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Police Interrogation Privileges and Limitations: An International Symposium

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**POLICE INTERROGATION PRIVILEGES AND LIMITATIONS:
AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**

During 1960, Northwestern University School of Law conducted an International Conference on Criminal Law Administration. With the aid of a grant from the Ford Foundation, lawyers and professors from the United States and seven foreign countries were brought to the Law School for this meeting, which was one of a series of conferences and lectures sponsored by the school in observance of its one-hundredth anniversary.

One of the Conference sessions was devoted to the topic, "Police Interrogation Privileges and Limitations." In this connection, the participants were asked to consider the following questions: (1) Should the police be permitted an opportunity to interrogate an arrested person prior to taking him before a magistrate for a preliminary hearing? If so, should the provision for such delay be general (e.g., a "reasonable time" or "without unnecessary delay") or specific (e.g., four hours, twelve hours, or twenty-four hours)? (2) Should an arrestee be entitled to counsel prior to his preliminary hearing? If so, what legal or ethical concepts should govern the prosecutor and defense counsel in their dealings with the arrestee during this prehearing period? (3) What legal remedies should be available to an accused person who confessed to a crime during a period of police detention which extended beyond prescribed limits? Should he be entitled to have the confession suppressed?

The papers of the Conference participants dealing with the above questions and related problems are reproduced in the following pages: A summary of the American law relating to the topic, prepared by Professor Gerhard O. W. Mueller of the Law School of New York University, appears at the outset. Professor Mueller's report is followed by policy-oriented papers delivered by the two American participants in the Conference who discussed police interrogation privileges and limitations, Bernard Weisberg of the Chicago Bar and Professor Fred E. Inbau of Northwestern University School of Law. The symposium concludes with reports by the seven foreign participants concerning the law of their countries with respect to police interrogation.

A subsequent number of the *Journal* will contain the papers of American and foreign participants in the Conference discussing "The Exclusionary Rule Regarding Illegally Seized Evidence." Articles dealing with "The Concept of the Privilege Against Self-Incrimination" appeared in Volume 51, Number 2 (July-August, 1960), of the *Journal* at pages 129-188. Papers concerning "Police Detention and Arrest Privileges" were published in Volume 51, Number 4 (November-December, 1960), at pages 385-440.—EDITOR.