

# How FBI Probed Speech By Justice Dept. Official

## Washington

Two months after he made a speech in Williamsburg, Va., last January, Justice Department official Donald E. Santarelli was the object of FBI inquiries into what she said in the speech and in interviews with newsmen, it was learned yesterday.

An FBI agent questioned a newspaper reporter in Newport News, Va., about what Santarelli said to newsmen, and about how the 36-year-old administrator of Justice's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration deviated from the text of his speech.

FBI officials here acknowledged that an agent was detailed to "go behind" Santarelli's appearance at a national law enforcement conference in Williamsburg on January 14.

FBI spokesman George Quinn said the inquiry was promoted by harsh criticism of Santarelli's speech by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the largest and most prestigious group of U.S. police officials.

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Quinn said that IACP President Francis B. Looney, deputy New York City police commissioner, complained in a news release that Santarelli's assertions that crime is rising nationally here is "extremely negative" and "generalized."

Quinn said the agent's investigation has intended to clear up confusion within the bureau over what Santarelli actually said in the Williamsburg speech.

The spokesman denied that the special agent's inquiries had anything to do with Santarelli's frequent criticism of the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, or with long-standing animosities between Santarelli and some FBI officials.

"We are trying discreetly trying to find out exactly what it was he said in Williamsburg. It's as simple as that," Quinn said.

Gus Edwards, a reporter

for the Newport News Times-Herald, who covered the Williamsburg conference, said that in March he was contacted by an FBI agent and was asked questions about the speech and remarks that Santarelli made to newsmen.

The agent, Gentry Lowe of the Newport News FBI field office, also asked whether Santarelli had deviated from his prepared text, and about the audience reaction to the speech, Edwards said.

The reporter said he gave Lowe a copy of the text, but did not respond to questions about what Santarelli said in a brief interview with several newsmen.

The FBI headquarters here said that Lowe's inquiry was apparently authorized by a supervisor in the FBI's computer systems

division in reaction to the news release the police chiefs' organization issued about three weeks after the Williamsburg speech.

The FBI inquiry came several months before the beginning of Santarelli's outspoken criticism of the way President Nixon has handled the Watergate scandals.

*Washington Post*

## Aid for Ethiopia

### Addis Ababa

The United States Agency for International Development and four United Nations agencies have pledged a total of \$72 million in long-term loans and grants to Ethiopia for famine relief and rehabilitation.

*Associated Press*