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# ANNUAL REPORT

NEW YORK STATE POLICE — 1976







*Superintendent William G. Connelie*



NCJRS

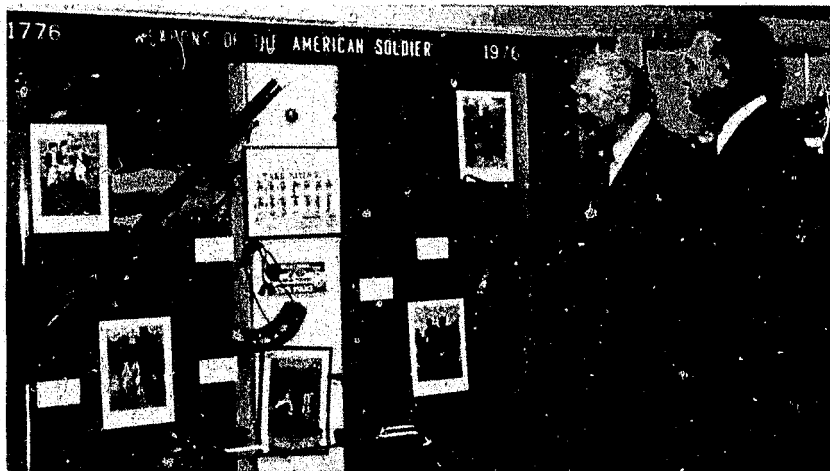
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*Annual Report* ACQUISITIONS  
**NEW YORK STATE POLICE**  
*For the Year 1976*

*A trooper's face shows the strain as he pulls at a piece of wreckage in an attempt to free three persons trapped for over an hour following an accident in Claverack. Troopers must frequently battle with tangles of metal to rescue victims of highway mishaps. Associated Press photo by Joe Traver.*



*Governor Hugh L. Carey*



## On The Cover

In a year in which our country celebrated its Bicentennial, a trooper returns to yesteryear with a visit to the historic VanWyck Homestead in Fishkill, built in 1792 and the reputed setting of James Fenimore Cooper's "The Spy." Members of the Historical Society who greeted the trooper asked him to investigate a break in. Among the Division's many Bicentennial activities were a historic exhibition of weaponry in the Academy prepared by Inv. John Bates being viewed here by Superintendent Connelie and First Dep. Supt. Robert D. Quick, and participation in many parades, among them the St. Patrick's Day parade along Fifth Avenue in New York City. Cover photo by Sgt. J. P. Hopper. Parade by Bob Miazga. Exhibition by Marion Hoyt.





# 1976

## Reviewing the 59th Year

**D**uring 1976, State Police arrests dropped 7.2 percent to 562,631, compared to 606,113 recorded in 1975. The total number of offenses known or reported declined by 40,981 to 649,926, a downward move of 5.9 percent in one year. Accident investigations rose from 50,946 to 51,036.

The general downtrend in most statistical areas is attributable to two factors: (1) a greater stress on quality arrests involving a focus on major crimes and highway incidents requiring additional manpower and effort to achieve satisfactory culminations to fewer cases, and (2) a decrease in law enforcement personnel from the 3,340 men and women in service at the end of 1975 to 3,191 at the close of this calendar year; authorized strength at the end of 1976 stood at 3,437 uniform and plainclothes officers.

\* \* \*

Among the leading events of the year were these:

- A new headquarters for Troop A was completed at Batavia and became operational in the spring.

- An innovative Superintendent's program which brought 100 under-privileged boys to the Academy during August for learning vacations was begun.

- The assignment of 225 uniform and BCI members to guard the United States Olympic team during practice at Plattsburgh presaged a major assignment for 1980—total security for all world Olympians at the games at Lake Placid.

- An experimental 15-month program was started in the central part of the state to determine if Citizens Band radio can help law enforcement efforts; 150 troop cars and 15 State Police installations in a seven-county area were equipped with full CB capability and the public was urged to cooperate with the Division.

- The State Police canine corps underwent an additional expansion when three German shepherds were added to the previously assigned shepherd and Labrador retriever all



*A new headquarters building for Troop A at Batavia was completed during 1976.*

*A trooper shows the results of his shooting exhibition to two fairgoers at the Altamont Fair. Schenectady Gazette photo by Sid Brown.*



having specialized abilities such as sniffing explosives and narcotics. These dogs have proven to be a valuable addition to the once all-bloodhound corps.

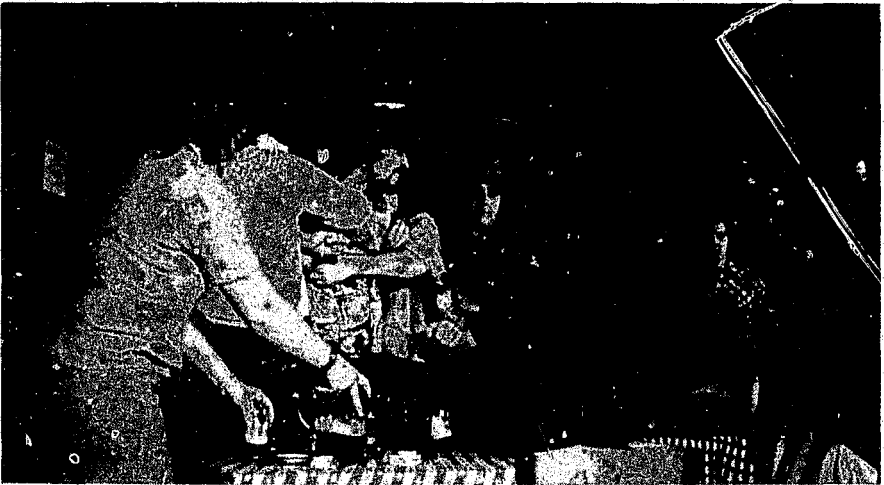
● A streamlining of the hierarchy of the State Police saw the ranks of major and inspector change place; troop commanders now are elevated to the inspection ranks, leaving field duty permanently for administrative careers.

● Bertram F. Brummer, the founder of the State Police's highest annual award, which bears his name, died Jan. 31.

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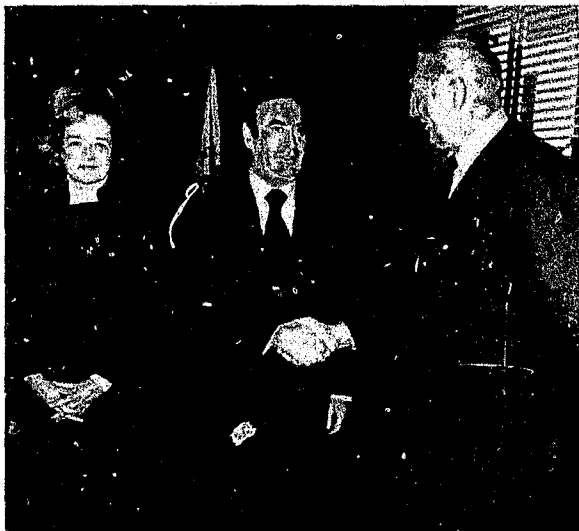
### SENATE SALUTE

On March 16, State Police and other law enforcement agencies were called to the State Capitol to quell a disturbance which grew out of a student protest over proposed budget cuts to education. That prompted the State Senate to adopt a resolution commending the participating forces "through whose outstanding efforts...a full-blown riot was averted and order maintained with a minimum of physical injury, property damage, and criminal charges."



*A tavern brawl is staged with the help of two troopers during a workshop to give law enforcement personnel an awareness of the special problems of the deaf.*

*Governor Carey congratulates Superintendent and Mrs. Connelie on their 30th wedding anniversary which fell shortly after the Superintendent completed his first year at the helm of State Police.*




Increased enforcement of the 55 mph limit saw speeding arrests rise to 277,467, eclipsing the previous year's record by more than 7,000. This was in part related to a federally-funded Speed Enforcement Team (SET) effort which saw four teams of troopers concentrate almost exclusively on speed amelioration on the interstate highway system. Despite this increase, the Division's traffic arrests dropped from 554,278 in 1975 to 519,860. Fatal accidents declined by 32 to 492. The Bureau of Criminal Investigation received 63,158 cases.

The conviction rate for cases adjudicated from State Police arrests was 80 percent, a drop of one percent from a year earlier. Convictions were obtained in 441,616 cases, compared with 489,844 convictions in 1975.

Fines, fees, the value of recovered property, and the proceeds from the sale of used equipment totaled \$15,266,121, a decrease of \$768,591 from the 1975 total of \$16,034,712. Division vehicles traveled 51,747,493 miles compared with 58,179,141 miles in 1975. ■



*Two troopers spend their off-duty time in a State Police project: repairing toys for distribution to needy children at Christmas. Grit photo.*



*Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation fails to save the life of a man who collapsed on the State Campus in Albany on the hottest day of the year. Photo by Bob Miazga.*

## The Uniform Force

The uniform trooper's workaday world runs the gamut from a speeding ticket to the darkest aberrations of humanity. Within a single tour of duty, he must be as adept in dealing with a would-be suicide or a crazed driver as in handing out a summons.

This is a random sampling of what some troopers experienced during 1976 after they donned their gray uniforms, got into their blue-and-gold troop cars and began a "routine" tour of duty:

Two troopers looking into a CB radio larceny found six young children in a house unfit for human occupancy—no heat, food or water, but plenty of filth. The parents were arrested and the tots were soon under decent care.

Called from the road, a trooper was shown a napkin on which a restaurant patron had scribbled a nasty note: "I'm being kidnaped by my husband." When the car was stopped

on the Thruway, a 270-pound fugitive armed with a .357 revolver surrendered after his wife leaped out and ran to the protective side of a trooper.

A despondent woman walked into the Hudson River chest high. A trooper waded out after her despite her protests that she'd drown herself if he came closer. They stood near each other in deep water, and the trooper talked at



*A trooper comforts a lost boy and his dog.*



## DEATH COMES FROM UNEXPECTED QUARTERS

"Death has a thousand ways to let us out" goes the old saying, and perhaps the two most ironic accidental deaths of the year investigated by State Police cost the lives of a bridge tender and a motorcyclist. A wheel came off a moving car on the Eastchester Creek Bridge, crossed lanes, bounced against the front of a truck and was propelled 20 feet upward, crashing through the window of a tower where it fatally struck a tender working for the Thruway Authority. The cyclist who was killed was riding a short distance behind another two-wheeler which went off a curve and sheared off a pole; it began to fall and struck the second cyclist in the face as he rounded the curve.

length dissuading her from taking those final steps to a watery doom. In the western part of the state, two troopers took turns at lengthy mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to revive a woman who had lapsed into unconsciousness after taking an overdose of drugs. And in central New York, a manhunt for a paranoid sniper who fired at campers and then fled into woods ended five days later with the finding of his body. He had drowned himself.

Roadblocks were established in the North Country following the armed

robbery of a liquor store. A trooper stopped one driver he knew who said he was in a hurry to get to a hearing on his probation status. He turned out to be the bandit. An off-duty trooper, helping his father-in-law close a village grocery store, was confronted by a shotgun-wielding holdup man in a mask who wanted money and cigarettes. When he stopped to grab a piece of cake, the trooper seized his personal weapon from under the counter and fired. The robber ended up in a hospital and his two cohorts were quickly seized. A lunatic who invaded a resi-

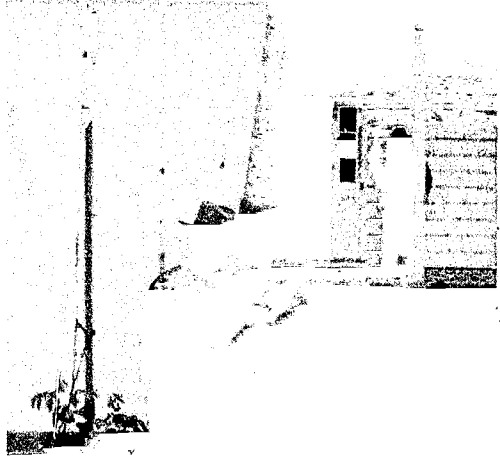


*A horse that nearly drowned in a quagmire is pulled to safety by two troopers and a rodeo hand. Capital Newspapers photo by Arnold LeFevre.*

dence at night, removed his hunting jacket, shirt and boots, and then stabbed the homeowner and his wife, was tracked down at his hunting camp seven miles away. Two brothers who stole a collection of \$100,000 worth of rare gold pieces were in custody the same day when they tried to peddle their loot far below market value. Stake-outs often interrupt crimes, but few surveillances were executed with the precision timing of one in the central part of the state in which troopers, responding to suspicious activity at an all-night food store, arrived less than a minute before three armed bandits ran out and scattered before being rounded up, aborting the shotgun holdup of a clerk for \$81.

Car thieves are sometimes intercepted by patrolling troopers. Two such men were placed in Oswego County Jail, and before bail could be obtained, the BCI determined that they had thrown a man from a bridge with fatal results. A murder charge was lodged on top of the theft accusation. Another thief was so inept that after taking a car from a dealer's lot he decided to swipe some plates from a garage; he took them from a State Police patrol car being serviced and was caught soon after running into a telephone pole.

The swiftness in which troopers must adjust from one case to another was illustrated during interviews of several injured parties in a hospital emergency room following an accident. Suddenly, a badly battered couple arrived; he'd been struck with a tire iron and was bleeding profusely, and she'd been dragged away and raped. Without missing a beat, the troopers took down information and recognizing the modus operandi of the rapist soon had him in tow.



*Troopers surround a house when an apparently deranged man began firing a handgun, leading to a two-hour standoff. He finally surrendered and was charged with attempted murder. Photo by Utica Observer Dispatch.*

Among the most danger-laden assignments are those dealing with "hot wires." In one such case, a drunk woman driver sheared off a utility pole at its base; the car overturned and the electrical lines hung precariously on an overhead tree limb. A difficult rescue in a blacked-out area led to a Breathalyzer test of .17, evidence of extreme intoxication.

Family problems must be handled with delicacy and tact, but sometimes they require raw courage. Such was the case when troopers had to tackle a deaf mute armed with a butcher knife which he waved in a blood-spattered room; he'd slashed his grandmother and uncle because a meal didn't appeal to him. A husband and wife went at each other with a sickle and baseball bat, after which the enraged man poured kerosene in the entrance-way and burned down the house leading to a confrontation with the law. In another instance, troopers responding to a family dispute were greeted by a blast of slugs that went through a bedroom in which the

husband had barricaded himself. He then used lighter fluid to ignite the house, but was caught as he jumped out of a window.

Drug seizures resulting from arrests for violations of the Vehicle and Traffic Law are almost daily occurrences. In one instance, a trooper stopped an erring motorist, then saw a hashish pipe on the front seat. A further search uncovered 70 pounds of marijuana in a suitcase, the odor of which the driver was clever enough to disguise by having another suitcase full of talcum powder.

Troopers are frequently among the first to arrive at fires, and often they must risk their lives to aid the victims. In one of the most tragic cases of the year, troopers tried repeatedly to enter a building in which three children were trapped but were driven back by intense heat and smoke. Their deaths set off an arson investigation which led to the arrest of their mother. Troopers battled valiantly to save valuable horses and ponies from a barn owned by a prominent surgeon. Troopers on Thruway patrol spotted a barn fire,



*Goods taken from a town highway garage are inventoried following three arrests.*

and arrived in time to break into an adjoining house and roust the sleeping occupants before flames spread and engulfed the building. At another fire, a trooper alertly saw that one of the volunteer firemen was very nervous and an interview resulted in his arrest for 17 "torch jobs" which he acknowledged were for sexual gratification.

Unfortunately, in fulfilling their duties, a number of troopers suffer injuries each year. One trooper was



*A twin-engine plane that pancaked after takeoff is inspected. Six aboard escaped harm. Capital Newspapers photo by Fred McKinney.*



*Troopers man the telephones during a North Country TV telethon to raise funds to fight muscular dystrophy.*

hospitalized with a gunshot wound after a powerful pedestrian grappled with him and attempted to grab his service revolver. In making arrests for disorderly conduct, one trooper was smashed over the head with a rock and another was injured in close combat. Following a fight with his father, a 26 year old tried to back into a patrol car, then on being arrested and placed in the troop car kicked the trooper in the head.

One trooper was bitten by the dog belonging to a robber he arrested, while another was bitten on the hand by a woman trying to flee a courtroom. Four troopers were hurt by a group of barroom battlers whom they chased across county lines after a brawl which landed several patrons in the hospital.

And then there are every year the "close calls" on which troopers look

back with relief: their lives were definitely on the line. One such occurrence took place at the tail end of a high-speed chase when the motorist fled on foot and suddenly pulled up, spun around with a shotgun and at 15 feet pointed it at one of two pursuing troopers. Shots from both troopers felled the would-be killer before he could fire. He ended up in a hospital and much later in court on a first degree attempted murder count. Another chase, this one involving six armed robbers, ended up at an apartment complex. After the troop car stopped and one trooper emerged, the bandits' car reappeared and attempted to run down the trooper, but he dived over the hood of the troop car to save himself as the troop car was nearly rammed. As the car passed, a sawed-off rifle protruded from the rear window. The second part of the chase ended with arrests on a dead-end street. ■

### **A TRUCK WAS LOOSE ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD**

Route 17 on the Wurtsboro Mountain was the scene of this hair-raising incident: a trooper heading downgrade saw a tractor-trailer in his rearview mirror bearing down on his troop car, flashing headlights, and sounding his air horn. Realizing a runaway truck was careening down the mountain, the trooper turned on his emergency lights and siren, clearing traffic along the decline at 85 mph, and led the big rig halfway up Bloomingburg Mountain before it coasted to a stop. The trooper then jumped out, grabbed a rock and jammed it under the rear wheels to prevent the behemoth from rolling backwards. The driver said that while attempting to downshift, the accelerator stuck, leaving his transmission in neutral and when his air pressure failed he was without brakes. Appropriately, the driver's name was Hazard.



*Icy roads caused a bus to skid off Interstate 81 injuring 20 passengers and presenting troopers with a difficult rescue operation. Photo by Kenneth W. Goetz.*

## **Disasters**

The whims and vagaries of nature sometimes wreak destruction that challenge the resources of the State Police.

Disastrous flooding conditions in February at various locations led to State Police participation for evacuation, traffic control, and flood surveillance on the ground and by way of helicopters. In March, thaw and heavy spring rains raised the level of Chautauqua Lake three-and-one-half feet and forced 350 persons from their homes. Several businesses and factories in Jamestown were flooded at the same time. Troopers and local departments patrolled the evacuated areas after assisting the stricken populace to safety.

A March rainstorm propelled by 75 mile-an-hour winds pummeled the Dutchess-Putnam County area, uprooting trees, downing power lines, blowing roofs off buildings, and tossing airplanes about at Dutchess County Airport. Troopers were tested by difficult traffic control problems complicated by countless storm-related accidents, and assisted utility workers in safety precautions while power was restored.

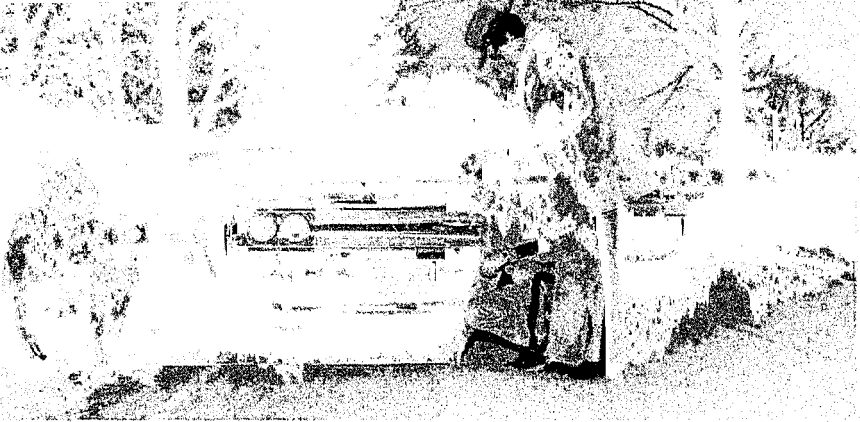
Hurricane "Belle" struck Long Island in August, and 30 men at the State Police station at Riverhead deployed for emergency preparations for the storm and maintained patrols

during and after Belle's passage.

Manmade disasters can be as taxing as those created by the elements.

Three train accidents led to exhausting tours of duty for troopers. One was the derailment of an 89-car freight train in Hyde Park, aggravated by the leakage of muriatic acid and formaldehyde from two tank cars; all rail traffic was blocked for 24 hours before the cars could be removed and the environmental danger was over. In another derailment with similar potential consequences, 77 freight cars went off the tracks in Otsego County, one of them containing toxic epichlorohydrine. Thirty nearby families had to be evacuated and two troopers were hospitalized as a precautionary measure for inhalation of noxious fumes. The spillage of 500 gallons of the liquid threatened the area's water supply for a time. A third derailment involving a circus train in Selkirk resulted from a collision with a freight car during switching operations and required the services of uniform and BCI personnel who assisted 13 injured persons.

An ecological blow that brought a State Police boat into action to help the Coast Guard control a major oil spill occurred in June on the St. Lawrence River. A barge containing 200,000 gallons struck a shoal near Alexandria Bay; at its height, the spill extended for 10 miles. ■



Three troopers take measurements following the death of a seven-year-old boy who ran in front of a car. Binghamton Press photo by Ken Goetz.

## Highways And Byways

Three teenagers were killed when their car struck a tree. A few hours later, a half mile away, two persons died in the collision of a school bus and a car. Contributing factors in both crashes, investigating troopers discovered, were excessive speed and alcohol.

These twin scourges of the road—speed and alcohol—have hounded the motoring public and law enforcers alike since the dawn of the automobile age. The carnage in 1976 again bore a grim statistic: of the 492 fatal accidents investigated by State Police, speeding was at least partially to blame in 219 and alcohol in 123 cases.

The encouraging fact is that the number of fatalities dropped from the 524 who perished in 1975, according to State Police figures. But adding to the toll of human misery were 51,036 accidents resulting in personal injuries and property damage, (up from 50,946), in one-third of which swiftness of wheel was a factor while



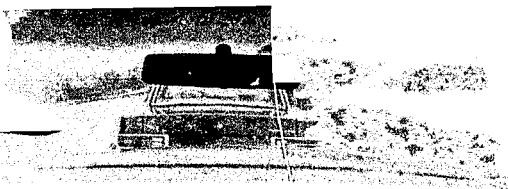
alcoholic involvement was a contributor in more than one-tenth.

In order to save lives and gas, troopers tried valiantly to restrain drivers within the federally-mandated 55 mph framework. A record number of speeding arrests—277,467, eclipsing last year's mark of 270,267—bears testimony to the intensified State Police effort. The stepped-up drive was abetted by a \$643,000 federal grant which led to the creation of a Speed Enforcement Team (SET) in

### HE WAS IN A FOG

Two troopers stopped a car and arrested a driver for felony drunk driving, his third such arrest in four years. They really didn't need a breath test to tell them the driver was drunk: he was swerving through fog at night without headlights, didn't know where he was, and had his shoes on wrong.

*A Speed Enforcement Team unit writes a speeding ticket and conducts a file check on the license and registration.*  
Photo by Marion Hoyt.



May composed of four groups of troopers and supervisors numbering 22 who concentrated on stretches of interstate highways on which the incidence of high rates of speed was the greatest. Indications were by year's end that this dedication to a specific infraction was instrumental in drastically reducing speeds on most highways. The SET units accounted for nearly one-tenth of all speeding tickets written by State Police.

Intoxicated driver arrests dropped slightly, from 13,714 in 1975 to 11,980, but the courts convicted 4,531 of driving while intoxicated (a sharp rise from the 3,530 convicted in 1975) and 4,482 of driving while their ability was impaired (a drop of 172). Convicted of lesser charges were 3,593 motorists.

About one of every 10 drivers arrested for an alcohol-related offense refused to submit to a chemical test, subjecting them to revocation of their licenses. The overwhelming majority,

10,605, opted for the breath test, while 686 submitted to a blood test and 18 chose to give urine specimens.

Traffic arrests were 519,860, a drop from the the 554,278 notched in 1975. Arrests for hazardous violations—those that can lead to an accident—numbered 384,810, compared to 400,995 the previous year. Nonhazardous arrests, which range from blown mufflers to no insurance, dropped from 153,283 to 135,050.

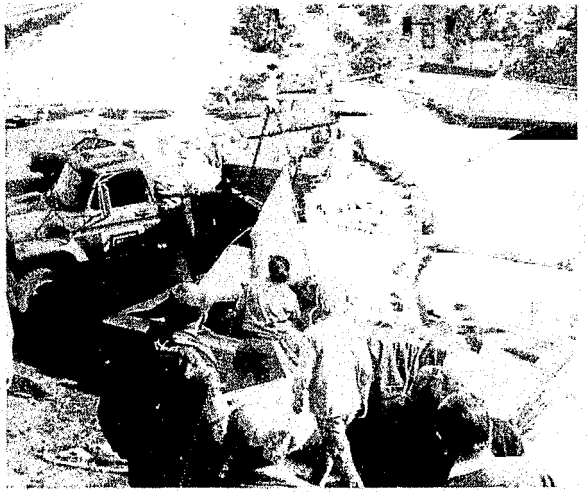
Road checks mandated under the Vehicle and Traffic Law totaled 1,914, which led to 20,642 arrests of which 375 were of a criminal nature. The 25 State Police portable scale teams made 10,259 arrests for overweight infractions.

Some of the 1976 cases which illustrate the tragedy which the uniform trooper encounters in his travels are these: five young people perished in a speeding car in the Town of Olive; their 22-year-old driver's ability was impaired

### **HE WAS DRUNK, AND HIS LAWYER WAS FAST**

A trooper returning to Ithaca station was informed by the drunk driver he had in tow that he wouldn't take a breath test until he'd talked to his lawyer. En route, the trooper stopped to arrest a speeder and ordered him to follow the troop car to the station. The arrest appeased the inebriate; the speed demon was his attorney.

*A trooper directs rescue operations to free a driver after a dump truck struck his car. Photo by Leo V. Carmody.*



by alcohol. The head of a pedestrian was severed when he flew through the windshield on being struck while walking the middle of a roadway at night; he was on foot because he'd



*A truck driver who survived after flipping over guard rails on Interstate 81 told troopers he was forced off the road by a foreign compact car. Binghamton Press photo by Paul Konecny.*

lost his license for felony drunk driving, and his blood alcohol level registered an astounding .33. Two girls were killed while sitting on a lawn by a hit-and-run driver who was tracked down in two days and charged with criminally-negligent homicide. A car with three unsafe tires slid across lanes on a rain-slick curve, resulting in the deaths of two children. A trooper tried to stop a car with one headlight from going the wrong way on Interstate 88 only to see it in a fatal collision; the 78-year-old operator faced multiple charges. The worst accident in Madison County history claimed the lives of six girls who were being taken swimming by a Navy friend who faced criminal charges for speeding.

Probably the most difficult accident assignment of the year occurred on Interstate 81 in Syracuse where within minutes 60 vehicles piled up on sudden ice in what was described the worst automobile accident in Onondaga County history. A trooper whose patrol car was involved in the massive crunch radioed for assistance and tried his best to aid the 50 injured persons. It took eight hours for 75 troopers, policemen, and sheriff's deputies, plus assorted fire departments and rescue teams, to clear the highway. ■



# CB Radio

Is Citizen Band radio a help or a hindrance to law enforcement efforts in improving highway safety?

While policemen and motorists alike debated and pondered the question posed by the wildfire spread of this latest form of communications technology, a 15-month State Police program was inaugurated in December which is likely to provide some definite answers.

CB operators in central New York were asked to assist troopers in detecting traffic accidents and other emergencies under these federal agreements:

A \$75,000 contract with the U.S. Department of Transportation to evaluate the use of CB radios in a highway environment. New York State was selected over other states in competitive bidding.

A \$50,000 grant channeled through the Governor's Interdepartmental Traffic Safety Committee to create a seven-county police-citizen communications network by installing CB radios in 150 State Police cars and equipping 15 State Police installations with CB transmitters-receivers.

Involved is the entire area covered by Troop D, including that portion of the Thruway running through the troop area.

Special emphasis is being placed on analyzing the extent to which the CB link can reduce response time of emergency services, detect unsafe driving conditions and acts, alleviate traffic delays, spot criminal acts and provide public services and enhance citizen participation in highway safety.

The Federal Communications Commission has assigned the call letters of KNY 0911 to State Police, monitored over CB emergency frequency of Channel 9.

The extent to which the CB mania gripped the state (as well as the country) during 1976 was evidenced by the large numbers of CB thefts and arrests. Troopers at Owego collared a 19 year old who'd taken 65 CB units from cars in one year. Henrietta troopers and investigators caught two burglars trying to peddle stolen CB radios to truckers at a truck stop.

But nowhere was the impact of CB more evident than in a fatal assault of one neighbor on another in an Oswego County yard; they were, troopers discerned, arguing over each other's CB transmissions. ■

## CB ALERT SAVES A LIFE

A Sylvan Beach CB operator credits the State Police CB program with saving her life. She fell in a church parking lot in a blizzard and was seriously injured. Since she was the last to leave, her only recourse was to drag herself to her car and while semiconscious to call for help on her radio. A trooper responded and she was quickly taken to a hospital. In a letter of gratitude, she concluded: "I'm grateful to all who inspired and activated this program and hope this letter can play a small part in making it a permanent part of State Police procedure."



*Troopers and investigators join in preparing slot machines for destruction after executing a search warrant. Photo by Bob Hoffman.*

## The B. C. I.

A State Police investigator, having traced one burglary suspect to Kansas and another to his home locally, wondered what had happened to a third cohort whom he knew was involved. He soon unearthed the answer: the man had been shotgunned and had his throat slit by one of the conspirators who then buried him in a four-foot grave in woods in Yates County. The death weapons were found with traces of matching blood and hair intact even though the crime had been committed four months earlier. The discovery of the body after a lengthy search in inclement weather led to a murder charge.

The Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the investigative arm of State Police, lists this as one of 63,158 cases to come to its attention in 1976. More than one-quarter of the state's criminal cases occurring outside cities are investigated by State Police, and the most serious of these come within the purview of the BCI.

The most notorious crimes of any year usually involve the loss of life by violence, and this is a sampling of some of the other murder cases the BCI helped to resolve:

- The killing of a 16-year-old Niagara County boy, whose body was found in a swamp nine months later, led to the

### THE TRICK WAS ON THE CONMAN

A flimflam artist swindled a Newburgh merchant out of \$8,500 and then was himself tricked by a BCI investigator who posed as a businessman to catch him. The conman proposed over the telephone to sell 40 color TV sets at a department store loading dock. When the TV dealer arrived in a truck, the conniver took the money to the back of the store "to fill out some papers and get the sets," and disappeared with his loot. Some months later, the con artist reappeared and attempted to pull the wool over the eyes of another TV dealer. The merchant notified State Police and after arrangements for a contact at the same store were made, an investigator drove a truck to the loading platform. The moment \$12,000 bait money supplied by a district attorney changed hands, the arrest was effected.

## TWO BRUTAL MURDERS ARE SOLVED

Two brutal murders quickly unraveled by BCI and uniform details outside Syracuse were these: A 20-year-old airman was beaten, stabbed to death, and his body dumped in a swamp by four flyers in his unit as vengeance for testifying in a drug trial prior to his assignment to Hancock Field. A father beat his 13-month-old daughter to death because she wouldn't stop crying, then picked up his unemployment check and drove to his wife's place of employment to report that their daughter had been hurt. He later made the fatal mistake of telling investigators she fell down the stairs; there were no stairs in the house.

arrest of a family of gun thieves who an investigator had suspected of murder long before their arrest in Colorado and the discovery of the boy's remains.

- The death of an elderly woman in an Oneida County nursing home who had designated as her sole beneficiary the nursing home director resulted in his being accused of her murder.

- The disappearance of a New Jersey labor union figure in 1961 culminated in three murder arrests 15 years later by the BCI and Justice Department with the accusation that the teamster official had been lured to his Ulster County farm where he was strangled and then transported to New Jersey for burial.

Of the 32,156 cases closed by arrest and the 19,480 closed by investigation during the year, the

gamut of criminal activity was well represented as evidenced by this sampling of BCI entries:

The corraling of "the king of boat thieves" as one of five men who had made a career of stealing pleasure craft also led to the recovery of a \$250,000 cabin cruiser, reportedly the highest priced leisure-time vessel ever reclaimed in the Metropolitan New York area.

By interrupting the unloading of a shipment of 750 cases of firecrackers from Hong Kong at Selkirk railroad yards outside of Albany, investigators prevented two jobbers from turning a \$16,000 investment into an illicit \$500,000 Fourth of July bonanza.

The arrests of two men at Syracuse Airport and two others at a nearby motel ended an involved bank fraud

## SHE CLEANED UP BY CLEANSING

An exorcism rite performed to rid an elderly woman of a demon began an investigation into one of the most unusual cases ever handled by the Troop K BCI. A 41-year-old Gypsy fortune-teller opened a business offering cures for physical ailments which, she assured all her clients, were money-connected. Her recommended cure: bring in the lucre for "cleansing" of demoniac taint. One customer alone was cleansed of \$15,000 before an arrest was made on 10 counts of grand larceny and fortune-telling.

*Two men arrested in Schuyler County for the shotgun slaying of a barmaid are placed in a troop car.*



scheme incorporating 1,000 stolen checks, split deposits, and phony identification cards which had netted \$40,000 in 10 days.

Three robbers who cut a hole in the roof of a Wyoming County bank and then hid inside until two employees arrived and under threats opened the safe from which \$16,500 was taken were captured by the BCI and FBI.

From his hospital bed, a 20-year-old man told of being lured to the home of a young woman where four men kidnaped him and after taking him to an isolated area, stripped and beat him with whips in an attempt to extort \$10,000. Soon after he escaped and reached the hospital, the five were under arrest.

Fictitious stories can lead to time-consuming investigations, and none were more bizarre than the tales fabricated by a 16-year-old girl who was determined to "act" her way out of delinquency school. First she

confessed to an actual homicide-arson which she could not have committed. Then she threatened the life of Vice-President Rockefeller in an abusive letter which also brought the Secret Service into the case. She finally got her wish—after a psychiatric exam, she was taken out of school and placed in jail.

\* \* \*

BCI investigators don't wear uniforms. They perform undercover work that often leads to major arrests, and scrutinize backgrounds of potential future troopers and prospective leading State appointees. To keep up with the sophisticated modern criminal, specialization has become a mainstay of the BCI. These are examples of specialized functions within the bureau:

**AUTO THEFT:** Topping off a month-long investigation, a search warrant executed in Montgomery County by the Auto Theft Unit

### AN ANIMALISTIC CHECK CASE

Possibly the most unusual arrest for passing phony checks involved a couple who were caught by a trooper who recognized their wanted plate number to conclude an investigation. They carried 400 checks and registrations in 10 different names, but the big surprise was still to come: a search of their house unearthed one table, one mattress, 115 cats, 10 dogs, one pig, one chicken, one rabbit, and lots of rats. There was no regular food in the house, and the animals, having devoured all the animal food, were busy feasting on each other.

recovered \$60,000 worth of cars and parts and nabbed three persons who had managed to reduce most of 17 vehicles to easily salable salvage units.

**GAMBLING:** A raid on a suspected policy bank in Yonkers with ties from New York City to Newburgh ended a two-month investigation by the Troop K Gambling Unit and corralled three bookies possessing \$25,000 in football pool tickets. The operation, which employed more than 100 runners, handled about \$32 million annually.

**NARCOTICS:** The Troop G Narco Unit and federal authorities climaxed

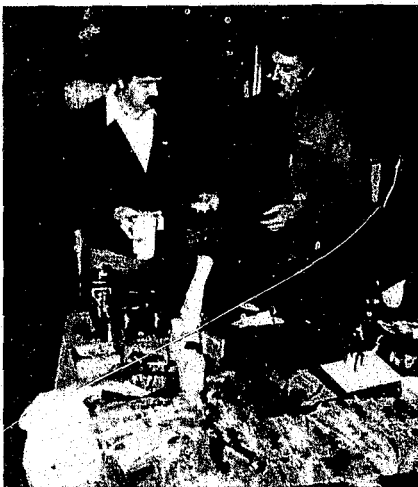
a six-month investigation by raiding an Albany County home which had been turned into a modern drug processing laboratory. Among the items seized were sufficient ingredients to manufacture some \$3 million worth of methaqualone.

**IDENTIFICATION BUREAU:** A latent print lifted by a Troop B "ID" investigator from some packaged food left at a Clinton County rape scene led to the identification of the rapist from a corresponding photo on file from a previous felony conviction. Publication of the photograph resulted in his being spotted 10 miles from the scene two months later. An arrest followed. ■

## Drug Traffic

A western New Yorker while traveling in New Mexico picked up a hitchhiker who promptly robbed him of \$9,000. Authorities caught up with the bandit and recovered the money, but the captured man related that his benefactor had flashed the roll, bragging that he'd come to the Southwest to buy marijuana. Armed with a search warrant, a Troop A contingent visited his house and confiscated a huge cache of the weed in arresting the traveler and his wife.

A customs agent alerted the Border Patrol that a visitor had just entered the country by taxi carrying \$11,000 in Canadian currency. When the patrol stopped the cab near Potsdam, it was ascertained that the man had a previous narcotics conviction which made him an excludable alien. With the help of State Police, it was determined that he was to meet two men for a drug sale at a motel. A raid resulted in arrests and the seizure of 132 pounds of packaged, compressed marijuana.



*Marijuana and cocaine with a street value of \$75,000 are confiscated after an undercover investigation. Syracuse Post Standard photo by Sherlock.*

These are two of 7,119 cases involving controlled substances to confront State Police during 1976, with more than one-third of them constituting felonies.

The total arrests of 6,519 persons represented a decrease of 13 percent

from 1975 in a pattern of decline that began from the high watermark of 9,462 arrests in 1973 after which more stringent penalties were meted out for serious drug crimes.

State Police is one of the agencies comprising the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force which during summer used a \$500,000 flash roll to arrest 10 persons and to seize a large quantity of brown heroin, two sawed-

off shotguns among assorted weaponry, and three stolen cars. Another flash roll, a wad of \$90,000, helped conclude a four-month investigation coordinated with the Chicago regional office which ended with another major heroin confiscation and the arrest of three persons; the following day, the father of one of the arrested men was caught trying to peddle heroin to an undercover officer as part of the conspiracy. ■

## A Hostage Is Saved

For the second year in a row, a hostage siege paralyzed a portion of the Capital District. In 1975, a cornered bank robber held nine patrons captive in a small cafeteria, freezing activity in downtown Albany until his capture by a BCI investigator and an FBI agent. In 1976, an outdoor stalemate that turned into a four-hour traffic-stopper developed when a 34-year-old lifetime parolee for murder kidnaped his ex-girl friend at gunpoint and then stood off police following a bullet-punctured chase that ended near the State Police station at East Greenbush.

Negotiations were carried on by BCI and uniform personnel while the abductor held a gun to the woman's head and employed her as a human shield while demanding a getaway car. The man was in turn incoherent, apprehensive and angry, punctuating his threats with profane comments about his 13 wasted years in various maximum security prisons.

State Police officers were able to calm down the man, and to reason with him on alternatives to violence. An atmosphere for negotiations was



*A parolee negotiates with State Police while holding a gun to the head of his hostage who is wearing a State Police raincoat. Capital Newspapers photo by Skip Dickstein.*

created when some of his immediate fears were allayed and he accepted a cup of coffee. His parole officer was brought to the scene by State Police helicopter and he joined in persuading the man to surrender to end a marathon session.

Although State Police sharpshooters could have ended the stalemate at any time, perseverance in pursuing other means ended the ordeal without bloodshed; State Police professionalism and restraint in the case was widely lauded. ■



*Two troopers stand guard as javelin champ Kathy Schmidt is cleared by U.S. Customs officers at the conclusion of training for the 1976 summer Olympics.*

## Olympics Security

The olympian task of safeguarding the participants and spectators at the 1980 Winter Olympic Games at Lake Placid will fall to the New York State Police and will require the talents and ingenuity of hundreds of uniform and BCI members.

In anticipation of this prodigious undertaking, some 225 members were assigned to a preview which in itself proved to be a monumental mission: total security for the United States Olympic team during three weeks of training at SUNY at Plattsburgh preparatory to the 1976 summer games at Montreal.

State Police worked a split detail from June 24 through July 16 to protect 700 athletes and coaches as they trained, ate, and slept at the sprawling university complex. Preliminary record checks involving all U.S. Olympians and constant scrutiny of team members and spectators moving between the Olympic village and the city multiplied the intricate precautions required to

safeguard a post-Munich Olympic training site.

Security for such VIPs as President Ford, who visited the trainees, called for additional security measures, as did the convoys of athletes from Plattsburgh to the Canadian border where they were met by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Quebec Provincial Police.

The undertaking was funded by a \$355,000 federal grant funneled through the State Crime Control Planning Board. ■



*The identity tags of two star basketball players are checked routinely at an Olympic dormitory. Photos by Bob Miazga.*



*Superintendent Connelie presents the 1976 Brummer Award to Mrs. Helen McDonagh. Looking on are Major Raymond M. Kisor and Tpr. James D. O'Donnell, the widow's brother.*

## **The Brummer Award**

The 1976 Brummer Award for bravery was awarded posthumously to Tpr. William V. McDonagh, the only trooper to die in the line of duty during 1975. The ceremony took place March 24 at Troop F Headquarters.

Superintendent Connelie presented the award and a check for about \$3,000 to the trooper's pregnant widow, Helen. Exactly one month later, Mrs. McDonagh gave birth to their only child, Megan.

The honor board which selected the recipient stressed that the award was bestowed for courageous action rather than the fact that the trooper had died in the line of duty.

Tpr. McDonagh, stationed at Monroe, responded to a reported

shooting in Sugar Loaf, Orange County. He stepped out of his troop car not knowing that the armed suspect had remained near the scene. Once he spotted the man, who already had his gun trained on Tpr. McDonagh, the trooper ordered him to drop the weapon. Instead, he opened fire, striking the trooper twice in the thigh and then killing him with a shot in the head. The man, who had earlier slain his girl friend, was himself killed in a subsequent shootout with troopers.

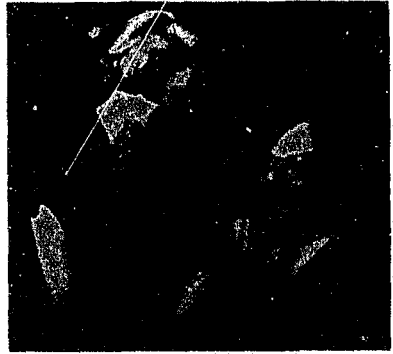
A fund drive was started soon after his death by the Middletown Times Herald-Record to benefit the widow and in short order \$54,000 was raised, about a third deriving from Division sources and the rest from activities administered by the newspaper. Contributions continued to roll in long after the drive ended. ■



## Brummer Award Founder Dies

Bertram F. Brummer, the philanthropic Wall Street financier who is the father of the State Police's highest honor, the annual Brummer Award for bravery, died Jan. 31.

Mr. Brummer and his wife, Susie, established the award in 1968 with an initial trust fund of \$12,000. The interest from the fund, amounting to \$500, was awarded to Inv. Peter W. Mann in 1969, marking the start of the award. Mr. Brummer was on hand to make the presentation at Camp Smith, which then served as the SP Academy.



*Bertram and Susie Brummer*

Since the initial grant, the Brummers have demonstrated their continued interest and appreciation for the work of the State Police by increasing the amount of the trust many times.

## The Scientific Laboratory



which experienced noteworthy increases included suicides, up 10 to 193, sex offenses (95 percent rapes), rising from 131 to 199, arsons, 181-219, and murders, 89-102.

There's a prizewinning driver somewhere in New York State who doesn't suspect that toxicologists at the State Police Laboratory hold him in awe. Analysis of his blood and urine following his arrest for driving while his ability was impaired by drugs revealed five drugs—cocaine, codeine, morphine, quinine, and amobarbital—only two short of the number of drugs in the analytical standard used by the Laboratory.

It takes only one drug in the system, in sufficient quantity, to lead to this type of arrest and a resultant Laboratory case, and during 1976 the "DWAI-Drugs" caseload shot up from 62 in 1975 to 80.

Other areas of Laboratory concern

Analysis of drugs dominated Laboratory statistics for 1976 as it has in recent years. The 4,626 drug cases represented a slight decline from the previous year (comparisons with previous years are distorted by the elimination of large quantities of drug destruction cases from statistical tables; they are deemed to constitute a processing procedure and have been removed from charts of otherwise purely analytical cases).

A 1975 federal grant which enabled the Laboratory to hire three toxicologists for one year to attack case backlogs proved so successful that it was extended for another year and funded to expand the unit to four persons working as a team called "Coroners and Medical Examiners Unit."

### **SUICIDE VERDICT: A LONG SHOT**

Two children discovered what appeared to be a human skeleton while playing in woods. Police records were checked back to 1950 when a taxi driver disappeared from his cab, leaving a note that said: "I've had enough, don't try to find me because you won't."

Underneath the skeleton was a severely rusted .30-30 Winchester carbine which he was believed to have bought for \$5 on the morning he disappeared. The State Police Laboratory chemically cleaned and restored the weapon to operating condition. A .30-30 casing was removed from the chamber. The magazine contained two .30-30 cartridges. The faded serial number was restored. The carbine was test-fired and the test casings were microscopically compared with the casing removed from the chamber. The firing pin and extractor marks on the casing, which 26 years earlier contained the suicide bullet, were sufficiently distinct for the examiner to determine that this casing had positively been fired from the weapon.

Despite the burden of a heavy work load, innovations were introduced in many areas, and one of these—a new procedure for testing blood samples—pointed a finger squarely at a murderer. After stabbing a woman to death, he had cut himself and a few drops of his blood fell on items in the purse he had robbed. Although both the dead woman and the killer had Type A blood, a method was employed to pinpoint a particular blood enzyme (PGM). The Laboratory determined that the two were different PGM types, and that the suspected assailant's blood matched that found in the purse.

Just under half of the Laboratory cases during the year originated from these areas: law enforcement departments other than State Police, 23 state agencies, federal offices, and outside laboratories.

Laboratory personnel testified at 178 trials during 1976.

The work load of the documents section continued to climb with 4,122 cases logged compared to 3,896 the previous year. The firearms section held about steady, completing 1,519 cases during the year. ■

### **THE KILLERS MISSED THE REAL LOOT**

The New York City apartment of a homicide victim involved in drug traffic was used as a cutting room for heroin. State Police investigators found the premises ransacked—dark brown powder was scattered through the rooms, stuffed down toilets and drains, and thrown into trash cans. Because there were several boxes of powdered food supplements and cocoa in the apartment, investigators at first weren't sure what they'd come upon. But a Laboratory analysis of 11 ounces of the powder ascertained it was 30 percent heroin, with enough scattered about to bring in \$250,000 on the street. The apparent motive was robbery, with a girl used to set up the dead man who was known to carry large sums of money, but through haste or ignorance, the assailants destroyed a goldmine of illicit drugs.

# Personnel

The authorized law enforcement strength of the Division decreased for the second consecutive year from 3,442 to 3,437, a decline of five positions. As of the end of 1976, the actual strength of law enforcement personnel stood at 3,191 with 246 positions vacant. Also, for the second consecutive year, no recruits were hired, but at the end of the year processing of candidates had been instituted for a new class of 100 recruits to begin training in late winter.

One-hundred-and-five members were promoted or designated during the year as follows: two deputy chief inspectors, seven inspectors, seven majors, nine captains, 18 lieutenants, three senior investigators, eight investigators, one staff sergeant, 11 zone sergeants, 31 sergeants, and eight technical sergeants.

A realignment of ranks in November moved the post of inspector above that of major.

The attrition among law enforcement personnel totaled 154, including 93 service retirements, 16 State Police disability retirements, five accidental disability retirements, 30 resignations, eight off-duty deaths, and two dismissals. One member was reinstated during the year. The attrition rate was 4.64 percent compared to 2.39 percent in 1975.

Among those who died were Zone Sergeant Stanley A. Zimmons of Fonda station, a 29-year veteran, and Zone Sergeant Walter J. Lemza of South Glens Falls station, who passed away the month of his 25th anniversary.

Those who retired included Deputy Chief Inspector John F. Harrison,



Stanley A. Zimmons



Walter J. Lemza



Evelyn Lessard



Robert E. Denman

who was succeeded by Philip G. Emden; Major Robert S. Charland of Troop D, who was replaced by William F. Keefe; Major Raymond M. Kisor of Troop F, whose place was taken by Peter P. Gromacki; and, Major Donald J. Guiry of the Governor's Detail, whose retirement came just before the end of the year.

Among retirees from the Division who succumbed during the year was former First Deputy Superintendent Robert E. Denman.

Authorized civilian positions were reduced from 557 in 1975 to 542 in 1976. Thirty-five civilians were appointed during the year of whom 19 went to permanent positions, six to temporary positions, and 10 to temporary part-time positions as citizen band radio monitors under a federal grant. There were 30 resigna-

tions, 14 service retirements, and two deaths for a loss of 46. Nineteen civilians were granted maternity leave. At the end of the year, 65 permanent civilian positions were vacant. Twenty-eight civilians were promoted during the past year. The attrition rate for civilians was 10.15 percent as compared to 7.19 percent in 1975.

Among the deaths was that of Mrs. Evelyn Lessard, a secretary at Division Headquarters whose 32 years of service was the longest among active civilian employees.

Those retiring included Douglas S. Dales, director of public relations.

The overall attrition for all

Division employees was 5.35 percent as compared to 3.02 percent in 1975.

On June 1, an eligible list of 3,627 trooper candidates was established as a result of the written examination on September 20, 1975, and physical performance tests given on later dates. The first 150 on this list were notified to appear for medical examinations and pre-employment interviews, and as of the end of the year, background investigations were being conducted for the anticipated class of recruits in early 1977.

During the year, 649 members and 37 civilians were injured on duty, a decrease of 17 from the 1975 figures of 672 members and 31 civilians. ■

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## Speedy Data

A car traveling erratically on the Thruway was checked out by way of the computer by a trooper. The operator's license was fed into the NYSPIN system, the State Police-operated statewide computerized teletype network that links more than 300 law enforcement agencies and has ties with the national memory banks in Washington and Phoenix.

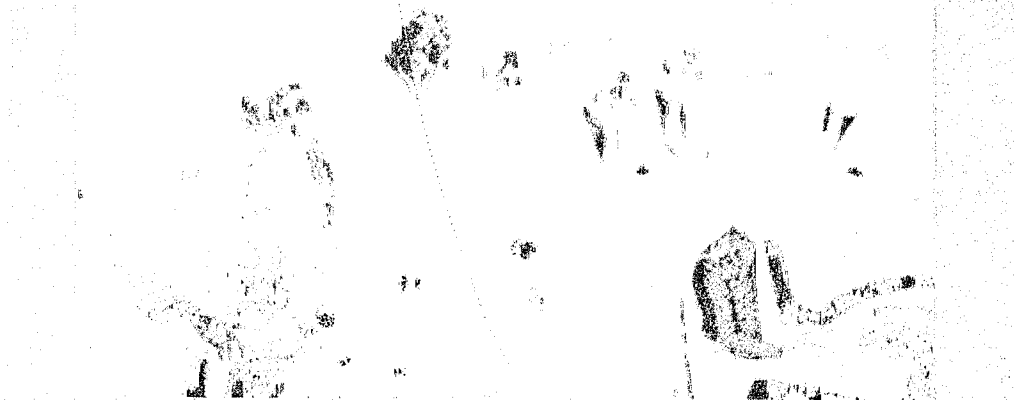
Moments later the reply came back: use utmost caution. The 29-year-old Clevelander at the wheel was wanted for murder. After a swift arrest was made without incident, the motorist's villainous background came to light; he had strangled his wife, shot his sister, was believed to have killed two persons in Cincinnati and was wanted for robbery in this state.

While few motorists who are tripped up by the computer can match this man's egregious and sanguinary

record, it is very common for patrolling troopers to turn seemingly routine traffic violation arrests into major felony nabs by way of file checks. The computer today stores such vital information as stolen vehicles and plates, nationwide driver and registration information, stolen guns, boats, articles, securities, and wanted and missing persons. Department of Motor Vehicles license and registration data is accessed by NYSPIN.

During 1976, about one in 20 inquiries into the computer came back a "hit," resulting in arrests. The system processed an average of 225,000 transmissions per day and logged about 40,000 file-related inquiries daily.

As the year drew to a close, the NYSPIN system began an upgrading to be completed by the summer of 1977. Some 340 high-speed computer replacement terminals will provide faster transmission and more versatile performance—all at a savings of about



*Superintendent Connelie, second from left, joins communications personnel and community leaders in inaugurating a statewide emergency service for deaf persons via the State Police teletype system.*

\$440,000 for the state's law enforcement community (\$120,000 for State Police). The new unit is known in the trade as the ICC 40 Plus, and consists of a computerized key board, TV screen, and hard copy printer. It is capable of transmitting 1,800 words per minute, a 50 percent increase in speed. An additional reduction of \$250,000 has been realized by the elimination of duplicate functions through co-operation of NYSPIN and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Another project initiated during 1976 permits fingerprints to be transmitted to the Department of Criminal Justice Services from 40 locations

(with more locations to be added in 1977). Criminal histories based on the prints are then returned to the initiating agencies by way of the computer.

The Division's statewide radio network serving 1,500 State Police mobile radio equipped vehicles and 250 other radio equipped cars assigned to 145 municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies received a revised statewide emergency channel common to eight of nine troops. The 1976 marriage of eight of nine troops on common radio channels assures an improved level of response to troopers in distress. ■

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## PISTOL LICENSES INCREASE BY 41,755

There were 41,755 pistol license applications received by State Police in 1975, bringing the total of applications on file to 594,506. A 1936 provision of the Penal Law created within State Police a repository of records for all pistol licenses issued within the state.

Every person to whom a pistol license is issued must provide information as to the manufacturer's name, caliber, and serial number of the weapon. This information is compiled together with reports of dealer and manufacturer transactions, lost, stolen, and recovered firearms. Total State Police records stand at 3,024,145, which includes 199,996 processed during 1976.

During the year, all existing firearm registration files were automated. ■



Boys enrolled in the SPSP program visit Albany's Empire State Plaza.

## 'SPSP' At The Academy

A novel experiment in police-community relations was conducted in August when the Academy was opened to 100 underprivileged boys for an educational vacation. It was referred to as "State Police Summer Program" (SPSP).

The youngsters, 9-12 years old, came in groups of 25 for one-week stays with emphasis on sports and other physical activity, tours, and classroom sessions on the criminal justice system.

Initiated by the Superintendent, the program's intent was to promote friendship and understanding between troopers and the boys, leading to constructive long-term relationships, and to open State Police facilities to youngsters for fun and learning experiences not available elsewhere.

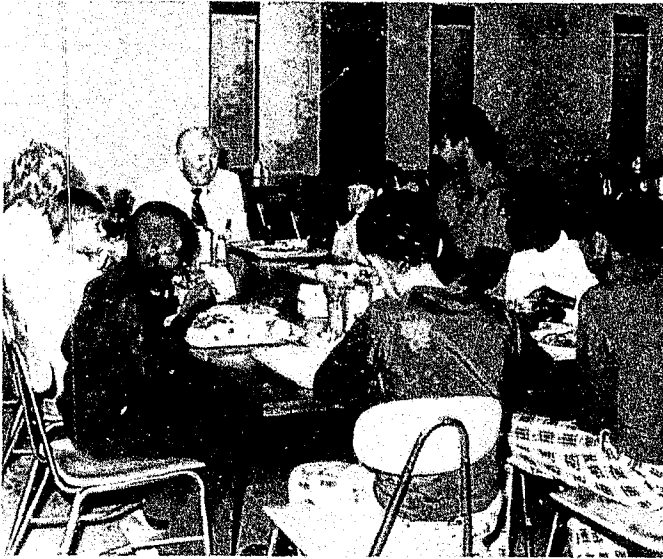
Selection and funding were the

responsibility of the State Police, aided by the State Division for Youth. Boys were selected equally from each of the eight troop areas.

The boys were picked up at home and returned in blue-and-gold troop cars. For all activities, most of which centered around the Academy, their counselors were six troopers and a sergeant working under Lt. Jerome L. O'Grady, program coordinator.

Plans are to continue the program with its extent to be determined on a yearly basis consistent with available accommodations and other ongoing activities at the Academy.

The widely acclaimed State Police Summer Program was but one of many functions taking place at this center for law enforcement training.



*Superintendent Connelie shares lunch with summer program boys and their counselor. Photos by Marion Hoyt.*

Among the many activities to take place at the Academy were these:

- The utilization of Academy facilities by outside agencies who conducted 73 sessions and were represented by 2711 participants.

- In-service training programs for 617 troopers in 43 one-week sessions, as well as other in-service oriented programs including safety officer seminars, Breathalyzer recertification sessions, and scuba and firearms instructor retraining.

- Traffic Services Training Programs completed by 112 State and local police officers.

- Commencement of a counter terrorism-hostage negotiations training program under a two-year \$588,000 federal grant by which 3,000 State Police and 1,000 municipal police officers will be trained.

- Inauguration of a series of major crimes seminars, beginning with two

entitled "Rape, An Interprofessional Approach" which brought together 69 professionals in the fields of medicine, social services, law, and law enforcement.

Outside of the Academy complex, troop instructors provided 45,534 man-hours of field training, of which 15,962 man-hours were devoted to training of other police officers in cooperation with the Municipal Police Training Council. ■



*An Academy lieutenant and two participants in a seminar on rape exchange views.*

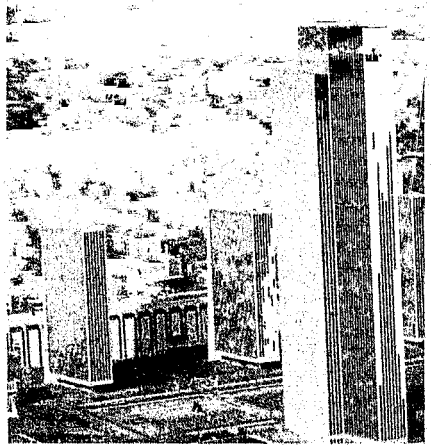
# Aviation Unit

A sailor attempting to right his overturned sailboat and tow it 300 yards to shore on a day when the waters of Oneida Lake registered 38 degrees could make no headway due to strong winds. Overhead, a State Police helicopter's public address system blared some advice: lower the sail and then tow. That didn't work, and the travail exhausted the struggling boatsman even more. A rope was lowered from the 'copter to tow the man to shore, but his hands by now were too numb to grasp it. The craft then hovered within a foot of the water, enabling the man to hoist himself onto the skid from which he was dragged into the back seat.

This difficult rescue was carried out by Aviation Unit members stationed at Syracuse, one of three airports employed by the Division from which pilots scramble for state-wide calls. Three pilots and a Bell Jet Ranger helicopter are stationed at Syracuse; four pilots, a Ranger and a fixed-wing Cessna 172 at Albany; and, four pilots, two mechanics, a



*A minor repair for a 'copter.*



*On the wing over Albany's South Mall. Daily News photos by John Roca.*

Ranger and a 47-G-4A bubble helicopter at Newburgh.

During a routine spring flight, helicopter pilots noticed a thick concentration of smoke gushing from an Orange County mountaintop. A tour over the spot determined that a large forest fire had broken out. The Department of Environmental Conservation was notified via a State Police radio dispatch from a ground station and the helicopter remained overhead to coordinate an air and ground water assault that contained the damage to timberland.

The unit frequently assists in the investigation of criminal cases. In cooperation with the Organized Crime Task Force and U.S. Customs, surveillance on high led investigators from New York City to Fort Edward where a thief had buried nearly \$2 million in untraceable money after stealing it from the U.S. mails. Use of aircraft enabled ground units to remain unnoticed until it was time to move in for the arrest.

In another surveillance involving three suspected burglars, helicopter



## LENSMAN OUT OF CONTACT

A most unusual missing persons search, which ended when air contact was made by State Police and Encon helicopters, involved a photographer who had become detached from the rest of his crew in woods near Cranberry Lake when he lost his contact lenses. His vision without the lenses was so poor that he had to stagger around the woods for two days nearly blind, feeling his way around with a stick. He was in good condition when picked up.

pilots followed their route from Troy to Amsterdam during which they were seen stopping off to burglarize various houses. When ground units moved in to corral the trio, they found a safe among many stolen items.

Two juvenile runaways tried to paddle a rubber raft across DeRuyter Lake after invading four summer camps, but with a helicopter hovering over them, they quickly surrendered.

Helicopters are frequently summoned to aid in the search for missing persons. One helicopter spotted a missing mental patient and flew overhead as he walked along a road until a mutual radio frequency call sent him into the arms of a deputy sheriff. A patient, depressed by his

diabetic condition, was the object of a search until his body was seen from a 'copter floating in the Hoosick River. Two duck hunters who fired two shots in the night to alert friends that they couldn't make it back to camp were located on a small island where they had become stranded due to rough waters. The pilot directed a large boat to the spot.

Missions of mercy frequently require the use of the craft. One flight delivered 24 pints of B-positive blood from Syracuse to a woman on an operating table at Ogdensburg. Another blood supply was rushed by air to Lewis County Hospital where a girl was bleeding internally and the supply of her type of blood was nearly exhausted. ■

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## PLANNERS LAND \$2 MILLION IN FEDERAL GRANTS

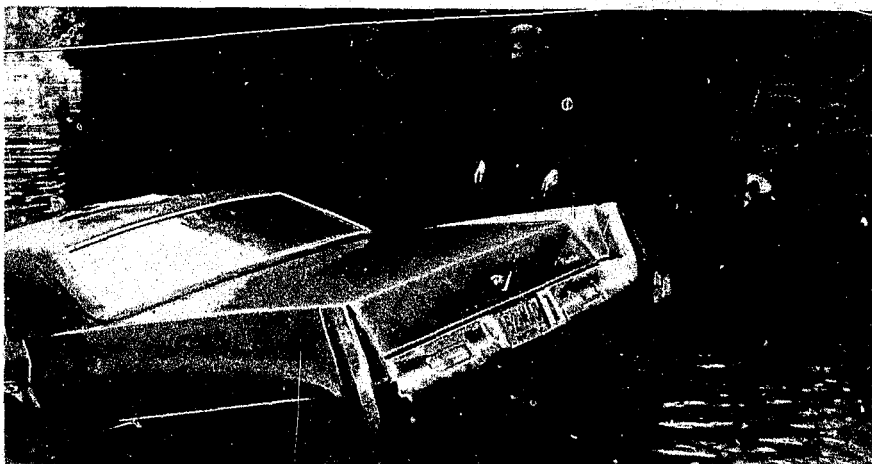
Among the many functions of the Division's Planning and Research Section is the administration of federal grants, and during 1976 the Section played a vital role in obtaining more than \$2 million in these funds.

The projects covered such diverse areas as improving forensic-criminalistic services, training police officers in the handling of hostage situations, providing security for the U.S. Olympic team, installing computer terminals in state and local police facilities, initiating a resident trooper program in some rural areas, upgrading the Division's planning capabilities, and completing the work of the Job Analysis Detail.

An Order Control Unit was established within the Section to serve as a central repository for all orders issued from Division Headquarters. ■



*Divers engage in a moment of levity after finding evidence in a muck-lined pond. Capital Newspapers photo by Fred McKinney.*



Divers examine a luxury car that plunged into a creek from a bridge when the driver fell asleep. He struggled from the car, but drowned in attempting to swim to shore. Syracuse Post-Standard photo by Sherlock.

## Scuba Divers

Troop D scuba divers were swept downstream in rain-swollen Onondaga Creek, a debris-caked runoff for city sewerage. But that didn't stop them from trying to locate a dumped safe. Sixty-pound weights were secured to two safety lines and a diver wearing 30-pound weights battled the current and muck to recover the evidence. Result: the indictment of 15 burglars for 100 intrusions which netted \$500,000 in proceeds.

This was but one of many cases in which divers, detached from regular duty when the occasion demands, entered the state's waterways to recover criminal evidence. All troops except the Thruway have teams of about six divers.

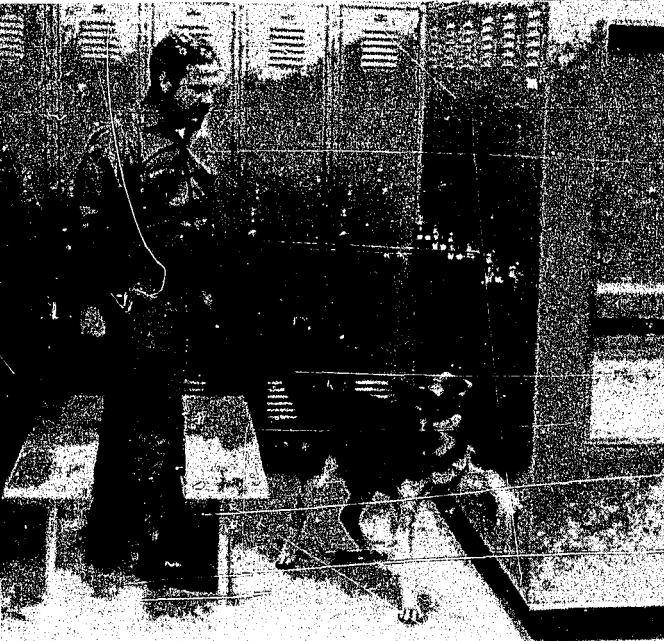
On another occasion, Troop K divers searched Pells Pond for stolen goods believed to have been ditched over a period of 18 months. Heavy silt on the floor of the 45-foot pond required an unusual method of



salvaging: firemen lowered a two-and-one-half inch hose and 220-pounds of pressure blasted away sufficient sediment to uncover thousands of dollars of property.

One of the most unusual recoveries was a 1967 high school ring found at the bottom of Oquaga Lake by a Troop C diver. It bore the initials of PVF, and a search of school records led to its owner, now a mathematics teacher, who had lost it during a class picnic and was astounded to get it back.

Divers are often called upon to search for drowning victims, and on rare occasions they participate in rescue operations. One of these took place right after the Troop G scuba team staged an ice rescue demonstration for 1,500 spectators; a four-wheel drive vehicle participating in an ice race missed the course marker and crashed through thin ice. Divers jumped in for an actual rescue. ■



*"Baretta" scents a university locker room for a possible bomb. Shepherds with this capability can search an area in the fraction of a time it would take a trooper detail. Photo by Bob Miczga.*

## Canine Corps

The most dramatic "personnel" change in the Division during 1976 occurred in the canine corps. Once manned only by bloodhounds, the sniff-'n-track team broadened its base with the addition of three German shepherds to the shepherd and Labrador retriever previously placed into service.

All graduates of Army basic training, the dogs can scent explosives and have additional specialized abilities such as sniffing out bodies, locating narcotics and firearms, and tracking.

"Pearl," the retriever, stuck her

nose into a department store burglary in which a safe had been blown open and promptly led troopers to a shelf where, behind cans of spray paint, a plastic vial of nitroglycerine had been left behind. She also located minute particles of the detonator and wire which the Laboratory was able to piece together to positively identify the explosive device.

In another case, "Pearl," working with shepherd, "Baron," sniffed out narcotics at a military installation leading to 14 convictions for drug possession.

Another shepherd, "Crow," came to the rescue of its trooper master

### SHARP SNIFFER SCENTS A SHARPSHOOTER

"Baretta," the shepherd, demonstrated the keenness of his sniffer but caused a moment of embarrassment when the U.S. olympians arrived a SUNY at Plattsburgh for three weeks of pre-Games practice. The canine scented something in one piece of luggage about to be brought into the Olympic village. A thorough search came up with handguns and ammunition. The owner: a member of the U.S. pistol team.

when he was assaulted by a migrant armed with a machete and handgun who had locked himself in a house. Once the trooper was knocked down, Crow leaped at the assailant, biting him and sending him to the floor where he was subdued.

The bloodhounds continued their yeoman job of tracking criminals and missing persons. "Ike" helped searchers find an elderly woman in the north woods, then when the searching party returned and her 70-year-old husband was not present, the canine went back into the woods and located him.

"Rastus," the bloodhound, was credited with saving a missing 81-year-old man by leading its handler through a drainage ditch, across a plowed field, through woods and brush into a beaver swamp where the oldster was lying face down. Near death, he was revived and then recovered in a hospital.

These are but a few of some 150 cases in which the State Police dogs bounded into action. The canines are strategically kenneled at Troops A, B, D, G, and K for use around the state. ■



"Crow" bounds into action. Schenectady Gazette photo by Sid Brown.

"Pearl," a retriever, leads his handlers to LSD adhered to the underside of a car. Utica Observer-Dispatch photo by Jim Armstrong.



LAW ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS  
CALENDAR YEAR 1976

Miles Traveled	<u>51,747,493*</u>
Moneys Received and Remitted to State Treasury (Fees for copies of accident reports and photographs, state vehicle accident claim settlements, salvage of old equipment, etc.)	<u>\$ 50,493.</u>
Value of Property Recovered	<u>\$ 2,160,594.</u>
Value of Drugs Seized	<u>\$ 804,906.</u>
Value of Stolen Cars Recovered	<u>\$ 3,519,095.</u>
Fines Remitted to Treasury by Courts	<u>\$ 8,862,968.</u>
Sale of Unserviceable Vehicles by Office of General Services	<u>\$ 307,765.</u>

\*Includes Thruway Mileage of 7,223,569

CRIMINAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA

Persons Arrested: Felonies, Misdemeanors, Lesser Offenses

Offenses	Arrested or Summoned	Convicted	Dismissed or Acquitted	Referred to Family Court	*Percent Convicted
Alcoholic Beverage Control Law	130	56	69		13.
Arson	113	57	23	50	75.
Assaults & Reckless Endangerment-Fel.	589	289	181	89	61.
Assaults & Reckless Endangerment-Misd.	1381	179	627	331	59.
Burglary (Include attempts & burglar's tools)	5037	2110	711	1824	51.
Criminal Trespass (Buildings only)	1015	706	331	68	71.
Children (Except sex offenses)	505	233	169	139	73.
Criminal Mischief	1579	705	513	551	67.
Criminal Tampering	15	1	1	1	53.
Dangerous Drug Laws	6519	3609	2725	319	60.
Disorderly Conduct and Harassment (Except Physical Contact, Attempts & Threats)	2922	1115	523	332	60.
Firearms and Weapons (Crimes)	1039	585	323	132	69.
Forgery and Counterfeiting-State Laws	705	160	195	28	69.
Frauds and Cheats: Bad Checks	2136	1515	755	26	63.
Gambling	320	255	170		80.
Harassment (Physical Contact, Attempts & Threats)	1210	192	123	280	65.
Homicide (Criminal Negligence)	26	23	5		89.
Homicide (Murder and Manslaughter)	52	19	15	5	66.
Larceny (Except Grand Larceny 1st, Embezzlement and Motor Vehicles)	5226	2730	1162	885	69.
Larceny (Motor Vehicle)	533	265	201	257	63.
Loitering	307	185	96	19	66.
Menacing	210	61	116	11	50.
Prostitution Offenses	25	16	1	2	72.
Public Intoxication	50	120	72	1	212.
Rape	138	55	15	11	72.
Robbery	290	173	79	31	70.
Sex Offenses (Except offenses listed on Prostitution & Rape lines herein - includes Patronizing)	392	212	127	54	65.
Stolen Property	1509	736	170	129	57.
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	6119	3191	1146	631	62.
<b>Total</b>	<b>11091</b>	<b>21125</b>	<b>12255</b>	<b>6265</b>	<b>67.</b>
Arrests for Other Departments	1619				
Vehicle and Traffic Arrests	519560	120491	53453		81.
<b>Total - All Arrests</b>	<b>562631</b>	<b>111616</b>	<b>65735</b>	<b>6265</b>	<b>80.</b>

*Conviction and dismissal columns include persons arrested in previous years; percent of conviction, Vehicle and Traffic Arrests, based on cases processed in court in 1976.*

\*Persons referred to Family Court are included in computing percent convicted.

CRIMINAL OFFENSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1976

(NOTE 1: REFER TO PAGE IX)

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		Cleared by Arrest		Closed by Investigation		Pending at End of Period	
	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
Absconding Temporary Release	34		115		56		7		56	
Adultery				1		1				
Aggravated Harassment		116		2224		939		1277		124
Agriculture and Markets Law			1	33		15	1	17		1
Alcoholic Beverage Control Law			1	290		153	1	139		5
Animals (Crimes Only)	1	16		620		172	1	455		9
Arson	213		446		156		263		206	
Assaults	55	35	723	2294	666	1555	47	751	65	23
Bail Jumping	4	4	32	63	24	34	1	15	11	18
Bigamy	1		5		5		1			
Bribery and Gratuities	2		31	3	30	3	1		2	
Burglary	6297		17625		4905		12560		6157	
Attempted Burglary	57		320	4	91		225	4	55	
Burglar's Tools			10	133	9	132		1	1	
Checks (Bad)		453	15	6576	13	5502	1	1123	1	104
Checks (Forged)	294	8	1664	61	1312	45	256	18	390	6
Children:										
Endangering Welfare, Sex Offenses		6		143		119		29		1
Endangering Welfare, Except Sex Offenses		5		265		200		59		11
Nonsupport and Abandonment	2		1	5	1	2	2	6		
Unlawful Dealing With Wayward Minors		2		293		265		26		1
Wayward Minors				5		4		1		
Communications and Eavesdropping			3	4	3	2		2		
Conservation Law				2709		1021		1656		2
Consolidated Laws	2	24	36	636	35	197	2	453	1	10
Conspiracy	2		39	166	38	166	2		1	
Creating Hazard				7		4		3		
Criminal Contempts			5	27	4	27			1	
Criminal Facilitation			10	23	10	23				

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Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		Cleared by Arrest		Closed by Investigation		Pending at End of Period	
	Felonies	Misd. and Lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and Lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and Lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and Lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and Lesser offenses
Criminal Mischief	330	193	932	10462	295	2011	653	5351	372	190
Criminal Nuisance			1	25		16	1	12		
Criminal Simulation				1				1		
Criminal Solicitation			6	26	6	25		1		
Criminal Tampering	10	2	29	63	15	32	12	31	12	2
Criminal Trespass (Buildings Only)		5	9	992	6	515	3	113		12
Criminal Trespass (Not in a Building)		1		7127		1323		5803		5
Criminal Usury			12		10		1		1	
Custodial Interference	1	5	7	67	7	35		35	1	2
Dangerous Drugs	109	55	2496	1337	2401	1131	111	202	90	56
Disorderly Conduct		2		6612		1105		5537		2
Educational Law				15		11		1		
Election Law		1	31	13	31	1		10		
Escapes (Aiding)			2	5	2	1		1		
Escapes (Division of Youth)	12		6	17	9	5		11	9	1
Escapes (Prisoners)	65	3	712	81	515	67		9	92	7
Evidence (Tampering With)				2	2	2				
Explosives	5		0	5	3			6	2	2
Extortion (Grand Larceny 1st and Coercion)	1	2	15	2	15	3			2	1
False Bomb Reports		35	5	315	2	43	3	302		35
False Report		5	1	155	1	109		15		9
False Written Statements			61	101	51	100	5	1	1	1
Family Court Act:	23									
Persons in need of Supervision		5	2	319	1	237		113	1	1
Protective Order			1	271	1	162		112		
Summons		16		1015		70		975		13
Other		30	6	4595	1	1197	2	3382		16
Federal Offenses:										
Federal Bureau of Investigation			7		1					
Immigration and Naturalization Service			103	25	103	27		1		

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		Cleared by Arrest		Closed by Investigation		Pending at End of Period	
	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
Federal Offenses (continued)										
Military			35	11	35	10				
Other	6		225	75	188	73	27	2	16	
Firearms and Weapons (Crimes)	9	16	169	992	137	811	19	451	22	10
Fireworks			7	618	4	302	3	313		1
Frivory (Except Checks)										
Fortune-telling	12	1	408	12	520	37	63	1	67	2
Frauds	1			12		11				1
Fugitive From Justice	1	3	35	158	31	132	1	16	7	13
Gambling	3	3	160	11	153	11	7		1	
General Business Law			305	657	291	635	9	20	5	5
Harassment (Physical Contact or Attempt Only)	1	15	29	89	26	72	3	20	1	12
Harassment (No Physical Contact)		8		2292		1313		980		7
Hindering Prosecution		11		5660		2680		5970		21
Homicide:			10	21	10					
Murder	76		68		57		1		53	
Man-slaughter	2		11		13					
Criminal Nephigence	13		111		88		21		72	
Impersonation		1	26	163	26	150		11		3
Invest			11	2	12	1		1	2	
Jostling				2		2				
Junk Dealers	1			8		7		1		
Kidnaping										
Labor Law			28		21		2		6	
Larceny	1159	12	3827	31	2	28	2557	12	1527	6
Larceny - By False Pretenses, Bad Checks or False Promise		1002		15575	1202	5230		10072		1275
Larceny - Motor Vehicle	26	8	100	91	72	70	15	27	39	2
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	111	21	1147	316	261	52	885	273	115	13
Loitering:		35	10	1163	5	961	5	171		10
Begging										
Deviate Sex				11		12		2		2
				31		32				

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		Cleared by Arrest		Closed by Investigation		Pending at End of Period	
	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
Loitering (continued)										
Other				611		247		361		
Menacing		5		352		325		55		4
Mental Hygiene Law:										
Escaped Inmate	13	62	15	1139	16	254	17	919	25	28
Insane Person				555		660		195		
Other		5	1	14		25		23	1	1
Misapplication of Property		1		21		15		4		3
Mortgaged Property			1	5		3		1	1	1
Navigation Law				21		5		16		
Noxious Material			1	35	1	30		4		1
Obscenity and Indecent Materials		1	15	52	7	35	1	10	7	5
Obstruction of Governmental Admin.		1	7	299	7	294		5		1
Official Misconduct			7	35	7	31		1		
Ordinances				105		41		64		
Parks and Recreation Law		1		16		33		14		
Parole Violators	2	1	129	33	125	30	1	4	2	
Perjury	1		31	6	25	6	4		3	
Prison Contraband (Promoting)	3	9	55	215	52	156	4	25	2	14
Probation Violators	9	11	150	566	176	553	7	11	6	13
Prostitution			5	33	4	21	1	10		2
Prostitution (Promoting or Permitting)			5	5	5	5				
Prostitution (Patronizing)				5		5				
Public Health		11	1	285	1	201		83		12
Public Intoxication		1		75		5		71		
Public Lewdness		25		212		130		93		24
Rape:										
Victim Forced	35		191		155		39		29	
No Force Used	4	1	56	1	51	2	4		5	
Assaults and Attempts	10		15	2	14	2	5		6	
Real Property Law		1		2		3				
Reckless Endangerment	15	3	241	425	196	257	41	133	22	8

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		Cleared by Arrest		Closed by Investigation		Pending at End of Period	
	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
Reckless Endangerment of Property	3	5	19	75	14	35	5	41	3	4
Resisting Arrest			1	391	1	358		2		1
Riots and Unlawful Assembly			2	2	1	2			1	
Robbery	209		369	1	227	1	149		202	
Runaways		53		594		277		347		23
Sexual Abuse	7	1	163	161	145	149	15	15	10	4
Sexual Misconduct		1	1	71	1	59		11		2
Slugs (Unlawful Use Of)		2		12		10		4		
Sodomy	11		154	26	166	22	11	4	15	
Stolen Property	54	12	1025	599	900	543	91	50	85	15
Theft of Services		57	1	772	1	455		335		36
Unlawful Imprisonment	5	3	31	55	31	51	1	7	4	3
Witness		2	1	11	2	13	2	2		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9724</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>35960</b>	<b>93633</b>	<b>17100</b>	<b>40613</b>	<b>15656</b>	<b>52562</b>	<b>9925</b>	<b>2632</b>
<b>VIOLATIONS HANDLED BY NYSP - REPORTED BY OTHER AGENCIES</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>395</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TOTAL - ALL VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>9733</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>36355</b>	<b>93711</b>	<b>17431</b>	<b>40661</b>	<b>15710</b>	<b>52590</b>	<b>9947</b>	<b>2634</b>

NONCRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1976\*

Classification of Investigations	Pending Beginning of Period	Received During Period	Closed by Investigation	Converted to Criminal Case	Pending End of Period
Accidents:					
Airplane	1	60	59	1	1
Hunting	5	80	79		6
Navigation	2	32	33		1
Train	1	104	102		3
Miscellaneous Accidents:					
Fatal	30	219	236	1	12
Other	2	416	413	1	4
Animals (No Crime Involved)	2	7761	7749	9	5
Applicants (Division Only)	6	152	85		73
Confidential Investigations	131	2425	2355	12	159
Criminal Intelligence	8	44	42		10
Dangerous Drugs Intelligence	3	45	36		12
Death, Natural	27	966	970	1	22
Firearms and Weapons (Except Crimes)	34	253	256	1	26
Fires, Floods, Other Disasters		776	775		1
Missing Persons	55	5266	5197	93	51
Property - Lost and Found	39	3694	3675	9	49
Special Services	5	61	64		2
Suicide (Include Attempts)	21	746	747	2	16
<b>Total*</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>23150</b>	<b>22935</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>457</b>

\*Vehicle and Traffic Reported Separately

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION SUMMARY, CRIMINAL AND NONCRIMINAL\*  
CALENDAR YEAR 1976

Type of Activity	Pending at Beginning of Period	Known Reported or Received	Cleared by Arrest	Closed by Investigation	Converted to Criminal Case	Pending at End of Period
Criminal Violations	12019	129593	54194	65777		12422
Noncriminal Investigations	372	23150		22935	130	157
Investigations For Other Agencies**		3308		3308		
<b>TOTAL ACTIVITY</b>	<b>12391</b>	<b>156051</b>	<b>54194</b>	<b>92020</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>12579</b>

\*Vehicle and Traffic Felonies and Misdemeanors reported separately

\*\*Includes both Criminal and Noncriminal matters

NOTE 1: In chart "Criminal Offenses for the Calendar Year 1976" the following types of cases are not necessarily crimes but for purposes of procedure are listed in the category of criminal violations: Family Court Act; Escaped Inmates and Insane Persons (under Mental Hygiene); Parole Violators and Probation Violators, totalling 9219 cases.

SUMMARY - UNITS OF WORK

Criminal Cases Reported	129593
Vehicle and Traffic Cases	519860
Noncriminal Investigations	23150
Vehicle and Traffic Investigations	61141
Investigations For Other Agencies	3305
<b>Total Units of Work</b>	<b>737052</b>

VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT DATA

Hazardous Violation Arrests

Violation	Number of Arrests	Percent of All Hazardous Arrests
Alcoholic Beverages	1487	0.4
Backed Unsafely	1307	0.3
DWAI Drugs - Misd.	81	0.0
DWAI Drugs - Fel.	7	0.0
DWI - Misd.	11670	3.0
DWI - Fel.	310	0.1
Drove Median Strip	792	0.2
Motorcycle Equipment Infraction	988	0.3
Motor Vehicle Equipment Infraction	5504	1.4
Equipment - Misd.	267	0.1
Fail To Comply	466	0.1
Fail To Dim Lights	611	0.2
Fail To Keep Right	5184	1.3
Fail To/Improper Signal	289	0.1
Fail To Stop/Railroad	61	0.0
Failed To Yield Right Of Way	4181	1.1
Following Too Close	1819	0.5
Highway Law	11	0.0
Hitchhiking	1903	0.5
Illegal Turns	2279	0.6
Improper Lane Usage	2077	0.5
Improper Passing	6243	1.6
Inadequate Brakes - Misd.	116	0.0
Insecure Load - Misd.	166	0.0
Insufficient Lights	15770	4.2
No Red Flag - Lights	195	0.1
Obstructed Vision	987	0.3
One-Way Traffic	506	0.1
Parking Infraction	4886	1.3
Pass Red Light	4738	1.2
Pass School Bus	520	0.1
Pass Stop Sign	5910	1.5
Pedestrian Infraction	43	0.0
Reckless Driving - Misd.	934	0.2
Speeding Infraction	273551	71.2
Speeding/Conditions	3873	1.0
Speeding - Misd.	43	0.0
Unsafe Tires	22213	5.8
Other Hazardous Infractions	2763	0.7
Other Hazardous/Bicycle	50	0.0
Other Hazardous/MC	9	0.0
<b>Total Hazardous Violations</b>	<b>384810</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Nonhazardous Violation Arrests

Violation	Number of Arrests	Percent of All Non-hazardous Arrests
Emergency Lighting Infraction	589	0.4
Inadequate Signal Equipment	4859	3.6
Insurance/Misd.	12116	9.0
Left Scene Accident	30	0.0
Left Scene Accident/Misd.	1545	1.1
License Infraction	16934	12.5
License/Misd.	149	0.1
Littering	2243	1.7
Muffler Infraction	7952	5.9
Excess Noise	12	0.0
License Suspended - Revoked/Misd.	5946	4.4
Registration Suspended - Revoked/Misd.	16	0.0
Oversize Vehicle	948	0.7
Overweight Infraction	10250	7.6
No Permit Size Weight	4	0.0
Registration Infraction	21563	16.0
Certificate of Title - Infraction	1	0.0
Registration/Misd.	96	0.1
Registration/Fel.	1	0.0
Excess Smoke	343	0.3
Vehicle Inspection Infraction	40197	29.8
Vehicle Inspection/Misd.	12	0.0
Repair Shop Violation	53	0.0
MV Dismantler - Infraction	2	0.0
Other Nonhazardous	121	0.1
Other Nonhazardous/Misd.	13	0.0
Local Laws - Ordinance	249	0.2
East Hudson Parkway Authority Rules/Regs.	481	0.4
Public Health Law/Misd.	15	0.0
Transportation Law	2572	1.8
Thruway Rules/Regulations	1985	1.5
Thruway Toll Violation	502	0.4
Thruway Drive Flat Tire	1	0.0
Thruway Unsafe Vehicle	8	0.0
Thruway Towing Violation	29	0.0
Thruway Damage Property	42	0.0
Thruway Prohibit Intoxication	247	0.2
Truck Mileage Tax Law	3015	2.2
<b>Total Nonhazardous Violations</b>	<b>135050</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total Traffic Arrests</b>	<b>519860</b>	

### Vehicle and Traffic Arrests

Pending Beginning of Period	Total All Arrests	Convictions	Dismissals	Closed by Investigation	Pending End of Period	Percent Convicted, Cases in Court
175479	519860	420491	*53433	12302	212063	89%

\* This includes 6041 dismissals - Notice of Correction - Lights - which accounts for 11% of dismissals.

### Accident Analysis

Year	Total Accidents	Fatal Accidents	Personal Injury Accidents	Property Damage Accidents
1975	50946	524	17096	33326
1976	51036	492	17035	33509

### Speeding Arrests

Year	Total Speed	Radar	Percent of Total Speed	Computer	Percent of Total Speed	Patrol	Percent of Total Speed
1975	270267	157399	58.2	46783	17.3	66085	24.5
1976	277467	216639	78.1	11071	4.0	49757	17.9

(Speeding represented 53% of all V&T arrests in 1976)

### Intoxicated Driver Violations

Year	Total DWI Arrests	Total Chemical Tests			Total Refusals	Convictions DWI	Convictions DWAI	Convictions Lesser Charge
		Breath	Blood	Urine				
1975	13714	10902	661	19	1334	3530	4655	4734
1976	11980	10605	686	18	1275	4531	4482	3593

Conviction columns include persons arrested in previous years.



**Accident Causes**

Principal Causes of Accidents	Fatal	Personal Injury	Property Damage	Total	Percent of Total
<b>- HUMAN -</b>					
Alcohol Involvement	123	2356	2373	4852	10.2
Backing Unsafely		203	1775	1978	4.2
Driver Inattention	13	1009	1805	2820	6.0
Driver Inexperienced	7	498	598	1103	2.3
Drugs (Illegal)	1	14	12	27	0.1
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	39	1783	2721	4543	9.6
Fell Asleep	29	657	598	1284	2.7
Following Too Close	3	1212	2073	3288	6.9
Illness	5	40	31	66	0.1
Lost Consciousness	3	67	24	94	0.2
Passenger Distraction	1	71	74	146	0.3
Passing/Lane Usage Improper	75	1466	2741	4262	9.0
Pedestrian Error/Confusion	55	562	33	650	1.4
Physical Disability	1	17	21	39	0.1
Prescription Medication		26	14	40	0.1
Traffic Control Device	13	345	355	743	1.6
Turning Improperly	6	467	1212	1685	3.6
Unsafe Speed	219	6232	8803	15259	32.2
Other Human Causes	39	1573	2844	4456	9.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>18501</b>	<b>28132</b>	<b>47355</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Principal Causes of Accidents	Fatal	Personal Injury	Property Damage	Total	Percent of Total
<b>- VEHICULAR -</b>					
Accelerator Defective		62	56	118	3.1
Brakes Defective	2	208	335	545	14.4
Headlight Defective	4	25	17	46	1.2
Other Lighting Defects	4	52	129	185	4.9
Oversize Vehicle		6	69	75	2.0
Steer Failure		163	168	331	8.7
Tire Failure/Inadequate	8	418	632	1056	25.0
Tow Hitch Defective		8	95	103	2.7
Windshield Inadequate	3	5	9	17	0.4
Other Vehicular Causes		317	966	1313	34.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1294</b>	<b>2476</b>	<b>3791</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Principal Causes of Accidents	Fatal	Personal Injury	Property Damage	Total	Percent of Total
<b>- ENVIRONMENTAL -</b>					
Animal's Action	2	703	5398	6103	24.6
Glare	3	127	220	350	1.4
Lane Marking Improper/Inadequate	1	20	39	60	0.2
Obstruction/Debris	1	196	661	855	3.5
Pavement Defective		67	89	156	0.6
Pavement Slippery	127	5322	9059	14508	58.5
Shoulders Defective/Improper	2	67	63	132	0.5
Traffic Control Device Improper/ Nonworking	1	28	39	63	0.3
View Obstructed/Limited	24	691	1243	1955	5.0
Other Environmental Causes	3	201	395	602	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>7417</b>	<b>17209</b>	<b>24790</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Accident Arrests**

Principal Causes of Accidents	Accident Arrests for This Violation	Percent of Total
Speed/Too Fast for Conditions	3384	13.2
Failed to Keep Right	2843	11.1
Failed to Yield R.O.W.	2749	10.8
Following Too Close	1149	4.5
Improper Passing	1296	5.1
Backing Unsafely	643	2.5
Had Been Drinking	3093	12.1
Improper Turning	603	2.4
Unsafe Equipment	278	1.1
Unsafe Tires	1140	4.5
Improper Parking - Stopping	230	0.9
Pedestrian Violations	12	0.0
Reckless Driving	389	1.5
Passed Stop Sign	378	1.5
Defective Brakes	30	0.1
Failed to Signal	44	0.2
Lights - Improper Use - Defective	99	0.4
Passed Red Light	190	0.7
Driving While Impaired (Drugs)	29	0.1
Other Hazardous Violations	165	0.6
Nonhazardous Violations	6818	26.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>25567</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Road Check Statistics**

(Road checks required by Section 390, Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Total Checkpoints Held            1914

Road Check Arrests:

V&T                                    20267

Criminal                                375

Total                                    20642

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY – VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC

TYPE OF INVESTIGATION	NUMBER CONDUCTED
Dept. of Transportation (re traffic signals, speed zones, other controls)	2205
Suspension & Revocation Orders for Department of Motor Vehicles	7414
Fatal Accident Scene Review	486
Total Investigations	10105



**END**