

A policy statement may well help insofar as the application of Federal laboratory capabilities to the forensic sciences is concerned. I certainly believe one is long overdue. I believe also that positive encouragement on the part of Government to stimulate Federal laboratory directors to commit funds in this direction is long overdue.

Obviously there are details and implications which must be studied before such a statement can be issued and implemented. The study of these details and of the implications should be undertaken forthwith. Such a study should take into consideration all potential interrelationships—Government and local, Government and university, Government and police, police and university, and others and should examine into management and other organizational aspects of insuring maximum benefits to the Nation from research efforts expended.

The desirability of a Federal laboratory's establishing within its existing information system a clearinghouse or information center on research and development relating to crime control and the improved administration of justice depends upon a number of considerations. Certainly a clearinghouse for this type of information is badly needed. So is training in the use of the needed information badly needed. The agency eventually charged with this responsibility will have to perform a function similar to those of the Education Research Information Center in the U.S. Office of Education, the Communicable Diseases Center, the Armed Forces Technical Information Agency, and Medlars. The operations of these organizations which have had salutary influences on educational, technological, and medical research and the application of the product of research efforts in education, technology, and medicine should provide important guidance for the establishment of such a center.

Whether there is an existing agency capable of taking on this function, I am not prepared to say at this time, but let us find out and let us get going. Crime, like time and tide, is not standing still.

Mr. DADDARIO. Thank you very much, Mr. English.

You pointed out that there are in certain of our national laboratories significant information which, if utilized, could be of tremendous help. Questions of jurisdiction and funding have been discussed in these hearings, and if this information could be made known we should be able to take advantage of it.

Mr. ENGLISH. That is right.

Mr. DADDARIO. We felt that this was so. It has been indicated in a few places that it is, and you give us additional information about it. Your testimony is very significant because obviously if information is obtained, even though it is a byproduct of a mission-oriented laboratory, we ought to be able to handle it and to take advantage of it. This is one of the objectives of this committee.

I apologize that we have to leave because you have some very important information, and I hope that we might get in touch with you with some further questions for the record.

Mr. ENGLISH. Certainly; yes sir.

Mr. DADDARIO. We would like to probe into this further because it is extremely helpful.