

Senator DOMINICK. Thank you.

Mr. TOBRINER. Senator Dominick, I will be happy to submit for the record the letter to which I referred from the Police Commissioner of New York City to our Police Chief, relative to the satisfactory working of the Sullivan law.

(The letter referred to follows:)

THE POLICE COMMISSIONER,
CITY OF NEW YORK,
March 13, 1963.

MR. ROBERT V. MURRAY,
Chief of Police, Government of the District of Columbia, Metropolitan Police
Department, Washington, D.C.

DEAR BOB: I am enclosing herewith a copy of the penal law of the State of New York, in response to your request relative to the subject of dangerous weapons. Article 172 entitled "Public Safety," beginning with section 1894 through 1899 relates to the so-called Sullivan law. On page 260 there are amendments to some of these sections, which were passed in the legislative session of 1961.

We have had very little opposition from law abiding businessmen and citizens of the city concerning the enforcement of these provisions relative to the possession and carrying of concealable weapons. We have consistently reduced the number of permits we issue and at this time there are only 17,207 in force.

We feel that this law is very desirable as it does keep guns out of the hands of criminal elements to a certain extent. Its effectiveness is undermined by the ease with which pistols and revolvers can be obtained in other jurisdictions. I am sure that the most effective method of control would be through a Federal statute.

It was a great pleasure to see you in Chicago and I am looking forward to seeing you again soon.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL J. MURPHY,
Police Commissioner.

Senator DOMINICK. Let me make some comments on this and perhaps then to ask you some questions.

The Sullivan law has been in effect for a long time in New York. I have not seen any particular decrease in the crime rate in New York that can be attributed to the Sullivan law. But let me also say this, do you have any evidence through the police records or otherwise that the requirement of licensing of people who have guns decreases the number of people who hold guns for felonious intent?

Mr. TOBRINER. We have this evidence, sir, that a recent Senate subcommittee hearing on juvenile delinquency revealed that the police confiscate an estimated 800 to 1,000 handguns here every year.

Senator DOMINICK. Do you feel that this would make it more difficult for you to get those guns?

Mr. TOBRINER. I think, sir, if the proposal that we have suggested is passed it would bring the matter of shipping in guns into the District under the current Federal firearms law which would make it illegal for any dealer to consign or ship a gun to a person who is unlicensed, so that in that respect it would make the out-of-state shipment of guns into the District of Columbia subject to closer surveillance and inspection.

Senator DOMINICK. What do you plan on doing about those who already have guns in the District?

Mr. TOBRINER. We would ask those people to register their guns. This is not only a protection to the public, it is also in my opinion, sir, a protection to the person who owns a gun, in that if that gun is