

NEWS CONFERENCE

September 7, 1967

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR

I have just a single announcement, a very brief one. This concerns the new on-the-job program that you have a release on.

I am very pleased to announce that the Maryland Office of Economic Opportunity has provided \$341,000 in Federal funds to assist employers in hiring disadvantaged persons. Now, this program will furnish about a thousand jobs. And I might indicate, because of the interest in that particular area, that fifty of these opportunities will be in the city of Cambridge.

The purpose is to select individuals who normally would not be employable and, through the Federal grant, to provide them with on-the-job training opportunities so that the small employer can be subsidized during the time they are not making any meaningful economic contribution to the business. I'm very pleased that this program has been made available to Maryland.

I met this morning with Mr. Smith of the Maryland Office of Economic Opportunity to discuss the functions of this district, and also with Mr. Sanchez of the Middle Atlantic States to discuss the OEO program generally. I think our discussions were interesting, and I hope I contributed something to their thinking about the aims of the State of Maryland. Now, I am at your disposal.

Q. Governor Agnew, have you discussed Mr. Muhl's problems with Mr. Pomerleau?

A. I have not. I've turned that matter over to General Burch for investigation. I did meet briefly with Attorney General Burch this morning on several matters, including the current prison probe that's still under way, and I believe that we'll have some result of this particular investigation concerning the Pomerleau matter within a week.

Q. Do you plan to meet with the Commissioner yourself?

A. I would suppose that after the results of the investigation are made known to me there will probably be a need for me to meet with the Commissioner, but I will have to wait and see exactly what Mr. Burch's results are before I make a definite determination.