

# The SHIELD

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SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION

TOLEDO, OHIO

DECEMBER 1978—JANUARY 1979

## Project OFF Official Fencing Force

Early in 1977 the Toledo Police Division became aware of the need to do something about the ever declining amount of stolen property that was being recovered. As an example: in 1976, over \$5,500,000.00 of property was reported stolen to the Toledo Police Division. Of that amount, only \$185,000.00 worth of stolen property was recovered, a very disappointing 3.26%.

This writer heard about and contacted Lt. Robert Arscott of the Washington Metropolitan Police Department who had successfully operated Sting One and Sting Two in that city. Lt. Arscott was secretly brought into Toledo where he showed a select group of City officials and Police Officers how Sting One and Two were set up and the result of those operations. As a result of that meeting, connections

were made with L.E.A.A. (Law Enforcement Assistance Administration) on the feasibility of a federal grant to operate a sting operation by the Toledo Police Division. Preliminary negotiations were begun with the F.B.I., as the Federal Grant required that a federal law enforcement agency must be a full partner in any such grant.

Thus Project O.F.F. (Official

Fencing Force) came into being. In order to provide a cover for the several Toledo police officers to be used in Operation O.F.F. the chief of Police created the Toledo Police Property Recovery Unit. This took place in April of 1977. The primary function of this unit was Operation O.F.F. However, the unit was also to engage that portion of the community who bought, stored or sold stolen property in or out of the Toledo area.

Members of the property recovery unit traveled to: Atlanta, Georgia...Norfolk, Virginia...Dade County, Florida...and Washington D.C. where they observed undercover operations operating successfully in those cities at that time.

In August of 1977, negotiations with the F.B.I. were completed and a federal grant application was sent to Washington D.C. The grant was approved for a period of one year, effective September 1, 1977.

One of the first things that had to be done was to select an administrative site outside of the city limits where both property recovery officers and F.B.I. agents could work together secretly and use this site to store equipment and property that was going to be recovered. A building was selected in Northwood, Ohio under the phony name of H.O.F.F. and Associates. (Hoff stood for Headquarters Official Fencing Force.) Remodeling then took place. Several offices were installed and all work was done by project personnel.

The next step consisted of obtaining 2 undercover counter men who would be the up-front people of H.O.F.F. and Assoc. group. O.F.F. could not take a chance that anyone entering the buy site would recognize any Toledo police officer or any local F.B.I. agent. 2 men were selected from the east coast to come to Toledo and become the buy men.

Next, O.F.F. started to look for a buy-site in which to operate. This took a few weeks and finally a

## I.C.P.A. Disbands — I.U.P.A. Votes to Affiliate With AFL-CIO

By George Gerken, V.P., T.P.P.A.

In a surprise move the International Conference of Police Associations (I.C.P.A.) officers, staff, and a majority of the member associations voted to resign from the beleaguered I.C.P.A. and formed a new national union, The International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.). Immediately following the formation of the I.U.P.A. the members voted to affiliate with the AFL-CIO. A letter from AFL-CIO president George Meany was then read to the delegates stating that if the organization could show itself financially sound then an AFL-CIO charter would be extended to the organization.

Prior to the Phoenix meeting the I.C.P.A. was embattled by disputes over the AFL-CIO affiliation. In Toronto at a regular yearly meeting of the I.C.P.A. a vote to affiliate was taken and passed. The member organizations voting against the affiliation then went to the N.Y. district federal court and sought an injunction against any move by the I.C.P.A. to join the AFL-CIO.

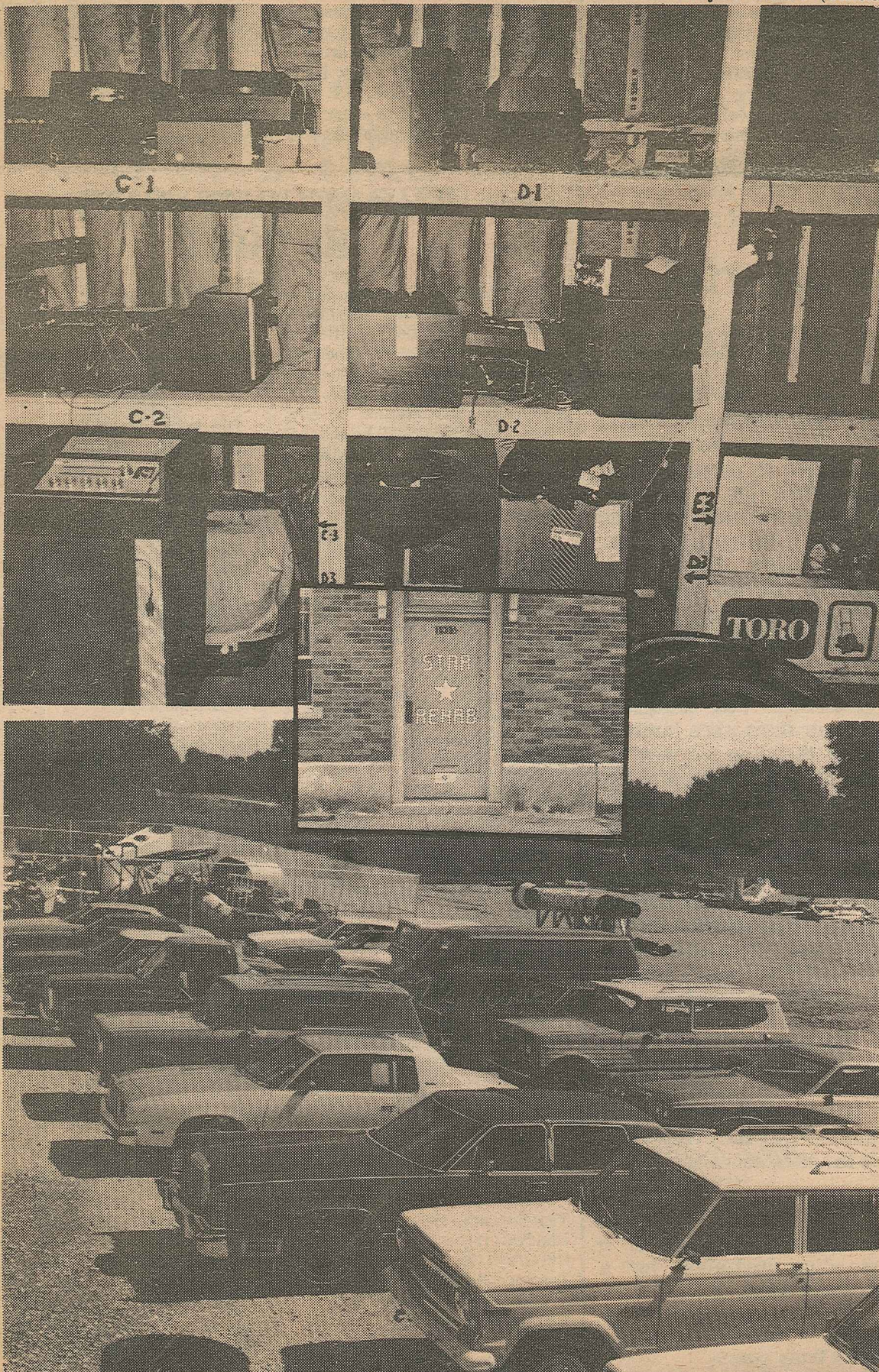
Due to the financial status of the I.C.P.A. and the court cases pending, Big Ed Kiernan, President of the I.C.P.A. decided that the best move would be to allow those members who sought to tie up the I.C.P.A. to run the I.C.P.A. as they saw fit, so he resigned. Along with his resignation, 22 of the 26 area vice-presidents resigned as well as the entire I.C.P.A. staff.

Ed Kiernan then announced that he was forming a new police association and the delegates present then had an option, the I.C.P.A. or the I.U.P.A. who was seeking affiliation with the AFL-CIO.

Consequently, delegates representing every state present except one, accepted his invitation

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building located at 1915 North 12th Street in downtown Toledo was rented and remodeling began at once. At this location O.F.F. needed to hide equipment and men and yet make it look like the new arrangements had always been there. It had to look to the criminal like there were only 1 or 2 people present when he was dealing, while in fact there were 3 or 4 people watching and listening...all armed. The name of the business was selected: S.T.A.R. which stood for Stinging Thieves and Robbers.

S.T.A.R.'s cover story was that they were buying items and shipping them throughout the United States.

A total of 74 persons entered

On March 9, 1978, S.T.A.R. opened its doors but only to persons wishing to sell stolen property. S.T.A.R. operated for a period of about 6 months and made over 200 buys.

S.T.A.R. during its 6 month operation. Of the 74 persons, 68 were indicted on 264 felony charges. 8 of these were federal charges. As the investigations stemming from this operation continue there will be more indictments.

A total of approximately \$1,000,000.00 worth of stolen property was bought by S.T.A.R. and consisted of everything from credit cards and semi-tractors to semis containing toilet bowls.

During the week prior to the close down date of September 16, 1978, S.T.A.R. contacted several of its key customers and informed them that S.T.A.R. needed drivers to take some stolen autos from S.T.A.R. to other cities. S.T.A.R. would pay \$150.00 plus expenses. They (the key customers) were to

report at different times on Saturday, the 16th of September, 1978.

On Saturday, just as the first group of thieves were due in, a call was received from a person who stated that he had a stolen car that he wanted to sell to S.T.A.R. He was invited in and as he got out of the car he got the shock of his life. Several uniformed Toledo police officers jumped out of bathrooms, boxes, and hidden rooms and arrested him. A short time later other former customers of S.T.A.R. arrived to drive the hot cars out of town. As one of the arrested subjects later stated, "I just don't believe it." Of the 68 indicted, 46 have been arrested and the other 22 are still running.

Even though the property recovery unit spent 80 to 90 percent of their time on project O.F.F., they still found time to make their presence felt by investigating other fences who were in competition with S.T.A.R. The property recovery unit recovered an additional \$331,000.00 worth of stolen property from fences in the Toledo area. This property was in addition to the \$1,000,000.00 recovered by project O.F.F.

.....

I would like to thank those members of city government and officers of the Toledo Police Division for their support and understanding in order that we could show the community as well as the criminals that the Toledo Police Division can no longer be counted on as a purely defensive police force...it must now be characterized as law enforcement on the offensive.

Sgt. Robert Baumgartner  
 Property Recovery Unit  
 Toledo Police Department

**From The President's Desk**

By Gary Dunn

We would like to extend our best wishes for this holiday season, hoping for a healthy and prosperous New Year for the "Thin Blue Line" and their families.

Once again the city has attempted to push the alarm button, signalling impending financial disaster. We sat in on budget hearings in council and heard interesting

reports from Local 7's independent evaluation of the 1979 budget. It seems that the city purposely underestimated income tax revenues by over \$1,000,000.00. They also failed to disclose what part delinquent property taxes play in the expected revenue picture. The specialist felt a

"reasonable" collection attempt would bring in excess of \$400,000. Any

question as to whether the city can afford to pay the police their well-deserved and long-awaited wage increase? Your negotiation team intends to submit the finalized budget to their expert and his findings will be made public during the months ahead.

Just remember one thing, whether you achieve your quota of citations or double it, it won't make a damn bit of difference the first of July.

**I.C.P.A. Disbands**

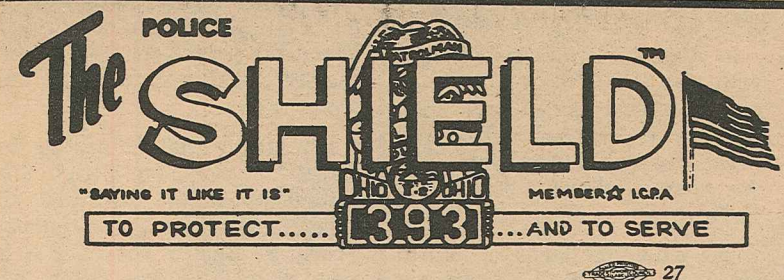
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and joined the I.U.P.A. Left with the I.C.P.A. were organizations representing New York and Michigan.

After checking with the board members of the T.P.P.A. the

T.P.P.A. delegates resigned from the I.C.P.A. and joined the I.U.P.A. As befitting a bonafide Police Union, local organization members were assigned. The T.P.P.A. is now local #10 of the I.U.P.A. It is expected that by the

end of February the AFL-CIO will extend a charter to the I.U.P.A. and we will then become the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association, Local #10 of the International Union of Police Associations—AFL-CIO.



The Police Shield is published in Toledo, Ohio under the sponsorship of the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association, Inc.

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Articles appearing in the Police Shield do not necessarily represent official policy of the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association unless specifically stipulated. Otherwise, articles represent the opinions of the article authors only, and the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association does not take responsibility for their content.

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**Attorneys:**

Michael D. Dorf, Charles Stupsker

The Police Shield Editorial and Adverstising offices are located in the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association Office in the Toledo Health & Retiree Center, 320 West Woodruff, Suite 202, Toledo, Ohio 43624. Telephone 241-8914 or 241-6935.

**To: Editorial Committee**

On Wednesday, November 22 the citizens of Toledo and the surrounding area had an opportunity to talk with three excellent representatives of the Toledo Police Division, Ptm. Gary Dunn, Det. George Gerkin and Det. David Gray on the Rap show on WOHO Radio.

The response to these gentlemen was fantastic! Our air lines were jammed from the time we went on the air until the end of the show (11 pm to 1 am) with questions, comments and inquiries about the department, its procedures and policies. The gentlemen were candid and very direct in their responses...they "told it like it was". And the response was great.

You can be very proud of the manner in which these three gentlemen represented the department and the way they responded to the citizens' calls.

It was an excellent program and there is a standing invitation for a "return engagement."

Very truly yours,  
 Karen Sue Martensen  
 Producer/Hostess, Rap

**THE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The following officers have attended enough meetings to be eligible for nomination for office in May. According to our Code of Regulations, Article V, Section 10, "Before an officer is eligible for nomination and election to any office, a candidate shall be obliged to have attended at least a majority of regularly scheduled meetings within a period of two years of the election."

- George Gerken (19)
- Ron Scanlon (19)
- Dave Gray (18)
- Joe Clear (17)
- Gary Dunn (17)
- Bill Dunn (17)
- Roger Reese (16)
- Tom Roth (16)
- John Annesser (15)
- Mike Goetz (15)
- Richard Orłowski (15)
- Fred Johnson (15)
- Robert Leiter (15)
- Larry Knannlein (14)
- Richard Fisher (14)
- Pat Gladieux (14)
- Richard Murphy (14)
- Tom Owens (14)
- Frank Calipetro (13)
- Julius Materni (13)
- David Willier (13)

The following officers need to attend one meeting in the remaining five (5) meetings:

- Sharon Farris (12)
- Robert Matecki (12)

The following officers need to attend two meetings in the remaining five (5) meetings:

- Tom Babcock (11)
- Dan Baz (11)
- Bill Gray (11)
- Terrence Stewart (11)
- Lyman Elliott (11)
- Daryl Rybarczyk (11)

The following officers need to attend three meetings in the remaining five (5) meetings:

- Jim Calipetro (10)
- Bernard Lopinski (10)
- Ron Bush (10)
- David E. Smith (10)

The following officers need to attend four meetings in the remaining five (5) meetings:

- Ken Perry (9)
- Ed Liwo (9)
- Cynthia Zeminski (9)
- Tom Ziegler (9)

The following officers need to attend the five remaining meetings:

- Richard Mohr (8)
- Randy Kozina (8)
- Gary McKinley (8)
- Barbara Zuelke (8)
- Dennis Collins (8)
- Shirley Green (8)
- Shelley Hennessy (8)
- Robert Morrissey (8)
- Ron Ziolkowski (8)

For those who have wondered how strong we are, here is an interesting statistic: our average attendance at the monthly meetings for the year 1978 was 69 compared to the average of 33 for 1977. That's an increase of 109%.

I would like to recognize those officers who attended their first meeting in November or December and say welcome:

Larry Katafiasz, Robert Sweede, Ralph Waniewksi, Thomas Youngs, and Fred Powell.

Also, I would like to say welcome back to those who haven't been around for a while:

Leon Besecke, Phil Peer, Charles Guckeyson, Ron Kurdys, Ken Reau, Richard Gruppi, and Orwin Freeman, Jr.

Roger L. Reese  
 Recording Secretary

**SHIRTS AND JACKETS**

Anyone who wishes to purchase one of the T.P.P.A.'s workout jerseys or jackets should write their size and name on a piece of paper and place it in the T.P.P.A. box at their respective precinct. The shirts are very durable and will really soak up the sweat. They bear the crest of the T.P.P.A. along with the initials of the union below the crest. The shirts are a navy blue in color and are highlighted by white stitching.

The jackets are blue in color with gold mixed in around the cuffs and collar. The jackets are made of a heavy nylon with a flannel lining to take the chill off. The patch of the union flag is on the left breast of the jacket above the union initials done in script. The price of the jerseys has been figured at \$6.00 which is the cost of the shirt. The price of the jacket will be somewhere between \$20.00 and \$25.00. You should get your order in now for you and your family or whoever.

**T.P.D. Revolver Club Hosts Canadians**

By John Sedlak  
President T.P.D. Revolver Club

**Past Events:**

Members of the London Police Revolver Team were guests of Toledo Police Revolver Club members during the weekend of August 25, 1978. As in past years, Canadian Officers stayed at the homes of Revolver Club members, as do our Toledo Officers when traveling to Canada.

On Saturday morning, August 26, officers shot for individual and team scores at the Toledo Police Range. The Toledo team defeated the London team by a score of 3379 - 112X to 3136 - 83X. High individual shooters for Toledo were: Bernie Lopinski 572 - 20X; John Sedlak 567 - 25X; Richard Studyvin 561 - 17X. The London top-shots were: Harry Taylor 565 - 21X; Gordie Farquhar

556 - 21X; Brian Travis 522 - 11X.

Saturday evening the annual banquet was held at the Edison Club on River Road. Following the dinner, awards were presented followed by drinking and dancing. New Revolver Club officers were also elected at the banquet. The new officers are: John Sedlak - President; Larry Preslowski - Vice President; William Palmer - Secretary/Treasurer; Richard Koperski - Range Officer.

**Currently:**

Revolver Club meetings and practice sessions are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Sun Oil gun range. The range is located just off I-280 on Curtice Rd. between Navarre Rd. and Woodville Rd. I urge all interested officers to attend the next meeting. The only equipment

needed is your revolver. Uninitiated officers might be surprised at how much fun accompanies these sessions.

Before closing I would like to write a few words about Sgt. Robert Schiffman (deceased). On Tuesday, October 31, 1978 while driving to Bowling Green to testify at a Grand Jury, Bob was killed in an automobile accident. Bob was hired by the Perrysburg City Police Dept. in October, 1966, and was promoted to sergeant in 1976. He was an instructor at the Toledo-Lucas County Regional Criminal Justice Center and was genuinely interested in police officers and their proper training in all areas. Robert Schiffman was a dedicated husband, father, and police officer, and he will be sorely missed in his chosen profession for many years to come.

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**Deadline For Shield Articles**  
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2:00 P.M.

We heartily encourage all members of the Toledo Police Patrolmen's Association to submit articles to the Shield for publications. In this December-

January issue, we are ringing out the old and bringing in the new. We need timely and timeless articles. This newspaper shall be the Voice of the Toledo Patrolman from this time forward. The T.P.P.A. and our Toledo community deserves to know what is happening.

The Shield Staff

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# What's A Woman Cop?

By Officer Sharron Farris

The police cruiser pulls up at the address given by the dispatcher and two officers get out and prepare to handle the call. They approach the door and when the complainant answers there is a moment of awkward silence. As one of the officers asks what the problem is, the complainant nearly forgets why he called. Unusual? Not anymore. The problem is that

the citizen has just been confronted by his "first lady cop".

Scenes like this happen every day on the streets of Toledo and other cities across the country. The phenomenon of the female police officer seems to have thrown the public for a loop. The image of the policeman that has been built for years has been smashed. But then, the job isn't what it used to be

either. With the advent of computers, criminal technology and Supreme Court restrictions the good old days of law enforcement that all of us have grown up with have gone. What has replaced them are the days of report taking, public relations and specialization. The job as it is today can be handled by a woman. Not handled easily, mind you, or by just any woman, but it can be done. What kind of woman is doing it?

Many of our woman officers are also wives and mothers. So the reaction of the public to them is multiplied in their private lives. Their families find it hard to adjust to the change in their routine.

Their friends either hold them in contempt for "breaking out" or treat them as an oddity. Their fellow officers are, at best, not sure how to treat them. And the public is amazed to see them. Once they accept this job, most relationships are never the same.

But perhaps the biggest change in the lives of the ladies that choose this profession is the change in themselves. Nothing a woman has ever been exposed to while growing up in the world today can prepare her for what faces every police officer. Women, though brought up differently, must learn to be aggressive, authoritative, and at times very physical. Not

every woman can handle this. Not every man can handle this. They must also learn that almost no one will take them seriously — not their families, not the public, not even their fellow officers. They must fight every day the urge to over react in order to be accepted. Sometimes they win. Sometimes they lose. Sometimes they even quit. Others, though, will take the challenge.

The woman on today's police force does the same job her male counterpart does. She is given no quarter and wants none. She takes her turn driving, she follows through in court for herself, she even gets her share of injuries. If she has the support and acceptance of those around her, her job can be made much easier. If she lacks that support she can become the wrong kind of cop — one who is bitter, defensive and hard. And that kind of attitude can spill over into her private life and make for a very unhappy human being.

It is not easy being a woman in a world that has been traditionally male. But no one ever said it would be. The women that went before have made it easier for those today and so it will go until the day when it will not seem unusual to see a female in a police uniform. So the next time you come in contact with one of the "new breed" of officers, remember that they are just people working hard at their job. They don't wish to be singled out. They'll do their best for you if you give them a chance. And if you'll give them a chance, you'll gain their gratitude — and mine.

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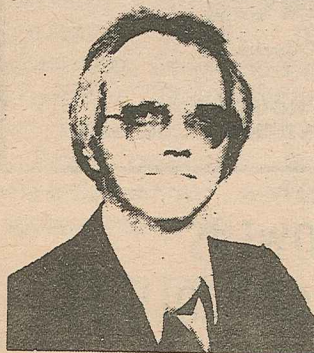
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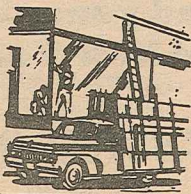
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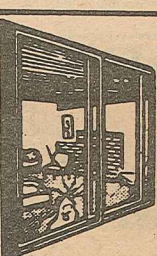
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# Time And A Quarter

Well here we are in another Holiday Season, and I find myself more joyous than usual. After some heavy thinking I finally figured out why. I have Christmas and New Years off. Quite an event in the life of a uniform police officer because this occurs only every third year.

It is very difficult for anyone to relate to this without experiencing it. It can bring on personal depression, spark family strife and cause job indifference. Our society being what it is, considers the only justification for putting up with these working conditions is a little something extra in the pay check.


I guess police officers are lucky in this area, I mean we do get time-and-a-quarter for working Christmas! Time-and-a-quarter is a damn slap in the face. Other people in the labor movement either do not work on the holidays or are amply rewarded for the hardship. The time for police officers to share in the wealth is here.

When you try to explain the old trite cliché's about duty, friends and relatives...laugh! They can understand why we must work, but not for the insulting amount of time-and-a-quarter. I mean time-and-a-quarter is, after taxes, less than fifteen dollars in your pocket

for eight hours work! But, I'll continue to miss family get togethers, adjust gift opening time with my kids, try to calm my wife and tell myself I should be happy.

On the other hand, I can't help but feel that next year around this time I'll probably feel so bad that I'll have to call in sick, knowing that if I do I'll lose my TIME-AND-A-QUARTER!!!

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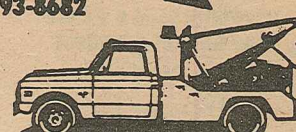
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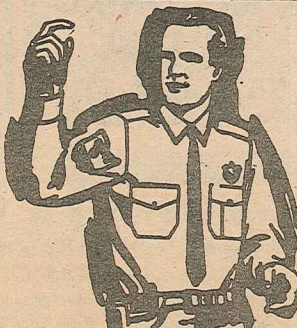
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# A Letter To The Inspector From His Mother

Just a few lines to let you know I am still alive. I'm writing this letter slowly because I know you can't read fast. You won't know the house when you come home — we've moved.

It was a lot of trouble moving — the most difficult thing was the bed. You see, the man in the taxi wouldn't let us take it in the cab. It wouldn't have been so bad if your father hadn't been sleeping in it at the time.

About your father, he has 500 men under him. He's cutting grass at the cemetery.

Your sister got herself engaged to that fellow she's been going out with. He gave her a beautiful ring with three stones missing.

Our neighbors, the Browns started to keep pigs. We got wind of it this morning. I got my appendix out and a dishwasher put in.

There was a washing machine in the new house when we moved in, but it is not working too good. Last week I put four shirts into it, pulled the chain and haven't seen the shirts since.

Your little brother came home from school crying yesterday. All the boys in his school have new suits. We can't afford to buy him a new suit, but we're going to buy him a new hat and let him sit in the window.

Your sister Mary had a baby this morning. I haven't heard yet whether it is a boy or a girl, so I don't know if you are a Aunt or an Uncle.

Your uncle Amos was drowned last week in a vat of whiskey in the Dominion Brewery. Four of his work mates dived in to save him but he fought them off bravely. We cremated his body and it took three days to put out the fire.

Kate is now working in a mill in Grand Falls. She's been there now for six weeks. I'm sending her some clean underwear as she's in the same shift since she started.

Your father didn't have much to drink at Christmas. I put a bottle of Castor oil in his pint of beer and it kept him going until New Year's Day. I went to the doctor on Thursday. Your father came with me. The doctor put a small glass tube in my mouth and told me not to open it for ten minutes. Your father offered to buy the tube from him.

Monday was so windy, one of our chickens laid the same egg four times.

We had a letter yesterday from the undertaker. He said if the last installment wasn't paid on your grandmother within 6 days, "up she comes."

I must close now because the plumber is coming here to repair the pipes and there's a shocking smell.

Your loving Mother

P.S. I was going to send you \$10.00 but I have already sealed the envelope.

# Grievance Committee

By Dave Gray

On December 18th, the grievance committee met to go over some of the problems around the department. Most all of the stewards attended so they can update you officers as to what is happening. Missing were Bob Poiry, Andy Zsigray, Bob Morrissey, Howard Harris, and Louis Vasquez. Most Stewards do attend the meetings when they're not busy with grievances or working. We haven't seen Louis Vasquez for quite a while. I don't think he knows where the union office is.

The Fodor and Spetz grievance is still with the arbitrator and we are waiting for his decision. We have been informed that the arbitrator will not hand down his decision until about February 1st.

The removal of three officers from the Community Relations section has been sent to the acting city manager, Frank Pizza for decision.

Arbitration has been requested for the grievance concerning forced overtime. The grievance was filed by Officer Al Sobb. This grievance deals with ending your tour of duty and remaining on the payroll without receiving your two hour minimum court appearance pay.

Communications section reports that it has a bit of a problem with the chairs that are in disrepair or just plain broken. This was referred to the Safety Committee.

There is another problem with the reliability of the new TacTec mobile/portable radios that the line officer has to depend on. This also is being forwarded to the Safety Committee.

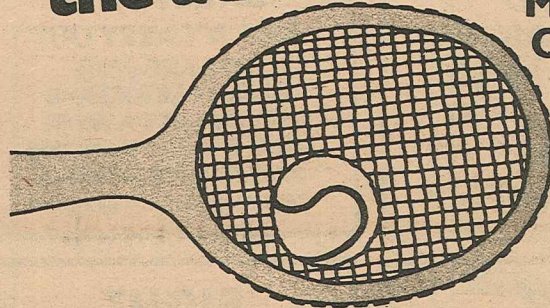
I hope you all had a pleasant Holiday Season.



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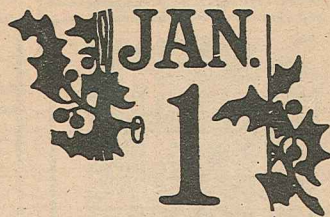
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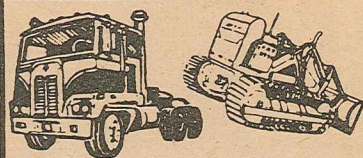
# Policemen

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noticed and the truth is buried under all the criticism. The fact is that less than one-half of one percent of policemen ever discredit their uniforms. That's a better average than you'll find among clergymen.

A policeman is an ordinary guy who is called upon for extraordinary bravery — for us! His job may sometimes seem routine, but the interruptions can be moments of stark terror. He's the man who faces a half-crazed

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We also wish to ask our readers to take note of the special Holiday ads, along with the regular advertising, that appears in this special December/January issue.

It is because of the regular advertisers and the people who extend a helping hand for our special editions that our paper continues to be a success.



We welcome the opportunity to wish you, our friends and neighbors, the best of everything in this New Year and we wish to thank you for your patronage in the past. We look forward to serving you again!

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