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INTERVIEW
OF
THE HONORABLE WILLIAM B. SAXBE
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

WITH
BILL COLE
OF
NATIONAL ENQUIRER

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The Attorney General responded to questions on the following topics:

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. COLE: Well, thanks very much for sparing the
3 time. It's very kind of you.

4 First of all, I just wanted to ask you about some
5 references you made in that speech before the National Asso-
6 ciation of Attorneys General about, I suppose, the "racket"
7 in stolen or counterfeit stocks and securities.

8 I just wondered if, in very simple terms, you know,
9 because most of our readers are just very ordinary people,
10 you could explain just how this racket works; how people come
11 by either the counterfeit or stolen stocks and securities.

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13 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, there's a problem
14 in both stolen securities and counterfeit. They crank off
15 a lot of counterfeit securities, and these are sold and
16 pledged. In practically all of the instances of the stolen
17 securities, the danger is that they are used to secure bank
18 loans. The banks are victimized because there's no way that
19 they know that these are stolen securities.

20
21 MR. COLE: Right.

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: As you know, there
23 are two kinds of securities, generally. There are
24 bearer securities and there are registered securities.

25 The bearer securities comprise about twenty -- what

1 is it, 27 percent? Or is it that much?

2 MR. WEGLIAN: It's hard to say. There's more
3 bearer.

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: But I'm talking about the
5 total number of securities. I guess of the amount stolen,
6 they are a higher proportion, though --

7 MR. COLE: Yes.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: --because they are readily
9 transferable. The registered securities are still
10 valuable, because they can go into a bank and borrow money
11 and use these for security.

12 Of course, the real secret of protection against
13 this is to know who you're dealing with. This is
14 particularly true for banks. The banks that are victimized
15 in this area are banks that do not ascertain that the
16 securities are in the hands of the bona fide owner.

17 Now, on a bearer security, this isn't easy; but, at
18 the same time, it's easy to know who you're dealing with.

19 MR. COLE: Right.

20 There was a figure mentioned of \$50 billion,
21 as to the extent of this kind that goes on. Is that accurate?

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, that's a figure that
23 has arisen in New York by the estimate of the experts
24 there, and we just can't set a figure. We don't know. But I
25 don't think that's a ridiculous figure by any means.

1 MR. COLE: Right.

2 Of course, again, many of our readers are not really
3 involved, because --

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Of course, I might add on
5 this, that many of these securities are stolen and nobody knows
6 it.

7 MR. COLE: Right.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Not even the owners.

9 MR. COLE: Right.

10 How do they actually steal those?

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MR. COLE: Right.

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ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: There are other instances
where they are stolen from people's homes, from their safes,
from their security box, or something like that.

MR. COLE: Yes.

Do you know to what extent organized crime is

1 involved in this? Is there any?

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Yes. Organized crime has
3 entered this field, because this is an area that's very
4 lucrative.

5 We were discussing one particular case where a girl
6 was having difficulty reconciling her records on a certain
7 batch of stock, laid it aside and went to lunch. When
8 she came back, it was gone. And this stock began turning up
9 all over the world!

10 MR. COLE: Yes.

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: The first instance, in
12 Spain, was in -- what?

13 MR. WEGLIAN: Within a month.

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Within a month. And
15 then every place else. It was obviously being distributed
16 by some organized group that had contacts all over the world.

17 MR. COLE: Right. This girl worked in a brokerage
18 firm?

19 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: She worked in a brokerage
20 firm -- or a bank?

21 MR. WEGLIAN: It was a bank.

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: A bank.

23 MR. WEGLIAN: It was bearer; it was Treasury bills.

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: But they were Treasury
25 bills.

1 MR. COLE: I see. Yes.

2 Presumably, some of these, either counterfeit or
3 stolen stocks, end up in the hands of small investors who
4 don't know that they're stolen or counterfeit?

5 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: No. This is not a great
6 area of exploitation.

7 MR. COLE: Oh, I see.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Because most of the small
9 investors operate through brokerage houses.

10 MR. COLE: I see.

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: You can't go up to a person
12 on the street -- or I'm not aware of it -- and say, "How'd
13 you like a hot stock certificate?"

14 [Laughter.]

15 MR. WEGLIAN: The minimal Treasury bill is \$10,000.

16 MR. COLE: Oh, I see.

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And so --

18 MR. COLE: So there's no chance of an ordinary
19 small investor --

20 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: No. The small investor,
21 working through his bank, working through his broker, is
22 protected.

23 MR. COLE: Oh, I see.

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: This is a rip-off on a
25 big scale, and generally the banks are victims.

1 MR. COLE: Yes. I see.

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And the brokerage houses.

3 Now, there are some protective organizations that
4 they've developed to protect investors, working through a
5 brokerage house, --

6 MR. COLE: Yes.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: -- for this loss or any
8 other kind of loss.

9 MR. COLE: Yes.

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Of course,
11 people dealing with banks are protected. So the small
12 investor is not the victim on this rip-off, but on many
13 others.

14 MR. COLE: Right.

15 \$50 billion is an awful lot of money, and it repre-
16 sents a large segment of the economy. What sort of impact
17 do you think it's actually having on inflation? Everybody
18 talks about inflation; and a racket as big as this must
19 affect the economy as a whole, to a degree.

20 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, the impact on this,
21 through the banking and brokerage fields, is in the cost of
22 doing business. And I don't think that the losses that boil
23 down to impact upon business, or on the economy, are
24 substantial. I know fifty billion is a lot of money.

25 MR. COLE: Yes.

1 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: But I just don't think
2 that the impact on the business world is that great, because
3 this is a cumulative figure over many years.

4 MR. WEGLIAN: Right. And it's also missing versus
5 what's actually stolen.

6 MR. COLE: Yes.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: This is all together. And
8 some of it's bookkeeping. We had an instance this week, that
9 I read in the Times, where they got \$5 million worth of stock
10 missing in the Comptroller's office in New York City.

11 MR. COLE: Yes.

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13 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, it turns out
14 that it wasn't, that it was just carelessness, bad bookeeping.

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17 Now, when you say fifty billion, it doesn't mean
18 that somebody's been victimized for fifty billion, it just
19 means that there's fifty billion that we can't account for.

20 MR. COLE: Right.

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: But the people
22 whose stock and bonds this is, or the government, keeps on
23 doing business, presuming that the stock is some place and it
24 is not stolen.

25 MR. COLE: Right.

1 I think that just about covers that.

2 Just again on inflation, talking about inflation,
3 because the Enquirer has been concerned with it just at this
4 time. Is there any evidence to suggest that inflation is
5 actually boosting crime figures, that people are finding it
6 harder to survive, so they are indulging more in crime?

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: We don't have anything that
8 hinges it to inflation, as such. We know that when prices
9 go up, and things get more valuable, that people are attracted
10 to areas that just weren't worthwhile before.

11 MR. COLE: Right.

12
13 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And I think that you
14 could probably develop that thought. For instance, cattle
15 rustling became a problem a year ago when cattle got so
16 expensive: one animal worth five or six hundred dollars.

17 MR. COLE: Right.

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Nobody would take the
19 trouble of stealing it when it was worth fifty dollars; but
20 you get them worth five or six hundred dollars, and it
21 becomes attractive.

22 I think the same thing is true when the price of
23 other articles goes up: luxuries, automobiles, all of these
24 things.

25 But there's a de minimis, too, on this. When grand

1 larceny was anything over \$35 --

2 MR. COLE: Right.

3 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: -- it was pretty hard to
4 make a case; but if you think, my goodness, a pair of shoes
5 is worth \$35 or more.

6 MR. COLE: Right.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: So people are not going to
8 commit a felony for \$35.

9 MR. COLE: Right.

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And it works both ways.

11 MR. COLE: Isn't the crime rate actually
12 going up?

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, our statistics
14 indicate that there has been an increase in the last quarter
15 of last year and the first quarter of this. Now, we're going
16 into this right now; we find that in 15 or 20 cities in this
17 country, over the last year, it's actually gone down. In
18 Gary, Indiana, crime has gone down 22 percent in the last
19 year.

20 It's spotty, and indicates to us that there is
21 some failure in who keeps the statistics.

22 MR. COLE: Right.

23 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: In other words, if you have
24 an incumbent mayor running for re-election, there seems to be
25 a connectible result that the crime figures always go down.

1 MR. COLE: Right.

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: If, on the other hand,
3 for some reason the administration is changed and it's in
4 different hands, it goes up.

5 MR. COLE: Yes.

6 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: There's a lot
7 of fault in the bookkeeping. Because, what is burglary;
8 what's breaking-and-entering?

9 Now, if you break that window where the latch is,
10 that's burglary. If you break it down here, it's destruction
11 of property.

12 MR. COLE: Right.

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Because, up there, the
14 police say, "Well, he was breaking that to get his hand on
15 the latch."

16 MR. COLE: Yes.

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: So we are dealing with
18 rather inaccurate figures.

19 Now, I concede that the crime rate is going up, and
20 I think that there are several reasons for this, many of
21 them social, which I'm not going to talk about: I'm talking
22 about unemployment; I'm talking about an attitude that "if
23 they can get away with this stuff in Washington, why,
24 can't I?"

25 There are things in law enforcement, too, that tend

1 to let it increase. One is, as inflation increases, we don't
2 have the money to hire the police. We raise their pay, and
3 we have to slack off on hiring more police. The cost of
4 prosecution increases. We don't have the prosecutors and the
5 investigators, because inflation eats it up.

6 So if we don't keep increasing our appropriations
7 by what inflation goes up, then we are actually decreasing our
8 active law enforcement people on the street, the high
9 visibility people.

10 Now, there are some who will tell you -- and
11 can substantiate their figures -- that the tremendous amounts
12 of money that we've spent over the last five years, have
13 almost been entirely eaten up by increased pay, increased
14 training, increased automotive costs, increased communica-
15 tions costs, all of these increases. And we don't have the
16 commensurate lick, clout, that the increased budget, you
17 would believe, would give us.

18 In other words, it's a blotter that soaks it
19 up, without increasing our effectiveness.

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22 And of course to overcome that we'd have to have a
23 massive influx of new money. I mean, almost double the
24 money.

25 Now, we've seen here in Washington, D. C., we can

1 hold the crime rate down. But we've got the highest per-
2 capita police, in numbers, of any place in the country.
3 We have 44 judges on the Superior Court here. If you
4 go to another town of this size, say Columbus or Toledo,
5 maybe they will have a dozen judges.

6 MR. COLE: Yes.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And the prosecutorial
8 staff here, as far as the Federal Attorney's office, he's
9 got 200 attorneys, and I would guess that in Columbus or
10 Toledo, Ohio, where the population is approximately the
11 same, they wouldn't have -- what -- a fifth of that.

12
13 MR. COLE: Yes.

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Or a tenth.

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16 So we know that a massive influx of dough works
17 because the increase in crime here in Washington went down by
18 a third and stayed down.

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20 MR. COLE: The increase went down?

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: No, the total amount.

22 MR. COLE: The total amount.

23 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Went down and stayed down.

24 MR. COLE: Yes.

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And stayed down in the

1 last year.

2 MR. COLE: So that would appear to be the answer,
3 then, a kind of --

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, that's partially the
5 answer. But you have to be realistic. We just can't afford
6 to do this nationally.

7 MR. COLE: Right.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And the cities have shown
9 little inclination to do it, because the councils and the
10 people just won't put up the money to do it.

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12 MR. COLE: Right.

13 How much has the police force gone up in Washington,
14 percentage-wise?

15 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, I would guess it's
16 gone up at least 30 percent. There's 4700 police here now.
17 I think it went up there from 2500 or 3,000.

18 I'll tell you another reason that we worry about
19 the crime increase. What money we have spent, we've almost
20 entirely dumped it into police, making them better catchers
21 of criminals.

22 We have neglected the prosecution, and we have
23 neglected the courts and the prisons.

24 In New York there's -- I believe this is approxi-
25 mately correct -- there's 20 murders for every prosecutor,

1 or 30, something like this. And a murder trial is a lengthy,
2 involved thing, demanding the best attention of a prosecutor.

3 Now, we've jacked up the ability to catch criminals,
4 but we have neglected the ability to prosecute them in some
5 instances.

6 And then we walk the line here in this country, and
7 we want to be sure we recognize it, that the last thing that
8 we want is a police state.

9 We want adequate, visible law enforcement. But we
10 don't want to give up our liberties to have this. We don't
11 want people meddling in our lives, and we don't want to have
12 the omnipresent policeman, a Big Brother, on every corner.

13 So, to say: Well how can you stop crime? You can
14 stop crime, but you have to add to it: How can you stop
15 crime without losing your liberties?

16 MR. COLE: Yes.

17 Money isn't necessarily the only answer, is it?

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: No. And there's a limit
19 to what money can do.

20 MR. COLE: Are there any other steps you can take
21 to make sure the streets are safer to walk on?

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, there's a lot of
23 social things that have always been of concern. This is
24 one of the big efforts of the Great Society, as you know; the
25 Job Corps and others, to hire these people to be good.

1 And you give them regular, well-paid employment -- or they
2 attempted to do that; it didn't turn out that way. And you
3 give them trades and skills. You try to hold the family
4 together. You try to get community pressure, peer pressure;
5 this is all very important. These are social things, and are
6 extremely important. And this is why our situation isn't
7 comparable to any place else in the world because we do not
8 have a homogenous society.

9 Any place you go, almost in the world, outside of
10 Canada and the United States, there is a family responsibility
11 that's not only recognizable but it's working -- a family
12 identification and a family pressure: "I don't want Joe to
13 go bad, because it would disgrace me in the eyes of my
14 neighbors and friends."

15 Now, don't underestimate this. In many countries
16 of the world there is tremendous religious pressure, and we
17 have lost a great deal of this: religious pressure to live
18 by certain tenets. In the Moslem world and the Buddhist world,
19 this is important. And in many parts of the world there are
20 tribal pressures. In Africa, and a great many other parts of
21 the world, the tribal leadership is the only honor available,
22 and it's not available to crooks.

23 MR. COLE: Yes. That appears to be anything --

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And then the peer
25 pressure.

1 MR. COLE: Yes. There doesn't seem to be anything
2 here. I think what you're saying is that there doesn't seem
3 to be anything here that binds people together.

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, we have broken most
5 of our traditional ethnic and religious ties. And we've lost
6 a lot of our family responsibility.

7 MR. COLE: Right.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Now, this is the pressure
9 of becoming industrialized.

10 MR. COLE: Yes.

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Because the pressures of
12 agrarian life pull the family together; the pressures of
13 industrial life pull the family apart.

14 MR. COLE: Yes.

15 Is there any way you can see of getting the families
16 together again?

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, of course, this
18 is not my area of responsibility. But it's something that I
19 think a lot about. And when children are raised almost as
20 a luxury, as they are in this country, it's difficult to do.

21 MR. COLE: Money, of course, is very important
22 in attacking crime. If you can't get any money, or any more
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1 money, what's the next step?

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, we have tremendous
3 resources of money, when you calculate what the cities
4 spend in the political subdivisions.

5 Now, one thing you've got to remember, that the
6 federal government has very little direct impact on law
7 enforcement. Our total people in law enforcement, in drugs,
8 the FBI, the Marshals, in all of the fringe security
9 agencies and everything else, is less than the police force
10 of New York. So law enforcement is a local matter.
11 Basically it should be, because this is where the rights of
12 individuals can be safeguarded and is a basic community
13 responsibility.

14 Now, the response in most cities is pretty good.
15 They're spending tremendous amounts of money. It's going to
16 take a while to upgrade police.

17 You know, years ago you had one old guy, who was in
18 a small town, he was the policeman, he swept out the City
19 Hall, he was a good old guy; but that's all they needed.

20 MR. COLE: Yes.

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And that's why they had
22 him. He didn't cost much, because he didn't have much to do.
23 In New York, the friendly cop on the beat, who knew the kids,
24 who kind of took an interest in family affairs; all of these
25 things, like "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn", if you remember, --

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MR. COLE: I saw that.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: -- made a policeman a friendly, walk-around kind of a guy; but that's all they needed.

MR. COLE: Yes.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Now, as the speed of the centrifuge throws our society apart, we need an extremely capable and tough law enforcement guy. He has to know community relations, psychology; he has to be capable of great physical effort, when needed; good sense; he has to be a witness, a collector of expert testimony.

Now, you don't get these people overnight.

What I'm saying is that I believe that we are improving steadily, and that even if no great massive injections of money are available -- which I'm not adverse to, but I'm trying to be practical in saying we're not going to get it -- that we will gradually identify these problems and train and equip to meet them.

All right, now we've got the police operating fairly well. We've got to bring the prosecution up to speed. Then we've got to bring the courts up to speed. I'd like to do it all at once. But we're doing it, we're moving ahead. We're not losing the battle on crime.

1 MR. COLE: Right.

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Now, if we lose it, it's
3 not going to be because of the failure of our law enforcement,
4 it's going to be because of the overwhelming social problems.
5 And these are not just problems for the United States.

6 In the New York Times this Sunday there was a story
7 about Communist China, and the problem of the youths on the
8 corner -- the insecure, the bored. And you go here in Washing-
9 ton and you see them around. This is the source of crime,
10 between 15 and 25. They're bored, they're turned off, they're
11 looking for adventure.

12 The frontier used to absorb these people. And the
13 wars have, and other things.

14 Today they're there on that corner and they're
15 looking for mischief.

16 Now, in China, they've hit on what they consider the
17 great step forward in packing them all up, putting them on
18 the train and sending them out to the country to hoe the
19 potatoes. And try to sell them on what a great concept this
20 is, of how they're really bailing the country out, and so on.

21 Well, they may be able to do it. We'll see. But
22 we couldn't do that. We couldn't pack them off to CCC camps
23 today.

24 So we've got a social problem on our hands that law
25 enforcement alone is not going to solve.

1 Now, this same situation exists in most of the
2 countries of the world today.

3 MR. COLE: Yes.

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Oh, there are the
5 countries with strong ethnic drives to produce and to work,
6 like Japan; but the student groups in South America are
7 the ones that are raising the hell. They're the ones that
8 are rioting.

9 No one knows what to do with them. You put a
10 totalitarian government on top of them and pressure them and
11 control them. I mean, we've seen that happen, and it happens
12 in most of your Iron Curtain countries, and your totalitarian
13 countries in South America and elsewhere. And if they get
14 out of line, you shoot them.

15 MR. COLE: Right.

16 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Now, we can't do this,
17 either; we don't want to. We have to find some way that we
18 can bring them into the mainstream. There's been a lot of
19 talk about it; nobody has found the handle.

20 But that's beyond law enforcement. I'm talking
21 about something else.

22 MR. COLE: Yes.

23 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: And this problem exists
24 all over the world.

25 Now, most of the other countries are not worrying

1 about crime so much, because their families would not tolerate
2 them getting into crime: in China and in South America,
3 petty thievery and rape and larceny and burglary and all kinds
4 of things. That's still subject to great peer criticism.

5 What they're afraid of is political activity.

6 MR. COLE: Yes.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, here where we don't
8 have the ethnic persuasion and the peer persuasion, we're
9 worried about the criminal proclivity, not the political
10 proclivity. We went through a period of embryonic political
11 proclivity and activity or political activism. But no one
12 really got turned on about that.

13 But the crime thing is there.

14 MR. COLE: I just wondered if I could ask you about
15 the moral standards in the country. Do you feel that in the
16 light of everything that's been going on, Watergate and so on,
17 that there has been a lowering of moral standards generally
18 among people who have been disillusioned, so to speak?

19 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: I'm in no position to judge
20 that.

21 MR. COLE: Yes.

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: There are some who would
23 say that the increased crime rate is caused by that. I
24 wouldn't question but what it might be a factor, but
25 I don't think that's the answer.

1 MR. COLE: Right.

2 Just going back to the original -- to underscore
3 something --

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Yes. Well, here we are,
5 talking about everything but the securities.

6 MR. COLE: Yes. And just going back to that, could
7 you just tell me, in simple terms, what the Justice Department
8 intends to do about that? I know there is a feeling now;
9 it's rather complicated. I just wondered if it's possible to
10 explain if there's any feasible --

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, of course, what we
12 can do in law enforcement is to help in screening the employees.

13 MR. COLE: Yes.

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: We're already doing this in
15 some of the institutions, the banks, and we give them
16 screening. There are other means that are being recommended
17 to Congress, that we could do it for brokerage houses.
18 That's not possible yet. And also to get fingerprints on these
19 people, for quick identification.

20 But we're talking about criminal things now within
21 themselves. What we recommend first is to try to get some
22 kind of central clearing for missing securities -- not
23 necessarily stolen. There is some attempt to do this at the
24 present time.

25 On the NCIC we do carry records of stolen securities

1
2 that have been verified. But there are a great many missing
3 securities. Now, the brokerage houses and the banks have a
4 private record, where they can handle some of the references
5 on missing securities.

6 We think that the trend away from the certificates
7 is good, just making bookkeeping entries on this, so that the
8 bearer bonds and so on will just not be available for this.

9 And then the training of banks and other institutions
10 to know their people, and to be security-minded. All of these
11 things.

12 Of course, the basic law enforcement function is
13 trying to catch these people and prosecute them, which this
14 gentleman here is involved with. And he can give you a
15 lot more information on that end of it than I can, because
16 they actually deal with criminals in trying to apprehend
17 them.

18 MR. COLE: Just one final question -- actually two.
19 In the light of accusations made of former Attorneys General,
20 do you feel confident that people still respect the Justice
21 Department as an institution?

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, this is something
23 that I can't be the judge of. I'd like to think that we're
24 steering a course that will inspire confidence.

25 MR. COLE: Do you still have a lot of confidence in

1 America as a country?

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: I do. And in American
3 justice. I think it's the fairest. It's hard to administer,
4 because we've built into it a great deal of protective
5 devices, but I think it will survive, and that's my
6 purpose here, to make it work.

7 MR. COLE: If someone was to ask you what's right
8 with America as opposed to what's wrong with it, what would
9 you say in defending the country as a whole?

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Well, I've traveled all
11 over the world many times. There's no country that approaches
12 America, that I've been to, in the freedom of choices available
13 to the individual, the right to determine his own life, and
14 also the availability of more goods, more services to more
15 people, than any place in the world.

16 Sure, we have those areas that we aren't proud of,
17 and we have those people who fall below what we would like
18 to see, the standard we'd like to live; but there are more
19 people here that enjoy more of the fruits of enterprise and
20 industry, and civilization, than any place in the world.

21 MR. COLE: Do Americans have qualities which could
22 be cited, you might say, is there anything particular unique
23 about Americans as a whole?

24 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Oh, I think the Americans
25 are unique. We're the best of a hundred different races

1 and clans here. The people who came here were unwill-
2 ing to put up with the things that they didn't like
3 in their country. And so I think we do have a great industry-
4 minded and work-minded people, who have put together a pretty
5 good system.

6 MR. COLE: Do they have any other qualities?
7 Generosity springs to mind.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Oh, sure. They have many
9 qualities. I think there's more concern in this country, by
10 the average person, for another than most places.

11 Now, I know this is hard to find in cities like
12 Washington and New York, but it's still there. And I think
13 there's a basic decency here, and I hope we never lose it.

14 MR. WEGLIAN: I see that your family has stayed
15 around Mechanicsville --

16 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Mechanicsburg.

17 MR. WEGLIAN: -- Mechanicsburg, around 150 years.

18 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: Yes.

19 MR. WEGLIAN: I think this reflects a big departure
20 in the way of life.

21 ATTORNEY GENERAL SAXBE: For me it is!

22 Well, I'm going to have to --

23 MR. COLE: I think that covers it. Thank you very
24 much indeed.