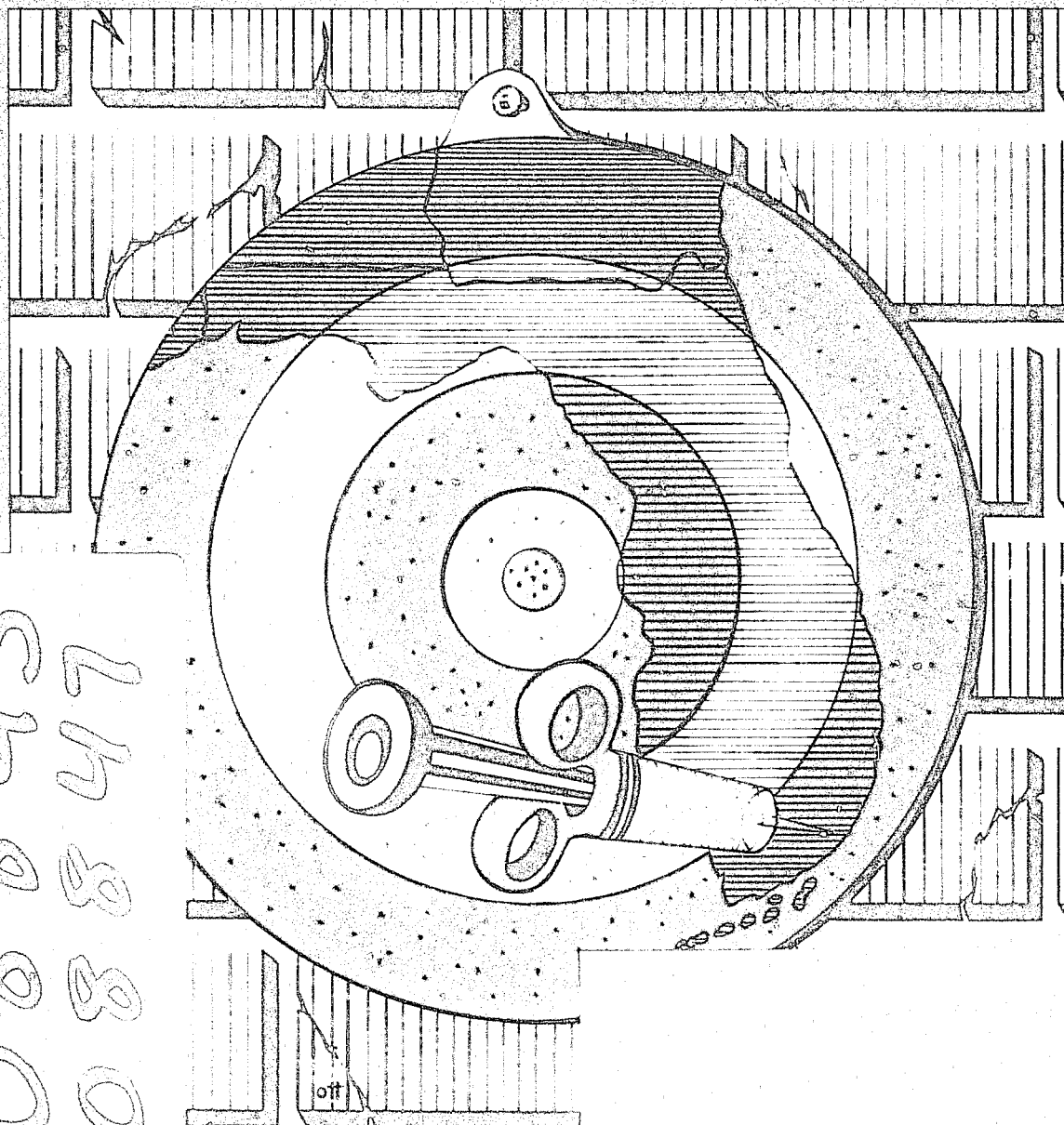




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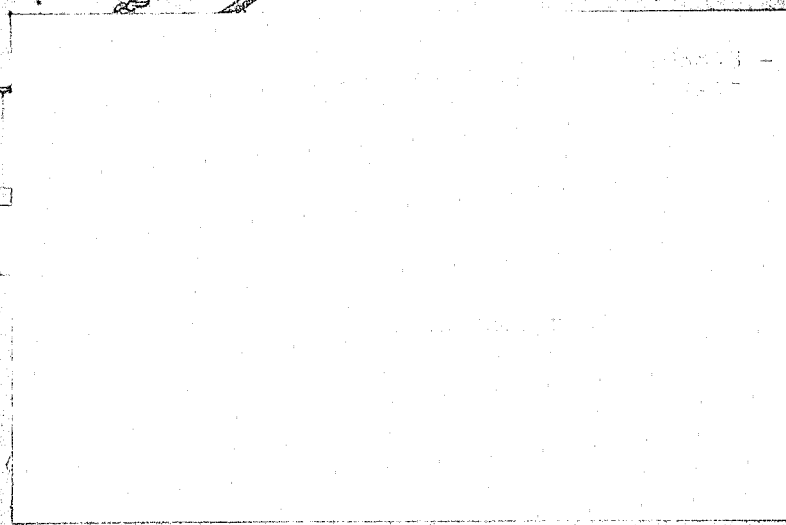
January 1988

Law Enforcement Bulletin



108843
108847

ings in Miami



Contents

January 1988, Volume 57, Number 1

- 108843 Narcotics **1** **Drug Stings in Miami**
By Clarence Dickson
- 108844 Identification **7** **Selecting An Automated Fingerprint
Identification System**
By Michael J. Fitzpatrick
- 108845 Management **12** **False Alarms — A Drain on Police Resources**
By G. H. Kleinknecht and Dennis A. George
- 108846 Intelligence **16** **New Intelligence Concept Curbs Crime**
By Thomas R. Ruxlow and Stephen Henson
- 108847 Patrol **19** **Criminal Patrol Techniques**
By Wiley D. McCormick
- 23** **Book Review**
- Legal Digest **24** **Emergency Searches of Persons**
By John Gales Sauls
- 31** **Wanted by the FBI**

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Criminal Patrol Techniques

"[The Criminal Patrol Techniques School is] designed to enhance the uniformed troopers' ability to detect, identify, and apprehend criminals traveling State highways."

By
COL. WILEY D. McCORMICK
Superintendent
Louisiana State Police
Baton Rouge, LA

FEBRUARY 1986—The identity of a fugitive on the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted List" was discovered by uniformed Louisiana troopers during a routine traffic stop. Another State police traffic investigation led to the arrest of another FBI "Top Ten" fugitive the following December.

JULY 1986—Officers stopped a Cadillac limousine for speeding. The driver produced five alias driver's licenses from various States. An inventory of the car revealed 10 pistols, 1 fully automatic .45-caliber machinegun with a silencer, and various items of police equipment, including 2 scanners. Information gained from this seizure led to the arrest of two fugitives being sought by the FBI.

AUGUST 1986—State police seized 44 pounds of cocaine. Troopers stopped a

1984 Chevrolet, again for a routine traffic violation, and located the cocaine in a hidden compartment.

JANUARY 1987—Twelve illegal aliens were turned over to the U.S. Border Patrol after troopers stopped a van to issue a traffic citation.

FEBRUARY 1987—Three unrelated traffic stops by State police netted over 650 pounds of marijuana and \$75,000 in cash.

The Concept

The Louisiana State Police (LSP) probably would not have made the above arrests had these criminals been detained in a "routine" traffic stop prior to July 1985. However, because of an enforcement program implemented at that time, uniformed troopers working traffic assignments are making signifi-

cant criminal arrests on a daily basis.

The new program, called "Criminal Patrol," resulted from fiscal necessity. When budget problems forced the State police to implement tremendous cutbacks in manpower and equipment, increased efficiency became essential. Many departmental operations were computerized; commissioned troopers were reassigned from office positions to enforcement and replaced by clerical personnel. The Detective and Intelligence Sections were merged, allowing many troopers to be reassigned patrol duties. While these dramatic changes worked well to keep the organization viable, any additional cuts would greatly reduce services to the people of Louisiana.

In the spring of 1985, a program instituted by the New Mexico State Police



Colonel McCormick

was fast becoming the talk of the law enforcement community. In their successful "pipeline" drug interdiction program, uniformed troopers were trained to stop drug couriers on the highways.

Due to the manpower shortage in the Criminal Investigation Bureau, an expanded version of this concept was determined to be more appropriate for Louisiana. Concern was also expressed for the relatively low ratio of criminal arrests to traffic contacts. Obviously, traveling criminals committed traffic violations too, but statistics showed that these criminals were apparently "slipping through the cracks." To address this issue, a training program was developed and implemented to teach troopers to look beyond routine traffic offenses.

Training

In June 1985, the first 5-day Criminal Patrol Techniques School was held at the Louisiana State Police Training Academy in Baton Rouge. Twenty uniformed State police troopers, traditionally assigned to traffic patrol, were trained to develop a keener sense in the detection of criminal activity. Since this first training session, over 200 troopers have been trained in criminal patrol techniques.

Instructors were recruited from various law enforcement and medical fields, as well as representatives from the U.S. Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; National Auto Theft Bureau; and the U.S. Department of Justice.

The school was designed to enhance the uniformed troopers' ability to detect, identify, and apprehend criminals traveling State highways. The

broad range of critical areas included the recognition, recovery, and/or apprehension of missing and exploited children, stolen equipment and automobiles, drug traffickers, outlaw motorcycle gangs, illegal aliens, and air and marine smugglers. Instructors also addressed such topics as interview and interrogation techniques, courtroom testimony, the law of search and seizure, identification and coordination of crime scenes, use of the field interview and intelligence report, and defensive tactics.

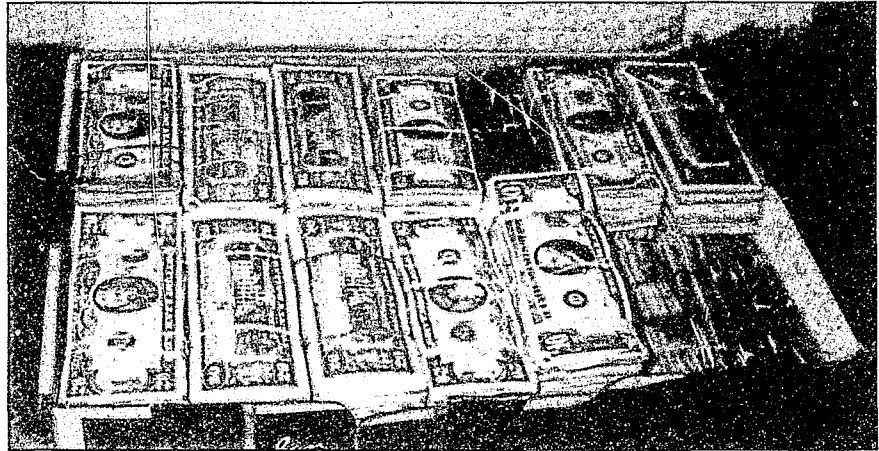
The training program alerts troopers to view the "totality of the circumstances." Any motorist stopped for a moving violation may indeed be involved in criminal activity. The trooper is taught to scrutinize each violator quickly, recognizing both the limitations of State police authority and the constitutional rights of all persons. An officer simply asks a few routine questions and observes the reactions of the violator. This "attention to detail" provides vital clues to possible ongoing criminal activity.

These specially trained troopers continued traffic enforcement duties, while increasing their awareness when issuing a citation. To achieve maximum results, troop supervisors refrained from assigning these units routine traffic accident investigations, intersection point details, and other time-consuming duties.

The First Evaluation (45 Days)

An evaluation was conducted after a 45-day period to determine the effectiveness of the program. The results were beyond most expectations. A total of 345 criminal arrests were accomplished by the 21-man unit in only 45

“The training program alerts troopers to view the ‘totality of the circumstances.’ ”



State police seized \$141,000 during a routine traffic stop.

days. Arrests included fugitives wanted for murder, child abuse, burglary, drug trafficking, and auto theft.

A Case History: Top Ten Fugitive Arrested

On February 13, 1986, at approximately 1:20 p.m., a Louisiana State trooper observed a 1979 Chevrolet Camero traveling eastbound on I-12 in Covington, LA. The trooper stopped the vehicle because it was being driven in an erratic manner.

The driver displayed a driver's license with the name Ronald Charles Beatz and stated that his passenger, James Robert Anderson, was the owner of the car. The trooper obtained a driver's license from each individual, as well as valid registration papers on the vehicle.

Perhaps prior to specialized training, the trooper would have issued a citation and allowed the occupants to go on their way. However, the trooper had noticed that both driver and passenger were nervous and overly talka-

tive. The trooper, who had been given very vague answers to "routine" questions, was now suspicious and asked Beatz to voluntarily sign a consent-to-search form, which he agreed to do.

The trooper found a small black leather zipper bag in the front of the car which contained a small amount of marijuana. Also found was a Baretta 9mm semi-automatic pistol in a shoulder holster, a .38-caliber revolver, burglary tools, a programmable portable police scanner, and aircraft navigation maps. Beatz and Anderson were arrested for possession of marijuana.

Upon arriving at troop headquarters, the trooper contacted Criminal Investigation Bureau investigators about the case. Perhaps prior to specialized training, the trooper would have booked the two suspects with possession of marijuana and continued with his daily activities.

The subsequent investigation produced startling results. Beatz was an alias being used by Ronald Charles

Johnson. Anderson was an alias being used by David Jay Sterling.

Sterling had committed a series of brutal rapes in Oregon, Oklahoma, and Washington before being apprehended and sentenced to 20 years at hard labor. Sterling, while confined in a mental institution, had escaped during March 1985, and joined forces with Johnson in a notorious series of armed robberies. The pair's method of operation had been to steal an aircraft, land on a roadway near a rural bank, rob the bank, and fly to safety. Sterling's criminal activity had placed him on the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted List."

The apprehension of a FBI "Top Ten" fugitive was indeed a morale booster for the unit and the department. The arresting trooper was presented the Meritorious Service Award issued for acts of duty greatly exceeding normal demand.

The Problem

Interestingly enough, the only organized opposition to the program has

“The Criminal Patrol Program has had tremendous positive impact on the operations of the Louisiana State Police.”

**OVERALL 20-MONTH STATISTICS
JULY 1, 1985 — JANUARY 31, 1987**

| Apprehensions | |
|--|--------------|
| Aliens | 1,035 |
| Criminal Arrests | 310 |
| Fugitives Wanted by Other States | 164 |
| Fugitives Wanted by Louisiana | 65 |
| Fugitive Runaways | 25 |
| Narcotics Arrests | 575 |
| Traffic Arrests (DWI/Suspensions) | 291 |
| Total Apprehensions | 2,465 |
| Seizures of Vehicles | |
| 223 Vehicles (NADA Value) | \$756,781 |
| Property Seizures | |
| Weapons, Drug Paraphernalia, etc. | \$22,723 |
| Narcotics Seizures | |
| Marijuana — 8,485 pounds | |
| Cocaine — 421 pounds | |
| Crack — 100 nuggets | |
| Other drugs including LSD, PCP, Hashish, Preludin, Amphetamine, Valium, and Methaqualone | |
| Value | \$21,294,165 |
| Stolen Property Recovered | |
| Value | \$14,555 |
| Stolen Vehicles Recovered | |
| 117 Vehicles 84 Apprehensions | |
| Value | \$687,900 |
| U.S. Currency Seizures | |
| Cash | \$3,140,743 |

ing license plates from States throughout the country. Nor is the age, sex, or ethnic origin of the driver of any consequence. Troopers are trained to make stops for moving violations and to look for robbery suspects, fugitives, drug traffickers, car thieves, and other criminals. There has not been one complaint filed with the department concerning improper conduct by criminal patrol officers.

The Results

The Criminal Patrol Program has had tremendous positive impact on the operations of the Louisiana State Police. The effects are interrelated; increased criminal arrests as a result of uniform personnel working more closely with plainclothes officers has been a tremendous morale booster for the entire department.

Dramatic drug seizures and other criminal arrests have received a great deal of positive media attention. Success of the program has generated a certain notoriety within the law enforcement community. The Louisiana State Police presented its program at the National State Police Conference in New Mexico where 40 State police agencies were represented. Since that time, the agency has been instrumental in initiating similar criminal interdiction programs in Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Georgia, Nebraska, California, and Montana.

The success of the Criminal Patrol Program had made it an integral part of Louisiana State Police. The message to traveling criminals is clear: "If Louisiana highways are used to perpetuate your illegal activities, the State Police intend to lengthen your visit as a 'guest' of the state!"



been from the attorneys for narcotics traffickers. Narcotics arrests account for only 24 percent of the criminal arrests made.

Louisiana is situated in a drug "corridor" located between the State of Florida and the west coast. Accordingly, a sizable portion of narcotics seizures/arrests stem from vehicles stopped with Florida plates. Additionally, Texas is also overrepresented in the criminal statistics because of its large population and geographic prox-

imity. Lawyers have accused the Louisiana State Police of "profiling" vehicles from these States. Yet, all investigations leading to a seizure or arrest have resulted after the traffic stop — not before it.

Troopers make traffic stops because they have observed a motor vehicle violation, not because a certain type vehicle has come into their view. Substantial seizures have resulted from inexpensive as well as expensive cars, trucks, vans, and motor homes display-