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# VIOLENT CRIMES UP 11% IN NATION

## F.B.I. Also Cites Slayings of 80 Policemen This Year

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29 (AP) — Violent crime increased 11 per cent in this country during the first half of 1971, outpacing a 7 per cent rise in all serious crime, the Federal Bureau of Investigation reported today.

The over-all 7 per cent increase in serious crimes com-

pared with an 11 per cent increase during the first six months of 1970, but the rise in violent crimes exceeded the 10 per cent level last year.

Attorney General John N. Mitchell, who released the F.B.I.'s six-month crime figures, said:

"The continuing upward trend illustrates that crime is still one of our foremost problems," Mitchell said, "but the decelerating rate of increase [in over-all crime] provides a basis for cautious optimism."

In a new addition to its mid-year crime report, the F.B.I. noted that 80 law-enforcement officers were murdered in the first eight months of 1971. One hundred were murdered during all of 1970, with 67 of these

being killed in the corresponding eight-month period, the F.B.I. said.

Hitherto information on police deaths has been made available only in the agency's annual crime report, which is issued seven to eight months after the close of a calendar year.

Of the 80 policemen murdered between January and August of this year, 96 per cent were killed with a firearm, it was pointed out.

Thirty-three of the victims came from the Southern states, 18 from the North - Central states, 16 from the Northeastern states and 13 from Western states.

The 11 per cent rise in violent crimes in the six-month

period included a 14 per cent increase in robbery, 10 per cent increase in murder and assault and a 7 per cent increase in rape.

It was also reported that over-all property crime rose by 6 per cent. This included increases of 7 per cent for burglary, 6 per cent for larceny and 2 per cent for auto theft.

In the mid-year report, the F.B.I. does not list the numbers of crimes reported in the country as a whole. The percentage increases reflect comparisons of numbers reported in the six-month period this year with the numbers reported during the six-month period last year.

The nation's largest cities, those with a population of 250,000 or more, experienced

an over-all 3 per cent increase in serious crimes, it was said. Suburban areas surrounding large cities reported an increase of 10 per cent in serious crime, and crime in the rural areas was up 8 per cent.

The Justice Department, in a news release attached to the F.B.I. statistical summary, said 53 of the nation's 155 cities with populations of more than 100,000 reported fewer crimes during the first six months of 1971 than in the same period last year.

For 24 of those cities, the decrease in crime during the first six months of the year was the second in a row, the Justice Department said.