

Police kill theft suspect after high-speed chase

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From there, the pursuit turned into a high-speed chase as the car roared westward on I-696 through Warren and Madison Heights, turning south on Dequindre through Hazel Park and into Detroit.

IN DETROIT, on Dequindre just north of State Fair, a tire on the Thunderbird blew out and the car veered into a Standard service station, crashing into a masonry wall.

As three police cars screeched to a stop, Johnson got out of the car and ran. Police said two St. Clair Shores officers shouted halt several times before firing at Johnson. The two other men in the Thunderbird surrendered after the shooting.

Police said Johnson, struck in the head by a bullet, fell dead. Police said no gun was found on Johnson nor was one found in the Thunderbird.

Johnson's mother, Mrs. Rosetta Johnson of Detroit, said later that her son was married. She said he and his wife, Mary, 25, were the parents of a daughter, Meridith, 5.

Johnson's mother said he had worked at the Ford Rouge Plant, but was either laid off or on sick leave.

JOHN JOHNSON, 20, the victim's brother, said he believed the police shooting was unnecessary because

Theodric Johnson "never carried a gun. This is an open and shut case of overreacting, and I'm going to get those cops' butts — legally."

John Johnson said his brother, a Pershing High School graduate and an Army veteran, had been in trouble with the law. He said his brother had been sent to the Detroit House of Correction three times and once had been sent to an Upper Peninsula state prison camp, each time for shoplifting. His brother served a total of about three years, he said.

"I know he was wrong for stealing," John Johnson said, "but that cop was wrong to shoot an unarmed person."

THEODRIC JOHNSON'S DEATH was the latest resulting from high-speed police pursuit through southeastern Michigan streets. The last occurred last January when a 41-year-old Livonia woman was killed after her auto was rammed broadside by a car in which two armed robbery suspects were fleeing Livonia police. Mrs. Mary Bernard, mother of three, was killed on Merriman near the I-96 service drive.

Probably the most controversial high-speed death was that of a Chrysler executive on Oct. 22, 1980.

In that case, a suspected shoplifter driving his car at an estimated 100 miles an hour, collided at Eight Mile near Mt. Elliott with a van driven by James R. Henning, 36, of Clawson. Center Line police were chasing the suspect's car when the accident occurred.

Henning, father of three children, was killed. Richard J. Griscer, driver of the pursued car, died several days later.

A recent federal study reported that there are more than 500,000 high-speed pursuits by police annually and that an average of 8,000 end in crashes, scores of them fatal.



ROSETTA JOHNSON: Victim's mother.

Aid for El Salvador clears Senate panel

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Reagan's proposed new military aid for El Salvador won its first test with a 6-2 approval yesterday by a Senate subcommittee.

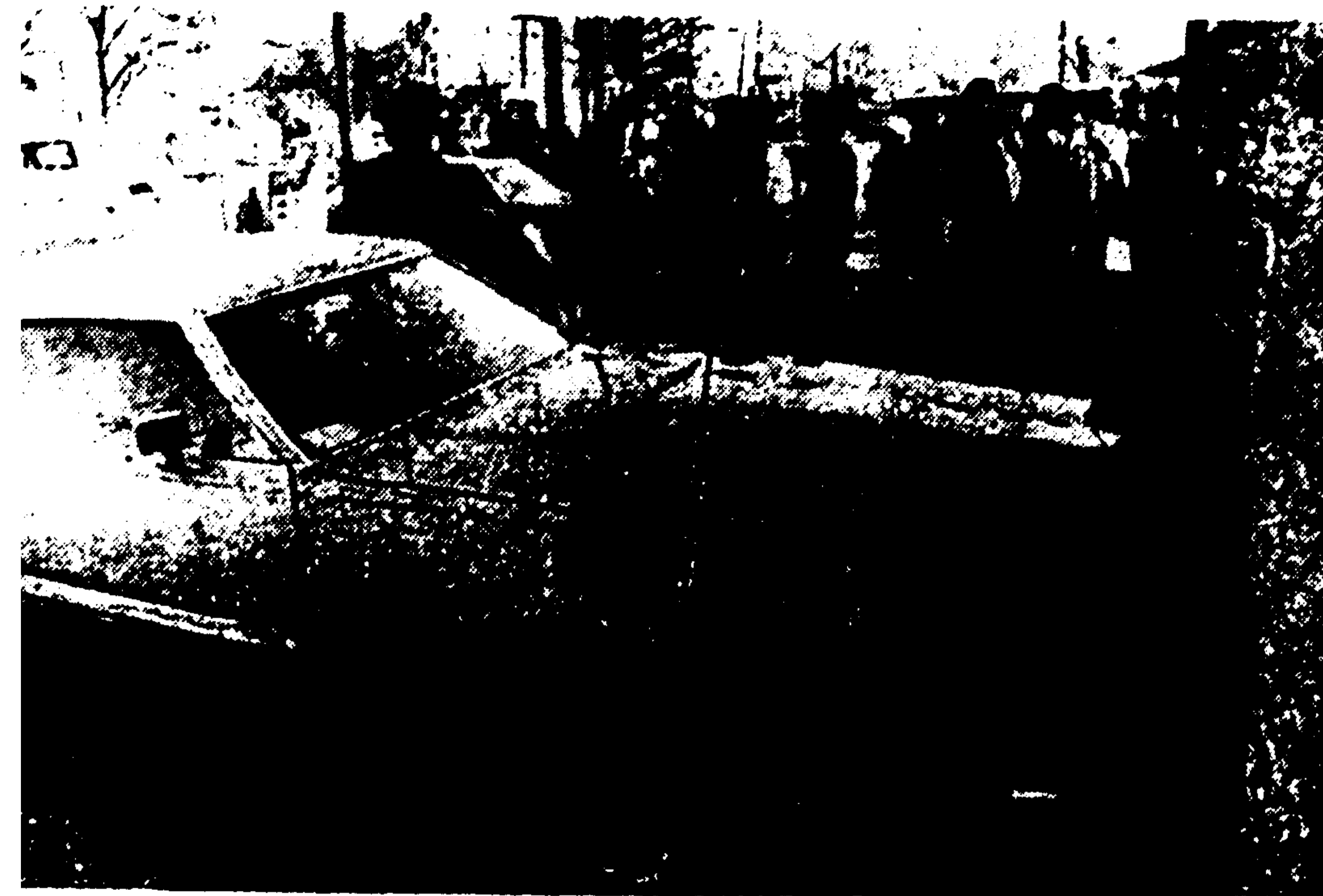
The vote by the Senate foreign relations appropriations subcommittee means the administration will be allowed to provide \$5 million in military aid to the Central American nation.

A similar House subcommittee plans to take its vote next Tuesday.

The president used his emergency authority to send 20 additional military advisers and \$20 million in military aid to El Salvador.

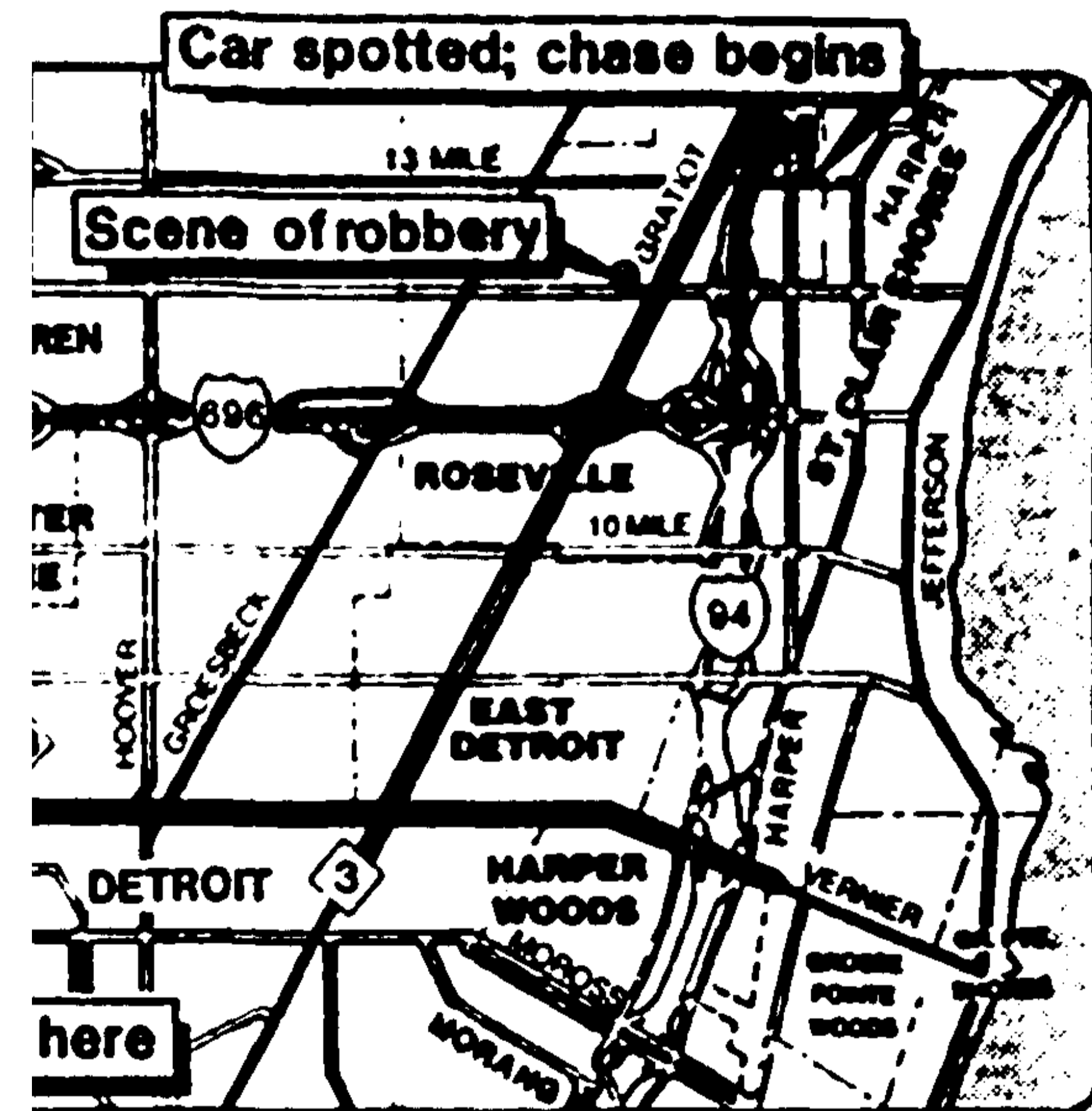
But the \$5 million was subject to veto by the two subcommittees because it is being redirected from other programs for which it was appropriated by Congress.

The \$5 million is earmarked for patrol boats, helicopters, radar units, vehicles and other equipment to help Salvadoran forces counter infiltration of guerrillas into the country.



NEWS PHOTOS / SCOTT RANDLE

ashed at service station at Dequindre and State Fair.



NEWS MAP / KENNETH KNIGHT



Meat found in car.

abusers are starting young

compiled by the National... reveal, for instance, 10ths out of a popula... he ages of 12 and 17... 7.3 million.

● The easy availability of alcohol and drugs.
 ● And the trend toward two-income families which often results in less adult supervision of youngsters.
 "The pressure is on kids today," said Joanne M. Lindensmith, substance abuse coordinator at Common Ground, a crisis intervention center for teens in Birmingham. "They're worried. The world is a

many options to handle stress. They don't have to turn to alcohol and drugs.
 "Sometimes just a good, long talk with an adult will resolve a problem. But parents have to work at it. They've got to try to be more understanding of their child's problems."
 Tomorrow: One youngster's battle