 RUSSIA, SOMALIA WOULD HAVE GONE UNNOTICED, PERIOD.  
21 SO YOU COME HERE WITH YOUR INTELLECTUAL SUBTERFUGE TO  
22 SAY, "WE ARE TRYING TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM."

23 I READ A BOOK. IT'S CALLED "BLACK  
24 PROTEST." AND A GENTLEMAN, A WHITE GENTLEMAN, GOT  
25 UP. AND I REALLY DON'T MEAN TO OFFEND -- I DON'T

1 WANT TO OFFEND WHITE PEOPLE. BUT A WHITE GUY GOT UP  
2 BEFORE CONGRESS AND HE SAYS, "YOU KNOW, WE DONE  
3 CREATE A MESS OF PROBLEMS FOR OURSELVES. THEM GOD  
4 DAMN NIGGERS GONNA GET MAD, AND WE ARE GONNA HAVE  
5 HOLY HELL." I READ THE FIRST 50 PAGES, AND I CLOSED  
6 THE BOOK DOWN, BECAUSE I COULD HAVE OVERLAYED THE  
7 NEWSPAPERS' CLIPPINGS OF THE RIOTS OVER THAT  
8 PARTICULAR PAGE, AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IDENTICALLY  
9 THE SAME SCENARIO.

10 WHEN ARE WE GOING TO LEARN?

11 HOW MANY OF YOU PEOPLE WHO ARE ON THE  
12 COMMISSION WALKED BY SOMEBODY WHO WAS LAYING ON THE  
13 STREET WHO WAS HUNGRY AND GAVE HIM A DAMN DIME?  
14 NOBODY, I WOULD IMAGINE. I WOULD IMAGINE THAT ALL OF  
15 YOU MAKE DECENT SALARIES. BUT IF YOU'RE TALKING  
16 ABOUT HUMANITY AND CONCERN FOR HUMANITY, THAT'S WHERE  
17 YOU START. YOU START WITH SOMEBODY WHO HAS NOTHING.

18 THE FIRST ISSUE HERE IS BEING LOGICALLY  
19 DEDUCTIBLE IN TERMS OF REALITY. IT CALLS FOR  
20 NONDISCRIMINATION. GET A COMMISSION TO GO THROUGH  
21 ALL OF THESE EMPLOYERS WHO WILL NOT HIRE QUALIFIED  
22 BLACK PEOPLE, WHO WILL DISCRIMINATE AGAINST BLACK  
23 PEOPLE. YOU ORGANIZE A COMMISSION FOR THAT, AND THEN  
24 I'LL SAY THAT YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING AND YOU WILL  
25 ACCOMPLISH AND RESOLVE THE WHOLE DAMN PROBLEM. I

1 GUARANTEE YOU THAT.

2 UNTIL THAT HAPPENS, WE REALLY DON'T WANT  
3 TO SEE YOU. BECAUSE I GUARANTEE YOU, DON'T TALK  
4 ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN THE NEXT TIME IN TERMS  
5 OF A RESPONSE TO A RIOT, BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T ADDRESS  
6 THE REAL ISSUES, THERE'S GOING TO BE ANOTHER RIOT.  
7 THERE IS GOING TO BE A -- AND YOU HAVEN'T SEEN A DAMN  
8 THING, NOTHING.

9 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. I THINK AT THIS POINT WE'D  
10 LIKE TO TURN IT OVER TO THE PANEL FOR CLOSING  
11 REMARKS.

12 SPEAKER: I'D LIKE TO SPEAK. I'M A VICTIM A  
13 VICTIM OF THE L.A. RIOT, SURVIVE --

14 MS. LEHRMAN: NO, NO, NO, NO, NO.

15 SPEAKER: I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TOO, MYSELF -- MY  
16 SON GOES TO SCHOOL HERE.

17 MS. LEHRMAN: I'M AFRAID THAT WE'RE OUT OF  
18 TIME.

19 I KNOW WE DID NOT GET TO ALL --

20 CHIEF WILLIAMS: JUST A MINUTE. JUST A MINUTE,  
21 PLEASE.

22 MS. LEHRMAN: SORRY. DO YOU WANT --

23 CHIEF WILLIAMS: IF THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT  
24 GOTTEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK YET THAT WOULD LIKE TO  
25 SAY SOMETHING, RAISE YOUR HANDS.

1 MS. LEHRMAN: OKAY. WE HAD RUN OUT OF THE  
2 TIME, BUT WE'LL GO FURTHER. SHALL WE CONTINUE --

3 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT HAD  
4 AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK, JUST -- I'M TAKING  
5 PREROGATIVES HERE.

6 ALL RIGHT. HOW MANY -- WOULD YOU TAKE  
7 THREE ON THAT SIDE AND THREE ON THIS SIDE? WE DO  
8 WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY, AND EVEN IF WE  
9 HAVE TO GO BEYOND THE TIME LIMIT, IT'S IMPORTANT FOR  
10 US. SO PLEASE, THOSE THAT HAVE YOUR HAND UP, STAND  
11 UP. COME UP TO THE MIKE NOW. STAND IN ORDER. EACH  
12 PERSON WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY -- ONLY THOSE PEOPLE  
13 THAT DID NOT SPEAK. ANYONE THAT HAS ALREADY SPOKEN  
14 WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SPEAK AGAIN, AND YOU WILL HAVE TO  
15 STICK WITH THE PROCESS THAT WE'VE ESTABLISHED. THE  
16 MONITOR WILL GIVE YOU THREE MINUTES.

17 MS. LEHRMAN: WE ARE GOING TO KEEP REMARKS TO  
18 THREE MINUTES.

19 ORION MOORE: FIRST OF ALL, I'D LIKE TO APPLAUD  
20 YOU, CHIEF WILLIAMS, FOR SHOWING THE COMMUNITY THAT  
21 YOU REALLY WANT TO HEAR WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY.

22 MY NAME IS ORION MOORE. MY SON GOES TO  
23 SCHOOL HERE. HIS NAME IS ENRIQUE ALAMIA. HE'S PART  
24 SPANISH AND HE'S PART BLACK, AFRICAN-AMERICAN.

25 THE SITUATION IS THAT ADDRESSING YOU

1 GUY'S RIGHT HERE, YOU GUYS -- I DON'T AGREE WITH THE  
2 AFRICAN-AMERICAN WHO JUST GOT FINISHED SPEAKING  
3 WITH -- THAT YOU GUYS ARE NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO  
4 YOUR JOBS AND ET CETERA. I WANT TO APPLAUD YOU,  
5 FIRST OF FALL.

6 THE SITUATION IS THIS. LET'S GET TO THE  
7 BOTTOM LINE. I AM BRINGING IN 4,000 AFRICAN-AMERICAN  
8 AND MEXICAN AND SPANISH-SPEAKING AMERICANS EVERY  
9 WEEK, REGISTERING THEM TO VOTE, TO GET SOME OF YOU  
10 PEOPLE OUT OF OFFICE THAT ARE IN POLITICS THAT ARE IN  
11 POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION. I WORK FOR THE  
12 BLACK-AMERICAN POLITICAL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA.  
13 I ALSO WORK FOR THE COMMITTEE TO PROTECT THE  
14 POLITICAL RIGHTS OF MINORITIES. I ALSO HAVE WORKED  
15 FOR THE CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION. ONLY REASON  
16 I'M HERE TONIGHT IS BECAUSE I WAS DRIVING DOWN THE  
17 STREET AND I HEARD KFVB SAY, "HEY, THEY'RE AT  
18 LE CONTE." AND I'M, LIKE, WOW. I JUST LIVE RIGHT A  
19 BLOCK AWAY FROM THESE GUYS. LET ME GO IN HERE AND  
20 SEE WHAT I COULD DO AND SAY WHAT I COULD SAY.

21 THE SITUATION IS THIS, IS THAT YES, THE  
22 RODNEY KING SITUATION IS A TRAGIC ONE THROUGHOUT THE  
23 WORLD. YOU GUYS HAVE LOST MILLIONS AND BILLIONS OF  
24 DOLLARS IN TOURISM HERE. WE DON'T WANT THAT TO  
25 LOSE -- WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE THAT BECAUSE WE WANT

1 OUR ECONOMIC STAGE IN CALIFORNIA TO CONTINUE ITS  
2 TREND SO THAT WE CAN MAKE MONEY.

3 BOTTOM LINE IS THAT WHAT YOU NEED TO DO  
4 HERE -- I KNOW ALL KIND OF GANG BANGERS, ICE-T,  
5 ICE CUBE, ALL THESE PEOPLE, MY FRIENDS. OKAY. YOU  
6 COME UP TO MY OFFICE, ALL OF US ARE LIKE THIS. THE  
7 MUSLIMS, ALL THESE PEOPLE.

8 BOTTOM LINE, IF YOU DON'T -- IF YOU DO  
9 NOT ADDRESS THE PROBLEM, WHICH A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE  
10 COMING TO YOU RIGHT NOW, "LISTEN. THE WHITE GUYS,  
11 THE WHITE COPS, ARE JUST HARASSING A LOT OF BLACK AND  
12 MEXICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN TERRITORY, WHICH BELONGS  
13 TO THE MEXICAN- AND SPANISH-AMERICANS HERE IN  
14 CALIFORNIA. THAT'S GOING TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE  
15 WORLD, OKAY? AND YOU'RE IN FOR A BIG PROBLEM IF YOU  
16 DON'T DO LIKE THE CHIEF THAT'S HERE RIGHT NOW THAT  
17 I'M PROUD OF IS DOING POLICING AS RESIDENTIAL --  
18 GETTING AN APARTMENT HERE AND OPERATE YOUR POLICE  
19 SITUATIONS OUT OF THERE AND DO THAT KIND OF STUFF.  
20 IF YOU DON'T DO THAT -- EXCUSE ME? IF YOU DON'T DO  
21 THAT, YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, OKAY? IF YOU DON'T MAKE  
22 MORE CONTACT WITH THE KIDS AND THE PEOPLE HERE, A  
23 REVOLT IS ON THE WAY.

24 BLACK PEOPLE, AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND  
25 SPANISH-AMERICANS, I REMIND YOU, AND IRISH, LIKE YOU

1 SAID, ESPECIALLY MY CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ARE  
2 UPRISING. EUROPEAN-AMERICANS, WATCH OUT. WATCH OUT.  
3 BECAUSE YOU'RE GONNA -- BLOOD IS GONNA BE SHED ON  
4 YOUR KIDS AND OUR KIDS TOO. WE DON'T WANT THAT.  
5 OKAY, YOU-ALL? LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER. LET'S BE  
6 NICE. LET'S GET RID OF THIS RACIAL SITUATION. WE  
7 ARE THE LEADERS HERE IN L.A., NEW YORK, IN AMERICA.  
8 WE ARE THE LEADERS. LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER, YOU-ALL.  
9 I LOVE ALL OF YOU-ALL.

10 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

11 I ALREADY CALLED THE NEXT PERSON.

12 SEYMOUR ROSEN: AM I NEXT?

13 MY NAME IS SEYMOUR ROSEN. I'M A RESERVE  
14 POLICE OFFICER OF LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT. I'M  
15 VICE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICE FOUNDATION.

16 BY THE WAY, OUR RESERVES GAVE 15,000  
17 HOURS FREE TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DURING THE  
18 RIOTS. I DON'T KNOW IF ANY OF YOU ARE AWARE OF THIS.  
19 THESE PEOPLE ARE ALL WORKING PEOPLE. YOU TALK ABOUT  
20 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT. THEY ARE DENTISTS, DOCTORS,  
21 LAWYERS, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, SHOEMAKERS, WHATEVER,  
22 AND THEY FIND TIME TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

23 WE ARE SEEKING -- WE HAVE ALLOTMENTS FOR  
24 2,000 OFFICERS, AND WE HAVE 850 NOW, AND WE CERTAINLY  
25 WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO WOULD LIKE

1 TO JOIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE RESERVE CORPS. WE  
2 CERTAINLY WOULD ACCEPT THEM.

3 AFTER YOU SEE ME AFTERWARDS, I'LL GIVE  
4 YOU OUR NUMBER.

5 I'D JUST LIKE TO REFUTE A FEW STATEMENTS  
6 FROM THE LADY HERE WHO STATES THAT THE POLICE LOOK  
7 FOR CERTAIN RACES TO STOP. CHIEF, AS YOU KNOW,  
8 THERE'S PROBABLE CAUSE. YOU JUST DON'T STOP SOMEONE  
9 BECAUSE THEY'RE BLACK OR LATINO. THEY DON'T DO IT IN  
10 THIS CITY. THEY DON'T DO IT IN ANY CITY. AND THIS  
11 LADY CONTINUES TO SAY THAT. I'M SORRY. THEY HAVE  
12 OTHER THINGS TO DO. IF THERE'S PROBABLE CAUSE THEY  
13 WILL STOP THE AUTOMOBILE AND SEARCH IT. OTHERWISE  
14 THEY DON'T DO IT HERE. THEY'LL THROW IT OUT. THEY  
15 WON'T FILE ON THAT.

16 SECONDLY, ON A HELICOPTER, THE  
17 HELICOPTER IS NOT THERE TO WAKE ANYONE UP OR DISTURB  
18 PEOPLE. IT'S THERE TO SEARCH OUT -- WHEN THE  
19 OFFICERS CANNOT, THEY FORM A PERIMETER, YOU KNOW, A  
20 BURGLARY OR IF A HIGH FELONY IS BEING COMMITTED, THEY  
21 HAVE TO HAVE THE RESOURCES OF A HELICOPTER, EITHER IN  
22 THE EVENING OR THE MORNING. SO THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE  
23 HELICOPTERS AND YOU SHOULD BE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE  
24 HELICOPTERS IN THIS CITY. WE WISH WE HAD MORE.

25 I JUST WANT TO SAY A COUPLE OF WORDS

1 ABOUT THE RIOT, IF I MAY.

2 DURING WORLD WAR II, I THINK IT WAS IN  
3 NOVEMBER OF 1942, IN NEW GUINEA, WE HAD A SITUATION  
4 WHERE GENERAL MAC ARTHUR WAS VERY DISSATISFIED IN A  
5 TOWN CALLED BUNA, WHERE HIS GENERAL WAS NOT ACTING --  
6 THE OFFICERS WERE AFRAID TO REACT. HE FIRED THIS  
7 GENERAL -- HIS NAME WAS HARRISON, I BELIEVE. HE  
8 BROUGHT IN A NEW GENERAL, EICHELBERGER, AND HE SAID  
9 TO THE GENERAL, "WE MUST MOVE. WE CAN'T JUST SIT  
10 THERE, AND IF YOU HAVE TO, YOU TAKE YOUR OFFICERS  
11 THAT RUN A BATTALION, WHICH IS NORMALLY A LIEUTENANT  
12 COLONEL OR A MAJOR, FIRE HIM, PUT IN A SERGEANT. IF  
13 YOU HAVE A COMPANY COMMANDER WHICH IS NORMALLY A  
14 CAPTAIN, BRING IN A CORPORAL. WE MUST MOVE, AND I  
15 THINK THAT THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE DURING THE  
16 INTERIM -- THE BEGINNING OF THE RIOT.

17 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

18 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, MR. SEYMOUR.

19 CHARLES COTTLE: MY NAME IS CHARLES COTTLE.  
20 YOU KNOW, FOR YEARS THE CIVIL LIBERTARIANS HAVE  
21 ADMONISHED THE POLICE TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT, AND  
22 THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED IN THE RIOT. EXERCISING  
23 RESTRAINT IS A EUPHEMISM FOR DOING NOTHING, AND  
24 THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, SO WE GOT WHAT WE ASKED  
25 FOR.

1 TWO MONTHS -- A COUPLE OF MONTHS PRIOR  
2 TO THE RIOT, A POLICE OFFICER WAS KILLED IN NORTH  
3 HOLLYWOOD. THE "LOS ANGELES TIMES" SAID IT WAS AN  
4 UNFORTUNATE CONFRONTATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY  
5 SAID THE RODNEY KING BEATING WAS VICIOUS, MEAN AND  
6 DESPICABLE.

7 WELL, THE POLICE OFFICER JUST HAPPENED  
8 TO BE A MEXICAN AND HAPPENED TO BE A WOMAN, SO WITH  
9 THOSE THREE THINGS AGAINST HER, IT WAS AN UNFORTUNATE  
10 CONFRONTATION, SO WHAT'S A POLICE OFFICER'S LIFE  
11 WORTH IF SHE'S A MEXICAN?

12 ONE MORE THING: WE ARE -- THE VOTERS  
13 ARE BEING ASKED TO VOTE ON AN APPROPRIATIONS FOR MORE  
14 POLICE. I'M NEVER -- I'VE NEVER BEEN ASKED TO VOTE  
15 ON APPROPRIATIONS TO SEND MAYOR BRADLEY TO JAPAN.  
16 I'VE NEVER BEEN ASKED TO VOTE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO  
17 BUY LIMOUSINES FOR MY COUNCILWOMAN AND ALL THE OTHER  
18 FOOLISHNESS. I'VE NEVER BEEN ASKED TO VOTE ON AN  
19 APPROPRIATION FOR THE ARTS COMMITTEE OR THE FESTIVAL  
20 COMMITTEE OR ALL THESE OTHER THINGS. WHY DON'T THEY  
21 FIND THE MONEY WHEN THEY VOTE FOR NEW FUNDS FOR THE  
22 FESTIVAL OR THE ARTS COMMITTEE? IT'S ALWAYS THERE.  
23 THEY JUST VOTE FOR IT AND IT'S THERE. WHY DON'T THEY  
24 GET THE FUNDS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THE SAME WAY?  
25 WHY IS IT WE ARE ASKED TO VOTE FOR NEW FUNDS FOR THE

1 POLICE DEPARTMENT? OF COURSE WE'RE GOING TO VOTE  
2 AGAINST THEM. EVERYONE'S GOING TO VOTE IT AGAINST  
3 NEW TAXES IF THEY GET A CHANCE.

4 THAT'S IT.

5 JAMES CATON: OKAY. AM I TOO CLOSE?

6 CHIEF WILLIAMS: JUST STATE YOUR NAME, PLEASE.

7 JAMES CATON: OKAY. JAMES CATON. I LIVE IN  
8 LADERA HEIGHTS, AND I'M NOT SURE IF WHAT I'M GOING TO  
9 SAY WILL SOLVE ALL OF THE PROBLEMS BUT JUST POSSIBLY.

10 MIXING THE POLICE FORCE COULD HELP. THE  
11 ORIENTAL LADY TOUCHED ON IT. THE HISPANIC BROTHER  
12 THAT WAS UP HERE, HE SPOKE, TOUCHED ON IT JUST A BIT  
13 ALSO. AND THIS ONE LADY HERE TOUCHED ON IT ALSO.

14 SOMETIMES CERTAIN AREAS, LIKE IF IT'S AN  
15 ASIAN COMMUNITY, MAYBE IF YOU HAVE ASIAN OFFICERS OR  
16 A MIXTURE, MAYBE AN ASIAN AND A WHITE OR AN ASIAN AND  
17 A BLACK OR AN ASIAN AND HISPANIC WORKING TOGETHER, OR  
18 IF IT'S A BLACK AREA, YOU KNOW, TWO BLACK OFFICERS OR  
19 A BLACK AND A HISPANIC, YOU KNOW, AND THE YOUNG  
20 PEOPLE COULD SEE THAT, AND IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IT  
21 COULD, YOU KNOW, THEY COULD LOOK UP TO THESE GUYS,  
22 THEY CAN KIND OF RELATE WITH THEM A LITTLE BIT BETTER  
23 IN CERTAIN CASES.

24 LIKE I SAID, IT DOESN'T SOLVE ALL THE  
25 PROBLEMS, BUT IN MANY CASES, YOU KNOW, A LOT OF TIMES

1 A LATINO CAN SPEAK WITH ANOTHER LATIN GUY ON HIS  
2 GROUNDS AND THE SAME WITH A BLACK GUY OR IF THEY'RE  
3 ORIENTAL OR WHATEVER. SOMETIMES THAT DOES HELP. IT  
4 DOESN'T ALWAYS SOLVE THE PROBLEMS BUT IT DOES HELP  
5 SOMETIMES, SO IT JUST, YOU KNOW, IT'S JUST SOMETHING  
6 TO THINK ABOUT, YOU KNOW, TO MIX UP THE FORCE JUST A  
7 LITTLE BIT BETTER.

8 I'M GOING TO CUT IT SHORT. I WANT TO  
9 HEAR RUTH.

10 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

11 STATE YOUR NAME, PLEASE.

12 RUTH S. GOULET: MY NAME IS RUTH GOULET. I AM  
13 THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE PROJECT AREA COMMITTEE IN  
14 HOLLYWOOD, AND I AM THE CAPTAIN OF MY NEIGHBORHOOD  
15 WATCH GROUP.

16 (AUDIENCE VOICES, INAUDIBLE.)

17 MR. QUEZADA: DON'T WORRY. PROCEED.

18 RUTH S. GOULET: I DO HAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH  
19 GROUP IN HOLLYWOOD. IT IS A BLOCK OFF HOLLYWOOD  
20 BOULEVARD. AND THE SECOND DAY OF THE RIOTS, WHEN WE  
21 WERE PREPARING AGAINST THINGS LIKE FIRES, WE HAD  
22 HOSES OUT AND OUR FIRE EXTINGUISHERS. THE STAKE BED  
23 TRUCKS AND THE VANS FULL OF MEN WITH GUNS CAME  
24 THROUGH. FORTUNATELY, AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT, A  
25 LOT OF THE PEOPLE ALSO HAD GUNS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD.

1 AND WE HAD ENOUGH FIRE POWER TO DISCOURAGE THEM FROM  
2 STOPPING IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD.

3 WE THEN BARRICADED OUR STREETS AND  
4 MANAGED FOR TWO DAYS TO PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

5 APPROXIMATELY 14 HOURS AFTER WE FIRST  
6 BARRICADED OUR STREETS -- AND INCIDENTALLY WE HAD  
7 CALLED THE POLICE MANY TIMES. WE DID SEE A SQUAD CAR  
8 COMING BY. WHEN THEY STOPPED, THEY SAID THEY WERE  
9 COMING BY FOR A CALL THAT HAD GONE IN APPROXIMATELY  
10 EIGHT HOURS EARLIER.

11 I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THE L.A.P.D., BUT I  
12 CERTAINLY CAN SPEAK FOR THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION. THE  
13 HOLLYWOOD DIVISION IS RUN BY A LOS ANGELES POLITICAL  
14 MACHINE. THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION IS SO FRAGMENTED  
15 THAT IF I HAVE A DRUG DEALER ON THE STREET AND I CALL  
16 THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION, I AM TOLD I MUST CALL  
17 NARCOTICS, 9:00 TO 5:00, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. IF I  
18 HAVE A PROSTITUTE ON THE STREET, ON MY CORNER, I AM  
19 TOLD TO CALL VICE, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9:00 TO  
20 5:00. IF I HAVE A GANG ON MY STREET, I'M TOLD TO  
21 CALL THE WEST BUREAU OF CRASH, 9:00 TO 5:00, MONDAY  
22 THROUGH FRIDAY. IF I HAVE PROBLEMS ON THE  
23 BOULEVARD -- AND I'M A BLOCK FROM THE BOULEVARD --  
24 I'M TOLD TO CALL THE TASK FORCE, AND GOD ONLY KNOWS  
25 WHEN I'LL EVER GET THE TASK FORCE.

1 I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HOLLYWOOD DIVISION  
2 POLICE DO.

3 NOW, I HAVE A SENIOR LEAD OFFICER WHO  
4 DOES WORK AND I CAN TALK TO HIM. HE WORKS FOUR TO  
5 FIVE DAYS A WEEK. HE WORKS AT LEAST EIGHT HOURS A  
6 DAY. BUT WHEN HE ISN'T ON, IF I CALL HOLLYWOOD  
7 DIVISION, I'M TOLD TO CALL 911, AND IF I'M LUCKY I  
8 WILL GET A CAR THAT COMES FROM SOMEWHERE, WILSHIRE,  
9 NORTH HOLLYWOOD. BUT I THINK THAT IF THERE IS ANY  
10 KIND OF ANSWER THERE MUST BE SOMETHING ABOUT  
11 COMMUNITY-BASED POLICING, AND THAT MUST BE AN ONGOING  
12 THING IN TERMS OF CONTINUITY, NOT JUST EIGHT HOURS A  
13 DAY BUT 24 HOURS A DAY, FIVE DAYS -- AT LEAST FIVE  
14 DAYS A WEEK, HOPEFULLY SEVEN DAYS A WEEK.

15 I LEARNED THREE THINGS IN THE RIOTS. I  
16 LEARNED, NUMBER ONE, THERE WAS NO PLAN. AND I WOULD  
17 BE WILLING TO BET AT THIS POINT IN TIME THERE IS NO  
18 PLAN.

19 THE SECOND COROLLARY IS MY NEIGHBORHOOD  
20 LEARNED WE HAVE A PLAN. AND WE HAVE THE FIRE POWER  
21 TO BACK IT UP NOW. I KNOW INNUMERABLE NEIGHBORHOODS  
22 WHO KNOW THE SAME THING.

23 AND NUMBER THREE, AND I AM SAD TO SAY  
24 IT, THE THING I LEARNED IS IN THIS CITY NEGATIVE  
25 BEHAVIOR IS REWARDED. IF YOU LOOT ENOUGH, IF YOU

1 SCREAM ENOUGH, IF YOU BURN ENOUGH, YOU WILL BE  
2 CONSIDERED A VIABLE NEGOTIABLE GROUP.

3 I HAVE DECIDED I AM A BOHEMIAN-AMERICAN.  
4 I'M NO LONGER -- I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE JUST AN  
5 AMERICAN. ONLY HYPHENATED AMERICANS ANYMORE ARE PART  
6 OF THIS SOCIETY AND OUR HURT. THE UNHYPHENATED GET  
7 TO PAY. THANK YOU.

8 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

9 HOW MANY MORE SPEAKERS DO WE HAVE THAT  
10 ORIGINALLY STOOD UP? FIVE. OKAY. WE'RE GOING TO  
11 HAVE TO STICK WITHIN THE TIME CONSTRAINTS THAT WE  
12 HAVE. WE'D ASK YOU TO BE SPECIFIC WITH RESPECT TO  
13 YOUR COMMENTARY AND TRY TO FOCUS ON THINGS THAT YOU  
14 FEEL THAT COULD BE DONE TO PREVENT FUTURE OCCURRENCES  
15 OF THE NATURE THAT WE'VE SEEN IN LATE APRIL.

16 IVIS MARQUEZ: HI. MY NAME IS IVIS. THANK YOU  
17 FOR LETTING ME SPEAK TONIGHT.

18 I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS  
19 BEFORE BECAUSE I THINK THAT I'M NOT IMPORTANT ENOUGH  
20 FOR YOU TO LISTEN TO ME.

21 DURING THE RIOTS I WAS VERY SCARED,  
22 TOWARDS WHAT WAS GOING -- TOWARDS WHAT WAS GOING ON  
23 BECAUSE I ACTUALLY KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON. IT'S VERY  
24 SCARY TO SEE PEOPLE HURTING OTHER PEOPLE AND SEEING  
25 THE POLICE NOT ATTENDING TO THE SITUATION.

1 I ASKED MYSELF IF THEY ARE -- IF THE  
2 POLICEMEN ARE, POLICEMEN AND POLICEWOMEN ARE WHAT  
3 THEY STAND FOR. I THINK THAT L.A.P.D. RESPONSE TO  
4 THE CIVIL DISTURBANCE THAT BEGAN ON APRIL 29TH IS  
5 REALLY ABSURD. HELPING FIRE FIGHTERS IS THE ONLY  
6 THING THAT I SAW THEM DOING RIGHT.

7 WHAT DIDN'T WORK IS THAT THEY WERE NOT  
8 THERE WHEN THE PEOPLE REALLY NEEDED THEM. WHERE WERE  
9 THEY? CERTAINLY NOT PROTECTING THE PEOPLE. THE  
10 POLICE SHOULD PREPARE THEMSELVES AND RESPOND TO  
11 FUTURE EMERGENCIES BY PRE-ORGANIZING AND MAKING PLANS  
12 THAT WILL ALLOW THEM TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING WHEN  
13 THE TIME IS RIGHT. THANK YOU.

14 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, IVIS.

15 ADAM BREGMAN: HI. MY NAME IS ADAM BREGMAN,  
16 AND I'M A CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR. I WANT TO SAY THAT I  
17 THINK IF YOU WANT MORE PEOPLE TO COME TO YOUR  
18 MEETINGS THAT YOU SHOULD PUT FLYERS ALL OVER THE  
19 COMMUNITY BECAUSE WHEN THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE -- LIKE  
20 TAKE AWAY PEOPLE'S CARS FOR PARKING IN THE WRONG  
21 PLACE THEY PUT UP SIGNS AND NO ONE PARKS THEIR CAR  
22 THERE, SO I THINK THAT WOULD WORK.

23 DURING THE RIOTS I WAS DOWNTOWN WHEN THE  
24 RIOTS ERUPTED, AND I SAW THE RODNEY KING EPISODE  
25 HAPPEN RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES SEVERAL TIMES. I

1 WAS ON A DARK STREET, AND I SAW A GUY BEING BEAT UP  
2 BY FIVE PEOPLE. BUNCH OF PEOPLE RAN OVER TO FIND OUT  
3 WHAT WAS GOING ON. THEY WERE BEATING HIM UP AND  
4 DRAGGING HIM AWAY. THEY DRAGGED HIM INTO A HOTEL.  
5 PEOPLE CHASED AFTER THEM. THEY FLASHED THEIR BADGES  
6 AND THEY WERE CAUGHT. THEY WERE BEATING THE HELL OUT  
7 OF SOMEONE RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES, AND I COULDN'T  
8 BELIEVE IT. IT WAS RODNEY KING. THERE WAS NO VIDEO  
9 CAMERAS TO TAPE IT. IT WAS, LIKE, ONE OF THE  
10 SCARIEST THINGS I'VE SEEN IN MY LIFE, AND I'LL NEVER  
11 FORGET IT. AND I'VE SEEN LOTS OF THINGS SIMILAR TO  
12 THAT AT DIFFERENT PROTESTS I'VE BEEN TO IN L.A. I'VE  
13 SEEN THE L.A.P.D. BEAT UP PEOPLE, HARASS PEOPLE. I  
14 MYSELF HAVE BEEN HARASSED AT LEAST 30 TIMES. I'VE  
15 NEVER BEEN ARRESTED. I'VE FELT SOMETIMES THAT IF I  
16 WAS A MINORITY I WOULD HAVE BEEN SHOT IN CERTAIN  
17 CIRCUMSTANCES. EVERYTHING, YOU KNOW, AT THE BEACH,  
18 AT A PARTY, AT A PROTEST, THE L.A.P.D. JUST HARASSES  
19 PEOPLE. PEOPLE MY AGE ARE SCARED OF THE L.A.P.D.,  
20 AND THEY HATE THE L.A.P.D. THEY BEAT UP PEOPLE, THEY  
21 BREAK UP PARTIES. I MEAN, THEY HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO  
22 RESPECT FOR THE L.A.P.D. THE L.A.P.D. ESPECIALLY HAS  
23 NO RESPECT FOR MINORITIES.

24 I THINK IF THE L.A.P.D. DID WHAT A LOT  
25 OF PEOPLE SAID, HERE HAD A MORE REACTIONARY RESPONSE

1 AND JUMPED RIGHT IN WHEN THE RIOTS STARTED THAT I  
2 WOULD HAVE SEEN WHAT I SAW HAPPEN DOWNTOWN HAPPEN  
3 MANY TIMES OVER AND A LOT MORE PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN  
4 KILLED. AND HAD THEY BROUGHT IN THE NATIONAL GUARD  
5 EARLIER, PROBABLY WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED WOULD HAVE  
6 HAPPENED, THE SAME THING THAT HAPPENED DURING THE  
7 WATTS RIOTS. I HEARD A LOT MORE PEOPLE WERE KILLED.

8 I WANT TO SAY THAT WILLIAMS IS PROPOSING  
9 TO PUT 1,000 MORE COPS ON THE STREET, AND THAT'S THE  
10 SCARIEST THING I CAN THINK OF. THE LAST THING IN THE  
11 WORLD WE NEED IS MORE COPS. MORE COPS ARE JUST GOING  
12 TO DRIVE AROUND AND HARASS MORE PEOPLE.

13 THE L.A.P.D. IN LOS ANGELES TO ME IS  
14 JUST ANOTHER BIG GANG LIKE THE BLOODS OR THE CRIPS,  
15 EXCEPT THEY HAVE MORE AUTHORITY AND MORE POWER.

16 I THINK ONE IMPORTANT THING WE NEED TO  
17 DO IS CALL OFF THE WAR ON DRUGS, WHICH GIVES THE COPS  
18 AN EXCUSE TO HARASS AND PULL OVER WHOEVER THEY WANT.  
19 I DON'T THINK THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE VICTIMS, WHO ARE  
20 DRUG ADDICTS, OR EVEN PEOPLE WHO SELL DRUGS, JUST  
21 BECAUSE THEY DON'T WANT TO WORK AT MC DONALD'S,  
22 SHOULD BE ARRESTED. I THINK DRUGS NEED TO BE  
23 LEGALIZED. I THINK THAT WOULD GIVE -- TAKE AWAY A  
24 LOT OF POWER FROM THE POLICE TO JUST HARASS WHOEVER  
25 THEY WANT. BUT I THINK WHAT PEOPLE REALLY NEED TO DO

1 IS TAKE MORE CONTROL OF THEIR LIVES AND THEIR  
2 COMMUNITIES AND TAKE THAT POWER AWAY FROM THE  
3 GOVERNMENT AND THE POLICE BECAUSE I THINK THEY'RE  
4 DOING A REALLY BAD JOB, AND I THINK THAT THEY'LL  
5 CONTINUE TO DO A BAD JOB FOREVER. IF PEOPLE KEEP  
6 PUTTING MORE POWER, GIVING MORE POWER AND MORE  
7 AUTHORITIES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE POLICE, PEOPLE  
8 NEED TO PROTECT THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES AND TAKE CHARGE  
9 OF THEIR OWN LIVES AND GET TOGETHER. I THINK THIS  
10 CITY NEEDS TO HAVE MASSIVE FESTIVALS WHERE EVERYONE  
11 IN THE CITY GETS TOGETHER LIKE THEY DO IN NEW YORK  
12 AND SAN FRANCISCO AND PEOPLE CAN COMMINGLE AND GET  
13 TOGETHER, AND I THINK THAT WOULD HELP A LOT. THANKS.

14 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU.

15 JAY RHEE: HELLO. MY NAME IS JAY RHEE, LIVING  
16 AT 809 SOUTH NEW HAMPSHIRE, WHICH IS THE HORRIBLE  
17 KOREATOWN.

18 I JUST MADE A FEW NOTES, AND PLEASE BE  
19 PATIENT WITH MY UNEXPERIENCED SPEECHES.

20 THERE SEEMS TO BE A LOT OF GOOD IDEAS  
21 AND COMMENTS IN THIS HEARING WITH SOME FRUSTRATIONS.  
22 I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU WHAT I SAW AND HOW I FIGHT  
23 THE WAR, AND MAYBE A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO PREVENT  
24 SUCH TRAGEDY IN THE FUTURE.

25 I SAW PEOPLE STEALING WHATEVER THEY CAN

1 GRAB. I SAW PEOPLE BREAKING AND EVEN SHOOTING TWO  
2 ROBBERS DURING THE RIOT. AND POLICE WAS HIDING  
3 BEHIND THE TREE WITH A RIFLE ON THEIR HAND AND  
4 WATCHING THEM.

5 AFTER (INAUDIBLE) DAY AND NIGHTS TO CALL  
6 THE STORE, I WATCHED PETE WILSON AND TOM BRADLEY'S  
7 SPEECH, THAT THERE WERE SIX NATIONAL GUARDS AND  
8 POLICE IN THE STREET OF L.A. TO PROTECT US, BUT I  
9 NEVER SEE A SINGLE NATIONAL GUARD IN MY PARKING LOT  
10 UNTIL IS THE WAR OVER.

11 FINALLY THEY SHOWED UP ON MAY THE 2ND.

12 LATER WHEN I HEARD THERE WERE 40  
13 NATIONAL GUARDS IN BEVERLY HILLS, IT BREAK MY HEART.  
14 AND MORE THAN THAT, WE ARE LIVING IN A CITY WHERE  
15 MAYOR OF THE CITY AND CHIEF OF POLICE DIDN'T TALK  
16 EACH OTHER FOR 13 MONTHS. (INAUDIBLE).

17 TODAY I WAS GUARDING -- I GUESS NOBODY  
18 CAN HEAR MUCH BUT -- TODAY I WAS GUARDING BABY  
19 CLOTHING STORE WHILE MY WIFE WENT TO THE PURCHASE  
20 SOME WINTER CLOTHING. I HAD A SPANISH LADY WITH A  
21 BABY ON HER ARM COME TO MY STORE. AFTER SHE LOOK  
22 AROUND OUR BABY SHOES, ASK ME A CUP OF WATER FOR  
23 BABY, SHE LEFT WITHOUT BUYING ANYTHING. HOWEVER, MY  
24 WIFE FOUND TWO PAIRS OF SHOES MISSING FROM THE SHOE  
25 RACK. SHE STARTS YELLING AT ME WITH HYSTERICAL

1 REMARKS, AS WOMANS A LOT DO. BUT THOSE PEOPLE, THEY  
2 STEAL AS SOON AS YOU TURN YOUR BACK. THEY ROB YOU IF  
3 THEY HAVE MONEY TO BUY A GUN. THAT'S THE CITY I'M  
4 LIVING AND WORKING FOR IN KOREATOWN. OKAY? THEY  
5 SHOOT -- THEY NEED, EDUCATION, JOB TRAINING, AND ALL  
6 THAT, BUT THEY HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO LIVE AND MAYBE  
7 THE VALUE OF LIFE IN THEIR MIND. MEANWHILE, WE NEED  
8 TOUGH LAW AND MORE POLICE TO ENFORCE LAW IN THIS  
9 COUNTRY.

10 I DIDN'T COME HERE TO BLAME SOMEBODY.  
11 BUT IT'S YOU AND I RESPONSIBLE TO CORRECT IT. IT'S  
12 NOT AN EASY SOLUTION, BUT IT SEEMS TO BE THERE'S A  
13 LOT OF GOOD SUGGESTIONS IN THIS HEARING, AND I WANT  
14 YOU TO DO SOME ACTION ON IT.

15 I MAY BE A FOOL TO FIGHT THESE  
16 IRRESPONSIBLE, IRRATIONAL LOOTERS DURING THE RIOT.  
17 EVEN MY WIFE TOLD ME SO. BUT I STOOD AND FIGHT THEM  
18 WITH A GUN THAT I NEVER HAD IN MY HAND BEFORE.

19 BUT THERE'S A LOT TO SPEAK ABOUT THIS  
20 DURING THE RIOT, BUT FOR YOUR PERMISSION, WE NEED  
21 MORE POLICE IN THIS TOWN AND MORE ENFORCEMENT AND  
22 MORE TOUGH LAW FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT  
23 RESPONSIBLE ON THEIR ACTION. THANK YOU.

24 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. RHEE.

25 ALEC MAN: MY NAME IS ALEC MAN. I HADN'T

1 PLANNED TO TALK TONIGHT, BUT WHEN I -- AS I DROVE UP  
2 I ASKED ONE OF THE OFFICERS OUTSIDE WHERE THE PUBLIC  
3 PARKING WAS, AND HE SAID THE STAFF HAD TAKEN ALL THE  
4 PARKING IN THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT HERE. AND THIS --  
5 THIS STUCK WITH ME BECAUSE YOU SEE A LOT OF THE  
6 CITIZENS PERCEIVE AND UNFAIRLY SAW BECAUSE A  
7 POLICEMAN'S JOB, AS WAS STATED IN THE GILBERT AND  
8 SULLIVAN OPERETTA, WHEN CONSTABULARY DUTIES TO BE  
9 DONE, A POLICEMAN'S LOT IS NOT A HAPPY ONE. BUT THE  
10 PROBLEM IS THAT WHEN WE GET A SENSE THAT THE  
11 RESOURCES OF A HEARING LIKE THIS ARE TAKEN OVER BY  
12 THE STAFF, AND THE PUBLIC, WHO'S AFRAID OF PARKING ON  
13 THE STREET, HAS TO PARK ON THE STREET, THE PERCEPTION  
14 WE GET IS THAT WE REALLY -- THERE REALLY ISN'T MUCH  
15 INTEREST IN HEARING WHAT PEOPLE HAVE TO SAY. AND I  
16 THINK THIS IS VERY SAD BECAUSE WITH THESE PERCEPTIONS  
17 IT'S WHAT FEEDS -- THIS IS WHAT FEEDS THE BAD  
18 RELATIONS BETWEEN THE POLICE AND THE CITIZEN. AND I  
19 WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I DON'T KNOW IF THIS HAS BEEN  
20 THE CASE AT THE PREVIOUS HEARINGS WHERE THE STAFF  
21 TOOK OVER THE PARKING SO THE CITIZENS HAD TO BE OUT  
22 ON THE STREET WHERE WE MIGHT HAVE TO CALL FOR A  
23 POLICE ASSISTANCE AND THEN WAIT AND WAIT AND WAIT.  
24 BUT IF THE IMAGE IS TO BE CHANGED AND WE'RE TO  
25 PERCEIVE THE POLICE FORCE AS HELPMATES TO WHOM WE CAN

1 GIVE MUTUAL AID, THEN THIS KIND OF BEHAVIOR IS --  
2 IT'S NOT ACCEPTABLE, AND WHILE I KNOW THAT POLICEMEN  
3 OPERATE UNDER GREAT PERSONAL --

4 CHIEF WILLIAMS: CAN WE -- CAN I JUST INTERRUPT  
5 FOR A MINUTE?

6 CAN YOU ADDRESS YOUR COMMENTS -- I THINK  
7 YOU MADE CLEAR THAT ISSUE. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO  
8 SAY WITH RESPECT TO WHAT BEGAN ON APRIL 29TH, THE  
9 POLICE RESPONSE, OR ANY OTHER INSTITUTION OR AGENCY  
10 OF GOVERNMENT RESPONSE, WHICH IS THE MAJOR THING?  
11 WE'VE ONLY GOT A FEW MINUTES LEFT. WE'VE EXTENDED IT  
12 TO HEAR ON THIS ISSUE.

13 ALEC MAN: WELL, LET ME SAY, CHIEF WILLIAMS,  
14 THAT THE RESPONSES WE -- WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE AND THE  
15 RESPONSES WE GOT DURING THE RIOT WOULD INDICATE THAT  
16 THE FORCE IS OPERATING UNDER GREAT PERSONAL FEAR  
17 BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY ARMED PEOPLE OUT THERE, AND  
18 THE TRAINING IN THE ACADEMY, WHICH IN THE YEARS OF  
19 CHIEF DAVIS THE C.I.A. TRAINING MANUAL WAS USED.

20 DO YOU KNOW, CHIEF WILLIAMS, IF THE  
21 TRAINING MANUAL IS STILL USED AT THE ACADEMY, THE  
22 C.I.A. TRAINING MANUAL?

23 CHIEF WILLIAMS: YOU'D HAVE TO ASK THE OTHER  
24 CHIEF WILLIAMS THAT QUESTION.

25 ALEC MAN: WELL, MR. WEBSTER USED TO HEAD THE

1 C.I.A. WHERE IS HE TONIGHT?

2 CHIEF WILLIAMS: I SHOULD HAVE SAID FROM THE  
3 BEGINNING THAT JUDGE WEBSTER WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BE  
4 WITH US. PRIOR TO HIS COMMITMENT TO COME AND SERVE  
5 AND TO HOLD THESE PUBLIC HEARINGS, HE HAD A  
6 LONGSTANDING COMMITMENT THAT HE HAD TO KEEP. I HOPE  
7 THAT IN HIS ABSENCE YOU ALL FEEL THAT YOU HAD AN  
8 OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD, TO MAKE YOUR POINT, TO GET  
9 IT ON THE RECORD, SO THAT IT WILL BE DULY CONSIDERED  
10 AS PART OF THE EVIDENCE THAT WE'LL BE LOOKING AT AS A  
11 COMMITTEE ON THE WHOLE, AND WHEN WE DEVELOP OUR  
12 REPORT, WHICH IS WHAT THE ISSUE IS.

13 ALEC MAN: WELL, I WOULD LIKE AN ANSWER TO THAT  
14 QUESTION. IS THE TRAINING MANUAL STILL BEING USED AT  
15 THE ACADEMY, THE C.I.A. TRAINING MANUAL?

16 CHIEF WILLIAMS: WELL, I'M GOING TO ANSWER YOUR  
17 QUESTION, AND THEN WE'RE GOING TO PROCEED TO THE NEXT  
18 SPEAKER, BECAUSE YOUR TIME IS UP.

19 YOU MUST ADDRESS YOUR QUESTION TO CHIEF  
20 WILLIAMS THAT RUNS THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT.  
21 HE HAS THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION. I SIMPLY DON'T  
22 KNOW.

23 ALEC MAN: THAT MANUAL IS A TRAINING  
24 (INAUDIBLE).

25 CHIEF WILLIAMS: YOUR TIME IS UP. LET'S MOVE

1 TO THE NEXT SPEAKER.

2 SPEAKER: (INAUDIBLE.)

3 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU, SIR.

4 SPEAKER: (INAUDIBLE.)

5 CHIEF WILLIAMS: I CAN'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTION.

6 I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER.

7 NEXT SPEAKER.

8 SPEAKER: (INAUDIBLE.)

9 CHIEF WILLIAMS: NO, I WAS NOT.

10 CHARLES TOOTS: THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

11 MY NAME IS CHARLES TOOTS, AND I WASN'T ORIGINALLY  
12 INTENDING TO SPEAK HERE, BUT THERE'S SOME ISSUES I  
13 HADN'T HEARD ADDRESSED, AND I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE  
14 I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO HEAR THESE ISSUES.

15 I'VE LIVED HERE ALL MY LIFE IN  
16 LOS ANGELES, AND I'VE LIVED IN HOLLYWOOD ALL MY LIFE.  
17 AS A MATTER OF FACT, I STILL LIVE ABOUT 15 BLOCKS  
18 FROM HERE, SO I KNOW THIS COMMUNITY WELL.

19 I ALSO HAPPEN TO BE A TEACHER AT THIS  
20 SCHOOL, AND SO I KNOW THE COMMUNITY OF THE STUDENTS  
21 HERE VERY WELL. I THINK I KNOW A LOT ABOUT WHAT  
22 HAPPENED HERE AND MAYBE SOME OF THE REASONS THINGS  
23 HAPPENED.

24 WHEN I WAS GROWING UP HERE, I SAW A LOT  
25 OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICE OFFICERS TO SHOW

1           PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TOWARDS MINORITIES.  THERE  
2           WOULD BE TIMES WHEN MY HAIR WAS A LITTLE LONGER AND  
3           MAYBE MY CAR WAS A LITTLE MORE BEAT UP AND I WAS OUT  
4           A LITTLE BIT LATE AT NIGHT, AND I WOULD BE FRIENDS,  
5           SOME OF THEM WHO HAPPENED TO BE BLACK OR SPANISH.  
6           WE'D GET PULLED OVER JUST TO BE CHECKED OVER BECAUSE  
7           A CAR FULL OF YOUNG PEOPLE AT NIGHT HAS GOT TO BE  
8           SOMETHING WRONG, RIGHT?  AND THEY WOULD OBVIOUSLY  
9           SHOW ME A LOT MORE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT THAN MY  
10          FRIENDS.

11                           I SAW THEM MORE THOROUGHLY SEARCHED, I  
12          SAW THEM MORE THOROUGHLY INTERROGATED AS TO WHAT AND  
13          WHY AND WHEN.  THEY WERE EVEN CUFFED SOMETIMES  
14          WITHOUT ANY APPARENT PROVOCATION WHILE I WAS JUST  
15          ALLOWED TO STAND TO THE SIDE AND WITNESS THIS.  THIS  
16          HAPPENED A FEW TIMES.  AT THE SAME TIME, JUST WALKING  
17          DOWN HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD IN MY YOUTH, I WOULD SEE  
18          POLICE OFFICERS IN THEIR BUSINESS OF ARRESTING  
19          PEOPLE, AND I WONDER WHY THE ONLY TIME I SAW THEM  
20          APPARENTLY FIGHTING OR LITERALLY BEATING ON  
21          ANYBODY -- THAT WAS ALSO A MINORITY WITH PERHAPS ONE  
22          EXCEPTION.  IT MIGHT HAVE JUST BEEN RANDOM CHANCE OR  
23          THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME KIND OF PATTERN GOING ON.  
24          I BELIEVE THERE WAS A PATTERN GOING ON.  AND THIS WAS  
25          TEN YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS GROWING UP.  AND I DON'T

1 THINK ANYTHING HAS CHANGED AS FAR AS THAT'S  
2 CONCERNED.

3 AS A TEACHER HERE, ONCE UPON A TIME WHEN  
4 I WAS A STUDENT, I KNOW THAT POLICE OFFICERS WERE  
5 ROLE MODELS. "WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GROW  
6 UP?" "I WANT TO BE A TEACHER, I WANT TO BE A  
7 FIREMAN, I WANT TO BE A POLICEMAN."

8 NOW NONE OF MY STUDENTS WOULD EVER THINK  
9 OF SAYING THAT THEY WANTED TO BE POLICEMEN. NOT ONLY  
10 WOULDN'T THEY SAY IT BUT THEY KNEW IF THEY DID  
11 EVERYBODY IN THE CLASS WOULD LAUGH AT THEM. THEY  
12 WOULDN'T DARE SAY THAT ANYMORE. AND THAT MEANS  
13 SOMETHING'S CHANGED. I DON'T KNOW WHAT.

14 YOU CAN LOOK IN THE FOOTAGE IN THE  
15 TELEVISION, AND A LOT OF THE PEOPLE DOING THE LOOTING  
16 AND THE VIOLENCE WERE YOUNG PEOPLE. I MEAN THAT'S AT  
17 LEAST WHAT I SAW WHEN I WATCHED TELEVISION, AND I  
18 WATCHED A LOT OF TELEVISION.

19 I DON'T THINK THE POLICE WERE PREPARED  
20 TO DEAL WITH AN EMERGENCY LIKE A RIOT HERE. I DON'T  
21 THINK THEY CAN. AND THE ONE THING I DIDN'T HEAR  
22 ANYBODY SAY, WHICH IS WHY I WANTED TO SPEAK, IS THAT  
23 I DON'T THINK THE SOLUTION IS PREPARING FOR IT. I  
24 THINK THE SOLUTION'S PREVENTING IT FROM HAPPENING IN  
25 THE FIRST PLACE. THEY WERE OVERWHELMED, AND I DON'T

1 THINK THEY COULD REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO DEAL WITH  
2 SOMETHING LIKE WHAT HAPPENED. THERE JUST WEREN'T  
3 ENOUGH. I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD ELIMINATE THE COPS,  
4 BUT MORE OF THEM AREN'T GOING TO MAKE THAT SITUATION  
5 CHANGE. IN THAT SITUATION THEY DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE.  
6 THEY WERE JUST OUTNUMBERED, AND I THINK THE PROBLEM  
7 IS BECAUSE A LOT OF THE PEOPLE DOING THE PROBLEMS  
8 WERE YOUNG PEOPLE. COPS AREN'T A ROLE MODEL TO THEM.  
9 THEY DON'T HAVE MANY OTHER ROLE MODELS ANYMORE. AND  
10 THE REAL ROLE MODELS ARE UNREALISTIC, LIKE SPORTS  
11 FIGURES OR MUSICIANS. THEY'LL NEVER BE THOSE PEOPLE.  
12 WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ROLE MODELS LIKE TEACHERS AND  
13 STUFF LIKE THAT AND POLICEMEN? I THINK THAT WHAT  
14 NEEDS TO BE DONE IS STOPPING IT FROM EVER HAPPENING,  
15 AND THAT MEANS ENSURING THAT THE KIDS WHO GROW UP  
16 AROUND HERE HAVE RESPECT FOR PEOPLE LIKE THAT AND SO  
17 WHEN THEY BECOME ADULTS, PARENTS, THEY'LL PASS THAT  
18 ON TO THEIR CHILDREN, AND IT WON'T BE A QUESTION OF  
19 PREPARING THE POLICE. THEY'LL NEVER HAVE TO COME  
20 BECAUSE THIS WILL NEVER HAPPEN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

21 THANK YOU.

22 CHIEF WILLIAMS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

23 I'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR COMING  
24 OUT, AND YOUR COMMENTS, YOUR REMARKS, HAVE BEEN  
25 EXTRAORDINARILY HELPFUL. THERE ARE MANY, MANY ISSUES

1 THAT YOU SPOKE ABOUT. I REALIZE THAT IF MAYBE  
2 EVERYONE DID NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COME FORWARD,  
3 WE WOULD WELCOME ANY WRITTEN COMMENTARY THAT YOU HAVE  
4 OR THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE TO US. THERE WILL BE  
5 ONE ADDITIONAL HEARING THAT WE WILL HAVE. IF YOU  
6 DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO SPEAK AT THIS HEARING, WE  
7 WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO COME OUT. IF YOU'LL TALK TO  
8 ANYONE WITH A NAME TAG ON, THEY'LL PROVIDE YOU WITH  
9 DETAIL IN TERMS OF WHERE THE HEARING WILL BE, AT WHAT  
10 TIME THE HEARING WILL BE. BUT I JUST WANT TO SAY TO  
11 YOU THAT OUR PURPOSE HERE WAS TO LISTEN. WHAT YOU  
12 SAID HAS BECOME A MATTER OF A RECORD THAT WILL BE  
13 USED TO DEVELOP A VERY IMPORTANT REPORT THAT WILL  
14 REFLECT WHAT OCCURRED DURING THE DISTURBANCES HERE IN  
15 L.A., AND SO THANKS A LOT FOR COMING. THANKS FOR  
16 YOUR PATIENCE, AND THANKS FOR SHARING WITH US YOUR  
17 THOUGHTS AND YOUR INSIGHTS.

18 (THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:30 P.M.)  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25