

March 21, 1973

(Start of Belt #7)

Senator Chambers, have you got a minute's time? Have you got a minute's time?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Yes, I'd like to ask you a question, if I may.

(Inaudible)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, they could be very useful there and for the reasons that I stated. Often the police who work in our area, meaning the community where I live, have been corrupted and those who haven't been corrupted are known by sight. So it is impossible for them to do any undercover work. They are not respected as law enforcement officials but rather as collaborators with the criminals, so we need to have people to whom...from whom we can demand responsibility as Legislators and who will not be known by the pushers in the community by sight.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Well, now I would like to ask you another question, if I may. During the past several weeks, I think probably over a period of two weeks, three weeks, there have been two, I recall distinctly, two rather lengthy articles in the World Herald. Both of...each of these articles was a story, in each case a woman, in each case a drug addict, in each case the woman was black. One was, approximately, as I recall, 40 years of age. She'd been a drug addict for a long time and then the second one, more recently, was a younger woman, I believe, who had not been a drug addict for probably more than a year. Did you read those stories?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I did.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Are you...now there were no names given, but from your experience would you say those stories are authentic...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: They were not fabricated or made up.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I don't believe so and they could be repeated and duplicated. I don't know how many times.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Yes. All right. Now I would like to ask you this. In each of these cases as I recall, each of these victims...I refer to them as victims, that's certainly what they are...addicts, stated that the drugs on which they thrived or got their habit or became addicted were practically sold in Omaha in your area by people who are seemingly prosperous and their indications of their prosperity are quite...are quite obvious from their dress, automobiles, and manner of living and style of living and so on. Now, is this correct?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, and it causes me to wonder why the Internal Revenue Service will not investigate these people who show these signs of affluence without reporting incomes sufficient to purchase them.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Now, it is...it is certainly..it seems to me it would be true that if it is so obvious, that it must be obvious to many people. There must be some reason. There must be some cause why these people are not caught, prosecuted, and so on.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I say it is police corruption. Unless the only ones on the police force are blind men who cannot see,