

the law enforcement, which is not understood by many people, is viewed as a luxury. There was a young lad in my district who died here about a month ago because he was lost on his way home from a party and he froze...he died from exposure. Had the...and, in fact, it was the same day that the present helicopter was up at Omaha because the President was in town, but had the patrol had this equipment properly equipped, they could have located that young lad. He would be alive today perhaps. I'm not just going to try to draw upon your sympathy, but the point is this, that the helicopter, as it is equipped today, is a vital arm of law enforcement in most states and with many police departments. And I want to say also that an 11-year-old helicopter or a 13-year-old helicopter can be maintained and stay in good condition, but I want to emphasize that there comes a time with all equipment...Senator Warner mentioned his automobile with 80,000 miles on the odometer that actually has 180,000 miles on it. We all drive those kind of cars from time to time but if the engine quits or something quits on that, you just pull over to the side of the road and catch a ride. If something goes wrong with a helicopter, ladies and gentlemen, it isn't that easy. Remember also that this equipment is usually used under extreme conditions. Now, from time to time, they use it for transportation and an 11 or 12 or 13-year-old helicopter, under those conditions, good weather conditions and that sort of thing, no problem at all, no problem at all, under most conditions. But when you operate equipment under stress conditions you ought to have good equipment. I would ask most of you if you would want to go out in the evening when it's dark, bad weather and try to pick up someone off of a sand bar, which the patrol has done, or try to pick someone up out of a tight situation with an 11, or 12, or 13-year-old piece of equipment under you. I don't think you would want to ride with that pilot no matter how good he is. You would just as soon stay on the ground and let that gentleman operate that equipment himself. I want to point out that if we do not keep this equipment current, then you ought to tie the thing to a tree and say use only under ideal conditions because the time will come, the time will come, ladies and gentlemen, I promise you, the time will come when under tough conditions something is going to give out and someone, hopefully it will not happen, but it is very likely that someone could have to put a ship down and not do it the way you would like to do it and could even cost a life or more than one life. I think you ought to review this very carefully. You need not spend a million perhaps at this time because there is a waiting period, you have to put some