The Nature of the Police Executive's Work

A Selected Bibliography

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INTRODUCTION

One of the first tasks involved in this project was to conduct a literature search in the area of modern management concepts in order to update our current reference base and to synthesize problems that exist in this area. This Bibliography was compiled by utilizing the NCJRS, SSCI (Social Sciences Citation Index) and the MI (Management Index). On the basis of the literature reviewed, we can readily see that the major problems in the study of police and other executives is that there is little knowledge of how they actually behave on the job and much prescription for how they ought to behave.

This Bibliography is divided into four categories each dealing with a specific aspect of what executives do. (1) Diary and Observational Studies of Managerial Behavior: This section lists references that pertain to the nature of a manager's job or the measure of the effectiveness of a manager in the performance of his/her job. These references concerning the nature of the manager's job are restricted to those studies based on observational or diary methods of data collection. (2) Methodology: These sources address issues and techniques relevant to data collection by direct observation. Two of these works merit special comment. The Chapters by Bouchard (1976) in the Handbook of Industrial and Organizational Psychology offer comprehensive reviews of field research techniques and observational methods. The article by Boyd and DeVault (1966) provides an excellent outline of issues and problems that must be faced in observational research. Other sources
listed confirm, supplement, and extend this material. (3) Police Executive, Management and Observations: These references are pertinent to police executives, police management, and observational studies of police. Most of the material referenced address their contents to the subject of the police executive and to police management in a prescriptive nature. The observational studies deal with activities at the patrol level. (4) Classification Scheme: These references pertain to various typologies of managerial work.

There is an indication from the literature that new comprehensive studies of the police executive and what he does must be undertaken.
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