

here [indicating] leads to Glen Echo on the Cabin John Parkway. There are a number of things to notice on this particular picture.

It may be difficult for some of you to see some of the things I am going to point at. You will notice, first of all, this sign, which is for this lane, [indicating] is not in the gore area, where you usually find a number of signs. They put it over on the right, off the shoulder, and they put a piece of guardrail in front of the sign and flared it back. And yet in that gore area there is a sign which says, "No Hitchhiking," which is mounted on channel irons.

Mr. W. MAY. Mr. O'Hara, for the benefit of some of the visitors here, would you explain what a gore area is?

Mr. O'HARA. Yes. Gore area is an area found on the highway, generally at an interchange area, where the motorist has to make a decision, as for instance here [indicating]. Here is a motorist on a collector-distributor road. He has to make a decision here, whether he wants to go this way to the right or whether he wants to go south on the Capital Beltway with the Cabin John Parkway. This area is known as a gore area [indicating].

Mr. W. MAY. That pie-shaped area.

Mr. O'HARA. That is correct.

Mr. BLATNIK. What is the other phrase that Mr. Linko uses as you approach that type of gore area, with those types of fixed hazards? Is it the area of indecision? Would that be correct, momentarily, for fleeting precious seconds, traveling at 60 miles an hour; momentarily while you are reading, your eyes bounce around, you are looking to the right and the left and at the sign, and you register these impressions; and you are trying to decide, what am I to do, turn off here or next exit?

Mr. O'HARA. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BLATNIK. It is an area, such as the gore area, where four times as many accidents take place, is that not true?

Mr. O'HARA. Yes, sir.

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Prisk, is that correct, gore areas such as this—how do you say it—you have four times the accidents here as any other place on the freeway?

Mr. PRISK. The drivers are four times more frequently running off the roadway at gore areas than other points on the road.

Mr. BLATNIK. Right.

Mr. PRISK. Four times more frequently.

Mr. BLATNIK. Therefore, we have to give at least four times more attention for these areas, for sign construction; would that not be true?

Mr. PRISK. Correct.

Mr. CRAMER. As you indicate, that Glen Echo sign on the left was taken out of the gore area. But it looks like just a little bit beyond the gore area in the line of the curve, they have planted some trees, have they not?

Mr. O'HARA. Are you referring to this area?

Mr. CRAMER. The area to the left.

Mr. O'HARA. There are a number of evergreens and small shrubs in here. There are some small trees at this time.

Mr. CRAMER. Of course they will grow, I presume.

Mr. O'HARA. Yes, they generally do.