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Canada's National Law Enforcement Magazine

October 1998



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Cover Photo: Bill Johnson

Responding to calls in housing projects has always been an unpopular task for public policing. Many years ago it was quickly determined that these projects required specialized patrols with much closer attention given to community problems than could be provided in the public policing model. In the city of Toronto most patrols and calls for trouble in housing projects are handled by the Metro Toronto Housing Authority Security. This hybrid mixture of police and security, or parapolice, has an excellent 25-year track record. In this edition of Blue Line you will find a complete story on their mandate, organization and duties.

In another parallel story in this edition you will find a profile on the Corp. of Commissionaires. The personnel of this organization are seen in almost every city in Canada performing specialized contract work with both the police and private sector. In this issue you will find out about their history, function and future.

In 1996 the city of Orillia, Ont., entered into a policing contract with the Ontario Provincial Police. It is the largest municipal contract ever held by this agency and Blue Line's Blair McQuillan has submitted a feature article on the transition and the challenge of this unique situation.

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What price do we pay for lengthy investigations ?

by *Morley Lymburner*

There is a disturbing trend in policing today that should be looked at seriously by police supervisors of all agencies. It is the value that is placed on the type of arrests being made. On a visit to a community of about 10,000 people recently I was given a story that is symptomatic of the problem.

The person telling the story was searching his neighbourhood for his missing dog when he approached a security guard in a car dealership parking lot. He asked the guard if he had seen the dog. The guard advised he had not but he would call on his portable radio and give the description to the other nine security guards at other businesses in the town. In short order one of the guards responded that he had found the friendly mutt and was passing time with it at that moment.

The security guard was asked why he was at the car dealership and he responded that it was a requirement of the insurance company due to the high number of thefts from the lot. The dealership was located on one of the main intersections in town and across the street from an all night restaurant. The other guards from the same security company were working for other car dealerships and businesses suffering from similar problems.

The obvious question at this point would be to ask "what are the police doing about it?" The question was answered by reading the local newspaper. Blazing headlines and smiling police officer's faces on the front page announced; "Police have arrested two people after a lengthy investigation and recovered two new cars and some chopped parts from at least eight other stolen cars. The investigation is continuing. The officers involved in the investigation are to receive an award for their investigative work."

After hearing this story more questions need to be asked. What are the police doing to find the crooks in the act of stealing? What type of night patrols exist in the town that would permit the crooks to work with impunity for so long? What sort of system puts a higher value on a lengthy investigation rather than an officer who diligently patrols his beat and takes pride in the fact that nothing goes wrong on his watch?

It is an unfortunate reality that lengthy investigations culminating in arrests are valued more than good diligent crime prevention. It is a sad state of affairs when the crooks are walking away with the town while the cops sit on their hands waiting for the "big pinch." That major arrest took so long to come to a conclusion that the deterrent value rings hollow to other crooks encouraged by the long lead time

it took to find the culprits.

And what about the rest of the businesses employing the security guards. How long do the owners wait before an arrest "after a lengthy investigation" permits them to sleep better at night and alleviate them of the added expense.

This story indicates policing with little or no accountability.

Officers in charge of detachments or police forces should take a long second look at "lengthy investigations." It very well could be that properties are not being properly checked and streets are not being patrolled. It very well could be that the barometer of police effectiveness in the community could be the number of security guards required to do the crime prevention work.

I would think that the big credit should be given to the officer who happens upon a crime in progress, finds a break and enter before the citizen or encounters something as simple as an insecure door. This is the officer who is doing his/her job the way it is suppose to be done. This is the officer who is checking the properties and keeping the community safe.

It doesn't take long for the crooks to see that this town is not that easy a mark. They will move on to an easier target... maybe in the town with the officer working on that "lengthy investigation."

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Meeting the challenges of transition



Photo : Blair McQuillan

Inspector Jim Dixon and Constable Rudy Haninec outside the former Orillia Police station. Insp. Dixon explained that one step toward identifying with the community is identifying the police vehicles with the community. An interest in breaking from the larger agency tradition of anonymity of fleet markings brought about the addition of the Orillia name on the sides of their patrol cars.

by Blair McQuillan

It began as a rumour.

In 1994, Orillia police Constable Rudy Haninec heard that the Ontario Provincial Police were going to take over policing in the city where he had served as an officer for six years. If the rumour became reality it would be the third police agency he had worked with after working with the Toronto Police for around four years prior to this.

It was known a giant headquarters building, an administrative nerve-centre for the entire provincial police service, was going to be constructed in the city. An OPP detachment being established in the same station Haninec was working out of would certainly be within the realm of possibility.

"I just didn't believe it," Haninec said. "I thought Orillia was a good size, small-end type department. I just didn't think it was going to happen."

But it would happen. The city of Orillia was just another victim of provincial government down loading. Policing grants were being cut. This meant the police force was simply too expensive to maintain.

The rumour was real and it soon became a fact.

On June 3, 1996, the Orillia Police Service was disbanded and the Ontario Provincial Police assumed control after absorbing most

of the officers in the city.

However, the transition was met with some resistance. When news of the switch from the municipal service to provincial policing was announced some community members were outraged. They attended heated council meetings wanting to know if their police officers would be run out of town and if the OPP really had their best interest in mind.

Some police officers questioned their job security. They wondered if their seniority and pensions were at stake. They also felt saddened by the loss of their police force.

"People were really watching to see how we would do in this large setting because traditionally we have been more of a rural police service," said Insp. Jim Dixon, the Orillia OPP detachment commander. "The disbandment and amalgamation of the Orillia Police Service to the OPP was the largest municipal police service that we have become involved with to date and I think we have proven here that we're quite capable of providing an effective municipal service."

That's true. Now, 28 months after the integration, the OPP have won the respect of its new police officers and the community they serve.

"I think it's been a very positive change," said Haninec, 34. "For the most part it was well received."

"I definitely was not resistant to it. I happened to be relatively young. I've got 13 years of combined service, so my view on it was the

OPP had tremendous offerings as far as a career."

Other Orillia officers obviously shared Haninec's opinion. Of the 34 municipal officers who joined the OPP, 21 still work in the city. The rest have transferred to other units within the provincial service such as anti-smuggling, anti-gambling and ViCLAS.

"A lot of fellows have done well with the OPP," Haninec said.

But not all the officers looked forward to the change, even though the OPP tried to make it as easy as possible.

Five months prior to the amalgamation, Dixon was sent to the Orillia Police Service to lead the department as acting chief and help oversee the integration. During that time a transition team was developed.

"We had people working on an orientation package about administration in the OPP (and) the different radio system they'd be working with," Dixon said. "But even having done all of that I think a lot of them felt it was a pretty dramatic change for them and that's expected."

"One day you have a service that you're comfortable working for and then when the clock hits a certain hour everything's changed. You got a new uniform on and your working for a new organization."

The new uniforms have improved the relationship between the city police and the OPP officers who patrol the three townships surrounding Orillia, according to Haninec. When the change-over took place Orillia became an

integrated detachment, which means that the 38 OPP officers from the Rama, Oro-Medonte and Severn townships also work out of the same station as the 41 city officers.

Together, they police a 50-square-kilometre area with 55,000 inhabitants.

"We always had a good liaison (with the township officers)," Haninec said. "We're all one uniform now so that makes it much easier."

But the constable says the provincial force has more to offer than career advancement and comradeship. Since joining the OPP he's found Orillia has more resources to draw from, better equipment and more available training. He's also making more money than he did with the municipal service.

"All these things add up in an officer's eyes," he said.

They also add up when it comes to crime fighting.

During the past year, the OPP have reduced auto theft by 40 per cent and break and enters by 29 per cent. The number of reported thefts has decreased by 17 per cent in the past six months and the cost of running the provincial force for a year is \$800,000 less than it was to maintain the municipal service.

Add to this the fact that Orillia Mayor Ken McCann has told the police services board that he gets an average of two to three calls a week from citizens praising the OPP and it's hard to imagine why anyone resisted the idea of switching police forces in the first place.

"I think there was a concern that the city of Orillia would get lost within the corporate OPP structure, but I don't think that's happened" said Sandra Kirkwood-Elyea, the executive assistant to the police services board. "While we're under contract with the OPP to provide the service, it's still a municipal service provided by the OPP. You still have the police services board overseeing police policies in the city, making sure the community's needs are being met."

Dixon says that being held accountable by the city and the council is something he takes very seriously.

"I do monthly reports to the police services board," he said. "We discuss monthly statistics that the board wants me to supply to them and they review them in detail."

During these meetings Dixon and board members look at crime trends, discuss if the OPP are meeting the level of service outlined in their five year contract and track spending. This professional and efficient relationship between the police service, the board and the city has benefited the community.

While crime rates decline, the OPP have launched a number of community policing initiatives to help meet the needs of the people of Orillia.

A youth centre was created with support and input from the local police and a skateboarding park for enthusiasts of the sport is on its way. The police service is also working to get a victim assistance program implemented prior to January 1999.

One of the largest community policing initiatives Dixon wants to establish is a zone committee program.

"It's a partnership," Dixon explains. "The officers that are assigned to those zones will work in partnership with community volunteers to identify problems and try to come up with

resolutions, implement them and monitor them."

The problems could be something as serious as vandalism or as minor as a licenced establishment that's creating noise pollution, Dixon said. Two of the four proposed zones already have a partnership team in place. The other two are slated to be up and running by the end of the year.

With all of the progressive steps the Orillia OPP have taken, Dixon has found the policing controversy is finally fading away.

"The first year you heard a lot," he said. "Those people who had been opposed were still opposed. I don't hear that now. I think people have accepted us. I've received a lot of positive comments on our policing."

One of the most recent comments Dixon received came after a break and enter case six months ago.

"We were looking for a residential break and enter suspect," he said. "We had our canine unit brought in, we had our ERT members brought in and one resident called in and they were just amazed with the presence that we were able to provide in a very short time. To be able to draw those resources was something they hadn't been used to."

Haninec says he's just glad the public has finally accepted the OPP because it means Orillia officers, both new and old, can get back to the task at hand - policing.

"We're still doing our job," he said. "We're just wearing a different flash now."

For further information call 705 326-3536 or FAX 705 325-7725.



Errors, Omissions & Corrections

On page 42 of the August/September edition of Blue Line Magazine, at the end of the article entitled *New Training Video... Abuse Investigations* the Canada Law Book phone number should have read 800 263-2037 or 905 841-6472.

In our June/July issue, on the article on page 6, we intended to more accurately report that the architects for the Windsor Justice Facility are *The DuBois Plumb Partnership Incorporated/ Carruthers Shaw and Partners Ltd. Architects, in association with W.A. Fraser, Architect.*



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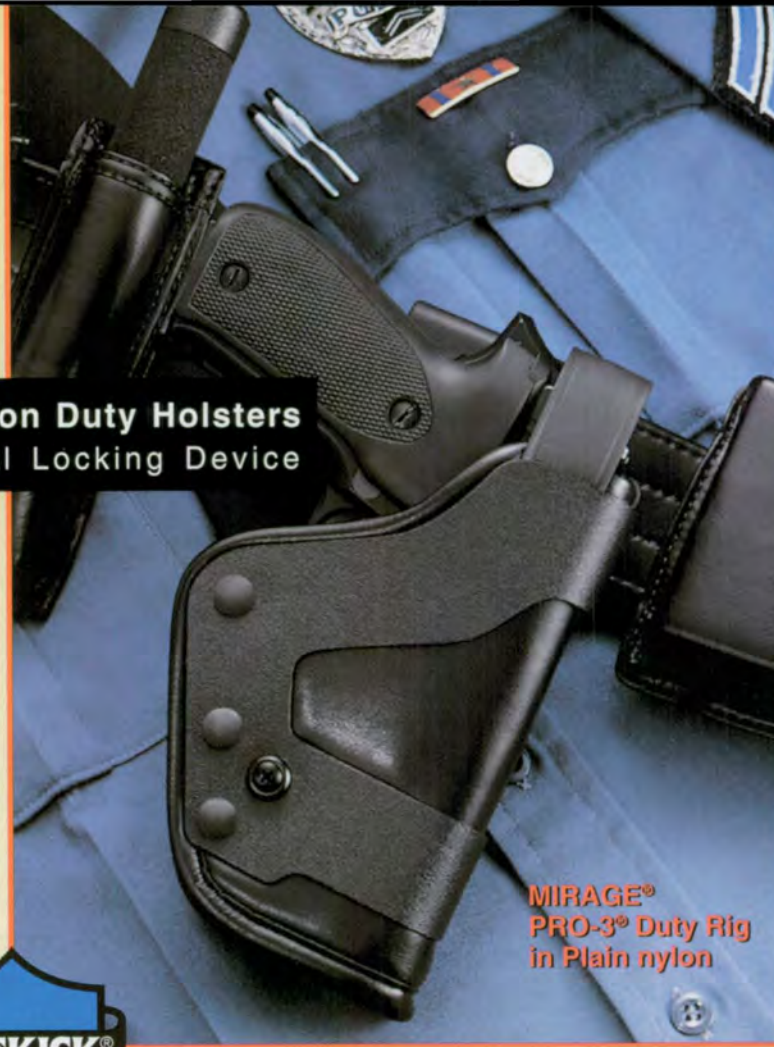
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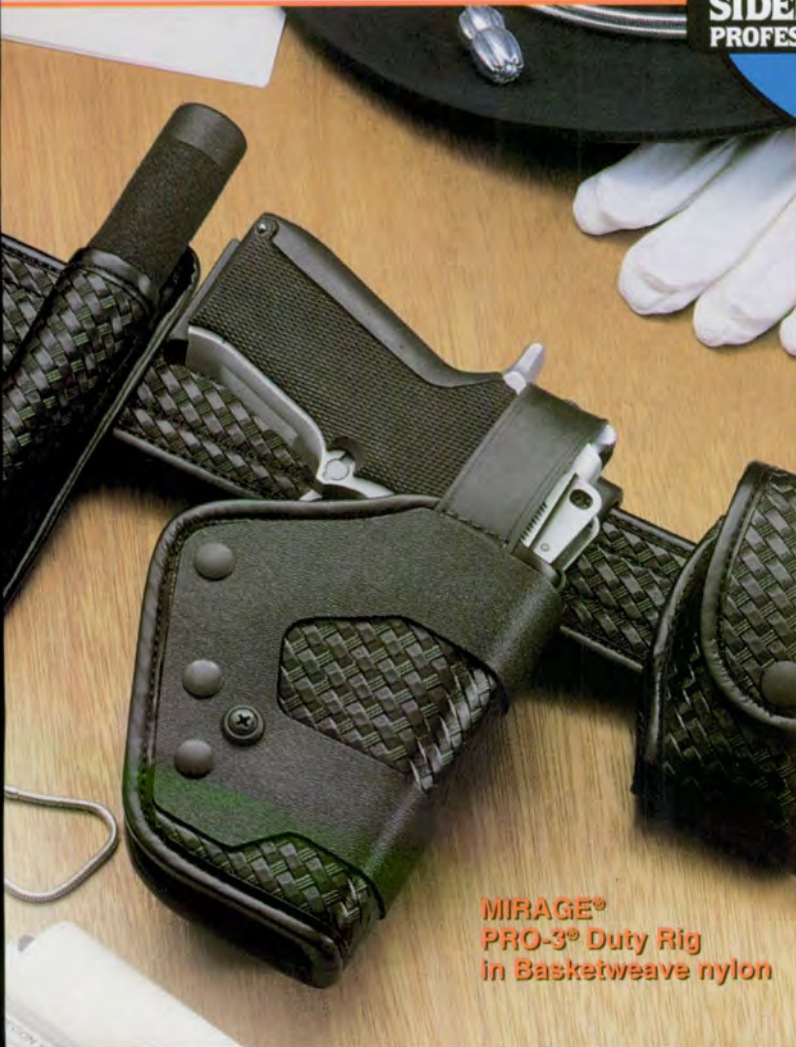
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Microscopic photo compares fibers of Nytek (left) and leather (right).

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Building safer urban communities

Community partnerships planning residential security

by Heather Wright

While patrolling the community recreation centre, the Community Patrol Officer's gaze fell on the face of a young man playing dominoes. The latter was not a local resident, and something about him jogged the Officer's memory.

Could he be the man wanted for his part in a homicide committed in another community more than a year earlier?

Only the day before, at an information-sharing session with Toronto police, the Community Patrol Officer (CPO) had viewed videotapes of the suspects in that crime. The face of the man in front of him strongly resembled that of one of the suspects. The CPO acted quickly, phoning police to confirm the identification and quietly monitoring the suspect's movement until the police arrested him, without incident, less than half an hour later.

In April of this year, Ms. Jean Boyd, former Deputy Chief of the Metro Toronto Police Force, and a member of the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority (MTHA) Board, presented this MTHA Community Patrol Officer, and four of his colleagues, with Certificates of Commendation. The certificates read "For Meritorious Action In The Performance Of Duty". Ms. Boyd commented on the excellent work of the five individuals: "I am just as proud to be part of this presentation today as I was in all my 30 years with the Toronto Police!"

The actions of the five included the kind of intelligence work described in our story, saving lives by applying CPR and First Aid, rescuing victims of assault, and assisting in the arrests of dangerous criminals. The Staff Inspector involved in one of these actions has put forward the name of the CPO for a Citizen Citation Award: "(She) volunteered her service with no thought to her own personal safety and I wish to commend her for her actions in this dangerous situation."

These individuals and their actions represent a tiny sample of the success of the Security Services delivered by the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority. Furthermore, as the following story illustrates, MTHA's success in security delivery comes thanks to its partnerships with the Toronto Police Service, in this case, but in other cases with residents and resident groups, social agencies and the Fire Department.

A mandate toward healthier communities

The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority is Canada's largest public housing authority, managing in excess of 29,000 rent-geared-to-income units. More than 125,000 people live in 110 MTHA communities across Toronto, as well as in individual homes in other neighbourhoods.

A local housing authority operating under the governance of the Ontario Housing Corporation (OHC), MTHA has more than 1000 employees working in eight branches: Property Management (including Security Services),



Photos by Bill Johnson

Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority Bicycle Patrol Officers offer quick and flexible response.

Community and Tenant Services, Asset Management, Equity and Human Resources, Communications, Information and Technology and Telecommunications, and Audit and Finance. There is also a legal branch staffed by employees of the Ministry of the Attorney General.

MTHA's mission is to provide safe affordable housing with a sense of community. MTHA works closely with residents, social agencies, and community groups to build stronger, safer, healthier communities.

MTHA Security Services

Operating under the umbrella of the Property Management branch, MTHA Security Services employ a central 24-hour dispatch, with 24-hour on-site or mobile response, and a total of 116 field staff. Residents, law enforcement and social agencies call dispatch at an average rate of 25,000 times each month. Calls range from crimes against property and persons to non-offence concerns (anything from hazardous conditions to neighbour disputes), fire alarms, and parking complaints.

On-site staff, mobile units and bike patrols respond quickly to these calls, and gain a detailed understanding of the communities they serve through their regular patrol work. But their effectiveness depends on a number of supports and relations. Security staff work closely with residents, resident groups and associations, management, local authorities and businesses to provide direct security services, security through community development and a



Each month Dispatch operators field more than 25,000 calls from residents, agencies and other law enforcement providers.

secure physical environment by design, with improved surveillance equipment, better access control, and the use of new technology.

Security staff are effective in their work thanks to the support given by community partners and other staff working in the field and at Head Office, from Security Services and Property Management to Community and Tenant Services and Asset Management.

Comprehensive training; a planning process that includes community consultation; staff units dedicated to parking, fire safety, information analysis and investigations; staff participation in many community organizations; access to a complex set of community networks

(Continued)

- these are just some of the factors that make the difference. The result is a flexible and responsive security operation that can meet the changing needs of changing communities.

Training, Authority and Investigations

A comprehensive training program equips MTHA security staff to perform a wide range of duties:

- issuing parking tickets and trespass tickets,
 - helping defuse neighbour disputes
 - investigating thefts, drug-dealing activity
 - helping Police arrest dangerous criminals
 - assisting other staff with mental health crisis intervention
 - responding to fire hazards, alarms
 - saving lives through First-Aid application.
- MTHA security staff perform parking control duties and trespass to property enforcement (under municipal by-laws, Trespass to Property Act, and the provisions of the municipal Law Enforcement Officer and Provincial Offences Officer programs). In addition, MTHA is always pursuing ways of making full use of the authority in the Trespass to Property Act to rid communities of persistent loiterers and the problems they cause.

Staff receive Municipal Law Enforcement Certification through a program offered by the Toronto Police Service. Last year, MTHA Municipal Law Enforcement Officers wrote 55,000 parking tickets, and generated \$1 million for the City of Toronto. In fact, MTHA's parking enforcement is so successful that another local social housing provider, CityHome, has asked MTHA to handle their parking in a



Each year MTHA Parking Enforcement Officers write 55,000 tickets and generate at least \$1 million for the municipality.

three-month pilot project.

To respond to life safety emergencies, staff complete comprehensive fire safety and first-aid training. They also receive training in mental health crisis intervention. They arrest offenders in an emergency or extreme circumstances and are accordingly versed in the appropriate federal/provincial legislation.

Staff also learn investigative procedures. They benefit from a course that covers such topics as the use of force, tactical communication and self-defence. Bicycle Patrol Officers

acquire advanced bicycle handling skills through collaborative training with other law enforcement providers. For their protection, all patrol officers are equipped with body armour, an expandable baton, and handcuffs.

Community Development and Site Planning

For the purpose of security planning, one of MTHA's greatest resources is its residents. Besides knowing their own needs, residents have creative ideas on how to meet them. For the last seven years, Property Management and Security Services staff have held annual meetings in individual communities with residents, resident groups, police and agencies to produce the site plan. Work done by staff dedicated to parking, fire safety, and information analysis helps create the plan, which includes an analysis of the community's physical conditions and security trends, and allocates resources to address the current issues.

The site improvements made through this process have significantly reduced incidents of criminal activity in MTHA communities. Surveillance cameras, lighting improvements, landscaping and hardware retrofits have made the difference in some communities. Other communities have benefited from aggressive pruning of trees, removal of large walls, additional fencing and other measures. Improving sightlines and creating new physical and psychological barriers, these measures have helped discourage incidents of loitering, vandalism, break-ins, and other problems.

For maximum flexibility, quarterly audits of all MTHA communities ensure that communities with the greatest needs are benefiting from appropriate resources. Thus should a community that had been experiencing relatively few security demands suddenly find that its security needs have increased, resources from a community that has relatively fewer needs can be shifted to this community.

Residents are clearly impressed: a recent resident satisfaction survey gave MTHA Security an excellent rating.

Community Networking and Its Benefits

MTHA has access to many community networks. Security staff yield enormous benefits from exchanges with all of them - residents, staff, social service providers, law enforcement providers, business, and security educators. At the local level, the Community Patrol Officers rely most on their relationships with residents, other MTHA field staff, local police, and social service agencies. Activities that promote these relationships are key to successful security.

Community policing means that staff members must be active members of the community they patrol. MTHA security staff achieve this aim by participating in the day-to-day life of the community. Vickie Rennie, a resident who runs a Vertical Watch program in an MTHA high-rise apartment community, has commented: "Our relationship with security staff is great! They drop into the office, meet, and greet with residents. They participate in Vertical Watch and are willing to give advice and help all the time."

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working hours. They are active in local charity events. Furthermore, MTHA security staff and local police officers volunteer their skills and time to recreation programs sponsored by MTHA's Community and Tenant Services branch. These programs also involve local business sponsors. For example, the Toronto Blue Jays are among the many sponsors of Rookie Ball League.

Two other networks are important to MTHA's effective security program: law enforcement providers and security educators. MTHA's successful partnerships with the University of Toronto and Humber College mean that criminology students volunteer in MTHA communities and programs. They learn valuable lessons from this experience and help keep MTHA abreast of current methods and theories.

Through an agreement with the Toronto Police Service, MTHA has access to the Canadian Police Information Centre, a national database with comprehensive and up-to-date information on criminals, criminal records, those charged or wanted. Staff also participate on a number of local law enforcement initiatives (Toronto Police Services Drug Strategy Planning Group, Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario) and are seeking certification on Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police as affiliate members.

All these activities encourage exchanges of information, trends, strategies and intelligence that benefit security staff and the communities they serve, as well as the larger community.

These exchanges are the foundation of effective security.

Heather Wright is Communications officer with the Metro Toronto Housing Authority. She has a Masters Degree in English and is presently working toward her Doctorate Degree in English Literature at York University.

Security Conference Schedule

On November 3 and 4, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre the Metro Toronto Housing Authority is sponsoring the Planning for Residential Security Forum 1998. The forum will encourage productive exchanges between property managers, administrators, owners, social service providers, and representatives from law enforcement agencies. Together they will participate in workshops on issues related to Site Security, Risk Analysis, Building and Site Design, Graffiti and Vandalism, Community Development, and much more.

For further information on the Planning for Residential Security Forum, contact: MTHA Security Services Forum at (416) 969-6118
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OVERT: Search and rescue made easy

by Blair McQuillan



When a depressed man wandered away from his home north of Bowmanville, Ont., last spring police launched a massive search effort to find him.

While officers walked through the woods, along roads and in a farmer's field, two policemen with general purpose dogs teamed up to track the man.

Shortly after the search began, the tracking team discovered their target. The man, in his early 30s and suffering from hypothermia, was found two kilometres from his home beside a barn where he lay unconscious from a combination of prescription drugs and alcohol.

But while two police officers found the man only one was wearing the uniform of the municipality he served.

The other was dressed in a pair of dark blue coveralls bearing the crest of a unique organization known as the Ontario Volunteer Emergency Response Team.

Based in the city of Oshawa, OVERT is an independent volunteer search and rescue organization that assists police services in locating missing persons.

"It's a self-contained agency," said OVERT founder and co-ordinator Shane Harbinson. "We specialize in urban, suburban and rural searches."

Harbinson, 29, first realized the need for a trained volunteer search and rescue team in 1990, when the Durham Regional Police Service spent three weeks searching for a 16-year-old Pickering girl who had been abducted.

The police relied on the public to help conduct the search, which failed to turn up any clues. Harbinson felt that while those who volunteered were well-intentioned, they didn't have the skills required to look for vital evidence that could lead police to her location.

"Afterwards, I met with the police and asked whether they would be interested in having an agency which would specialize in conducting missing person operations for them," Harbinson said. "They were."

Over the next three years, Harbinson worked with Durham police, local ambulance crews and search and rescue teams in Canada and the United States in order to create stand-



ards, procedures and rules for the unique team.

"There was really nothing to model ourselves after," said Harbinson, who spent four years in the Canadian military before launching OVERT. "One of the big concerns I had with starting the agency was that it not be a civilian agency. I wanted input from the emergency services right from the beginning."

In 1994, OVERT was incorporated as a non-profit agency. Two years later, the rescue team established an operational policy with the Durham police service. The policy allows Durham to call OVERT in to conduct searches any time they require assistance.

The operational policy really helped OVERT to establish itself in the search and rescue field, Harbinson said.

"A lot of credit goes to the Durham Re-



Shane Harbinson

gional Police Service because this was a big step for any service," he said. "A lot of credit to our success goes to them because if they hadn't been willing to work with us to create this agency then it wouldn't have gone anywhere."

But the 100-member, multi-unit team is ready to go anywhere at any time.

When police call OVERT to a search scene the organization's command and canine sections are usually the first to respond. The command members will work with police to form a plan of action while the canine unit is responsible for conducting a preliminary search.

By the time a plan of action is formed, an OVERT search crew has arrived on the scene to conduct reconnaissance, as well as grid, street and patrol searches.

The communications staff is responsible for dispatching units and helping to co-ordinate the search effort. A rescue unit comprised of certified paramedics is also present to provide medical treatment to victims or OVERT members if needed.

"They're well motivated and they are an excellent group of volunteers," said Harbinson, who has spared no expense in outfitting his team with search tools including lap top computers, search management software, hand-held radios and a mobile command centre.

"We're totally self-sufficient with equipment," he said.

Despite all the experience and expertise they bring to a search, OVERT members are professionals who know they are always under the command of the officers on the scene, Harbinson said.

"When we go in we completely understand

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that the police have operational control. It's their show, we're just assisting them."

Having this type of assistance available can be very beneficial, said Det./Sgt. Peter Naumienko, an OVERT liaison officer with the Durham police.

"The big benefit is that they can supply, within an hour or two, up to 40 or 50 people to provide us with assistance in searches," said Naumienko, adding that the team is used for more than rescue operations.

"We've used them in several homicide investigations," he said. "We use them for searching areas for evidence."

The team is also called in during special events where large crowds gather and children often get separated from their parents. During Canada Day festivities in Oshawa each year, OVERT sets up a booth where missing children and their parents are reunited. This year, OVERT volunteers located 20 missing children during the city's annual celebration.

"I have not heard one bad thing about them," Naumienko said. "They do a great job."

And OVERT can back up the praise they've received with facts, Harbinson said. Over the past two years, whether his team has been searching for a missing child, Alzheimer's patient, or suicide victim, OVERT has enjoyed success.

"Our success rate is really good," he said. "We've been involved in over 70 cases since 1996 (and) we only have one outstanding case."

Harbinson believes OVERT's high standards and rigorous training program have helped to make the search and rescue team one of the top units in North America.

"The volunteers go through a very in-depth procedure to get into the agency," he said.

Before joining OVERT, candidates must pass criminal and background checks and have CPR training. This usually isn't a problem because many applicants come from or are seeking employment in the emergency services field. If a candidate meets the initial requirements, they are then brought in for an interview.

"After the interview, if they're selected, they go through a 24-hour search technician level one course, which they have to pass in order to make their probation," Harbinson said, adding candidates must pass the course on their first attempt.

Once recruits make it past the technician course they are placed on probation for six months. If they manage to meet the team's expectations during that time they become full-time members. But their training doesn't end there.

"They have 44 hours of mandatory training they have to do a year," Harbinson said. "If they don't make their training commitment they're released from the agency."

Since 1996, news of this well-trained organization and the services it offers has traveled quickly. In 1997, one year after the operational agreement with Durham police, OVERT established units and agreements with two nearby towns, Port Hope and Cobourg. In July, OVERT began to set up a team of volunteers in the town of Lindsay.

Harbinson said OVERT's expansion has been slow and carefully controlled to ensure that each team is established properly.

"We didn't want to expand in an uncontrolled manner," he said. "We wanted to make sure that everything was done correctly."

"It's a very long process. For us to expand



into Lindsay, which we're doing right now, it likely won't be until March of next year before they have their crew fully trained. Usually, it takes us about six to eight months to get a crew going."

While the Lindsay project is keeping OVERT management busy it hasn't stopped them from looking to the future. The team's next major project is to establish a unit in a region west of Durham.

"Going into another region is a big goal for us," he said. "When we go into another re-

gion we'll set up a completely autonomous division of about 50 or 60 volunteers. All we need from the region is a small amount of operational funding. The volunteers themselves will fund raise for all of the capital expenses."

And Harbinson said his team is worth the price.

"For a nominal cost they get what is really a phenomenal response to missing person incidents."

Of course, OVERT won't turn away any requests for assistance. Over the past two years the team has helped police with cases in Hamilton-Wentworth, Halton, Kitchener, Waterloo and Toronto. But because of their operational agreements with the four municipalities, OVERT can't offer its full support to other police forces.

"Predominately we offer specialized services anywhere in Ontario," Harbinson said. "Certainly, if a police agency calls we will give them some of our resources, but we're mandated here locally so we still have to have some personnel available for a local call."

However, if a municipality were interested in having an OVERT unit in their area, the police aren't the only ones who would benefit from having a fully equipped search and rescue team, Harbinson said.

"To the community as a whole, I think the biggest advantage is that when a person goes missing, if their life is in danger, you have a professional agency working with the police to look for them."

For more information on OVERT contact Shane Harbinson at (905) 404-2889.



Chief of Police City of Prince Albert Saskatchewan

Due to the impending retirement of the current Police Chief, the Prince Albert Board of Police Commissioners is seeking a qualified individual for the position of *Chief of Police for the Prince Albert Police Service*.

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The successful candidate will have a minimum of ten years of policing experience with progressively increasing administrative and management responsibilities. Completion of Grade 12, supplemented by a University or College Program, as well as, completion of the Canadian Police College Executive Development Course or equivalent, is desirable.

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Cadaver Dogs

Bringing closure to missing person investigations

by Blair McQuillan

Glen Turpin and his dog Jesse have traveled many miles in their ongoing search for missing people.

They've walked through fields in the warm spring air, braved mosquito-infested woods in the heat of the summer and floated on open water in the middle of a frigid winter.

But Turpin, a member of the Ontario Volunteer Emergency Response Team, (OVERT) doesn't expect his specially trained dog to find lost loved ones huddled in a hollowed-out tree stump or thrashing in the water. That's not what Jesse's trained to do. The five-year-old Belgian Malinois is a cadaver dog and, as his title implies, his job is to find bodies.

While recovering cadavers may seem like a macabre task to some, Turpin says that he and the other 100 members of OVERT, a volunteer search and rescue team, feel the practise is a vital part of the service they provide to the police and public.

"What OVERT decided was that returning the victims to their family is what we're here to do," Turpin said. "If it means that they're deceased, that's unfortunate, but it gives closure to the grieving people."

Of course, recovering victims can also bring closure to criminal investigations. Since they began conducting body recoveries two years ago, Turpin and Jesse have traveled across the province to help various police agencies that have requested their unique service.

Last February, Turpin and Jesse were called in by the Halton Regional and Ontario Provincial Police to help locate a 36-year-old murder victim who had disappeared two years earlier.

Investigators had a warrant to search 12 acres of land and the forces' emergency response team members had identified potential sites where the body could have been buried. But the police were working on a tight schedule and couldn't spend their days digging holes in the ground hoping to locate the deceased.

"We came in as a specialized resource and assisted them in eliminating sites," Turpin said. "Our dog indicated on one and ended up locating the victim. He was about six feet underground."

Due to the effort of the police services and OVERT, the search was completed in one day. The recovery resulted in the arrest of a 25-year-old Brampton man, who was charged with first degree murder. The case is still before the court.

"We were very impressed with their performance," said OPP Det. S/Sgt. Ken McDonald, the search co-ordinator. "They're very professional at what they do."

"It was an excellent combined job," Turpin said. "They did their thing, we did our thing and we all worked together."

And team work is what OVERT is all about. Turpin, a constable with the Durham Re-



gional Police Service, says he always makes a point of meeting with lead investigators when he arrives on a crime scene in order to learn about the case and develop a plan of action with those in charge.

"It's essential that I sit down with the investigators and get all of their information and theories as to what has occurred. That sort of information is crucial for me to be able to develop a proper search. Of course, everything is left up to the investigators, I'm just there to assist."

That assistance can be very beneficial. With the aid of a cadaver dog police can develop or eliminate leads and possible suspects. The dog also helps reduce the amount of manpower, money and time police agencies use during searches.

"It cuts down on resource time. We don't need a lot of people to do our job. The dog can cover a lot of territory," said Turpin, the co-founder and head of OVERT's canine section.

"When you use a human search team you're limited by your sight. I've been to scenes where the victim has decomposed enough to be part of the ground even if he's

above the surface. It's not impossible to be three or four feet away from a victim and not see them.

"The dog is not limited by his sight because he responds to scent. So we're able to cover a large area quickly and accurately."

The scent cadaver dogs follow is a unique chemical composition that leaches out of the human body after death. The longer the body is left to decompose, the stronger the scent becomes. Because cadaver dogs are only looking for one scent, their search isn't hampered by the presence of other people, Turpin said.

"You can have 100 police officers walking around a field doing a search and we can still do our job. We're not restricted by search teams, investigators or forensics."

Turpin first realized the need for cadaver dogs when he joined OVERT in May 1995. The canines are used extensively in Europe and the United States, but no law enforcement agency in this country utilizes their skills.

"After working with the general purpose dogs I did some research and realized nobody did body recovery in Canada," he said. "While

general purpose dogs may react to a deceased victim, they're not trained to respond to them, so they may miss them."

Once Turpin informed OVERT management about the advantages of having a cadaver dog they agreed to enrol him in an eight-week training course.

In September 1996, after completing in-class and hands-on training, Turpin and Jesse received their certification for body recovery from Chilport (Canada) Limited.

Chilport, run by John Grima, is a security company that specializes in training canines for special services like narcotics, firearms and explosives recovery.

Grima, a retired police officer and founder of the Toronto Police Service's canine unit, is very proud of his two students.

"They're an excellent team," he said. "They've had some great success together."

In fact, the duo have enjoyed so much success and are in such demand that OVERT decided to train a second body recovery team. In April, OVERT volunteer Brian Armstrong and his dog Bosco received their certification from Chilport.

Perhaps OVERT's newest team will soon be making headlines like Turpin and Jesse did last January, when they helped Toronto and Durham Regional police locate a snowmobiler who went through the ice on Lake Scugog, in Port Perry.

In the Scugog case Jesse, who can also search on water, located the cadaver scent just 20 feet from where police divers eventually recovered the body.

Whether they occur in the winter or summer, water recoveries are basically the same, Turpin explained.

"What we do is put the dog on a boat, search an area and let the dog indicate. Essentially, we try to reduce the search area for the divers. We try to make their job a little easier and a little safer."

Despite numerous water recovery success stories, some still remain sceptical, Turpin said.

"Water searches always get some questions. People want to know how we can find a body underwater.

"Basically, the body is still going to decompose and the scent is going to come to the surface. We're not able to be as accurate as a ground search. We have to worry about currents, wind and other environmental factors."

But Grima says people shouldn't be surprised by the dog's ability to locate victims or their eagerness to work. In fact, the dogs are sometimes so determined to find a target they create more work for investigators.

"We've trained dogs in the U.S. that have been out searching for a missing child and come up with two other bodies that aren't related to the case," he said. "That happens all the time."

While the dogs are often able to locate a specific victim, or reveal clues to a new case, Turpin warns that searching for bodies is not an exact science. There are many factors that



must be considered when conducting a search.

"It's not absolute," he said. "Maybe the dog isn't hitting on the scent, or maybe the body isn't as accessible as we think. There's always a possibility that he'll miss the body."

But Turpin does everything he can to make sure the scent is available to Jesse. In the Milton case for example, Turpin used prodding poles to make holes in the earth, which allowed the smell of bacteria to come to the surface.

The veteran canine handler also keeps Jesse on top of his game by putting him through recovery exercises at least once a week. Turpin usually tests Jesse's skills by having him find objects with the cadaver scent on it. He may be required to follow the scent to a fallen tree stump in the middle of a forest, or under a rock along a creek bed.

Hands-on training seminars are another major part of their curriculum. Over the past two years, they have traveled to six confer-

ences in the U.S. where they've had a chance to learn new techniques and display their skills.

"Whenever they go down to these participatory seminars they're always sent to the advanced classes," Grima said. "Quite often they're used by instructors for demonstration purposes."

Turpin said the seminars are important because it gives him an opportunity to learn from his colleagues and expose Jesse to new environments. This helps the dog learn

to concentrate on his job and not get distracted by different surroundings.

While the seminars are helpful in keeping both handler and dog in sync, Turpin and Jesse are also re-certified annually. Turpin said the re-certification is critical to ensure that law enforcement agencies remain confident in the team's ability to conduct body recoveries.

"When it comes to working with law enforcement agencies you've got to have standards," he said. "You've got to have certification and be creditable because (the police) have to be concerned with liability. Being a police officer, I know what is required."

And he's even willing to appear in court. So, does anyone need some help with a case?

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Fresh developments in roadside drug-testing



by Sue Mapp

Five thousand British motorists are being tested for illicit drugs in a move to help curb the growing world menace of drug-related road deaths. This United Kingdom government initiative is the latest in a series designed to keep Britain in the lead of developed countries combating one of the great social challenges of modern times.

The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions has set up a national pilot project to evaluate the practicality of two simple new types of roadside drug-testing equipment.

The purpose of the current trials is merely to assess the suitability of the equipment for day-to-day police work in roadside conditions, but not to incriminate motorists at this stage. Whether the readings show the presence of drugs or not, the trials will be valid.

Motorists are being picked at random and can choose to cooperate or not. No record will



Photo: Rob Judges - London Press Service

The compact 'lollipop' drugs test kit from Cozart takes just moments to administer and produce an analysis. This is one of two products being tested by British police to screen for drug impaired drivers. The second product is a German product that analyzes forehead sweat.

be made of their names or car registrations. Police will not test drivers who are obviously under the influence of alcohol or drugs - they will be prosecuted under existing law.

The project is set against the background of the UK's record as the nation with the lowest number of road deaths from all causes per capita per year. Latest annual figures show that in the UK only six per 100,000 of the popula-

tion were killed in the road accidents, as compared with ten per 100,000 in Japan, 11 per 100,000 in both Australia and Canada, 12 in Germany, 15 in France and 16 in the United States.

Although UK percentages are low, officials are concerned that figures relating to accidents and drugs show that illicit drug use may be a significant factor in road fatalities. UK statistics indicate that, in common with the rest of the developed world, the scale of illicit drug use among those killed has increased considerably over the last decade. They also reveal a marked increase in the number of dead who had taken two or more types of illicit drug.

The figures come from the first 15 months of a three-year UK study into drugs found in road accident victims in which specimens from 619 fatalities were analysed. Four police forces volunteered to be involved in the trials - Cleveland, Lancashire and Sussex in England and Strathclyde in Scotland.

"We want our roads to be safer for all drivers, motorcyclists, pedestrians and cyclists. To help achieve that we need to know whether drug use poses a significant road safety problem," said UK Roads Minister Baroness Hayman at the London conference announcing the tests.

Two non-invasive devices are to be tested, one using sweat and saliva. The first is 'Drugwipe', designed and manufactured in Germany and distributed exclusively in the UK by D.Tec International. It takes a specimen of sweat from the forehead and any drug traces

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detected by the device will result in colour changes on a strip visible to the eye.

The device has a sensitive and accurate immunochemical antibody sensor, in the form of a simple-to-use pen-sized device that can indicate the presence of drugs in under one minute. Drugwipe devices are drug type specific, so if a police officer wishes to test for more than one drug type, a separate device will be required for each test. Drugwipes are available for cannabis, amphetamines (including ecstasy), cocaine and opiates and each of these will be trialed.

Drugwipe, at present being evaluated by a number of customs, immigration, police, armed forces and prison services around the world, confirms substances are drugs whether they are in tablet, powder, capsule, leaf or liquid form.

The second device is all British, having been invented and developed by Cozart Bioscience, a privately owned immunodiagnosics company situated in Abingdon, Oxfordshire, southern England, and its evaluation instrument designed by the North Wales technology firm of Snowdonia Business Innovation Centre.

Prototypes have undergone accuracy trials at Glasgow University, Scotland, and will be used in the pilot product. A fully commercial test kit should be available by the end of this year and evaluation instruments ordered will be manufactured in North Wales. Overseas enquiries are coming in, including some from organisations in Greece and Croatia.

The device has come to be known as the

'lollipop' test because motorists are asked to place an absorbent swab, attached to a plastic strip into their mouths to provide a saliva sample. The swab is then placed into a disposable cartridge where the chemical reaction takes place and this is then inserted into an evaluation instrument which gives a digital reading of any drugs present in between three and five minutes.

Antibodies in a few drops of solution are used in the test cartridge to detect substances. The whole kit weighs about the same as a mobile telephone and fits into the palm of the hand.

Cozart's test can simultaneously detect up to eight drugs in a single saliva sample. These include cannabis, ecstasy, cocaine, methadone, amphetamines, benzodiazepines and opiates. Trials to date have indicated that the test is more than 95 per cent accurate and comparable to conventional laboratory urine and blood tests. For the purpose of the trial, Cozart is supplying 500 test swabs, 500 reagent cartridges and up to six evaluation instruments.

"We are delighted to participate in this trial," said Philip Hand, Cozart's finance and commercial director. "Cozart's saliva-based test is convenient to use and sample collection can be closely observed. Unlike other biological samples, in which drug traces can persist for considerable periods, the concentration of drugs in saliva mirrors that found in the blood. This means our test gives a better indication of likely impairment at the time of testing."

For further information contact:

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The University of Minnesota Alcohol Epidemiology Program has developed a manual entitled "Alcohol Compliance Checks - A Procedure Manual for Enforcing Alcohol Age-of-Sale Laws."

The manual, among other things, briefs police officials on how to recruit and train buyers for compliance checks and how to deal and communicate with businesses and communities affected by these checks.

Traci L. Toomey, Ph.D., co-author of the book said "most communities will see a significant drop in illegal sales of alcohol along with a corresponding reduction in collisions, rapes, suicides and vandalism to name but a few."

The manual can be downloaded from the internet at www.epi.umn.edu/alcohol.

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Making a difference on Canada's roads

Apprehending and prosecuting drug impaired drivers with the Drug Recognition Expert Program

by John Bercic



This October will mark the third anniversary of the Drug Recognition Expert Program's implementation in Canada. This program has given police

officers in British Columbia the skills to detect, apprehend and prosecute drug impaired drivers. By all accounts this program has been extremely successful.

In October of 1995, the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) sponsored the training of twenty-eight police officers (from various municipal and Royal Canadian Mounted Police departments in the Lower Mainland of Vancouver) in the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Program. This was the first time the DRE Course was held in Canada.

The two-week classroom phase of the DRE Program's Certification process was instructed at the RCMP Fairmont Training Academy, in Vancouver, by eight police officers from various American police agencies. Along with the classroom phase, the police officers were required to complete a minimum of twelve Drug Influence Evaluations on people under the influence of drugs.

The Drug Influence Evaluation is a twelve-step process (which is described later on) where the police officer forms an opinion as to which category (or categories) of drug the person is under the influence. To complete the DRE Program's Certification process, a minimum of



three different drug categories (which are described later on as well) had to be identified and backed up accurately by toxicological confirmation of the police officer's opinion. The Drug Influence Evaluation phase of the training was conducted in Los Angeles, Phoenix, and New York.

The DRE Program is governed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). Once all the IACP DRE Program's training requirements were met, the police officers were certified by the IACP as Drug Recognition Experts.

The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia saw a need for the DRE Program because

recent Canadian studies indicated that impairment due to drugs was involved in a significant percentage of all driver fatalities. The ICBC Drugs and Driving Committee is working on effecting legislative changes at the provincial and federal level.

One proposal is an Implied Consent Law which would give police officers the tool to more effectively deal with the drug impaired driver. An Implied Consent Law would require suspected drug impaired drivers to provide a blood sample for analysis. By funding the DRE Program, ICBC will be helping to save lives and reduce drug impaired driving. This will also help reduce the amount of money paid out on insurance claims arising from drug impaired driving accidents.

To underscore the importance of the DRE Program a study conducted by the University of Tennessee Medical Centre analysed urine samples of crash injured drivers. Startling statistics in this study revealed 40 per cent of the drivers had drugs other than alcohol in their system.

ICBC is a British Columbia Provincial Crown Corporation. Provincial legislation requires all owners of motor vehicles registered in British Columbia to purchase liability insurance through ICBC if they wish to operate their motor vehicle on British Columbia's roads. ICBC also handles the registration and licencing of motor vehicles and the issuance and records of drivers' licences.

The American Experience

The Drug Recognition Expert Program was developed by the Los Angeles Police Department in 1979. Since that time the DRE Program has been used successfully to identify drug impaired drivers. Through the help of this program the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office has estimated that 95 per cent of those charged with driving under the influence of drugs are convicted.

The DRE Program is currently implemented in thirty-two states across the United States. Australia, Norway, Germany and Sweden have also been successful in adapting the DRE Program to their jurisdictions. The Drug Influence Evaluation is conducted in the same manner in every state and every country. The reason for the standardized twelve-step Drug Influence Evaluation process is to avoid errors, promote professionalism, and secure acceptance in court.

A laboratory evaluation of the DRE Program was conducted by the Johns Hopkins University. The laboratory evaluation found that the Los Angeles Police Department officers were correct 98.7 per cent of the time in identifying drug impaired subjects using the above technique. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration followed up with a Field Validation Study in Los Angeles. Included in this study were 173 drug impaired drivers. Blood

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tests confirmed the presence of at least one drug category predicted by the Drug Recognition Expert 92.5 per cent of the time.

The body tells the whole story

The DRE Program divides drugs into seven categories based on how the drugs affect a person's eyes, pulse, blood pressure, body temperature, and muscle tone.

The seven drug categories are:

- 1) CNS Depressants
- 2) Inhalants
- 3) PCP
- 4) Cannabis
- 5) CNS Stimulants
- 6) Hallucinogens
- 7) Narcotic Analgesics

The Canadian Experience

So far the DRE Program has been extremely successful in taking drug impaired drivers off British Columbia's roads, thereby preventing the possibility of serious accidents. Hundreds of 24-hour roadside driving prohibitions have been issued to drivers affected by drugs. Several Criminal Code of Canada charges for driving while impaired by drug have also been approved resulting in court convictions. These charges stemmed from motor vehicle accidents in which the driver would have otherwise escaped criminal and civil liability.

Since the initial Canadian DRE Course, which was held in October of 1995, eighteen of the originally trained Drug Recognition Experts have completed an additional DRE Instructor's Course and are now DRE Instructors. In March of 1998, a second DRE Course was held at the RCMP Fairmont Training Academy. This DRE Course was instructed by the newly trained DRE Instructors. With the completion of this DRE Course, the total number of Drug Recognition Experts in British Columbia is over fifty.

The demand for the DRE Program is growing across Canada. The Ontario Provincial Police wish to run a DRE Course in Ontario and the Calgary Police have expressed a desire to be taught the DRE Program. Currently British Columbia has the only qualified DRE Instructors in Canada to teach the DRE Course.

The Drug Recognition Expert Program in Canada is making a difference. As the DRE Program grows and expands across the country, it will undoubtedly reduce drug impaired driving and save lives.



John Bercic is an IACP Certified Drug Recognition Expert Instructor. He is in his tenth year as a police constable with the Vancouver Police Department and is currently assigned to the Traffic Enforcement Motorcycle Squad.

For more information about the DRE Program of the Vancouver Police call:
Ph: 604-717-3349 Pin 1446
Fax: 604-257-3716
Email: jrbbrc@globalserve.net
Check the Web at : www.dre.org

The eyes can tell the story



A major part of the investigative training officers undergo involves the rigid 12-step procedure required to determine the type of drug influencing the offender.

To assist the officers the International Association of Chiefs of Police have developed a plastic laminated card that both reminds the officers of the 12 step procedure and supplies a template or "Pupilometer", which measures the amount of pupil dilation under certain light conditions.

The I.A.C.P. will be hosting its fifth annual Drugs, Alcohol & Impaired Driving Conference next June 27 to 29 in Minneapolis. For further information call: 703 836-6767.

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2. INTERVIEW OF ARRESTING OFFICER
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Initial Estimate of Pupil Size
4. EYE EXAMINATION
HGN Lack of Smooth Pursuit
Nystagmus At Maximum Deviation
Angle of Onset
VERTICAL NYSTAGMUS
LACK OF CONVERGENCE
5. DIVIDED ATTENTION TESTS
1. Romberg balance 2. Walk & Turn
3. One Leg Stand 4. Finger To Nose
6. VITAL SIGNS
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30 SECONDS X 2= b.p.m.
BLOOD PRESSURE
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70 - 90 - Diastolic
BODY TEMPERATURE
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7. DARK ROOM CHECKS
PUPIL SIZE - 3.0mm - 6.5mm
1. Room light 2. Near total darkness
3. Indirect light 4. Direct light
INGESTION EXAMINATION
Nasal Area Oral Cavity
8. CHECK FOR MUSCLE TONE
9. CHECK FOR INJECTION SITES - THIRD PULSE
10. INTERROGATION OF SUBJECT - OBSERVATIONS
11. OPINION OF EVALUATOR
12. TOXICOLOGICAL SAMPLE

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Launching a new training facility

The Northern Ontario Police Academy for Advanced Training



The Northern Ontario Police Academy for Advanced Training (NOPAAT) is a unique training facility that offers a range of high quality, training and professional development options tailored to meet the needs of individuals in policing, justice and emergency services professions. This advanced training site would offer a variety of alternate delivery strategies using state of the art technologies.

Situated 10 minutes north of downtown Sudbury, on 43 acres of land, NOPAAT is located in a newly renovated two story building. The main entrance to the building overlooks a large parking space and opens into a foyer banked by an active regional police storefront, contemporary meeting rooms, large classrooms and gymnasiums. Its offices offer participants all the amenities conducive to learning while away from home and work.

A walk down the hallways leads you to newly furnished dormitories accommodating 30, a dining room, washrooms and two shared common rooms. The entire building is wired with fibre optics hooked up to a high speed broadband ATM base network with connectivity to major centres across Canada and the world. Classrooms are equipped with current educational technologies and virtual capacity with each dormitory having ports for laptops ready to meet participants' needs.

Three partners, Sudbury Regional Police, Cambrian College and the Town of Rayside Balfour — through the support of FEDNOR, have collaborated to conduct a feasibility study that will explore the benefits to this particular training site. The three part study incorporates stakeholders, consultation, demonstration pilots and a needs analysis.

Pilot courses chosen to demonstrate a range of skills and delivery methods have been coordinated as part of the project. These courses, many of them brand new, have been developed without educational partners. Participants register in these courses at reduced fees specifically set as part of the study. Candidates gain knowledge and skills while contributing to a confidential evaluation of the facility, the instructors and the course content. To date three courses have been delivered beginning with two Advanced Patrol Training courses, certified by the Ontario Police College, as part of their outreach program. Both



police services, along with the Ontario Provincial Police and were well received.

In early July, twenty individuals from across the province participated in the Forensic Recovery of Decomposing of Human Remains. Dr. Scott Fairgrieve, Director of the Forensic Osteology Laboratory at Laurentian University instructed this hands-on exercise on how to handle human remains in forensic contexts. "The feedback for this course has been overwhelming," stated Fairgrieve. "All of the student ratings for this score were scored as being excellent."

"This course is specific as to what techniques are to be used for body recovery," stated course participant Insp. John Van der Lelie. "It is important to use techniques that meet world-

wide standards."

The remaining courses offered as part of the study between November and March include: Leadership in Action, Tools for Community Policing, At Scene Collision Investigation, and Crisis Negotiations.

The results from the consultation to date, indicate that NOPAAT will benefit Northern Ontario and beyond. Based on the very positive responses from surveys and discussion, a roster of course offerings for 1999 is being developed. A key initiative will be research into the establishment of a Police Learning Network that will provide law enforcement professional with access to appropriate training - anytime, anywhere, through information technology.

What a sweet way to say goodbye!



On June 1st, 1998, the members of the Brandon Police Association presented a farewell party for five officers who were moving to other police services to continue their career. Don Coleman, Joe Sangster, Thor Bahl and Lloyd Soltys were hired by the Calgary Police Service while Pat Rathwell was hired by the Saskatoon Police Service.

To help the officers celebrate the special occasion the people from Brandon's Kuipers Family Bakery designed the cake pictured above. The bakery estimated they put around eight hours of work into decorating the cake. They found the effort both challenging and fun.

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Crisis Negotiations January 11 - 15, 1999

This course, offered by the Canadian Critical Incident Association, teaches current negotiation strategies for a crisis situation - whether it be hostage taking, a barricaded person, or a suicidal individual.

Tuition: \$200.00*

Instructional Techniques 1999 (Date to be announced)

This mandated course for trainers emphasizes the development of confidence and enthusiasm while providing the theory and practical techniques of instruction.

* These courses are all being offered at reduced tuition fees as a part of the NOPAAT project. The NOPAAT facility offers on site dormitories and meals at an all inclusive \$55.00 per day.



Call us for additional information about the facility and upcoming courses:

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SURVEILLANCE



Techniques Of Vehicle Surveillance

By Hal Cunningham
Surveillance Consultants
(Associate Member Of The Council Of Private
Investigators - Ontario)

All proper surveillance involving vehicles dictates that there be between four and seven cars to prevent detection. Anything less can increase the possibility of an accident. Extreme caution should be taken to ensure the safety of personnel. If things get too involved, it is better to follow another day than take a "burn" or have an accident.

One or two person surveillance can be done with properly trained personnel that are competent and work within the guidelines of common sense. There are two methods of team surveillance; caravan and parallel.

Caravan Surveillance

Caravan is the most common method and is utilized when only one and two person surveillance is done. Caravan is basically following behind the subject using private vehicles as cover or "shade." The #1 surveillance car should have one or two pieces of shade behind the target vehicle. The #2 vehicle should have one or two pieces of shade behind the #1 car.

A common mistake is for the #2 vehicle to get too close to the #1 surveillance car. This crowds the #1 car, who is more concerned with what is in front of him than another team player not giving him the room he needs to work. In addition, the #2 car is over exposing himself to the target. If the #2 car can also see the target then vision is two ways and the target can also see the #2 car.

If you are working with 3rd and 4th team cars then they should stay well back and only come up when needed to take over. These additional cars should not get too close to the play and remain back. Should the target suddenly stop and park, then #1 and #2 might have to pass by and #3 or #4 should set up observations and take over the eye. A designated road boss should ensure that the crew is spread out properly at all times.



Two vehicle "Caravan" surveillance

The Target (T) vehicle makes a right turn. The first surveillance vehicle (1) would continue through the intersection and contact the second (2) surveillance vehicle to make a right turn also and pick up the tail. The first surveillance vehicle could then circle the block and assume the position of the second surveillance vehicle. Good communications is the key.

Frequent change-ups ensure a variety of exposure to the target's eye.

The concept of the caravan method is a team following the target and properly blending with other shade vehicles. If you are ever on the target without shade, or "bare," get off immediately. One man surveillance should also get off and return with shade vehicles. Only an untrained operative would ride the target bare for any length of time without taking corrective action.

There is some benefit from the #1 car taking the eye ahead of the target vehicle. In dense city traffic a lead surveillance car, with one or two pieces of shade ahead of the target, can assist the team that is following the target. Should the target make it through a traffic light, ahead of the team that is following, then the lead car can call the movement. The remainder of the team can catch up after the light changes. I would even utilize this method for a two man surveillance team in downtown Toronto. This is a popular method to combat the excess in traffic lights and possibility of not making it through the light with the target vehicle.

The lead eye ahead of the target is also advantageous on quiet or county roads. This gives open space behind the target vehicle and the appearance that there is not always a car behind him. The remainder of the team can stay

well back out of sight and only move up when requested by this lead car.

Parallel Surveillance

The parallel method of vehicle surveillance can only be used under two or more car situations. There is a #1 car behind the target, with shade and other team members take up a left and right parallel route approximately one block behind the target vehicle. Should the #1 car call a right or left turn by the target, then he would let the target go alone to the next block where that paralleling vehicle would be responsible to pick up the observations. The previous #1 vehicle does not make the initial turn but picks up a parallel route.

This method is rather complex and detailed instruction requires a chalk board and plenty of practice.

The "box technique" is when the parallel method is used in conjunction with a lead surveillance car. A two person team can use a rear surveillance car and one parallel vehicle, but it can be risky to the project.

Special consideration should be made when setting up observations from the vehicle near the residence of the target. Many operatives take this eye far too close. If they back up the block some considerable distance and use binoculars they can achieve the same result with a lot less risk. There is more opportunity to take "heat" or a "burn" in his neighbourhood than anywhere else!

When the target has been misplaced, the immediate area of the loss is usually where you will locate the subject. Search this area thoroughly. In a team situation communicate to the other members what you are doing. With team work, communication, and dedication I've seen the play resume again within minutes.

Next article: Choosing Your Clothing

You may call Hal Cunningham at (416) 716-3107

Hal Cunningham has been declared an expert in surveillance by the courts and has started an instructional techniques course on the subject. For further information contact him at 416 716-3107.

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A new versatile tactical communications headset has just been made available to the police market through Nova Scotia-based Viking Metals & Military Supplies.

The *Lite Headset*, from Television Equipment Associates Inc., provides perfect peripheral hearing through earphone vents even while being worn under ballistic helmets. In addition

the earphone accommodates hearing protection during explosive sounds through a noise cancelling capability through the boom mic.

The boom mic is extremely versatile and converts to throat or mask mic with little or no trouble. The headstraps are fabric and elastic with touch fasteners. They are adjustable to accommodate all head sizes, and to ensure that headset will not fall off during aggressive movements. The throat mic is said to be capable of transmitting a whisper-like normal speech and yet is not affected by high noise.

The *Lite Headset* is also described as weatherproof and is able to withstand severe exposure to rain, snow, humidity and temperatures to minus 20 degrees Celsius. Marine use requires special additional information which the supplier is ready to assist with.

The manufacturer will provide police agencies with samples of this product for a 30-day evaluation and will adjust the sets to local frequencies if supplied with details. Interested agencies should contact Daniel Sawler at 902 435-2274 or fax 902 435-2274.

New software programs obtained for police and security environments

Toronto-based Omni Support Services recently announced the installation of several of their software packages to various agencies in the southern Ontario area.

The Peel Regional Police has acquired the network version of a new *Drug Manager* software program from Omni Support Services for multiple computer use in their Morality Unit.

The *Drug Manager* software program is designed to monitor the locations of drug and money seizures, accused names and case managers as well as maintaining evidence continuity when evidence is removed for tests, court or destruction.

Omni Support also announced the Security Unit of the Pickering Nuclear Facility has acquired the network version of their *OmniPark* software program for multiple entry gate use. This computer program registers authorized vehicles and owners, features automated vehicle checking, tracks parking tag violations at controlled sites and automatically generates statistics based on vehicle and tag activity.

The Security Unit also uses the network version of *Security Site Log* program at security posts throughout the site. This software allows users to add or scan images and photographs to database reports and includes an automated incident reporting statistical module with colour graphing.

The Niagara Regional Police Service has acquired the network version of Omni Support's *SceneTrak* for multiple computer use in

its Forensic Services Unit. *SceneTrak* is designed specifically for forensic personnel performing crime scene duties. This package was first introduced through the Toronto Police Service Forensic Ident section.

For more information contact Omni Support Services Limited at 905 305-8460 or visit the "Product and Services" section of Blue Line Magazine's Web page at www.blueline.ca.

New crime scene fingerprint course available

Oakville, Ont., based Forensic Solutions Inc. is offering a modular four-day "Crime Scene Fingerprint Course" for police personnel, security personnel and private investigators.

The first course is being held at the Toronto Police Association building at 180 Yorkland Blvd. in Toronto beginning Tuesday November 24, 1998 and concluding Friday, November 27, 1998. Courses will be held throughout 1999 as well.

The course is taught by qualified forensic specialists with previous police experience who have been accepted as fingerprint experts by all levels of Court in Ontario.

For further information regarding this new course contact Forensic Solutions Inc. at: Phone: 905 815-1452 or by Email at forensic@interlog.com.



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Fugitive Squad!

When criminals flee to Canada, they think they're home free. This crack team makes a point of proving them wrong.

by Margo Pfeiff

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"David Clark Warden. Wanted as part of an international conspiracy to smuggle 800 kilos of marijuana into Canada," read the fax from the Ottawa headquarters of Interpol, the international police agency, in mid-1995. "Suspect thought to have fled to Canada. Considered armed and dangerous."

U.S. law enforcement authorities had been searching for Warden since 1992, without success. Three years later, in November, Detective Larry Dee and his partner, Detective Const. Lauren Fortais, took up the case, and soon learned that Warden's wife once lived in London, Ont.

Fortais contacted the local police. Within an hour they supplied her with a home telephone number pulled from the woman's file for an old shoplifting charge. Fortais called the number and, surprisingly, reached the woman's father.

"Your daughter and I went to school together, and I'm trying to track her down," she told him. For a half hour the father chatted on, revealing that his daughter had married someone named Robert Smith and that they lived in downtown Toronto. Dee and Fortais called out a surveillance team to watch the house: Interpol photos positively identified the man as David Clark Warden, living under the alias Robert Smith.

On the morning of January 18, 1996, a heavily armed tactical team moved into position. Completely unaware, Warden emerged and headed towards his car. Within seconds he was handcuffed without incident. "One more down," Dee sighed, holstering his standard issue Glock.

Fortais and Dee belong to a 14-member Toronto Police team called the Fugitive Squad, the country's only municipal police unit dedicated to hunting down and arresting the growing number of criminals hiding in Canada from law-enforcement agencies around the globe. This sordid collection of murderers, drug traffickers, armed robbers, kidnappers, counterfeiters and swindlers may have widely varying rap sheets, but what they have in common whether they hail from Ukraine or Kentucky, Hong Kong or Medellin - is their belief that Canada is a safe place to hide out.

"Canada has a large multicultural population, and criminals from other countries think it's easy to blend in here," says Detective Sgt. Bob Montrose, former head of the squad.

International crime rings specialize in phony Canadian passports; in Jamaica you can purchase Canadian ID for as little as \$125. But for many it's as easy as walking or driving over the Canada-U.S. border. "Rarely is anyone

asked for ID when they drive into Canada from the States," says Investigator Dave Carey of Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Although criminals from around the globe have been apprehended in Canada, the vast majority are American. "We don't know how many foreign fugitives are residing in Canada," says Sgt. Sandra Conlin, who has worked with the Ottawa based Canada-U.S. Fugitive Group, an RCMP-Interpol setup that coordinates leads and tips, "but we do know the numbers are on the rise."

Fugitive Squad!

The Fugitive Squad works out of an unmarked high-security building in Toronto. One entire wall is papered with mug shots of the dozens of fugitives captured throughout the year. The rap sheet beneath each tells an unsavoury tale: Austria - importation and trafficking of narcotics; California - rape; Seoul - kidnapping.

Alongside a catalogue of outlaw biker and Russian gang tattoos is an FBI Ten Most Wanted plaque. "That's a trophy," says Detective Greg Getty proudly. "It's only the second time one of them has been awarded to a law-enforcement agency outside of the United States - the other is at Interpol headquarters in Ottawa." To date, the squad has captured more fugitives profiled on "America's Most Wanted" than any other police unit outside the United States.

The members of the Fugitive Squad dress casually in jeans and sneakers, but there's nothing casual about the work they do. The elite team brings a wealth of experience to their current assignment. Detective Getty, a tall, imposing 40-year old father of two, worked for years in the holdup squad. Detective Dee has been in the homicide and sexual assault squads during his 22 years with the Toronto Police. Detective Brian Borg, a Fugitive Squad investigator since its inception five years ago, came from homicide. Detective Const. Lauren Fortais, 32, is the only woman with the team.

"Being female is useful at times," Fortais says. "People tend to open up and talk to a woman more than to a man because they don't suspect a woman to be a police officer." A petite brunette, Fortais has a sweet face and cheery smile that belie the fact that she is a tough tactical-team veteran and spent years as an undercover cop with the drug squad.

"You're dealing with desperadoes who have committed the gamut of crimes," says Detective Mike Selvaggio, himself a 21-year veteran of the Toronto Police. "It helps to be multi skilled."

Squad members meet each Monday morning to review the coming week's cases; at any one time they might be tracking as many as 250 investigations. Countless hours are spent on the phone following leads that might tip them off to the whereabouts of a fugitive. "We



Photos by Richard DiIorio

have a passion for our work," says Getty. "When criminals flee to Canada, they think they're home free. We prove them wrong."

Detective Borg's telephone rings and is picked up by his answering machine. A Bronx accent explains: "I'm a U.S. Marshal from New York City looking for a couple of Jamaican citizens who committed a murder here. I got a tip the killers could be in Toronto."

The Fugitive Squad gets its tips from countless sources - U.S. law enforcement agencies, the FBI, even American bounty hunters. The squad also has access to national and international police computer databases and a central registry monitoring the worldwide movements and arrests of fugitives.

"They're one of the first guys I call when one of our bandits heads north," says James Carney of the Investigative Services Division of the U.S. Marshals Service. "We work together directly, exchanging information," he continues. "As a result, they've sometimes cuffed our man in as little as 72 hours."

Talking directly with the foreign arresting law-enforcement officers often proves invaluable. Dee, attempting to locate a fugitive Florida lawyer wanted for embezzlement, called the Miami officer in charge of the case. "In the course of chatting, he mentioned, 'Did I tell you this guy has a weakness for expensive Cuban cigars?'" Dee recalls. "There was nothing in the report about that."

Dee went straight to a well known Yorkville cigar shop, showed the owner a photo of the lawyer and discovered that the man was a regular customer. An arrest was made within days.

To stalk their prey, squad members pass themselves off as anything from pizza delivery men to furnace repairmen. In early 1997 Dee and Fortais knocked on the door of a Toronto apartment belonging to a British fugitive wanted for murder in England.

"We're with the Rodent Patrol," said Dee as Fortais walked in carrying a piece of useless electronic equipment that made beeping sounds when it allegedly sensed mice. They were allowed access to the entire apartment, making notes of the layout and looking for clues right under the suspect's nose. (They actually found a mouse as well!) Three days later, after surveillance had positively identified the man, he was arrested in his apartment and deported.

A favourite squad tactic is to concentrate on people the fugitive is likely to contact - a friend or family member, for example. Says Dee: "I may not be able to find the criminal, but I can often find his parents, kids or ex-wife-and sooner or later he's going to contact them."

That's something jailbreak artist Alfred William Doyle never counted on as he was making his way across Canada. Dee had called Doyle's wife in Pickering, Ont., and told her that Doyle had escaped from jail in California, was probably armed and might be on his way to her house to harm her. Gaining her trust, Dee convinced her to check in with him every day. "No news from Alfred," she would report.

But suddenly the woman's calls stopped. Suspicious, Dee called the woman but sensed she was lying when she said she hadn't heard from Doyle. He quickly put together the tactical team and headed to the woman's house. Doyle was cornered and arrested 33 days after escaping from prison. When he finishes up his Canadian jail sentence in October 2001, he'll be extradited to Arizona and then California to complete terms for armed robbery and attempted murder.

"We see ourselves as a crime prevention team," explains Montrose, who spent ten years as a homicide officer. "We've prevented shootings, we've prevented rapes, we've prevented murders, we've saved Canadian lives. You can't put a price tag on that."

In 1994 a real coup was the arrest of Konstantinos Nastoulis, Greece's most wanted criminal, sought for three murders, including that of a police officer.

Nastoulis was arrested in Canada for failing to remain at the scene of an accident and for assault. When the officer ran his name through the scout car computer, it came up flagged with a "red circular," an Interpol alert that the man was an internationally sought criminal.

Nastoulis was detained and the Fugitive Squad called. Their investigation revealed that he was involved in organized crime in Canada and considered extremely violent and dangerous. Nastoulis was ordered deported. An immigration officer and a member of the Fugitive Squad escorted him back to Athens, where a heavily armed convoy stood by to take him to jail when he got off the plane.

The Fugitive Squad's hands are sometimes tied when it comes to an arrest because, under extradition laws, anyone living in Canada - even illegally - cannot be arrested for an offence they have committed or been convicted of in another country unless there is an equivalent crime in Canada's Criminal Code. In other

cases fugitives have been pinpointed, but the squad has had to wait two years or more for extradition paperwork to arrive from the criminal's home country.

"But according to the Immigration Act, if we have reasonable grounds to believe a person is in the country illegally, we can make an arrest," says Dave Carey, "and that's where I come in." In the two years Carey has been with the group, his laptop access to immigration files has become an invaluable tool.

Since 1995 the number of arrests has begun to pick up with the aid of Citizenship and Immigration Canada and increasingly streamlined co-operation with U.S. law enforcement. In 1997 alone, they made 58 arrests - an average of one every six days.

"I don't know how many bad guys are out there," says Montrose, "but if I had another six officers, I could keep them busy full time." In the five years since the squad has been in operation, they have arrested more than 300 illegal criminal immigrants in the Toronto area alone.

It's half-light at 6:10 on a frigid, windy morning in January as the Fugitive Squad's high-rise tactical team adjusts their communications headphones and stakes out the neighbourhood surrounding the North York townhouse of Vernery John, a Trinidadian with a record for violence and assault. Deported from Canada in 1994, John had unlawfully re-entered the country by telling Canadian authorities in Trinidad that he had never been convicted of a criminal offence.

Investigator Carey approaches the man, brought handcuffed from the townhouse by the tactical team, and explains the charges against him: "You are being arrested for illegally entering Canada by lying on your visa application."

"We're trying to get the word out that these people are not welcome here," says Detective Getty. "Canada is not a safe haven for the world's criminals."

For further information call 416 808-4550 or Fax 416 808-4402

Enhancing international co-operation

On November 2nd to 5th, the Toronto Police Service will host the Second Annual International Fugitive Investigators Conference. Around 250 delegates from 18 countries are expected to attend this event.

The conference will deal with many aspects of the fugitive investigation and will focus on the technical and legal aspect needed to make the fugitive investigator successful at locating and apprehending their targets.

Some of the many topics for discussion will include; the movement of missing and exploited children; A private investigators approach to finding people; Police in the new Europe; The Internet. The event will include several workshops, a panel discussion, legal issues and case profiles.

For further information or to register for this event call 416 808-4550 or Fax 416 808-4545. You may also email them at mtpfug@interlog.com

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Reliable people for responsible jobs

by Blair McQuillan



After Gil Shoesmith retired from the RCMP in 1990 he decided he needed a new career to occupy his time.

During his first year in the private sector, the 26-year police veteran tried two sales jobs but soon found he wasn't really satisfied with the work he was doing.

"Those jobs weren't really panning out," Shoesmith said. "I seemed to be holding my own, but it just didn't seem to be my bag."

However in April 1991, he finally found the job he was looking for.

"I bumped into a friend of mine and he was in the Commissionaires," said Shoesmith, who spent his entire RCMP career in British Columbia, minus two years with the Musical Ride. "I told him I was going to be looking for a job and he said, 'Why don't you join the Commissionaires?'"

Shoesmith admits he didn't really know much about the Commissionaires, but decided to give it a try.

Known as the nation's largest security company, the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires is an independent, not-for-profit organization that employs former members of the Canadian Forces and RCMP.

"At the present time, it's a force of (about) 12,000 with 18 divisions across Canada," National Executive Secretary, Maj. Gen. Clive Addy, said from the Commissionaires' Headquarters in Ottawa. "Each one of these autonomous divisions varies in size from 2,000 to 78 members."

Founded by Capt. Edward Walter in England in 1859 and launched in Canada in 1925, the Commissionaires began as an employment agency for first world war veterans who returned home to find their country had changed so drastically that they no longer had the skills necessary to get a job.

"Our emphasis originally was entirely on security and the genesis of the history is one of welfare," Addy said. "People were seeing officers, soldiers and NCOs they served with suffering in the streets."

But like the veterans they tried to employ, the Commissionaires faced many hardships during its infancy. The first three divisions, located in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver struggled as membership and available jobs rose and fell with the onslaught of the depression, World War II and the Korean conflict.

However, by the beginning of the 1970s, the Corps began to establish itself. The federal government's decision to give the organization the right of first refusal after World War II, which meant they were the first to be offered government security contracts and the organization's decision to allow former



Mounties to join in the 1960s, began to pay off. The increase in available jobs and services that the Commissionaires could provide helped them establish their presence in the security industry.

Traditionally known for providing physical security, the Commissionaires has branched out in recent years into other areas that are of benefit to the military, law enforcement and private sector.

"The commissionaires in the security role represents a little less than 40 per cent of our work," said Addy, who retired from the Canadian military in 1996 after 35 years of service. "We do everything from running ranges at military bases, to doing administrative work in offices, to running airport security and airport administration."

But those aren't the only services commissionaires provide. Members are also capable of performing duties such as by-law enforcement, jail cell surveillance, courtroom security, reception duties, data input, prisoner escort, fingerprinting and foot and vehicle patrols.

All commissionaires must pass a two-week security training course which covers patrol duties, public relations, first aid and crisis management. The organization will also provide additional training if a job requires special skills that aren't covered during orientation.

Addy said a commissionaire's training and background in the military or police field makes them a valuable member of any organization.



"I think it's the reliability and quality of people that you get," the major-general said. "They're trustworthy people."

But why would these reliable and trustworthy individuals want to get into a second career that so closely mirrors their first?

"For some of them, it's to supplement their pension," Addy said. "For others it's to get back in a place where there's some kind of comradeship and world of rhythm that they'd known in the service or RCMP."

"For the younger folks, what we've been missing in the past and we're developing now, is a greater opportunity to progress within the Commissionaires to various levels and get more challenging jobs."

As the current leaders of the Corps try to build on its youth, they are also looking ahead to the challenges the next generation will face when they are in command.

One of the issues being examined right now is whether to admit provincial and municipal police officers into the organization.

"It's a question that's being debated as we evolve," Addy said. "I think within the next year or two we'll have a policy on that."

The Commissionaires are also in the process of gaining accreditation from the International Standards Organization (ISO). All but four of the Commissionaires' 18 divisions have



Maj. Gen. Clive Addy

already been approved and those remaining should be certified by 1999.

"It ensures that we're properly managed and properly trained," Addy said. "It's a quality assurance standard that people internationally recognize."

But Sgt. Maj. Shoemith doesn't need a certificate to tell him that the Commissionaires is a quality organization. Shoemith, who works as a training officer, field instructor, core chief, first aid instructor and company security officer in the Victoria division, said his seven years with the Commissionaires

have been educational and rewarding.

"If I could go back into the police force today I feel I would be a much better policeman having learned what I learned in the Corps," he said.

"I get a lot of satisfaction out of providing security for a client in that they are able to leave their facility in our hands and trust that it will be there when they come back. To be in that position of trust with a client, to me, that's the greatest satisfaction I get from my job."

For more information on the Commissionaires contact Maj.-Gen. Clive Addy at 613 236-4936.

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This is not a war on guns

by Robert F. Lunney

Laws basic to the protection of safety and security and the protection of private property are overwhelmingly supported by society. Other laws, like motor vehicle legislation, are intended to regulate the everyday patterns of behaviour, while not so intensely supported, regulatory laws command general respect and observance because they contribute to public safety and a well ordered society.

The public does not want every violator of a regulatory law charged. Police know this and use their powers of discretion, deciding which incidents are so flagrant and intentional that a charge is mandatory, and which minor offences may be dealt with by warning or correction. In making these distinctions, an officer seeks to reflect community standards, tacit understandings worked out over time between the police, the Crown and the public. This style of tolerance and good judgement makes regulatory law enforcement acceptable. Call it 'judicious enforcement'. All this is elementary, perhaps, but a useful review of how we do things as the time approaches to enforce the new Firearms Act, Bill C-68, where new discretionary standards will be established.

The Firearms Act

The legislation will be phased in starting October 1, 1998. It includes important amendments to Part III of the Criminal Code, creating a variety of offences relating to the unauthorized possession, transfer, import and export of firearms and the use of firearms in the commission of crimes. These are powerful tools that will assist police in preventing crime and controlling the use of firearms in criminal acts. Other provisions are regulatory in nature. They were transferred from the Criminal Code and included in the Firearms Act to recognize the distinction between tough and necessary criminal sanctions, and regulatory laws needed to establish a system of licensing and registration of firearms, and to create other preventive measures for public safety.

Opposition to the Act

The majority of Canadians support the Firearms Act, but it remains determinedly opposed by others. Opposition takes a variety of forms:

constitutional objections; cost to the taxpayer; doubt as to effectiveness; criticism of administrative procedures; and a threat to property rights. A few speak of civil disobedience and promoting aggressive measures to ridicule the law and thwart its purpose. Their desire is to make the Act appear unworkable and the police incompetent. Characterizing the police as heavy-handed bureaucrats, they disparage police integrity and efficiency. Any transgression of the law governing firearms or faulty gun handling by a police officer is greeted with derision.

Those vigorously opposed to the Firearms Act may not be a large constituency, but there is a danger that unhealthy divisions may develop between the government and dissenting citizens, with the risk of creating a rallying point for extremism. Gun control has been in the headlines since 1988, and many gun owners feel on the defensive. There is a concern that authorities are pursuing a "war on guns".

Judicious Enforcement

So how are the police to deal with this troublesome concern when provisions of the Act begin to phase in? The answer, I think, is directly related to the quality of police discretion practiced by officers. When firearms are used in the commission of an offence or another serious breach of the Code, normally there are no grounds for the exercise of discretion, and charges will be laid. But in circumstances involving a minor violation of the regulatory provisions of the Act, an officer is entitled to consider the nature of the offence, any mitigating circumstances, the impact on the community, and any evidence of intent or otherwise. Where a minor regulatory violation is correctable through warning and an administrative procedure, the officer may consider this option. Or the officer may offer helpful advice so that a violation or its continuance is prevented. In other words, the surrounding circumstances may be taken into account by the same process that other regulatory offences are resolved. Government administration of firearm legislation at both the federal and provincial level has been punctuated by numerous instances of official amnesties, a clear signal in support of situational discretion.

The practice of judicious enforcement will ease the introduction of a licensing system de-

signed to deny easy access to firearms to violent or potentially violent persons, and to facilitate a registration system that identifies sources and patterns of firearms movement leaking from the legitimate supply into illegal hands.

Knowledge and Competency

We must know what we are doing. In the past Police officers have been criticized on both sides of the issue; either for alleged unnecessary or improper seizures or for failing to seize a firearm as a preventive measure. After October 1, 1998, police will still use the search and seizure powers in the Code to prevent and to investigate criminal offences as they do now. These powers allow an officer to search places for firearms, other weapons, devices and ammunition if they have reasonable grounds to believe that an offence is being, or has been, committed, where there is a threat to public safety or where there is evidence of an offence. There are no powers of search in the Firearms Act, only inspection powers for designated Firearms Officers.

There are times when execution of a search warrant calls for a show of force. Let's be careful, though, that these operations are reserved for instances where there is a justifiable apprehension of danger. There ought to be a sense of proportion and propriety to every exercise of authority.

Police also have an important responsibility to become informed on existing case law and the rulings that will develop as a result of the legislation. Failure to do so may be regarded as evidence of harassment. The community of gun enthusiasts is knowledgeable, informed and prepared to defend their legal rights under the Constitution. Needless public complainants, embarrassment and litigation may be avoided by competency and good judgement. Fair treatment will always be a principle of quality police work.

Acknowledgement and Respect

Let's accord full acknowledgement and respect to the non violent and law abiding hunters, target shooters, collectors and hobbyists with a commitment to safe gun handling and observance of the law; those who accept that with the enactment of the Firearms Act, licensing and registration are a privilege and not a right. This large community of citizens is free to practice and enjoy their sport or interest within the law. Let's also acknowledge the sustenance hunters and those who practice predator or pest control in a lawful and responsible way. Guns are working tools for many Canadians. The vast majority of gun owners will comply with the new law, and in the process they deserve the best advice and assistance that police and other government authorities can provide.

Not a War on Guns

The art of judicious law enforcement is a familiar practice of Canadian Police Officers. Enforcement of regulatory provisions of the Firearms Act in an informed, accommodating and balanced way is surely in the interests of all. The Act is not an instrument to demonize guns or gun ownership. And it is not and never was intended to be, a declaration of war on guns.

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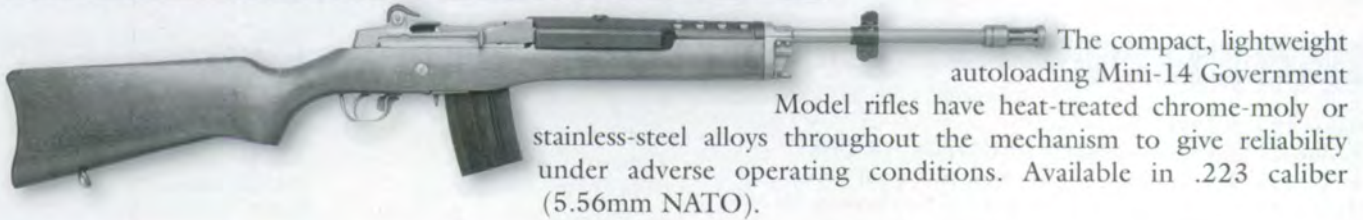
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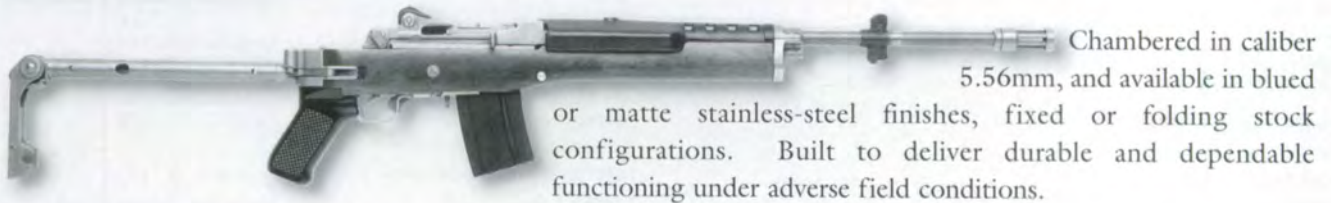
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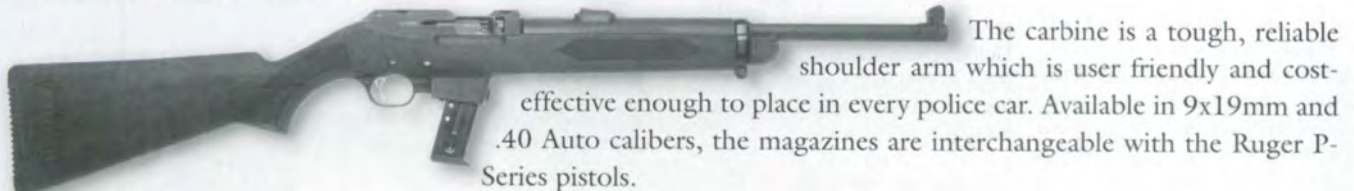
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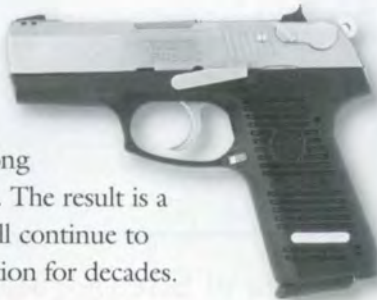
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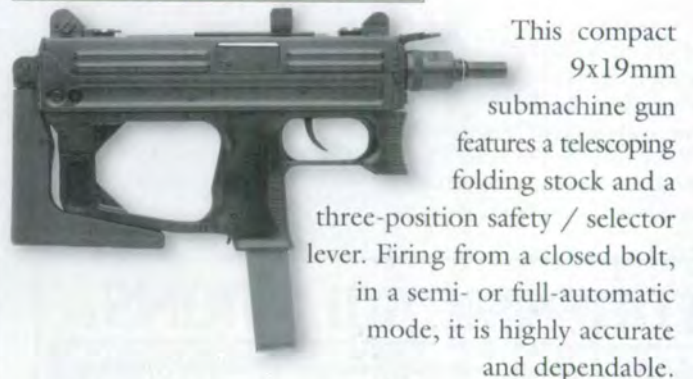
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Up-Coming Events

October 12 - 15, 1998

Coordinated Law Enforcement Unit Training Conference Vancouver - British Columbia

This international conference will focus on child pornography and the Internet and will involve training for investigators dealing with this type of criminal activity. Contact Det. Noreen Waters at (604) 660-6487 for more information.

October 18 - 23, 1998

12th Annual Western Canadian Technical Conference (CISA) Edmonton - Alberta

The Edmonton Police Service Technical Support Section is hosting this conference designed for those who provide technical assistance for various police and security agencies. For further conference information contact Kevin Harrison at (403) 421-2243.

October 25 - 27, 1998

4th Annual Crisis Negotiation Training Seminar Calgary - Alberta

This seminar will primarily consist of case studies of recent hostage/barricade situations in Canada and the United States, along with presentations on recent developments in the field. There will also be presentations on command/negotiation issues, negotia-

tion strategies and tactics. For more details call Det. Jeff Massicotte at (403) 268-4555.

October 26 - 28, 1998 Canadian Use of Force Trainers Conference '98 King City - Ontario

Seneca College School of Law Enforcement and the Ontario Provincial Police are hosting this five day conference, which will provide professional development in current and future trends and practices by over 30 guest presenters. For more information on the conference contact Jeff Argo at (905) 833-3333, ext. 5094.

October 26 - 30, 1998 36th Annual IAWP Training Conference Anchorage - Alaska

You are invited to this year's conference in Alaska. Its theme is Golden Quest - The Trail to Excellence in Policing. For further information call (308) 436-2301 and ask for Steve or Virginia.

October 26 - 30, 1998 Canadian Use of Force Trainers Conference King City - Ontario

The Seneca College School of Law Enforcement and the Ontario Provincial Police are hosting this conference, which will provide professional development in current and future trends and practices by over 30 guest presenters. For more details contact Uldis Kopstals at (905) 833-3333, ext. 5090.

November 2 - 5, 1998 2nd Annual International Fugitive Investigators Conference

Toronto - Ontario

Hosted by the Toronto Police Service Fugitive Squad, this conference will deal with the technical and legal aspects needed to make the fugitive investigator successful at locating and apprehending their targets. For registration information call Greg Getty at (416) 808-4550.

November 23 - 27, 1998 Advanced Investigative Interviewing Techniques Levels 1 & 2

North Bay - Ontario

This five day workshop provides sworn participants with advanced techniques for successfully conducting interviews with uncooperative and deceptive subjects. The workshop will be hosted by the North Bay Police Service. To register contact Wm. Allan Gray at (416) 409-9142.

November 27, 1998 Annual Awards Dinner Mississauga - Ontario

Hosted by the International Association of Women in Policing and the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement, this year's awards event will feature Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Gwen Boniface as a guest speaker. For tickets contact Const. Michele Paradis at (416) 952-4619 (voice mail).

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Rescued: Toronto police and firefighters led nine people to safety after a fire gutted the top floor of a 12-storey high-rise in August.



The smoke inside the building was very thick, but emergency crews had to go in to rescue those inside, said Const. Sean Willan, one of four Toronto officers who ran up 12 flights of stairs.

Willan suffered smoke inhalation and was given oxygen by paramedics. No one required hospital care.

Appointed: Maurice (Moe) Pilon was selected as the Deputy Commissioner of Operations for the Ontario Provincial Police in August.



Pilon

Pilon was the former commander of the force's North East Region. The Penetanguishene, Ont., native joined the OPP in 1975 after serving almost three years in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Pilon said he is "looking forward to the challenges of the position and to working with the senior managers in the operational areas of the organization."

Sentenced: Two Nanaimo, B.C., Mounties convicted of assault causing bodily harm were sentenced in August to nine months in jail.



The charges stemmed from an incident in April 1996, when Dennis Burdick was punched, kicked and pepper sprayed while being arrested on suspicion of impaired driving.

Constables Raj Sandhu, 34, and Sean Boudreau, 31, were found guilty in the attack.

Judge Robert Higinbotham said the officers abused their position, disgraced the Mounties and have shown no remorse for their actions.

The judge also noted the commanding officer for the Nanaimo detachment wasn't critical of the incident and wrote positive references for the officers.

Settled: Six female inmates who were strip-searched and shackled by a mostly-male emergency response team at an Ontario prison four years ago settled their lawsuit against Corrections Canada in August.



The incident followed four days of increased tension which began when six inmates were placed in segregation cells in April 1994 at Kingston's Prison for Women.

Some prisoners stayed in segregation for up to nine months.

Justice Louise Arbour was called in to conduct a federal inquiry following the disturbance. She described the treatment of the inmates as cruel and degrading.

In her report on Corrections Canada, released in 1996, Arbour said individual rights had been violated by the service. John Edwards, the head of correctional service at that time, resigned after the report was made public.

A non-disclosure clause prevents the details of the settlement from being released, but sources told a television station that each woman will receive \$50,000.

Declining: Drunk driving charges across Canada dropped by almost 25 per cent between 1990 and 1994, according to a report released at the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police conference in August.

And the numbers are still declining.

The CACP and Transport Canada surveyed 1,500 front-line officers representing 175 municipal, regional and provincial forces for their opinions on impaired

driving related detection, charging, court processing and penalties.

The officers said they'd like to catch more drunk drivers, but they're forced to comply with procedures and spend about three hours doing paperwork for every charge they lay.

The report also found that many officers feel that Crown attorneys don't always appear to be adequately prepared for impaired driving cases and that police believe judges give greater credibility to a defence expert's testimony when it comes to assessing the level of impairment.

The CACP and Transport Canada plan to meet with other road safety organizations to examine the system of regulating impaired driving in Canada.

Appointed: Sandy Adelson, a 22-year-old law student, was sworn in as the youngest-ever member of Toronto's police services board in August.



Adelson

Adelson, who entered her second year at York University's Osgoode Hall Law School this fall, was welcomed with a round of applause by those in attendance at the board meeting.

Some councillors were opposed to her hiring because of her age, but Adelson maintains her youth will not be an issue.

Cleared: Ontario's Special Investigations Unit cleared police in August of any wrongdoing in the death of a 39-year-old man.



The incident began when Quinte West police officers responded to a call about an armed man at a farmhouse west of Trenton.

After arriving on the scene, police contacted the Ontario Provincial Police Tactical Response Team and a perimeter was set up around the house.

The man later approached the

officers outside with the muzzle of a shotgun pointed under his chin. He told police he wanted to go back in the house and continued to approach the officers after he was told he couldn't.

When police fired rubber bullets in an attempt to subdue him, he fled into a nearby field.

Officers later found the man, Charles Chapin, with a fatal self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Launched: Anyone who wants to become a municipal police officer in British Columbia will now have to pass the Standard-



ized Testing Program delivered by the Justice Institute of B.C.

The testing program, launched in September, takes two days and includes two written exams, a physical abilities test, a 2.4 km run, a driving test and a trigger press and hand strength test.

The program was created by a committee of the Municipal Chiefs of Police Association.

B.C. Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh said the new testing program will ensure greater recruitment efficiency and co-ordination between the province's police services.

Awarded: More than 90 police officers and civilians received the Deputy Commissioner's Commendation in September, the RCMP's second highest award.



The award recognized their work in Journey's '97, a 1,600 kilometre canoe trip from Hazelton, B.C. to Victoria.

Journey's 97 was an RCMP initiative to raise awareness for an effort to establish an addiction recovery centre and to promote healing between the Mounties and First Nations.

"It was one of the largest awards ceremonies that was ever conducted (in B.C.) for a single event," said Cpl. John Buis, one of the award recipients.

TEN-SEVEN

Law Enforcement News From Blue Line Magazine

Thousands mourn loss of police officers

Thousands of police officers from across North America and around the world paid their respects to three policemen killed in the line of duty in August.

Two Ontario officers, Toronto Det./Const. Bill Hancox and Const. David Nicholson of the Waterloo Regional Police, and Lethbridge, Alta., RCMP Cpl. Graeme Cumming were laid to rest in separate ceremonies held just days apart.

An estimated 10,000 mourners including friends, family, colleagues and strangers attended the Hancox funeral held in Pickering, east of Toronto on Aug. 10.

Hancox, who worked for the Special Investigation Squad, was part of a team investigating a gang of burglars on Aug. 4. Police Chief David Boothby said Hancox told his partners on the team that he was stopping at a strip mall for a soda pop. Boothby said Hancox later used his police radio to inform his partners that he had been stabbed.

Hancox, 32, was stabbed three times in the neck and chest as he sat in his surveillance van. The 10-year police veteran died an hour later in hospital.

Mary Barbara Taylor, 30, and Elaine Rose Cece, 40, have been charged with second-degree murder.

Hancox leaves behind a two-year-old daughter and his wife, Kim, who was expecting a baby at the time of his death.

On Aug. 12, at about 7:30 p.m. a 12-year-old boy and two 13 year-old friends went swimming in a river in Cambridge, Ont.

When the 12-year-old went under the water and failed to surface rescue crews were notified.

Firefighters failed to locate the victim, so police divers were called in. Minutes after he entered the water, Waterloo Regional Police Const. David Nicholson got trapped in one of the four holes that allow water through the dam he was searching.

For nearly three hours, rescuers, including members of the public, tried to free the officer by pulling on ropes that had been attached to him. By 1 a.m., the effort was called off.

A service for Nicholson, 32, was held on Aug. 19. An estimated 5,000 mourners attended the funeral.

"He (was) just one fantastic person," Sgt. David Perchaluk said.

Nicholson is survived by his wife, Wendy, and three young sons.



Hancox



Nicholson



Cumming

More than 1,600 people attended the funeral of RCMP Cpl. Graeme Cumming on Aug. 18.

The Lethbridge, Alta., officer was one of two victims in a tragic series of events that ended in a multi-vehicle collision and fire.

Witnesses said the incident began on Aug. 12, when a truck lost its load of hay bales. Cumming, a 17-year veteran of the RCMP, and the driver of the truck were both in the officer's cruiser when it was struck by a second

semi-trailer.

Cumming, 37, and Daniel Entz, 22, were trapped in the wreckage and consumed by the flames.

The driver of the second truck, 28-year-old Darren Buckley, faces several charges including two counts of impaired driving causing death.

Const. Marina Cumming was working on the same shift as her husband when he was killed.

Officer remembered as a legend

Legendary Toronto police officer Frank Barbetta, known for his hard-nosed approach to law enforcement, died of an inoperable brain tumour in July.

"You can't say too many bad things about Frank Barbetta unless you're a bandit," said Jack Webster, a Toronto police historian and long-time friend of Barbetta. "He was a tough guy, make no mistake about it. But he was a gentle guy. He loved his family."

Barbetta joined the Toronto force in July 1953, at the urging of his brother-in-law who was a police officer. Over the following 32 years the man known as "supercop" would gain a reputation for using his brains and brawn to take down hardened law breakers.

An outstanding cop on his own, Barbetta became even more fearsome in the presence of two other Toronto officers, Cy Cooper and Jack Nicolucci.

Cooper and Barbetta became partners in 1957, when they both worked old clothes.



Barbetta

Together, they took on the bootleggers, pimps and thieves in Cabbagetown. In 1960, Barbetta joined the hold-up squad where he teamed up with Nicolucci. This duo is said to have struck fear in the hearts of criminals across the country.

The Scarborough native became a member of the homicide squad in 1970 before making his way up through the ranks to retire as a staff superintendent in 1985.

He went on to work as the chief of security for Molson Breweries until 1993.

Barbetta, who studied at the FBI Academy and Harvard Business School, will be remembered as an energetic, sociable, family man who possessed a great sense of humour, Webster said.

"If you were a friend of Barbetta's you had a friend for life."

Barbetta, 70, is survived by his wife, four daughters and six grandchildren.



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New technology benefits crime groups, report says

Technological advances such as Interac and the Internet help organized crime groups carry out offences like prostitution, drug trafficking, fraud and the distribution of child pornography, according to a report released by the Criminal Intelligence Service of Canada.

Organized crime in Canada grew significantly in 1997 and the trend will continue as criminals become more technologically savvy, the report said.

"The proliferation of electronic technology has affected ... criminal activity and criminals have become expert users of the Internet," says the report released at the Canadian Chiefs of Police conference held in August. "Fluid and ever-changing 'virtual crime' may prove to be the most serious challenge facing Canadian law enforcement today."

CISC Director Richard Philippe said offences such as money laundering, corruption and fraud may be less visible than street-level crime, but every part of Canadian society is touched by organized crime.

In 1997, police saw a 26 per cent increase in the number of cases involving counterfeit cash and a 10 per cent increase in losses due to credit card fraud.

The report, based on intelligence and investigation information gathered by Canadian and international police, identifies five main organized crime groups.

They include East European, Asian, aboriginal gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs and traditional crime groups like the Sicilian Mafia.



A full partnership with the public and government is needed to fight organized crime, Philippe said.

Solicitor General Andy Scott said law enforcement agencies need to have a more organized approach if they want to keep up with the criminal groups.

He suggested police develop a strategy on how to deal with criminal activity if they want to convince the federal government to put more money into the effort.

Scott released a federal report just days after the CISC study. It found that:

- Organized crime interests such as the drug trade, telemarketing and securities fraud costs Canadians billions of dollars.

- These groups are reaping profits through environmental crimes like the endangered species trade and illegal dumping of hazardous waste.

- Criminals make big money smuggling between 6,000 and 8,000 people into Canada each year.

- Crime groups are involved in counterfeit products including clothes, pharmaceuticals and computer software.

None of the top law enforcers at the conference were surprised by the study and they reiterated the need for increased funding to help fight organized crime.

Canadian police chiefs to lobby for new powers



Lindsay

The right to fingerprint trespassers, conduct body cavity searches, obtain more information from defence lawyers and install wire taps for free were part of a list of legislative powers the nation's police chiefs want their officers to have.

"What we're looking for is positive action from the Justice Minister," Edmonton

Chief John Lindsay was quoted as saying at the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police conference in August. "We'd like the opportunity to show why it is we feel these issues are strong issues that need immediate attention."

Canadian chiefs plan to lobby the federal justice ministry for the new powers.

Police say fingerprinting and photographing trespassers would help them track repeat offenders and ease public fears. Trespassers are often sex offenders stalking victims, peeping toms or burglars casing homes, according to police.

The chiefs said having the right to conduct body cavity searches on suspects who are believed to have swallowed or are storing illegal items, would help combat drug smuggling.

The nation's top cops also want legislation that mandates defence lawyers to share evidence before the trial, like the prosecution currently does.

"We're looking to avoid trial by ambush," Lindsay, the new CACP president, was quoted as saying. "We think that's fair."

The chiefs also feel it would be fair for the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission to give them the right to conduct wire taps free of charge. The taps currently cost police force's about \$5,000 each.

They also want to implement a national system to track suspected offenders and serious criminal offences.

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Police raids net more than 200 firearms

Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit wants gun traffickers to think twice about dealing

A two-and-a-half year investigation by Ontario's Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit into the illegal trafficking of firearms by "regular people" reached a dramatic conclusion in September.

Unit members executed 12 search warrants, which resulted in the arrest of 48 people and seizure of 243 firearms, along with a large quantity of ammunition and about 150 lbs. of explosives.

More than 450 criminal charges were laid, including weapons and drug-related offences. Police also seized stolen property totalling \$155,000, in addition to \$131,000 worth of drugs and \$216,000 in vehicles.

"It was a totally different approach for us this time," said Det./Insp. Bob Frolic, the manager of the provincial weapons unit. "We've done a few other major projects that we've had some pretty good results with where we've targeted certain (criminal) groups."

However, Frolic said in this case the unit "targeted regular people who were involved in the trafficking of illegal firearms."

The investigation, which began in Peterborough before expanding to Niagara Falls and Hamilton, started to gain momentum after un-



dercover officers began interacting with a small group of people, Frolic said.

"What happened was that one (person) would lead to another. It just kind of snowballed for us."

Frolic said he realizes the seizures won't bring the illegal firearms trade to a halt, but he

hopes it will deter people from getting involved in this type of activity.

"What we're hoping is that any time some of these people are illegally trafficking firearms now they're going to be looking over their shoulders," he said. "I think we've made somewhat of a dent and we're hoping people will see this and think twice about doing it."

The operation, dubbed "Project Pete", began in May 1996. It involved officers from five police services, with assistance from the Huronia Combined Forces Drug Unit, Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario, Canada Customs, the Provincial Auto Theft Team and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

A total of 16 warrants related to the case were still outstanding one day after the raids.

The Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit, created by the Ontario government in 1994, is a 38-member joint services operation comprised of: the Ontario Provincial Police, Toronto Police Service, and the regional police services of Waterloo, Niagara, Hamilton-Wentworth, Haldimand-Norfolk, Halton, Peel, Durham and York, as well as Canada Customs.

Constable credited with reviving heart attack victim on roadside

An Ontario Provincial Police officer was credited with prolonging a woman's life in August after she suffered a massive heart attack on a Toronto highway.

Const. Ryan Gordon, 26, had just stopped a motorcycle for speeding on Hwy. 401 when he noticed



Gordon

about 10 people beside two vehicles "yelling and waving" at him.

Gordon travelled across the highway and was informed that an elderly woman in one of the vehicles had just suffered a heart attack.

"I felt for a pulse and there was none," Gordon recalled. "I took her out of the vehicle, put her on the ground and performed CPR."

About two minutes passed before the officer detected a faint pulse and saw some movement. An ambulance soon arrived and transported the woman to hospital where she died two days later.

"I gave it 110 per cent," Gordon said. "Unfortunately, my efforts didn't prove to be successful in the long run."

Despite media attention and praise from the woman's family, Gordon said he doesn't consider himself a hero.

"I just think I was at the right place at the right time to offer assistance to this person," he said. "I would like to think that anybody in my situation would have done the same thing."

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Saskatchewan's top Mountie the first woman to command division

After 24 years with the RCMP Beverley Ann Busson has gotten used to leading the pack.

The first female RCMP officer to rise to the ranks of inspector, superintendent and chief superintendent, Busson made history on Aug. 31 when she became the first woman to assume duties as the commanding officer of a division and the first female to be promoted to assistant commissioner.



Busson

"It's a very good feeling," Busson said of her new posting at Saskatchewan's F Division. "It's a good place to be working."

The Halifax native is no stranger to Saskatchewan. In 1992, Busson was stationed at the North Battleford sub-division as the assistant commanding officer. Three years later she was transferred and left Saskatchewan, but returned in 1997 to become the head of criminal operations for the province.

Busson, who was among the first group of regular female members accepted into the RCMP in 1974, said she never planned to

become one of the nation's top cops.

"I never saw myself as a commissioned officer," she said. "I decided to give it a try and one thing led to another and here I am.

"I think my ambition has just been to do the best I can at whatever job I had."

The assistant commissioner, who will oversee close to 1,000 RCMP members, is now applying that philosophy to her current role.

"My burning ambition now is to be a great C.O.," she said. "If I can do that I'll be real happy."

Despite all of her accomplishments, which include obtaining a law degree from the University of British Columbia in 1990, Busson has trouble seeing herself as a role model.

"I don't think about that kind of thing very often," she said. "I hope if I am (a role model) I'm a good one."

Busson, 47, replaced Brian Watt, who became the deputy commissioner for the Pacific Region.

Deputy director named as new chief of Montreal



Former deputy director Michel Sarrazin has succeeded Jacques Duchesneau as the head of the Montreal police force.

Sarrazin, a 25-year veteran, was chosen over five other candidates for the task of managing a budget of almost \$400 million and a police service with 4,500 officers.

The former deputy director was selected over Claude Rochon, who replaced Duchesneau on an interim basis when he resigned to run in the city's November mayoralty election.

During his career, Sarrazin has headed the service's public relations department and managed a downtown police station.

He took over as director of the Montreal police service on Sept. 18.

Sarrazin has been supportive of a plan to open additional neighbourhood police stations to improve relations between police and the public.

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Toronto police to launch helicopter pilot project

Police could have two helicopters flying over the city of Toronto within the next six months.

A \$1 million, six-month pilot project in which police would use the choppers to patrol high-crime areas and coordinate activities such as police pursuits, was endorsed by the city's emergency and protective services committee in September.

The proposal must now be examined by the budget committee before being forwarded to the council for approval.

But police are hoping private sponsors will be interested in helping to fund the project.

"I'm quite hopeful that there are enough people in this city - both in the business world and in the private sector - that would like to see helicopters in the air, and are quite prepared to support that financially," Chief David



Boothby was quoted as saying. "If that were attained, we could have them up and flying in six months."

If the pilot project is successful, two helicopters will be leased for about \$2 million a year. The cost of buying them would be \$5.5 million and \$1.9 million annually to maintain.

Police officials say using the aircraft could reduce the number of pursuits.

Toronto police have been involved in 496 chases since 1996. Of those, 42 per cent resulted in a collision, a police report said.

"It would have to be incorporated into our policy that if a helicopter was over top of a vehicle, there would be absolutely no reason for the car to be pursued by a police vehicle," Boothby was quoted as saying. "Police chases will be certainly minimized; you won't eliminate them unless ... by legislation."

Lengthy inquiry comes to an end



A 16-month probe into Quebec's provincial police service will help to eliminate past mistakes, the force's director said in August.

Guy Coulombe's testimony came on the final day of hearings at the Poitras commission, a large-scale inquiry sparked by a major drug case that was tossed out of court in 1995 because police tampered with evidence.

Headed by former judge Lawrence Poitras, the probe has heard testimony from police officers, citizens groups and administrators.

During his testimony Coulombe said some of the police service's investigators were not properly trained.

The director also said he cancelled a merit system that saw up to 80 officers promoted province-wide in one day. Officers eligible for promotion are now subjected to an interview process in front of a selection committee.

Coulombe told the inquiry that the probe has created some tension among his officers, especially those who testified.

The commission is to deliver its report to the government on Dec. 31. It should be made public early next year.

RCMP will be responsible for new territory



The RCMP was designated as the official police service for the new territory of Nunavut.

"We are creating a new RCMP division in a new territory," Solicitor General Andy Scott said in a press release. "The RCMP is the police service of choice of

the people of Nunavut and the RCMP wants to take this opportunity to break new ground in policing with Inuit people."

A new division headquarters, designated V Division, will be created in the new territory. A total of 112 RCMP officers, including six Inuits, will work out of 22 detachments.

"Public safety is a priority for our new government," said Interim Commissioner of Nunavut, Jack Anawak, who signed the policing agreement along with Scott on Aug. 31. "This agreement for RCMP services is an important first step to ensuring that our traditions are respected and that we maintain control of our destiny."

Under the agreement, the federal government will cover 30 per cent and Nunavut 70 per cent of the cost of the new police service.

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Things coppers can learn from the movies

Via the Internet

If you were new to this planet and wished to find out more about policing from the movies here are what your conclusions would be:

- During all police investigations it will be necessary to visit a strip club at least once.
- If being chased through town, you can usually take cover in a passing St. Patrick's Day parade - at any time of the year.
- The ventilation system of any building is the perfect hiding place. No one will ever think of looking for you in there.
- You can travel to any other part of the world you want without difficulty.
- If you need to reload your gun, you will always have more ammunition - even if you haven't been carrying any before now.



- Word processors never display a cursor on screen but will always say: "Enter Password Now."
- Cars that crash will almost always burst into flames.
- The chief of police will always suspend his star detective - or give him 48 hours to finish the job.
- It is not necessary to say hello or goodbye when beginning

or ending phone conversations.

- All bombs are fitted with electronic timing devices with large red readouts so you know exactly when they're going to go off.
- It is always possible to park directly outside the building you are visiting.
- A detective can only solve a case once he has been suspended

from duty.

- It does not matter if you are heavily outnumbered in a fight involving martial arts - your enemies will wait patiently to attack you one by one by dancing around in a threatening manner until you have knocked out their predecessors.
- When a person is knocked unconscious by a blow to the head, they will never suffer a concussion or brain damage.
- No one involved in a car chase, hijacking, or explosion will ever go into shock.
- Any lock can be picked by a credit card or a paper clip in seconds - unless it's the door to a burning building with a child trapped inside.
- Police departments give their officers personality tests to make sure they are deliberately assigned a partner who is their total opposite.



Sneeze foils suspected carjacker

It was a case of life imitating art.

A Calgary man who stole a car in mid-July tried to evade police by hiding in a field of tall grass while officers searched the area.

Then, just like a TV ad for allergy medicine, police heard someone sneeze.

The suspect was found lying in the grass holding his nose so he wouldn't make the same mistake twice, RCMP Const. Tom Christie said.

Of course, by then it was already too late.

The 19-year-old man was charged with numerous offences including robbery, impaired driving, dangerous driving and driving with excess alcohol in his blood.

The incident began when a man stole a car belonging to a former Calgary police commission member from a gas station west of the city.

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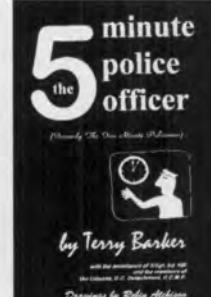
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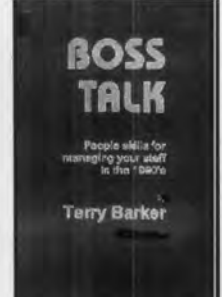
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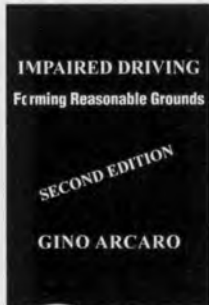
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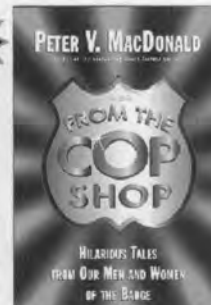
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