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and delusional at the time, and this disturbance of thought appeared to be directly related to the homicide. Four persons were primarily in an amphetamine induced emotionally labile state. Paranoid ideation may have been involved in these cases, but it was not the most salient feature. Two persons with low impulse control had also been drinking at the time the homicide occurred. In two cases, homicide was associated with armed robbery and this appeared to be the primary contributing condition. Although the killers were high on amphetamines at the time, it is difficult to assess the relative importance of this and other factors since by far the most important factor was the flow of events associated with the armed robbery. Both of these men stated that they were obtaining money to buy drugs. Twelve of thirteen persons committing homicide were carrying concealed weapons at the time. Many speed users carry weapons, ostensibly for a variety of reasons including: 1) for use in armed robbery; 2) because of their suspiciousness and fears (often he has "heard someone breaking in at night" or he becomes increasingly fearful of his persecutors and begins carrying a gun), and 3) there is a certain amount of "cowboy and Indian" braggadocio involved in carrying guns by speed users. Anyone working with amphetamine addicts will hear stories of individuals sitting all night with a loaded gun waiting for fantasized intruders to enter. Under these conditions, speed freaks have been known to shoot at hallucinated noises or images.

Amphetamine facilitated violence is not peculiar to the United States; similar reports of bizarre aggression as well as homicide come from Sweden, Japan, and England. Noda (1950) reported that during the Japanese epidemic of amphetamine abuse, in a two-month