

STATEMENT OF SHERIFF MICHAEL N. CANLIS, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, STOCKTON, CALIF.; MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS, NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

Sheriff CANLIS. Senator, I am very deeply grateful to you for the opportunity you have provided me to express my views, and those I represent.

I think at the outset here, Senator, may I, for the record, submit a resolution passed by the National Sheriffs' Association in June at Portland, Oreg., at their annual convention.

The CHAIRMAN. The resolution will be received at this point in the record.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION,
Washington, D.C., October 22, 1963.

To: The Senate District of Columbia Committee.

From: The National Sheriffs' Association.

The attached resolution was unanimously adopted by sheriff delegates attending the National Sheriffs' Association's 23d Annual Informative Conference, July 15-17, 1963, in Portland, Oreg.

Respectfully submitted as part of the testimony of Sheriff Michael N. Canlis, Stockton, Calif., representing the National Sheriffs' Association.

Sheriff WILLIAM M. LENNOX,
Philadelphia, Pa., President.

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON, D.C., BE GRANTED SUFFICIENT TIME FOR INTERROGATION OF CRIME SUSPECTS BEFORE ARRAIGNMENT

Adopted by the National Sheriffs' Association, July 17, 1963, at its annual conference held in Portland, Oreg.

Whereas there became effective on March 15, 1963, a ruling by the District of Columbia Commissioners (appointed by the Nation's Chief Executive) upon the recommendation of Charles A. Horsky, Presidential adviser for District affairs (also appointed by the Nation's Chief Executive), that the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia cease and desist from the necessary proven law enforcement practice of interrogating suspects in a crime investigation; and

Whereas the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia operates under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government; and

Whereas the members of this police department before they may interrogate a suspect, must produce him (or her) before a committing magistrate and offer substantial evidence as to the reason for interrogation; and

Whereas this procedure works a hardship upon the officers dedicated to the protection of life, limb, and property resulting, in most instances, in the immediate release of the person or persons who may fall under general suspicion in connection with the committed crime; and

Whereas law enforcement officers are cognizant of the fact that many persons either suspected of being guilty, or who may be totally innocent of a crime having been perpetrated require a reasonable amount of time to interrogate and investigate in order to bring the guilty to justice and release of the innocent; and

Whereas decisions made in the case of handcuffing members of the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, D.C., who, as previously stated, are under Federal jurisdiction and control, will probably be the pattern for all Federal law enforcement officers to follow; and

Whereas it is feared that this pattern may be adopted in State courts and thereby hamstring all law enforcement of this Nation which would redound to the benefit of the law violators: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the National Sheriffs' Association, in national conference, assembled in Portland, Oreg., this 17th day of July 1963, go on official record as opposing the recommendation of the Horsky committee and urge the Congress of the United States to rectify this situation in the Nation's Capital now styled as a "jungle of crime;" and be it further