Giarrusso May

By GENE BOURG

Police Supt. Joseph I. Giarrusso gave strong backing today to a public accommodations ordinance now before the City Council and said he will speak to mayor-nominee Moon Landrieu about staying on as police chief for the next several years.

Giarrusso said he believes the public accommodations ordinance will be passed by the City Council whether or not Councilman Philip C. Ciaccio's amendment to limit enforcement to the downtown area is included.

Ciaccio would restrict the ordinance to bars and similar establishments in the central business district.

GIARRUSSO SAID HE ANTICIPATES "no serious difficulties" from enforcement of the ordinance in heighborhood areas away from the central business district.

At a press conference, Giarrusso said his office has received numerous complaints in the past from visiting Negroes about being barred from business places in the city and that this has been brought to the attention of government officials.

Giarrusso announced several weeks ago he would retire in May, 1970, "I'm more than flattered by Mr. Landrieu's offer to stay on," the police chief said.

Giarrusso emphasized that he is "not being coaxed" to staying in the job nor has he "resorted to subterfuge of any kind," waiting to see who would be elected mayor.

"I WOULD BE LESS THAN HONEST," Giarrusso remarked, "if I said I did not care or would not listen to what Mr. Landrieu would have to say."

