

Policeman's Job Become More And More Dangerous Because Of Drugs

Staccato blasts of gunfire echo throughout the ground of an El Pasco drive-in theater. Startled movie fans jerked their eyes away from the large outdoor screen just in time to see the last spurts of flame pierce the darkness near a police patrol car and a Cadillac sedan.

Sprawled on the back seat of the Cadillac and the ground nearby are the bodies of three men. Two are hoods wanted for a downtown stick-up. The other is a detective. Inside the police car, a critically wounded patrolman frantically radios for help.

But by the time an ambulance arrives, the gunmen and detective are dead. And the patrolman has collapsed with three bullet holes in his body.

Violent tragedies like this happen much too often these days to suit officials of the National Police Officers Association, a nationwide, 28,000 member organization dedicated to promoting the welfare of the country's lawmen.

The west Texas drive-in shooting took place early last December. Since then, NPOA headquarters in Chicago report, about 32 officers have been killed in the line of duty, an average of almost one violent police death per week.

Several were fatally shot in desperate gun battles with criminals, others died after being overpowered by escaping prisoners and some were killed in auto crashes while chasing speeders. NPOA officials foresee no reduction in the number of these tragedies as long as the nation's crime statistics continue to climb.

FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover predicts an all time high for the nation crime rate this year if the present lawbreaking trend continues.

NPOA officials agree that the risks have always been great in police work. But Frank Shira, an investigator for the Illinois Attorney General's Office and NPOA President, declares.

"Because of the increasing crime rate you might say that a policeman's job is more dangerous today than it ever was before.

Cops put much of the blame for the hazard boost on the illicit narcotics traffic. They explain that narcotics offenses have jumped 100 per cent in recent years. "A guy under the influence of dope often becomes a dangerous holdup or strongarm man in order to get money to buy more narcotics, one policeman explains.

Wild drivers are also blamed for reducing the life expectancy of today's police officers. Recent statistics show that one out of every seven motorcycle cops who chases speed-

ers and other types of auto offenders will be killed before they reach retirement age.

But what gripes NPOA member most is the public apathy they receive in return for protecting lives and property. Gerald Arenberg, NPOA Executive Secretary, says: "A citizen will rarely help a policeman. A cop can be fighting for his life on the street and everybody will walk right by without making any effort to come to his assistance."

That's why the NPOA considers the promotion of public recognition for police bravery as one of its main goals. It has set up a special awards program to honor policemen who have shown heroism while performing their jobs. At its recent national convention in Washington, NPOA awarded medals for valor to the families of 27 dead policemen.

This year state governors joined with NPOA in naming September 24 as Police Memorial Day. This date will be reserved each year for states to honor their cops who were killed in the line of duty.

TVA Awards Contracts For Insulators

TVA said recently it has awarded contracts for 33,000 transmission line insulators on which seven companies submitted identical bids.

Four separate requests for bids were issued by TVA. Two called for bids on 3,000 insulators, one on 12,000 insulators, and one on 15,000 insulators. Invitations were sent to eight companies, and seven responded, submitting identical bids on each of the four requests.

The seven companies are: A. B. Chance Co., General Electric Co., Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Co., Lapp Insulator Co., Ohio Brass Co., H. K. Porter Co., and the Victor Insulator Division of I-T-E Circuit Breaker Co.

Three bidders were in labor surplus areas. The plant of one of the three, however, was down because of a strike, and its bid was not considered. The remaining two-Lapp Insulator Co., Inc. LeRoy, New York, and General Electric Co., Baltimore, Maryland were awarded the four contracts. Under an Executive order plants in labor surplus areas are given preference, other considerations being equal.

An effort was made to award the contracts to Lapp Insulator Co., and General Electric as equally as possible. The Lapp company was awarded the contract for 15,000 insulators at a cost of \$51,000, and General Electric received the contracts for 3,000 and 12,000 insulators at a total cost of \$51,000. The recipient of the remaining contract for 3,000 insulators at cost of \$10,200 was determined in a drawing, and the Lapp Co. was successful.

In 1900, North Carolina's population was 90 per cent rural. By 1955, it was estimated that less than 30 per cent of all Tar Heels were farm residents.

It has been estimated that less than 10 per cent of North Carolina's labor force will be required for agricultural production in 1975.

In 1954, about 58 per cent of North Carolina was in farm lands.

This year will be the 17th time in the last 120 years that a farm census has been taken.

Czechs Real Fans Of American Jazz

Each day voice of America fans in Czechoslovakia eagerly listen to one of their favorite radio actresses speak from a radio control room in Washington. But the words they hear from Libessa Kopfsteln-Penk have no resemblance to her dramatic lines which once in the theaters of Prague.

They are words like "down-beat" "Count Basie" and "hi-fi" the synonyms of American jazz.

Preferring freedom to fame, Libessa she's known to her VOA pals as Libby-fled to the U. S. after the Communist took over Czechoslovakia. Today, she's considered one of the pretty hep gal when it comes to explaining jazz to foreigners. Libby runs a 10 minute jazz news show each day which is beamed to countries behind the Iron Curtain.

"My Main Interest is to give information concerning everything about jazz," she explains in an enthusiastic voice which handles English with both charm and ease. "People know quite a lot about jazz all over Europe and are especially interested in it in Czechoslovakia." She was born in Yugoslavia, but her father moved the family to Prague a few years later.

Libby, her blue eyes alight and sparkling, insists that she is no expert on the subject. But friends, who have seen the stacks of LP jazz records in her home find this hard to believe. Even Libby, herself doesn't know how many records she owns. She can only say that they would provide "hours and hours of music."

Libby explains that she became interested in jazz while she was in Austria, her first stop after fleeing the Czech Communist. "I was surprised that I hadn't heard more jazz programs," she explains. "I got so interested that I started to study the history of the music and listen to it much more frequently."

But a few years earlier, the blond trim beauty would have been amazed if someone had suggested that she could be interested in anything but the theater. For almost 10 years it had brought fame and the admiration of thousands of European theater-goers.

Libby explains that her stage career was completely unexpected. Although her father was an established actor and director, she didn't care anything about the theater as a child and wanted to be a doctor. But soon after she was graduated from high school, the Germans invaded Czechoslovakia and the universities closed down. Libby refused to go to a Nazi school.

She explains that during her last year of high school she had won a nationwide speech contest. So she decided to try acting since her chances of becoming a doctor were ruined.

Her father helped to get her a part in a play which opened in Prague. A few months later the leading actress quit the stage company to have a baby and Libby was given her part. From then on, she explains that she always seemed to be able to land starring roles.

The end of her acting career began when the Communists took over Czechoslovakia and started infiltrating into theater groups. "During the Nazi occupation," she explains, "actors knew who was a spy and who wasn't. But you never knew under the Communist regime. The uncertainty was terribly demoralizing." She explains that the theater suddenly turned into just another organ for promoting Communist propaganda.

Soil Conservation

NEWS

By JOHN SMITH

Judd Stiles has established about eight acres of new pasture on the Bourne farm near Appalachia Lake that is about as good as any pasture I have seen lately. The ground was cleared up last winter and this spring and the grass and clover were seeded in the late spring. Two tons of lime and 1000 pounds of 2-12-42 fertilizer were applied per acre. The grass and clover are now more than a foot high. Proper liming and fertilizer application is the secret of obtaining a good stand of grass.

In contrast to this excellent pasture, I recently saw another field which was seeded to grass and clover this spring but on which there was a complete failure. This was also on land which was cleared up during the winter and early spring. No lime and no fertilizer was applied to this pasture and no grass or clover is there.

Roy Wells has made a different looking farm out of his farm near Ebenezer. Last year the farm was wet and practically grow up in weeds and bushes, but since Roy bought it, he has dug two canals and installed several hundred feet of tile ditches. The whole place has been dried out and is growing excellent grass. More than six hundred bales of hay have been cut off the place this year.

Noah Hembree has had the timber on his farm at Peachtree marked for thinning. There is an excellent stand of shortleaf and Virginia pine on his place and it is beginning to slow down its rate of growth because the stand is becoming crowded. A pulp cutting will release the stand for faster growth and will put money in the bank too.

John Wiggins, the Soil Conservation Forester, told of a wood lot he recently helped mark and cut in eastern North Carolina which produced twenty cords of pulp to the acre. In addition to that, he estimated that there were enough dead trees lying on the ground to produce eleven more cords. If those eleven cords had been cut at the proper time, the farmer would have been better off.

Thirty-seven per cent of the DHAI herds in North Carolina are now enrolled in the central processing system at N. C. State College.

Good grass silage can be a milk maker.

Let cows graze at night during hot weather.

Last year poultry enterprises in North Carolina brought in over \$162 million.

But what clinched her decision to leave Prague was her unwillingness to have her small son grow up under a Communist dictatorship. Libby won't talk much about her escape.

The most that she will ever say is that she made it, and that she's glad she did.

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