POLICE WEAPONS CENTER

FEBRUARY REPORTING PERIOD

	CURRENT PERIOD			SINCE 7/01/70		
	DEATH	INJURY	TOTALS	DEATH	INJURY	TOTALS
INCIDENTS	38	113	151	308	1014	1322
POLICE	17	120	137	68	1211	1279
SUSPECT	29	86	115	259	592	851
OTHERS	1	1	2	6	19	25

POLICE CASUALTY SERIES 2-71

INTRODUCTION

These statistical reports are designed to illustrate only police-suspect incidents in which injurious force was used by or upon police. The data used to develop these reports were gathered from over 1800 separate newspapers and public journals.

The data contained in each Police Casualty Report represent only those incidents reported in the public media received at the Police Weapons Center during the recording month. Incidents occurring in this period, but not received at the Center by the end of the month, will be carried in the next report. Inaccuracies created by this reporting delay will be corrected in semiannual and annual summaries.

TABLE A

This table records by population group the number of deaths and injuries to police, criminal suspects, and other individuals in incidents involving law enforcement personnel. The table does not include the deaths or injuries to individuals during exclusively criminal-victim incidents.

The column entitled "Incidents" and subdivided into "Injury" and "Death" is designed to indicate the number of incidents in which either a death or injury occurred. For example, if during a bank robbery a suspect was killed and two police officers were injured, the robbery would be counted as one incident under the "Death" column due to the fact that a death takes precedence over an injury. However, under the "Casualties" column there would be two (2) counts added to the number of injuries of police and one (1) count added to the deaths for suspects.

This section of the table entitled "Weapons Inflicting Police Casualties" illustrates, as the heading suggests, which type or class of weapons were used to inflict police injuries or death.

The following is a list of Table A population groupings of U.S. regions as reported in Statistical Abstract of the United States - 1968.

Region	Population 1968 Data
New England	11,450,000
Middle Atlantic	36,900,000
East North Central	39,599,000
West South Central	19,009,000
West North Central	16,061,000
South Atlantic	30,001,000
East South Central	13,098,000
Pacific	25,638,000
Mountain	7,907,000

TABLE B

Table B follows the same format as table A. Table B arranges the data by geographic groups.

TABLE C

Table "C" is designed to cross-correlate deaths and/or injuries of police personnel to the various types of law enforcement agencies according to the size of the community within which the injury or death took place.

For example, if a state trooper was injured during an incident in a town with a population of 25,000 people, the injury would be accounted for in the "Injury" column under the agency heading entitled "State" opposite the population group of "25,000".

TABLE D

Table "D" lists the classes of weapons being used against law enforcement officers and the resultant deaths and injuries. Each casualty is further identified as to the severity and part of the body receiving the wound.

The method of coding used is illustrated by an example incident in which two policemen are injured.

One officer received a minor leg wound,not requiring hospitalization,from a handgun and the other sustained a fatal knife wound in the torso. The coding for the wound caused by the handgun would be a one (1) placed under the "No Hosp" section of the major location area entitled "Legs" opposite the weapons class entitled "Handgun". The second officer's wound would be recorded under the "Fatal" severity section of the "Torso" location opposite the weapon class "Knife".

If during the analysis of the report it becomes impossible to determine the location of the wound, but its severity is known, the wound would be accounted for under that degree of severity within the major heading entitled "Unknown". If an injury is reported, but its location on the body, its severity, and the weapon used are not known, the injury will appear where the severity column "Unknown" (for the major location heading "Unknown") intersects the line for the weapons column entitled "Unknown".

When an officer receives wounds on two or more parts of his body in one incident, the injuries will be recorded under the correct level of severity within the single heading entitled "Multiple".

If a significant number of a particular type or class of "Other" weapons becomes prevalent in use against police, that class of weapons will be added to the existing list.

TABLE E

Table E follows the same format as table D to present the data for non-police casualties.

TABLE F

Table F correlates police activity at the time of injury or death with the population group (Tables A and C) of the community in which the casualty occurred.

TABLE A
Reported Incident Summary — By Population Group

POPULATION GROUP	INCIDENTS NUMBER INVOLVING INJURY	INCIDENTS NUMBER INVOLVING DEATH	CASUALTIES NUMBER POLICE *I	NUMBER POLICE *D	NUMBER SUSPECTS I	NUMBER SUSPECTS D	NUMBER OTHER I	NUMBER OTHER D	TOTAL I	TOTAL D	SHOTGUN	RIFLE	HANDGUN	KNIFE	CLUB	BATON	ROCKS, ETC.	AUTOMATIC WEAPON	AUTOMOBILE	PERSONAL WEAPON	EXPLOSIVES	UNKNOWN**	OTHER
I. OVER 250,000	53	24	63	13	57	19		1	120	33			19	7	5		14		1	12		17	1
II. 100,000 to 250,000	16	3	11		10	3	1		22	3			5	2					1	3			
III. 50,000 to 100,000	6	2	7		2	2			9	2			3	1					1	1		1	
IV. 25,000 to 50,000	17	2	18		7	2			25	2			4	1	3		3			4		3	
V. 10,000 to 25,000	11	2	12		4	2			16	2					5		2			5			
VI. UNDER 10,000	9	3	7	2	6	1			13	3			3							6			
VII. UNINCORPORATED AREA																							
VIII. UNKNOWN	1	2	2	2					2	2			2	2									
TOTAL	113	38	120	17	86	29	1	1	207	47			36	13	13		19		3	31		21	1

*I=Injury
*D=Death
**Weapon used was not reported.

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TABLE B — Reported Incident Summary — By Region

POPULATION GROUP	INCIDENTS NUMBER INVOLVING INJURY*	DEATH*	CASUALTIES NUMBER POLICE I	NUMBER POLICE D	NUMBER SUSPECTS I	NUMBER SUSPECTS D	NUMBER OTHER I	NUMBER OTHER D	TOTAL I	TOTAL D	SHOTGUN	RIFLE	HANDGUN	KNIFE	CLUB	BATON	ROCKS, ETC.	AUTOMATIC WEAPON	AUTOMOBILE	PERSONAL WEAPON	EXPLOSIVES	UNKNOWN**	OTHER
NEW ENGLAND — Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont	7	1	10		7	1			17	1			2	2	1		1					4	
MIDDLE ATLANTIC — New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands	23	9	17	4	17	6	1	1	34	11			5	1	2		2			5		6	
EAST NORTH CENTRAL — Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin	16	4	15	2	10	2			25	4			6	1	5		1			4			
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL — Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas	5	5	4	5	3	4			7	9			5				2			2			
WEST NORTH CENTRAL — Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota	6	3	5	1	5	2			10	3			2	2						2			
SOUTH ATLANTIC — Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia	20	8	28	1	11	7			39	8			6	2	2		4		2	2		10	1
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL — Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee	2		1		1				2				1										
PACIFIC — Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington	23	4	28		29	5	1	1	58	5			2	3	3		7		1	12			
MOUNTAIN — Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming	11	4	12	4	3	2			15	6			7	2			2			4		1	
TOTAL	113	38	120	17	86	29	1	1	207	47			36	13	13		19		3	31		21	1

*I=Injury
*D=Death

**Weapon used was not reported

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POPULATION GROUP	FEDERAL		STATE		LOCAL		COUNTY		PRIVATE		PERIOD TOTALS		CUMULATIVE TOTALS*	
	INJURY	DEATH	INJURY	DEATH	INJURY	DEATH	INJURY	DEATH	INJURY	DEATH	INJURY	DEATH	INJURY	DEATH
I. OVER 250,000			1		46	7	13	6	3		63	13	129	16
II. 100,000 TO 250,000					9		2				11		29	
III. 50,000 TO 100,000, ETC.					6		1				7		25	1
IV. 25,000 TO 50,000, ETC.					14		1		3		18		26	
V. 10,000 TO 25,000, ETC.			4		8						12		15	
VI. UNDER 10,000					5	1	2	1			7	2	17	4
VII. UNINCORPORATED AREA													3	
VIII. UNKNOWN			2	2							2	2	2	2
PERIOD TOTALS			7	2	88	8	19	7	6		120	17	⊠	⊠
CUMULATIVE TOTALS*			12	2	206	12	22	8	6	1	⊠	⊠	246	23

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TABLE C

Police Casualty Summary – By Law Enforcement Level

TABLE D

Police Casualty Summary By Weapon

SEVERITY →	HEAD					TORSO					ARMS					LEGS					MULTIPLE					UNKNOWN***					TOTAL	
LOCATION / Weapon	UNK**	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	INJURY	FATAL
SHOTGUN				3	3			7	8	15	1	2	2		5		4	5	3	12											21	14
RIFLE		2			2		3	3		6		1	1		2		3			3											13	
HANDGUN		4	3		7												1	1		2				1	1						9	1
KNIFE																																
CLUB																						4			4						4	
BATON		5			5																										5	
ROCKS,ETC.							1	1		2	1	1			2		1	1		2		1			1	1	6			7	14	
AUTOMATIC WEAPON																																
AEROSOL IRRITANT PROJECTOR																																
TEAR GAS																																
EXPLOSIVES		2	1		3							1	1		2																5	
UNKNOWN*			1		1			1	1	2							1			1							13			13	16	1
OTHER																																
PERSONAL WEAPON		5		1	6		4			4		3			3	2	3	2		7		2			2		9			9	30	1
AUTOMOBILE								1		1								1		1							1			1	3	
TOTALS		18	5	4	27		8	13	9	30	2	8	4		14	2	13	10	3	28		7		1	8	1	29			30	120	17

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*Weapon used was not reported
**Degree of injury was not reported
***Location of injury was not reported

TABLE E

Non-Police Casualty Summary By Weapon

LOCATION / SEVERITY	HEAD					TORSO					ARMS					LEGS					MULTIPLE					UNKNOWN***					TOTAL	
	UNK**	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	UNK	NO HOSP	HOSP	FATAL	TOTAL	INJURY	FATAL
SHOTGUN									1	1			1		1							2	3	2	7		17			17	23	3
RIFLE																								1	1							1
HANDGUN	1	1	6	4	12			16	8	24		2	2		4	1	3	5		9			8	4	12			4	8	12	49	24
KNIFE																																
CLUB			1		1																										1	
BATON																																
ROCKS,ETC.																																
AUTOMATIC WEAPON																																
AEROSOL IRRITANT PROJECTOR																																
TEAR GAS																																
EXPLOSIVES																																
UNKNOWN*								1		1							1	1		2			2		2	2	3		2	7	10	2
OTHER																																
PERSONAL WEAPON		1			1																	1			1			2		2	4	
TOTALS	1	2	7	4	14			17	9	26		2	3		5	1	4	6		11		3	13	7	23	2	20	6	10	38	87	30

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*Weapon used was not reported
**Degree of injury was not reported
***Location of injury was not reported

TABLE F

Police Casualty Summary By Activity

ACTIVITY OF OFFICER AT TIME OF INJURY OR DEATH	Total I**	Total D**	II I	II D	III I	III D	IV I	IV D	V I	V D	VI I	VI D	VII I	VII D	VIII I	VIII D	TOTAL I	TOTAL D
RESPONDING TO CALL																		
FELONY IN PROGRESS	4	2	1		2												7	2
FELONY (OTHER)	2	1					1				1						4	1
CIVIL DISORDER/DEMONSTRATION	31		1				1		4								37	
TRAFFIC	2		3		2											1	7	1
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	1						2		1		2						6	
DISTURBING THE PEACE	2						2		1								5	
OTHER MISDEMEANOR					2												2	
UNKNOWN																		
OTHER	1	3	1		1		2					1				1	5	4
MAKING ARREST																		
FELONY	2	1					2		1		2						7	1
CIVIL DISORDER/DEMONSTRATION																		
TRAFFIC	1		1						1		1	1					4	1
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE																	1	
DISTURBING THE PEACE							1				1						2	
OTHER MISDEMEANOR																		
UNKNOWN			1														1	
OTHER			2				2										6	2
PROCESSING OR TRANSPORTING PRISONER	6	2															6	2
ROUTINE PATROL OR DUTY (AMBUSH)	4		1				1										6	
ACCIDENTAL	1																1	
UNKNOWN	1																1	
OTHER	5	4	2				5		4			1			2		18	5
TOTAL	63	13	11		7		18		12		7	2			2	2	120	17

UCR POPULATION GROUP*

*See Table A
**I = Injury
D = Death

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CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF POLICE CASUALTY
INCIDENTS CLASSIFIED AS "AMBUSH"

Date	State	City	Summary
Jan. 15	Florida	Fort Myers	A Lee County deputy sheriff suffered serious facial burns as the result of acid thrown in his face when he answered a knock at the door to his apartment. Authorities have arrested an 18-year-old woman whom the deputy had previously arrested for possession of marijuana.
Jan. 16	California	Berkeley	A Berkeley police officer was injured by a speeding car in what officials believe was a deliberate hit-and-run attack. The officer was investigating a traffic accident when a car swerved across the center line and deliberately struck him. He was reportedly hospitalized in good condition.
Jan. 25	Illinois	Chicago	A large rock, thrown through the open window of a moving squad car, struck and injured a Foster Avenue District patrolman. The officer was treated for cuts and bruises and released.
Jan. 28	New York	New York	Two teen-age boys were being held on charges of attempted murder following an afternoon sniping attack on a police car in Central Park. One officer was slightly injured by flying glass when the bullet crashed through the windshield.
Jan. 30	Colorado	Lakewood	While making a check on a fire-damaged building, a Lakewood patrolman was knocked unconscious by an unseen assailant. The officer had become suspicious when he saw a ladder against the side of the house.
Feb. 9	Wisconsin	Milwaukee	A 5th District policeman was hospitalized after he was hit on the head from behind while approaching two men whom he said looked suspicious. The officer was listed in satisfactory condition.

CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF POLICE FATALITY INCIDENTS

Date	State	City	Summary
Jan. 18	Arizona	Phoenix	Two Maricopa County sheriff's deputies were killed in a gun battle with the owner of a mobile home which they were attempting to repossess. The officers were taken by surprise and shot while they were waiting for the trailer to be moved. Their assailant was also killed in the exchange of gunfire.
Jan. 24	Florida	Pahokee	Shortly after radioing his dispatcher for a check on a possible stolen car, a 34-year-old patrolman was found mortally wounded behind the wheel of his car. A second officer was sent to the scene after the dispatcher could not get a response when he called back with the information. Police were searching for the car and two suspects.
Jan. 28	Minnesota	St. Paul	A Ramsey County deputy sheriff, assigned to the prison ward of the county hospital, was shot and killed. Police said a gun was smuggled to one of the prisoners. No further details were reported.
Jan. 30	Illinois	Chicago	An off-duty policeman with the community services detail was shot and killed while attempting to arbitrate a gambling dispute at a West Side cab stand. The officer, who was summoned there by one of the men involved, was killed when he was identified as a policeman. Police arrested one suspect, but he was later released.
Jan. 31	Texas	Houston	While investigating a felony-in-progress call, a Houston policeman was shot and killed by the man who had just robbed a service station. The officer had walked around to the front of the building to wait for the robber to come out when he was shot. The assailant was killed by other officers answering the robbery call.
Jan. 31	Texas	Bridge City	A local constable died after being hit during a struggle with a man he had stopped for a traffic violation. Death was the result of a blow on the left side of the neck which caused an instant heart stoppage. The officer reportedly had a past history of heart ailments.
Feb. 5	Arizona	Navajo	In separate incidents, two Arizona highway patrolmen were killed by a convicted psychopath wanted in California for the murder of a 13-year-old girl the day before. The first officer was stabbed with an ice pick and then shot after he stopped the suspect's car near the Arizona-New Mexico border. A second patrolman stopped the suspect a few miles later, apparently unaware of the man's identity. He, too, was shot and mortally wounded. A massive manhunt located the killer in Grants, New Mexico, where he died trying to avoid capture.
Feb. 15	New York	New York	A prisoner being fingerprinted in a Bronx police station grabbed a detective's gun from its holster and shot him to death. The prisoner was then shot and killed by another officer.

Date	State	City	Summary
Feb. 15	Texas	Dallas	Three deputy sheriffs were killed by two men they sought to question about a recent burglary. The incident began when three deputies drove to a house in search of the suspects. A radioed request for a blank consent-to-search form brought two more officers to the scene. When the two arrived, they found the three others tied to chairs inside the house. They were themselves disarmed and bound. The suspects then forced the deputies to drive to an area in the bottomlands of the Trinity River where three of the officers were murdered and one seriously wounded. The fifth deputy rolled down an embankment and managed to escape unharmed.
Feb. 19	New York	New York	A patrolman and a narcotics suspect were killed in a gun battle in a Harlem tenement hallway. Three officers, all in civilian clothes, had taken positions on the third floor of the building. Two suspects rode up to the floor in the elevator; when the door opened, they came out shooting. One officer was killed, and a second suffered a shoulder wound.
Feb. 20	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	A 25-year-old policeman was found dead in his patrol car shortly after 10 p.m. He had been shot twice in the back of the head while seated in his car talking to the person who later shot him. His confessed killers are two teen-age boys who allegedly planned to kill a policeman in retaliation for a recent shooting by two highway patrolmen which touched off a storm of protest in North Philadelphia.
Feb. 21	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	At 3 a.m., five hours after the death of a Philadelphia patrolman, a second police officer was shot and killed. A witness reported that he heard a gunshot in the street and ran outside where he found the policeman slumped across the front seat of his car. The officer was apparently attempting to stop a car thief when he was shot.