

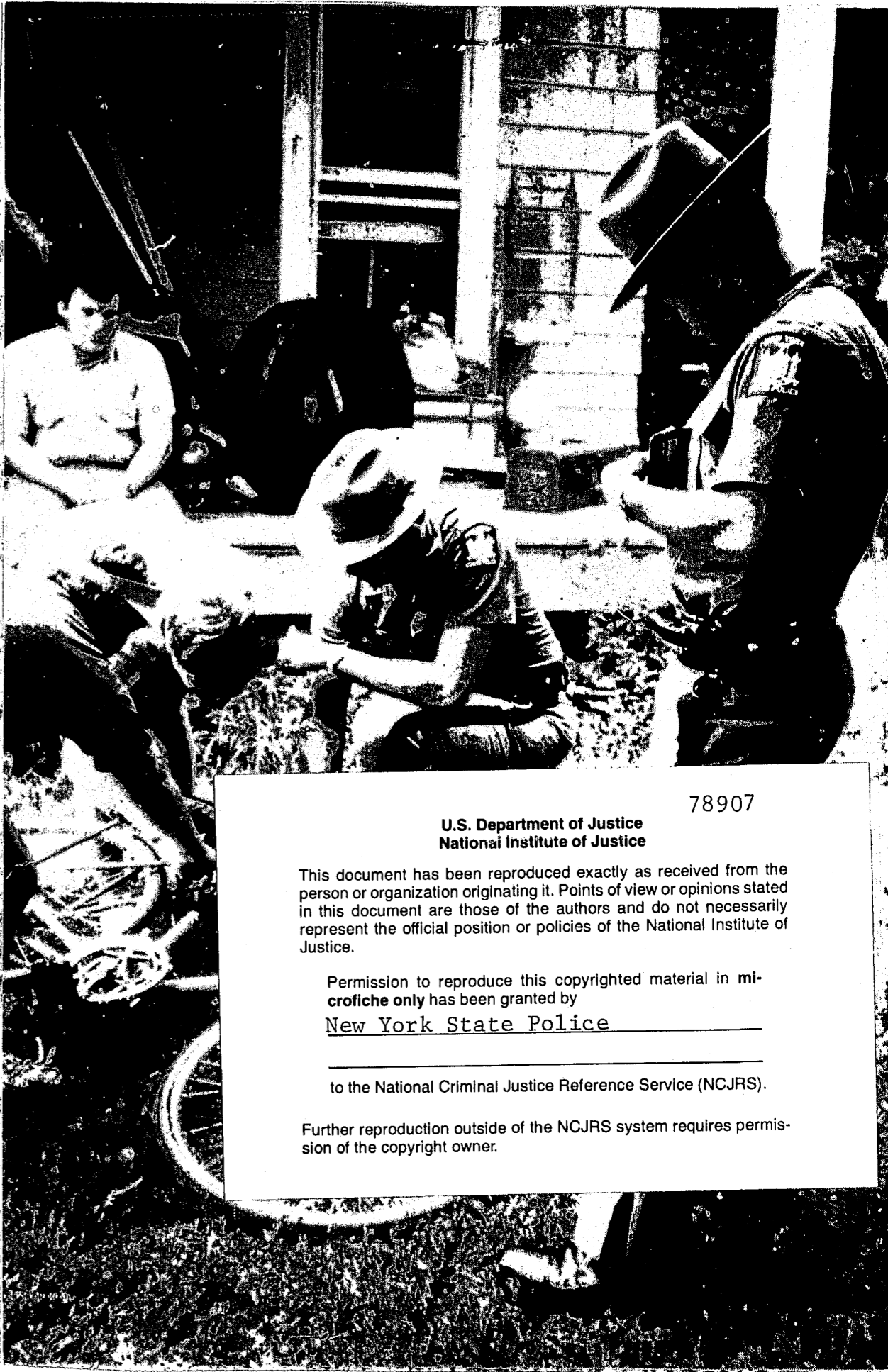
ANNUAL REPORT

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NEW YORK STATE POLICE

1978





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**U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice**

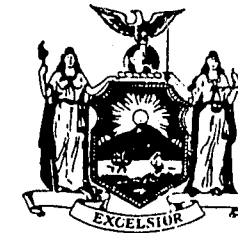
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Superintendent William G. Connelie

Annual Report
NEW YORK STATE POLICE
For the Year 1978

NCJRS

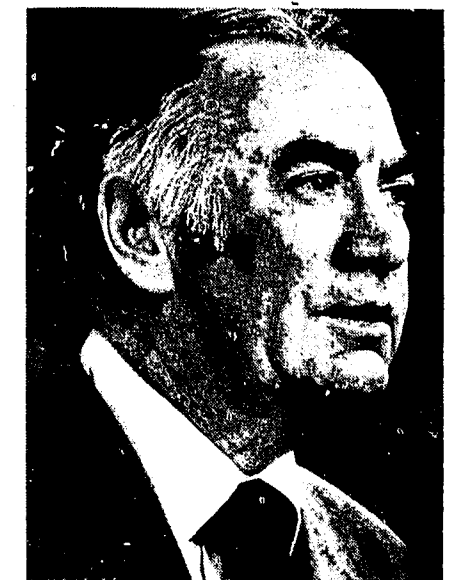
JUN 15 1981

ACQUISITIONS

COVER

A zone sergeant makes an appearance in full uniform in England during a Rotary International study exchange program.

A probationary trooper takes notes as his senior trooper questions witnesses at a theft scene. Peekskill Evening Star photo by Cathy McDonald.



Governor Hugh L. Carey



1978

Reviewing the 61st Year

During 1978, State Police arrests rose 13.2 percent to 687,861, compared to 597,199 recorded in 1977. The total number of offenses known or reported increased 14.1 percent in one year, rising from 696,140 to 794,568. Accident investigations rose slightly from 49,009 to 49,422.

A general uptrend in most statistical categories was attributed to a more intensified policing effort on most fronts coupled with an increase in crime and disobedience of traffic laws.

The Division's total traffic arrests reached 644,963, a dramatic



Governor Carey addresses a basic school class at commencement exercises on Feb. 3. Sharing the dais are, from left, Major George R. Tordy, training director; Superintendent Connelie, and First Deputy Supt. Robert D. Quick.

upsurge from last year's 555,990. Included in that figure is an all-time record 328,089 speeding arrests compared to the erstwhile record set in 1977 of 299,169. Driving while intoxicated arrests jumped from 10,840 to 12,413. Fatal accident investigations increased during 1978 by 38 to 492.

Highlights of 1978:

- State Police continued to prepare for the monumental task of supervising all security and public safety efforts at the 1980 Winter Olympic Games at Lake Placid. Of a police contingent of more than 1,000 officers, close to three-quarters are expected to be State Police members. Construction of a \$3.8 million State Police facility at Ray Brook to serve as a command center for the Olympics remained on schedule; after the games it will become the new headquarters for Troop B.

- State Police Laboratory ser-



Groundbreaking signals the start of construction of a \$3.8 million State Police facility at Ray Brook at which security for the 1980 Olympics will be coordinated. At left, facing camera, is the late Ronald MacKenzie, president of the Lake Placid Olympic Organizing Committee, who died at year's end. Next to him are Superintendent Connelie and Asst. Dep. Supt. Jerome J. McNulty, head of the Uniform Force, followed by Tom Monroe, regional director of ENCON; Mayor Robert Peacock of Lake Placid, Frank Jasmine, Governor's program associate; John Egan of the Office of General Services, and Rev. J. Bernard Fell of the Olympic committee.

VICES were expanded with the October 5 opening of the first regional office in Newburgh to serve the six-county mid-Hudson region. A staff of 10 handled 485 cases the first three months. At year's end, plans were being made to open a second regional Laboratory at Binghamton in late 1979 to serve the Southern Tier.

- The most unique graduation ceremony in State Police annals saw seven German shepherds receive their diplomas at the Academy on Nov. 10 at the end of 18 weeks of training. SP now has nine bio-sensor shepherds capable of sniffing out explosives and drugs, and tracking lost persons and criminals.

- The State Police Weighing Detail, which checks trucks on the state's highways, was doubled to more than 80 troopers in an intensified enforcement effort to curb overweight violations. A new electronic device which requires one-fifth of the time

of the traditional scales was introduced, which will triple the number of weighings—to about 100,000—the first year.

- The State Police air fleet was expanded with the acquisition of a Huey helicopter, an Army surplus purchase.

- Addresses by Governor Carey highlighted graduation ceremonies for two recruit classes totaling 268 new troopers. With another class in training at year's end (Governor Carey was again scheduled to speak at a February 1979 graduation), the Division was near its authorized strength.

- The opening of 14 additional State Police satellite offices brought the statewide total to 49. This expansion has improved response time, kept patrols on assigned posts, conserved energy by eliminating the need to transport prisoners and complainants to and from control stations,

and improved communications and coordination between State Police, the public, and local police.

• The largest number of State Police members ever, six, shared the Brummer Award, the highest State Police award for bravery, bestowed at the second annual Awards Day ceremony.

• A large contingent of State Police athletes competed in the state's Olympics for police on Long Island and came away with a staggering 64 medals. Twenty of the eligible medalists, competing in the International Police Olympics in San Diego, captured 16 medals.

• A test in U.S. District Court in Albany was in progress as 1979 dawned; awaited is a judge's decision concerning a Justice Department contention that State Police is biased in its employment practices. In essence, the suit pits a newly-designed job-related examination involving a competitive written and physical examination against a Justice Department insistence for a quota system to bring about a quick, massive infusion of minorities and women. At present, the Division employs nearly 100 minority and female members.



The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade along New York City's Fifth Avenue is led by a State Police color guard followed by a large SP contingent.



State Police officers and local officials mark the opening of a new satellite office at Charlton by examining a territorial map. At year's end, State Police was operating 49 satellite offices across the state, 14 of which began operations during 1978.

The conviction rate for cases adjudicated from State Police arrests was 86 percent, a one percent drop from 1977 but still a testament to the high quality of arrests made by Division personnel. Convictions were obtained in 524,405 cases, compared with 477,878 convictions in 1977.

Fines, fees, and the value of recovered property, and the proceeds from the sale of used equipment totaled \$15,543,882, a decrease from the 1977 total of \$17,715,337. Division vehicles traveled 53,845,100 miles, about 2.2 million miles more than in the previous year. ■



Two escapees from Erie County Correctional Facility, caught walking 25 miles from jail, are escorted by two troopers. Buffalo Courier-Express photo by Joe Traver.

The Uniform Force

A patrolling trooper, called to an accident site, found several persons attempting to winch a car from a Westchester County reservoir; it was upside down, having cracked through five inches of ice, and a woman was trapped inside. He immediately gave direction to the volunteers, doffed his gun and holster, and in full uniform jumped into the frigid water. He emerged with the limp body of the driver. Both were rushed to the hospital where the woman died six hours later and the trooper, suffering from exposure, was treated and released.

The trooper's action, a product of honed instincts, lengthy training and experience, plus a large dose of bravery, is a crystallization of the finest attributes of the profession: the ability to act swiftly and decisively to resolve a crisis.

Such immediate and conclusive venturesomeness is evident in these other representative 1978 incidents that saved lives:

A trooper, coming upon a woman pinned under a partially jacked-up car following an accident on Interstate 81, recognized a life-or-death situation when the vehicle began to sink into snow-softened mud, with the muffler

pressuring her stomach and the rear axle closing in on her throat. He frantically dug a trench from the bumper to the axle, and summoned help from a passerby with whom he pulled the woman out just in time.

Two fishermen barely clinging to their overturned boat on chilly Oneida Lake were rescued by a trooper who commandeered a boat and with firemen pulled them to safety. Two North Country troopers, coming upon a parked horse van inside of which the driver was trapped and being crushed and stomped by 15 equines, climbed to the roof and with a shovel pushed at horses long enough to enable the injured man to extricate himself. An elderly woman, snowbound and enfeebled by starvation in her remote Schenectady County cottage, was saved by a trooper who trudged through chest-high snow to deliver food to her and her two cats and then contacted several social agencies to assist her further. An off-duty Schroon Lake trooper enjoying a church social jumped into action when the postmaster suddenly rose and grasped his throat with a choking gasp; while others looked on bewildered, the trooper recognized his affliction, embraced the stricken man with a Heimlich hug (sudden pressure above the intestines), dislodging a piece of

THE SECOND, AND LAST, GARROW MANHUNT

In 1973, the name of Robert Garrow became synonymous with a cunning, deadly woodsman. The largest manhunt in State Police history required 11 days to track down the multi-murderer in the Adirondacks. Once again, on Sept. 9, 1978, a huge force (State Police and Correctional Services) was called into action when Garrow, thought to be paralyzed, escaped from Fishkill Correctional Facility. A farflung search was initiated, and two days later Garrow was killed in woods in a shootout with corrections officers after he had struck one by firing a gun smuggled into prison by his son; Garrow had managed to put only a mile between himself and the facility.

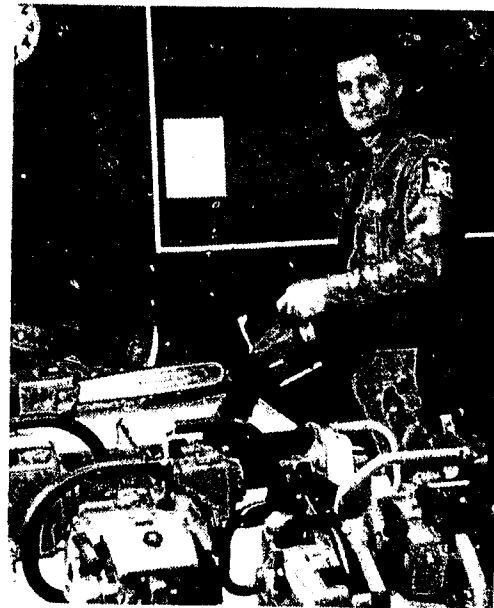
beef which enabled him to regain his breath.

* * *

In fulfilling the variety of duties that crowd his eight-hour shift on patrol, a trooper experiences the darkest side of life in murder and suicide, the pettiness of the whining motorist examining a well-deserved ticket, the gratitude of a mother reunited with her lost child, the seething hatred for his intervention in a potentially deadly family feud, the mute bewilderment of the injured at an accident, the frenzy of the lunatic who can't cope with society and must be subdued, and the besotted indignity of the souse pulled off the road before he can commit mayhem.

A trooper may find his life unexpected at stake in what appears to be an everyday assignment. Two troopers routinely checking two suspicious pedestrians on a Greenport bridge were suddenly confronted by a sawed-off shotgun which one whipped out from under his coat. In a struggle, the gunwielder was disarmed, but then the second man grabbed for one of the troopers' sidearms and also had to be subdued; both said they had planned to rob the first person who offered them a ride. Another trooper, assigned to the Highway Task Force on Interstate 684, was writing a ticket when the

driver made an obscene gesture and became obstreperous. In trying to handcuff him, the trooper found himself in a deadly struggle in which the overwrought motorist attempted to pull his service revolver from its holster, pledging, "I'm going to get you." With the aid of a passing trucker, the man was overpowered. A Thruway trooper was hospitalized along with 21 other officers and firemen when they were overcome by fumes in securing an accident site at which a tanker carrying caustic acid split. A difficult assign-



A trooper displays chain saws recovered from a vehicle used in a Hartland farm implement store burglary. Lockport Union Sun & Journal photo by Byers Bachman.

ment in traffic control then faced other officers who had to guard against impeded respiration. A trooper was hospitalized in Rochester after a sudden attack by a burglar who fled with his service revolver. The gun was quickly recovered in a field and the assailant was captured five hours after the attack by foot patrols involved in a massive manhunt.

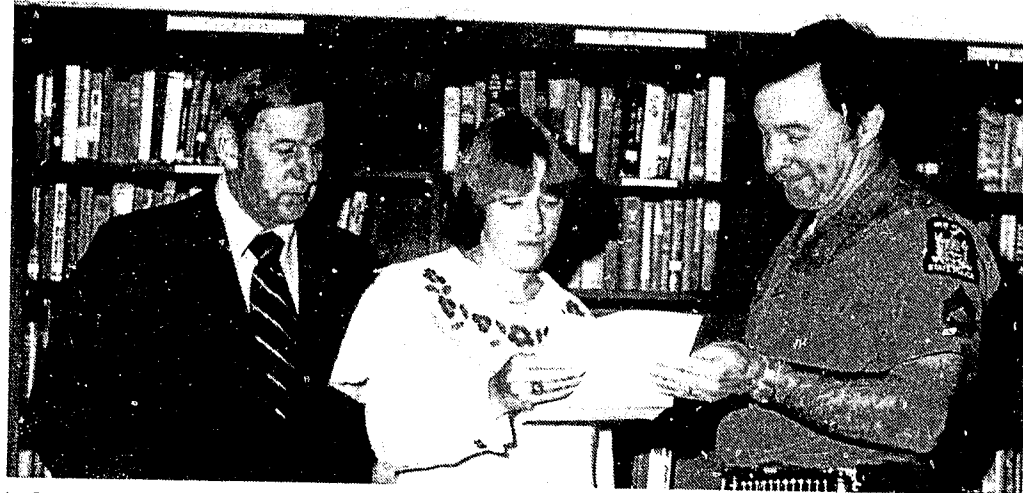
When homicides and unusual deaths cross a trooper's path, he is invariably faced with a time-consuming investigation that tests his acumen. Near Syracuse, a jilted woman and her friend kidnaped her former lover and his new paramour and shot both; the new girl friend died and the man escaped with a shoulder wound. A trooper, acting on a tip, spotted their car and made the arrest. One of the accused slayers was missing a heel of her shoe, so the trooper assisted BCI investigators in a search that came up with the important piece of evidence. Another trooper patrolling around Gouverneur was informed by a motorist that in a car ahead of his a rifle was suddenly thrust out of a window and a shot was fired. The trooper's investigation disclosed that the despondent gunwielder had borrowed a car, started a church fire, then randomly fired at passersby. He said he had set a quota of shooting six people in one day, but he was apprehended after pursuit with the aid of local police; he had already succeeded in killing an 81-year-old man who was shoveling snow. A Thruway trooper eating at a Nyack restaurant saw the owner break up an altercation between two patrons and escort them outside. There they threw the restaurateur to the ground and fled; the trooper caught up with them. When the proprietor died of his injuries, the pair was charged with homicide. Two troopers, called when a couple was found dead in their car outside a Morrisville bar, were joined by the BCI in determining that carbon monoxide was the cause, and that three weeks earlier the car owner had been ticketed



A trooper determines that this nosedive landing near Remsen was caused by an error of the pilot who had been licensed only five days. Photo by Steve Charzuk.

for having an inadequate exhaust system.

Pursuits are fraught with danger and require that a trooper has nerves of steel as well as superior driving ability. One of the most difficult chases of 1978 followed two abortive robberies of small grocery stores in Pennsylvania and Chemung County. The two bandits, driving a stolen car, were first spotted in crossing the border, but eluded capture until they attempted the second holdup. A trooper noticed their car on a secondary road and when he attempted to bring it to a stop it sped away, going the wrong way on a divided highway. To complicate matters and to fuel a potentially disastrous situation, the driver turned off his headlights. While the trooper continued the chase marked by several near-collisions, an investigator heading in the opposite



A Cooperstown Central School senior accepts the first Tpr. Robert M. Semrov Memorial Scholarship Fund started by Troop C. The trooper, a graduate of the school, was killed in 1973 in the aftermath of a speeding arrest.

direction kept track of events via radio until he was within sight of the culprit and then backed his car across two lanes to protect a congested area. It slowed the bandit momentarily, but he swerved around the car and then stepped on the gas and finally entered Horseheads where he made several sharp turns. When he attempted to make a U-turn into a drive-in bank, one pursuer performed a legal intervention; the collision knocked one robber through the passenger door, and the driver emerged with a loaded pistol. He was quickly subdued; a cache of stolen weapons was found in the car of the two parolees.

While many robbers won't surrender until they've been chased or dueled, others are apprehended more

peaceably thanks to the alertness of troopers. One pair of dangerous felons slowed down when seeing troopers behind them in Ulster County. Being suspicious, the men in gray peered into the car and found leather jackets and ski masks, hardly the proper outerwear for a hot summer's night. The two admitted they were about to rob a nearby motel, and interrogation revealed they were wanted for two armed robberies and eight burglaries. Two North Country troopers en route to a complaint jotted down the license of a car parked on the shoulder of a highway. On their return, they learned that a family had been robbed at gunpoint and the getaway car's license matched that of the parked vehicle. It took combined law en-

PUZZLING DEATH OF A NUDE BICYCLIST

When construction workers found the body of a nude young man at the rear of a project outside Potsdam, a uniform and BCI investigation led to this conclusion: intending to streak some friends at midnight, he had ridden his 10-speed bike into a pile of steel girders, resulting in massive throat and jaw lacerations. He then staggered to the rear of the construction site where his neatly folded clothes were waiting, but collapsed and died of loss of blood before reaching them.

forcement bodies only 30 minutes to trace the car and arrest three bandits.

Suicide attempts require patience and test the mettle of troopers. Possibly the most difficult such assignment confronted a trooper in Washington County when a motorist announced over Civilian Band radio that he was armed with an M-1 rifle and threatened to kill himself and anyone trying to stop him. The trooper finally located the car and followed it, joined by other patrols. A five-hour drama followed, highlighted by a continuing exchange over radio in which pleas of surrender were staunchly rejected. The episode ended when the man fired a nonfatal round into his stomach and was then seized. A trooper at Buffalo engaged in conversation with a woman perched precariously on a Thruway overpass. He had to place himself in an awkward physical position to plead his case, but won out when she gave up her plan of self-destruction. A New Hartford patrol was kept at bay by an elderly man seated on his bed, surrounded by a can of turpentine and a cigarette lighter, who screamed his threat to set himself afire. After cajoling the man into a lengthy diatribe the troopers seized on an opportunity to enter the bedroom and disarm him.

The hostage taker, that modern criminal aberration, reared his head on a hot July night in Montreal, hijacking a bus at knifepoint and forcing the driver to roll through a U.S. Customs checkpoint without stopping. An inspector, seeing a knife held to the driver's throat, alerted Troop B and soon patrols were following the bus, which stopped at one point to take on four passengers to replace those the hijacker had



Two troopers cordon off a crime scene. Peekskill Evening Star photo by Cathy McDonald.

ordered out before reaching Customs. The knifewielder's only demand was that he wanted to see a priest, and would pull over after five miles. Combined law enforcers finally took the man into custody without a struggle.

Domestic squabbles can turn into hand-to-hand combat that poses serious tactical dilemmas for troopers who must often intrude into a spilled-over emotional cauldron. A 17-year-old Onondaga County youth who fought with his mother continuously finally slew her with number six bird shot from a shotgun, then told arresting troopers that "she was the source of all my troubles and I've just taken care of them." A Saratoga County housewife stabbed her sleeping husband, and her only explanation to troopers was that she wanted him to experience pain similar to that which she endured during a hysterectomy. Following a spat, a hus-

A little lost girl tells a search team of State Police and ENCON personnel about her four-hour walk through woods.



band barricaded himself inside the house and for two hours peppered the interior with a shotgun, then found his wife at a neighbor's house and kicked in the door. He was arrested before he could inflict physical harm. On being bailed out, he immediately set his house on fire. But the most unlikely family complaint was that of a father who refused to feed his son and locked him out because junior wouldn't cut wood, who was in turn accused of not providing his offspring with a saw to do the job. The father was 92 and the son 65.

A heart-rending offshoot of the family fight is child neglect. One such pitiful case involved a 12-year-old Wayne County girl who was abandoned in a small house for two days with nothing to eat, water pipes frozen, and 33 contaminated dogs running loose. The mother was "away" and her brother had taken off to Florida with a girl friend.

The arsonist, whether he acts out of revenge or for insurance, plays a deadly game with which troopers must frequently deal. A Plattsburgh farmhand destroyed his employer's

barn worth \$80,000 because he was getting paid only \$10 a week. A car reportedly stolen in Jamestown and destroyed by fire in a cemetery nearly netted \$7,000 from the insurance company until a trooper, scouring the wreck and finding that the radio had been removed and tires replaced by retreads, launched an inquiry which pointed to insurance fraud perpetrated by the owner. A student wasn't satisfied with school authorities, so he set a \$500,000 fire at Rhinebeck High School; uniform and BCI personnel conducted an exhaustive investigation to track him down. A Richfield Springs apartment house went up in flames, killing one occupant, in what was originally blamed on faulty wiring. Investigation proved otherwise: the owner, who was jailed up to 10 years for manslaughter, had engaged a professional torch man for \$7,000 who in turn had contracted with an assistant for \$200.

Crimes with a sexual motif made their impression on station logs. A hitchhiker was raped and beaten by a motorist on Interstate 81. The girl then toured the area with a Newburgh trooper until they spotted the assailant's car and an

RARITIES AMONG THE YEAR'S ARRESTS

Every year is dotted with unusual arrests, and here are a few of the people nabbed by troopers during 1978: A thief captured while walking a Great Dane; the dog was the only item stolen in a daylight burglary. An aviator who performed dangerously low loops over a residential area to impress his girl friend, who was asleep in a house he came close to striking. A restaurant patron accused by another customer of being a criminal; it was a case of mistaken identity, but he was wanted by U.S. Customs for illegally importing venomous snakes. An intruder who terrified an elderly homemaker, then helped her call State Police and stayed to comfort her until he was arrested. A scrap dealer who had crushed a stolen car into an eight-inch high metal heap, only to be outfoxed by the owner who made positive identification by a protruding piece of door which he had painted by hand.

arrest followed. A woman who was raped by a trucker on Interstate 87 and then driven to a motel by two men who said they wanted to help finally got some real assistance from two troopers who tracked down the three culprits. A Steuben County prostitute whose CB handle was "Southern Comfort" accepted a radioed proposition from "The Love Machine"; on accepting money from the trooper in civilian guise when they met, she was arrested.

Harassing telephone calls from unidentified persons as often as not have sexual overtones. One of the most flagrant cases of annoying calls involved an anonymous Malone dialer who in making 1,000 contacts over 18 months never spoke, but only breathed heavily or simply hung up after an answer. Because of the brevity of his calls, highly-sophisticated equipment had to be brought north to track him down.

White collar crime is occupying the time of uniform personnel more each year. One of the outstanding cases of 1978 involved the arrest by

a trooper of a Middletown area department store employee who had embezzled \$7,800 over six months by making out and cashing fictitious cash refund slips. In following up, the BCI ascertained that over five years she had misappropriated \$129,000.

In their travels, troopers frequently encounter animals in trouble and others who must endure the cruelty of their masters. Two Monroe troopers rescued a German shepherd



Some \$8,000 worth of recovered stolen goods are examined by a trooper at the Brunswick station. Capital Newspapers photo by Jack Pinto.

A lieutenant guides investigators to the spot where a coed was swept into the raging Allegheny River. Her body was found 13 days after she drowned. Photo by Olean Times-Herald.



in frigid water by poling a borrowed rowboat through ice. Two troopers rounded up three runaway horses on Interstate 84 after they charged past Stormville station and were nearly run down by motorists. A Doberman pinscher, who mauled small children at a Monroe housing development and then charged a trooper, was dispatched by his service revolver. A Livingston Manor resident who killed a dog by slamming it against the ground and then cut off its head told arresting officers two days later he planned to contact the Laboratory to determine if the canine was rabid. Two risky assignments greeting troopers were: a truck disabled on the Thruway which was transporting seven open crates of honeybees with a penchant for flitting about during warm weather, and a skunk wandering

along aisles in a central New York supermarket, emptying the store until the trooper escorted it out, very gently. But the most uncommon animal-related arrest of the year was that of a western New York farmer who permitted his illbred bull to run loose and consort with a purebred heifer, thereby ruining the strain of the breed.

Troopers oftentimes receive unexpected assistance from civilians in fulfilling their duties. A Warren County manufacturing company president, who was a retired Army officer, had three teenage thieves lined up at attention when troopers arrived to make the arrest; they had ransacked the workmen's lockers. A homeowner who interrupted a daylight burglary chased the two intruders at 90 mph

QUOTE OF THE YEAR

The State Police Bartlett's Award for the most memorable quote of 1978 goes to a hirsute transvestite who two troopers pulled from a women's room at a western New York drive-in theater. Asked what he was doing inside, the six-foot, two-inch weightlifter replete in high heels, dress, girdle, purse, blonde wig, and nylons over unshaven legs, said simply: "What was I supposed to do, use the men's room?"

until their car hit a tree and troopers arrested them and escorted them to a hospital. Bar patrons took on a six-foot, seven-inch 320-pounder who had burglarized a nearby Canandaigua drugstore. Even though he was armed with a wrecking bar, hammer, and screwdriver, they braved his wrath in blocking his path from the parking lot until troopers arrived. An Oswego County store owner, alerted by a noise over the intercom, interrupted a burglary of foodstuffs; he shot one intruder, his son caught up with a second thief behind the store, and troopers and investigators, aided by State Police bloodhounds and a helicopter, caught up with the third culprit in woods; all three had lengthy criminal histories. An ambulance driv-

er who was a photography buff took some photos of three youths trying to steer a raft over a State Barge Canal spillway near Canandaigua. The raft belonged to the canal system, and the three youthful thieves were easily identified and captured, thanks to the photo.

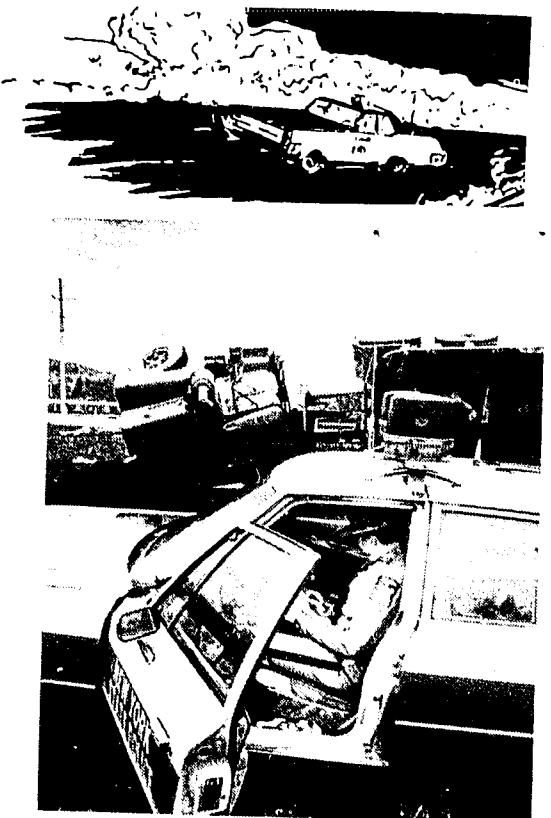
One of the most satisfying, although nerve-racking, assignments is to help deliver a baby far from a hospital. A Ferndale trooper, detouring nighttime traffic around a train wreck, was confronted by a frantic father-to-be whose wife was expecting momentarily. The father and a deputy sheriff aided the trooper in bringing a baby into the world inside the car. ■

Highways And Byways

"Thanks for arresting me. It was a contributing factor towards my having given up drinking. I have not had a drink from that day to this." So goes a letter from a motorist to a State Police sergeant stationed in Washington County, who had arrested him for driving while intoxicated 14 years earlier.

Probably only a handful of the 12,413 drivers arrested in 1978 by SP for having too much alcohol in their systems while wheeling along harbor that sense of gratitude. (Arrest figures climbed dramatically from the 10,840 DWI nabs in 1977.)

Once sober, some may grudgingly admit to themselves that a State Police arrest could well have intercepted a beckoning moment of destruction. But too many, having contributed tragedy, pathos or un-



A trooper makes out a report after a coal truck flipped in Johnson City, sending the driver to the hospital with a broken leg. Binghamton Press photo by Frank Woodruff.

A trooper and other rescuers strive feverishly to free a man trapped in a car wreck in Albany. Capital Newspapers photo by Tom LaPoint.



intended comic relief, accept their trooper arrest and court-imposed punishment as merely an interruption between drinking bouts.

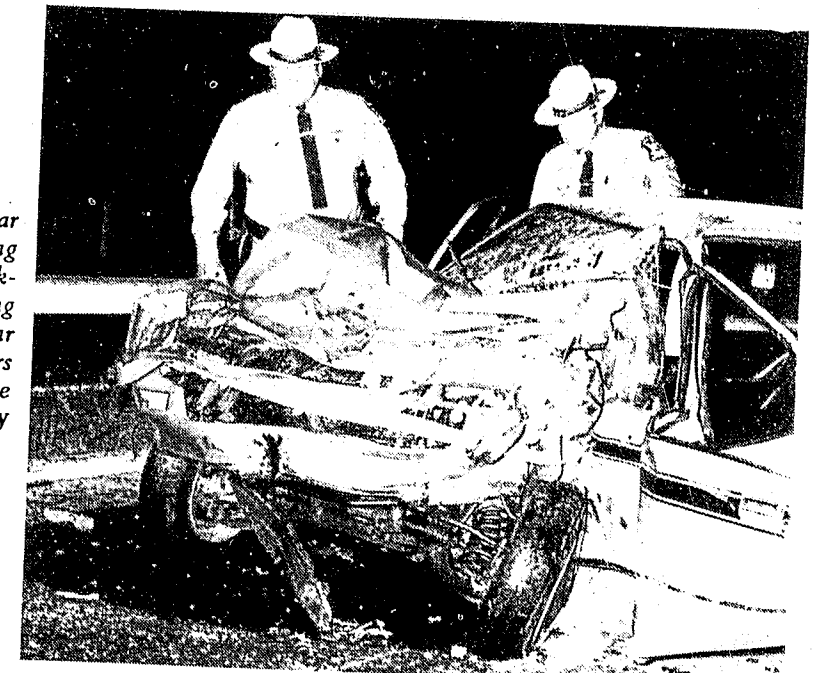
These are some of the inebriates who met troopers too late: A young Niagara County motorist who sped across a center line and struck an oncoming car, killing an elderly couple, which led to his indictment for criminally negligent homicide. A Plattsburgh coed who with a friend picked up two hitchhikers and in a drunken frenzy smashed up her car with such violence that it disintegrated and all four were ejected, three fatally. A Syracuse area father whose 10-day-old baby was killed and whose wife was permanently paralyzed in an accident moments after the couple quarreled about his ability to drive safely in his drunken condition.

Pain and embarrassment was the lot of these tipsy travelers picked up by troopers: An injured driver refused from his Auburn hospital bed to submit to a chemical test, but that was no surprise; his license had been revoked for previous refusal to be

tested after a drunk driving arrest, and he was awaiting disposition of two other DWI counts. A youthful driver's leg was broken when in an intoxicated state he plowed into a tree. The impact burst a bag of marijuana he had purchased for his friends. Ironically, the two arresting troopers had made a similar pinch for drunk driving and grass possession following a collision with the same tree two years earlier. Near Syracuse, a drunk driver staggered around his flaming car and troopers saw a loaded handgun exposed under the burnt front seat; he'd been too soused to light his cigarette properly. Another drunk plowed into a bank in Orange County. While the trooper made the arrest, he noticed some extra dents obviously not caused by the accident; a computer check determined the man had been involved in a hit-and-run accident in New Jersey.

While there's nothing funny about a drunk driver, these antics caused some unexpected laughs: A Buffalo driver who said simply that he was on his way to assault a debtor asked to be allowed to rest his feet because his size 14 sneakers were

Two troopers check a car that drove into the wrong lane on the Taconic Parkway and struck an oncoming car. The driver of this car was killed and the passengers of the other vehicle were injured. Photo by Anthony Olheiser.



on the wrong way. A Poughkeepsie man was released in the custody of his roommate whom the trooper recognized as having recently been arrested himself for DWI and released in the custody of the man now in a stupor. An obviously intoxicated Auburn motorist asked for directions over his CB radio using his handle of "Alkie"; troopers overheard his call and directed him to their troop car. A legally blind Henrietta driver, steering on courage and liquor, was intercepted by two troopers before he could crash; he explained he wanted to see how far he could get before being stopped. Outside Rochester, an inebriate predicted his breath test result and was precisely right; a week earlier another trooper had nabbed him after he's had exactly the same amount to drink.

Alcoholic involvement was the principal cause of 119 of the 492 fatal accidents investigated by troopers during 1978 (454 were investigated in 1977). In addition, 2,355 accidents resulting in injuries were the direct result of drunk driving.

Of the 12,413 drivers arrested for DWI, the courts convicted 4,284

on the original charge, 5,219 of driving while their ability was impaired, and 2,454 on lesser charges. About one of every nine drivers arrested for an alcohol-related offense refused to submit to a chemical test, subjecting them to revocation of their licenses. The majority, 9,784, opted for the breath test, while 622 submitted to a blood test and 11 chose to give a urine specimen.

The leading cause of fatalities on the highways, according to State Police statistics, was speeding, exceeding alcoholic causes by one—at 120. Another 3,675 personal injury accidents were caused by going too fast. In all, troopers investigated 17,204 accidents in which death or injury occurred and 32,218 in which property was damaged. The total accident investigations were about 400 higher than in 1977.

For the second year under a three-year \$6 million federal matching grant, some 135 uniform officers were assigned to a Task Force to focus on speeders on 600 miles of interstate highways. They issued 124,000 tickets for exceeding the 55 mph speed limit, accounting for

nearly 40 percent of the total State Police speeding arrests of 328,089, far surpassing the 1977 total of 299,169.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's fact book indicates that New York State is now third in the nation in motorist compliance with the national speed limit, a testimonial to the State Police speed enforcement effort.

Some speeders, unwilling to heed limits created to save lives and gas, made the supreme sacrifice for their folly. A speeding car flew through the air after leaving the road in western New York, struck a bridge abutment, and dropped into a creek, with fatal results for three collegians. Two motorcycle daredevils played chicken in Dutchess County, barreling directly at each other at 80 mph. Neither gave ground, so the contest ended in a draw: both died. Two Middletown drag racers crossed the finish line, then the jovial winner added a high-speed victory lap during which he ran down the flagman who was on crutches; he died and the victor faced a manslaughter charge.

Other speeders who wish they'd gone slower following their capture

by troopers include these: An impatient bus driver in Goshen who, based on a computer check, was found to be wanted in Virginia for murder. A sportsman who was barreling along the Taconic State Parkway because he was taking his fighting cocks to a training site, which led to a raid on a Columbia County farmhouse where illicit cock fights were staged. An Ithaca businessman, who turned out to be sought on felonies in Texas and Arkansas; he was en route to Catskill to address leading judges, law enforcement officials and politicians but his plea to let him deliver his speech didn't prevent a Task Force trooper from delivering him to jail as a fugitive.

Traffic arrests totaled 644,963, a notable rise from the 555,990 in 1977. Arrests for hazardous violations—those that can lead to an accident—numbered 459,342, compared to 405,765 the previous year. Non-hazardous arrests, which range from blown mufflers to no insurance, rose from 150,225 to 185,621.

Road checks mandated under the Vehicle and Traffic Law equaled the year, 1,978, which led to 28,184 arrests of which 640 were of a criminal nature. ■

SWIFT STORIES ABOUT FAST CARS

A Westchester County man doing 80 mph in a snowstorm argued that radar couldn't have clocked him accurately: "The snowflakes distort your radar field," he insisted vainly. Two occupants zipped by a patrol outside Buffalo, then slammed on the brakes and came out with their hands up: their muffler had blown, but they mistakenly thought pursuing troopers were shooting at them. It was a moment of déjà vu for a Central New York trooper who chased down a pedal pusher; the officer had traded in the zooming car a week before. A Thruway trooper probably set some sort of record when he collared an entire college fraternity in seven cars rushing home from an initiation ceremony.



A weighty problem is tackled by troopers on the first day new, electronic scales are introduced. The site of this demonstration session is an I-90 ramp near Albany. United Press-International photo by Joe Paeglow.

Scales

The scales of highway justice got bigger and faster as the old year expired. In December, the Division introduced truck drivers to the "Eldec" scale, a large, ramp-like unit which weighs the behemoths of the road in about 90 seconds, a fifth of the time required by previous systems.

The result: "Our goal is to weigh 100,000 vehicles by Sept. 30, 1979," projected Superintendent Connelie. That would triple the number weighed in 1977 when 9,758 arrests were made. In 1978, 10,704 were arrested.

The reason: "We intend to serve notice that overweight violations that damage our roads will not be tolerated," the Superintendent warned. Earlier in 1978, Secretary Brock Adams of the U.S. Department

of Transportation censured 16 states, including New York, for inadequate weight enforcement. The loss of \$340 million in federal highway project funds was averted through an agreement which calls for a stepped-up effort, funded in part by a federal grant for new weighing equipment, plus expanded state allocations.

With the introduction of the new, high-speed electronic weighing devices, the State Police Weighing Detail nearly doubled—40 troopers trained in the new equipment have joined 44 others who continue to monitor commercial traffic with portable hydraulic scales which are hand-placed under truck tires. The Eldec teams are blanketing main highways across the state, while the portable teams patrol side roads to apprehend vehicles attempting to avoid the large scales. ■



Two investigators and a Monroe County assistant DA inventory \$30,000 worth of pipes which a tow trucker stole after the transporting truck spilled its cargo on the Thruway; on learning the pipes were of special alloy used in Phantom jets, he buried them in a dump. Photo by Rochester Democrat & Chronicle.

The B. C. I.

A Spring tenement fire in Monticello, which turned out to be a murder-by-arson that claimed five lives, substantiated the investigative versatility of the State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation. Investigators had to scour the ruins to uncover evidence of criminal intent, to blanket a large area for 10 days in conducting interviews to ferret out a potential suspect, and then to employ sophisticated investigative techniques, including a polygraph examination, to elicit a confession. The arsonist, an unemployed printer, had started the conflagration after an all-night drinking bout.

This was one of 60 cases of murder/manslaughter to confront the BCI during 1978 and was among 41,756 cases to come to the attention of the detective arm of the State Police. Traditionally, State Police investigates more than one-quarter of all criminal cases occurring outside

cities, and the BCI undertakes the solution of the most serious ones:

Any compilation of nefarious crimes must be led by intentional homicide, and here is a sampling of a few others which the BCI solved:

- The murder of an Oneonta coed with the New Year's Day capture of the killer-rapist as he was about to inter the frozen body in a newly-dug grave; the development of an informant to whom the killer had given pertinent details proved crucial.

- The discovery of a badly-decomposed body with a bullet wound to the head alongside Route 81 in Jefferson County, the subsequent identification of the victim through fingerprints, and the ultimate capture of the revenge-minded killer as he attempted to walk around a State Police checkpoint as the net tightened.

- The senseless killing of a collegian as he stopped at a Painted

TWO INVESTIGATORS ARE SHOT

Many BCI investigations are fraught with danger and one, involving a hostage situation, led to serious injuries to two investigators. When a rural Albany County grandfather seized his wife and several grandchildren, his daughter called the sheriff for help. That in turn led to a request for assistance by Troop G hostage negotiators backed up by a BCI and uniform contingent. Investigators Bruce M. Arnold and Frank P. Connelly, who were attempting to negotiate with the man following release of the hostages, were felled by shots from his British Enfield rifle. Troopers stationed around the house quickly returned fire, killing the man. Both investigators at year's end were recuperating but face extensive medical care and rehabilitation.

Post bowling alley to fix a flat; six gruelling days spent sifting details, and on surveillance, led to the shotgun wielder whose only motive turned out to be a momentary whim.

- The beating death (ruptured spleen) of a two-year-old Dover Plains infant by the tot's father who became angry when phoned by the unwed mother that she was delayed at work; the BCI intervention turned what was nearly passed over as a demise by natural causes into a murder case.

- The 1961 disappearance of a gangland figure in Kerhonkson, concluded with the arrest of two of his three hitmen (the third was himself executed in underworld fashion); both were sentenced to life in jail.

In addition to solving murders, BCI investigators delve into a broad range of felonious misdeeds as evidenced by this random selection from among the 16,192 cases closed by arrest and 15,385 cases closed by investigation during the year:

When transformer oil containing PCB, a cancer-causing agent, was dumped along 270 miles of highway in North Carolina, the BCI was notified that trucks operated by a western New York firm were responsible. When five days later the company owner volunteered a confession to investigators, environmental officials from state and federal agencies, together with attorneys-general from two states, joined in the investigation. In New York, oil was ordered removed from two major storage areas and drinking water underwent testing. North Carolina indicted three company officials, and a federal detainer was filed, following their arrest by the BCI.



An investigator and Erie County assistant DA examine evidence seized in a gambling roundup of seven men to cap a five-month investigation. Buffalo Courier-Express photo by Joe Traver.

A Sullivan County girl was kidnaped and held for \$50,000 ransom. The BCI quickly entered the case and a series of calls between the abductors and parents was traced to a shopping mall 80 miles away. When the girl was released unharmed later, she divulged information that led investigators to a motel where she had been kept. Motel records and a check of a license plate led to a husband-wife team which had staged the kidnaping; the woman was taken into custody at her home, and her spouse was arrested at a Utah national park where he had fled.

Three flimflammers who passed themselves off as go-betweens in an extensive horse race fixing scheme bilked upstaters out of \$1 million in five years before they were caught by the State Organized Crime Task Force, staffed principally by BCI investigators. Part of the operation was to convince plungers to invest in races which were purportedly controlled by the trio. While most nags lost, the connivers tempted their victims to recoup by doubling up on the next "sure thing." While their ability to affect the outcome of races remains uncertain, one thing was sure: they didn't share their knowledge with their marks.

A young Wolcott girl was raped at home, and investigators were certain they had captured the assailant. But when the girl was emotionally unable to pick out the attacker from a lineup, investigators permitted her to undergo hypnosis; in that state she quickly made a selection from a photo melange. A State Police polygraph examination then determined the man was a liar, and he confessed to having conveniently found her asleep on a couch while he was burglarizing the house.



An investigator dusts a getaway car used in a \$9,000 bank robbery; the bandit was caught eight hours later as he boarded a plane. Middletown Times Herald-Record photo by Eli Reed.

A few days after a law went into effect on Sept. 1 whereby minors committing violent felony offenses are treated as adults, BCI investigators made two applicable arrests: a 14-year-old boy was seized for beating and attempting to rape an 82-year-old Pawling woman who answered his knock, then taking \$48 from her purse as she lay bleeding, and a 15-year-old foster child was caught after he shot and wounded a 13-year-old adopted son in the kitchen of their Albany County home.

A musician who was contacted by a young man in Malone seeking a gun with which to murder his mistress' husband instead notified the BCI. A series of prearranged meetings in which money was passed from the conniver to an investigator in the guise of a "hit man," coupled with numerous tape recordings of telephonic conversations, led to the moment of truth: the intended victim was told of the murder plot and agreed to help spring a trap. The wife, who stood to gain \$85,000 in life insurance payouts, reported

An investigator visits the baby he helped deliver in the parking lot of Ferndale station.



to State Police that her husband was missing moments after the "hit man" phoned her to report he had completed his assignment. The young accomplice was similarly fooled, and confessions followed.

An expert counterfeiter armed himself and his children with phony \$20 bills and they went on a shopping spree outside Buffalo. By the time one of the bills was identified by a postal worker, and a BCI investigator traced the paperhanger to a diner, he only had 12 worthless green papers left, all well concealed by a \$700 roll of legitimate bills.

To capture a conman who had fleeced a Sullivan County bank of \$5,000 on two consecutive days, an investigator staged a stake-out by posing as a loan officer. When the "customer" reappeared, a teller who

had cashed his bogus checks gave a prearranged signal and an arrest was made. He and his cohorts had pocketed \$500,000 in five states in a scheme involving the gaining of access to legitimate bank customers' account numbers and signatures, then cashing checks stolen in burglaries and purse snatchings using that information.

An Orange County machinist and his wife were robbed at gunpoint of his \$100,000 collection of antique clocks which were carted away by truck. Certain that experts were involved, the BCI staged a lengthy investigation which began to bear fruit when six months later an anonymous caller offered to return the clocks for \$50,000 and two months after that a Cleveland dealer purchased one clock listed as stolen in a specialized magazine. A year after the rob-

DEER HUNT FAILS AS MURDERER'S ALIBI

The stabbing death of a 73-year-old woman in her North Country home quickly led investigators to a 35-year-old divorcee who had become friendly with the victim's hospitalized husband. But she insisted she'd gone deer hunting the day of the murder, specifying the area and even a grocery store where she went for soda. But the proprietor didn't remember her, and recalled that heavy rains that day would have discouraged most hunters. That led to an accelerated probe in which discrepancies in the divorcee's statements and other evidence placed her in the house at the time of the murder. She was charged with the crime.

bery, an informant reported a pending burglary involving clocks—they turned out to be the stolen clocks which in turn were recovered and among those arrested for the original crime was the informant.

An apparently routine forged check case emanating in Montgomery County quickly stretched into Pennsylvania where the BCI, with Pennsylvania authorities, rounded up a gang of five robbers. The only one to elude the net was the check writer, who was later captured in Florida. In a phone conversation with an investigator, he confessed to his role in a knife-point business holdup that brought in \$1,700. He was extradited.

BCI investigators don't wear uniforms. They perform detective and 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:

GAMBLING: Simultaneous raids in New York City, Albany, and Schenectady by a State Police Gambling Unit broke up a \$50 million-a-year gambling network run by a major crime family. It took two days just to inventory records in what was classified as the biggest such raid in 25 years.

IDENTIFICATION BUREAU: After a Tioga County high school was vandalized with damage at \$25,000, a blood sample taken from a broken window, coupled with paint remnants, led ID investigators to the culprit.

AUTO THEFT: A sting opera-



Two investigators accompany a man who with a woman companion robbed and bound noted actor Hume Cronyn after feigning interest in purchasing his Westchester County estate. North Country News photo by Marney Rich.

tion in which owners sold luxury cars to criminals for resale and then reported them stolen for insurance purposes was broken by the Auto Theft Unit with 80 arrests after an undercover investigator made several purchases of "stolen cars" in western New York. ■

Drug Traffic

What appeared to be a gangland hit—a body with a bullet in the head weighted with concrete and thrown into the Hudson River—turned out to be the climax of a struggle between drug dealers who had been friends. Investigators identified the victim as a Montreal operative who had been arrested in the South and Midwest. Westchester County troopers had caught his ex-friend speeding a week earlier and had found a stolen revolver and a large quantity of drugs in his car. That indirectly led to the arrest of the speeder and two other dealers for the murder.

This brutal killing was one of 7,399 cases involving controlled substances to come to the attention of the State Police, an increase of 1,806 cases over 1977. A total of 5,666 persons were arrested, also a rise from the 5,111 arrests the previous year. The upswing in both statistics marked the first since 1973 when under a changed New York State drug law more stringent penalties were meted out for serious drug crimes. However, a 1977 law that decriminalized possession of small quantities of marijuana had the side effect of easing the guard of persons whose drug consumption went merely beyond unlawful limits to amounts constituting criminal offenses; that in part accounted for the 1978 arrest upsurge.

The largest drug bust of the year was credited to the NYC Drug Enforcement Task Force, in which State Police is a participating member. Involved was the seizure of 14,000 pounds of Colombian marijuana with a street value of \$4 million. Two of the more difficult ingredients to the roundup of five conspirators were the use of a \$1 million flash roll by undercover investigators at a Manhattan hotel and a blindfolded trip aboard a truck by one investigator which led to a Long Island estate where the grass cache was stored, all as part of a Task Force ruse of making a major purchase.

A FRENZIED ADDICT'S SPREE OF VIOLENCE

The devastating effects of taking certain illicit drugs was perhaps best illustrated by an incident near Fishkill where a crazed man tore through the metal roof of a camper with his bare hands, destroyed the interior, stabbed the owner, then took on several trooper patrols before being subdued. Taken to a hospital, he lapsed into a coma from his overdose.

Eighteen drug dealers circulating among the throng at an acid rock concert at Saratoga Performing Arts Center were fingered by Troop G undercover operatives in beards and filthy clothes, then taken into custody as they left the grounds.

A major Rochester-area ring with links to Hong Kong, India, and London was broken by the Troop E Narco Unit working with local and federal officers. After an undercover member developed information about a major hard-drug dealer, court-ordered eavesdropping devices and large morphine sulfate purchases by investigators led to the capture of the city's three largest dealers together with 10 others. Morphine with a street value of \$1.5 million was confiscated.

A series of Syracuse-Montreal drug transactions was disrupted by a joint effort including the Troop D Narco Unit, highlighted by warrant-authorized raids on two homes which netted six persons. Plastic bags of diethylpropion were found in the door panels of two vehicles.

An arrest for first degree sale of cocaine to an undercover Troop K investigator underscored the stringency of the 1973 drug law; both dealers, found guilty by a grand jury of importing the drug from Jamaica for sale in Westchester County, were given life sentences. ■



Superintendent Comelie prepares to swear in a class of recruit troopers at the Academy.

Personnel

The authorized law enforcement strength of the Division increased 53 positions from 3,444 to 3,497. At the end of 1978, the actual strength of law enforcement personnel stood at 3,320, with 177 positions vacant. In addition, 67 members were assigned to the federally-funded Highway Task Force and two commissioned officers were assigned to planning for security at the 1980 winter Olympics at Lake Placid. Following graduation of 148 recruits on Feb. 3, 167 new troopers were hired on Feb. 20, with 161 graduating on July 7. On Sept. 25, 140 probationary troopers reported for duty, with graduation scheduled for February 1979.

Two hundred seven members were promoted or designated during the year as follows: three staff inspectors, five majors, 11 captains, 13 lieutenants, one technical lieutenant, 27 senior investigators, 76 investigators, three first sergeants, 17 zone sergeants, 44 sergeants, and seven technical sergeants.

The attrition among law enforcement personnel totaled 187, including 87 service retirements, 14 State Police disability retirements, 12 accidental and State Police disability retirements, and one accidental disability retirement, 67 resignations, four deaths (three off duty, one on duty), and two dismissals. Four members were reinstated during the year. The attrition rate was 5.70

percent as compared to 5.19 percent in 1977.

Those who died were Zone Sergeant Gerald A. DeGroot of Troop D, a 22-year veteran who was struck by an allegedly drunk driver while heading home from duty at Watertown station; Tpr. Harry R. Gramstad of Troop C, a 22-year man, and Tpr. John S. Haldane of Troop D, a 12-year man, who both succumbed to apparent heart attacks; and Tpr. Richard M. Relyea of Troop B, a 20-year veteran who was struck by lightning during Army maneuvers.

Authorized civilian positions were increased in 1978 to 560 from 557. Sixty-five civilians were appointed during the year, 30 to permanent positions, 15 to temporary positions, and 20 to temporary part-time positions. Another 37 were hired under the provisions of the Comprehensive Employees Training Act and five CETA employees resigned. There were 37 resignations and six service retirements for a loss of 43 during the year. Seven civilians were granted maternity leave. Twenty civilians were promoted, six reinstated, and 35 reclassified during the year. The attrition rate for civilians was 8.59 percent as compared to 8.96 percent in 1977.

The overall attrition for all Division employees was 6.08 percent as compared to 5.70 percent in 1977.

During the year, 712 members and 31 civilians were injured on duty, an increase of 42 from 1977. ■



The State Police Summer Program for underprivileged boys is fully supported by community and service groups. Here a sponsor presents a contribution to Lt. Jerome L. O'Grady as one of the vacationing boys smiles approval.

Training

Two recruit classes graduated from 20 weeks of basic training in 1978, while a third class will be ready for field duty in February 1979, making a total of 429 new troopers who were processed at the Academy during the year.

Governor Carey addressed two packed-house commencement ceremonies at Albany's Convention Hall, in which he extolled the excellence of State Police training and lauded the organization for its outstanding performance on behalf of New York's citizens. Graduating on Feb. 3 were 148 probationary troopers, followed by 161 on July 7. In training at year's end were 120 recruits.

In addition, the Academy was the site for such varied programs as: four two-week training sessions presented by the Drug Enforcement Administration for 269 state and municipal law enforcement officers; 18 weeks of training for seven German

shepherds (see chapter on canines); three one-week sessions on arson investigation for 84 troopers and investigators, and emergency vehicle operators courses to sharpen driving safety skills of 398 troopers through crash avoidance and defensive driving.

For the third consecutive year, the Academy played host to 100 underprivileged boys 9-12 who in four one-week sessions in summer used the Academy as their home for an educational vacation. The State Police Summer Program (SPSP) was initiated by the Superintendent.

In all, outside agencies conducted 50 sessions during the year at the Academy and were represented by 1,832 participants.

Outside of the Academy complex, troop instructors provided 43,446 man-hours of field training, of which 23,815 were devoted to training of other police officers in cooperation with the Municipal Police Training Council. ■



A ceremonial cake-cutting marks the opening of the State Police Laboratory's first regional office at Newburgh. From left are Lt. Robert W. Horn, regional director; Robert K. Corliss, director of the Mid-Hudson Crime Control Planning Board; Superintendent Connelie, Capt. Stark Ferriss, SP Laboratory director; and Chief Harold Brilliant, chairman of the Mid-Hudson Board.

The Scientific Laboratory



A suspected burglar, picked up shortly after a residential break-in in Waterloo, said only that he'd struck a dog. In his car were a screwdriver with a broken tip and a stained jacket. Investigators sent the two pieces of evidence to the State Police Laboratory, together with some tulips that had been crushed near a cellar window and a tiny fragment of metal recovered

on a welcome mat next to a door covered with pry marks. Laboratory analysts required several weeks of difficult examination to determine that two matches existed: the metal chip was linked to the screwdriver, and the pollen from the tulips accounted for the stains on the jacket. That enabled investigators to cement their case against the intruder.

This case was one of 10,196 (excluding drug destruction cases) handled by the Laboratory, a sharp increase from the 9,080 cases logged in 1977. Many enabled the law enforcement community—including local



A chemist describes equipment at the Newburgh Regional Laboratory to Asst. Dep. Supt. Jerome J. McNulty and Dep. Supt. George L. Infante.

agencies which the Laboratory also serves—to conclude cases that might otherwise have remained unresolved.

While the heavier caseload served in part to reflect field investigative initiatives, another contributing factor—which promises to make an even larger imprint in the future—was the Fall opening of the Laboratory's first regional operation. A one-story brick structure at Stewart Airport, Newburgh, was opened Oct. 5 to serve the six-county Mid-Hudson region. Much of the initial funding for equipment, renovations and a staff of 10 was provided under a federal LEAA grant, supported by the Mid-Hudson Crime Control Planning Board. In its first three months of operation, the office attracted 485 cases.

Two areas of Laboratory concern which have registered upswings throughout recent years again climbed. Analyses of arsons spiraled by 74 to 303 and suicides rose by eight to 216. Tests based on drunk driving

arrests surged from 1,399 to 1,506, but fatal accidents declined by 31 to 292 and murders dropped from 94 to 80.

As it has nearly every year for more than a decade, the single statistic to dominate the Laboratory report was drug analysis. The swollen caseload of 4,401, comprising a rise of 656 over 1977, was brought about partially when the statutory decriminalization of marijuana brought on a proportionately larger influx of cases involving unlawful possession (less than 25 grams) than in prior years.

The Firearms Section noted a 12 percent increase in cases and a like rise in major crime categories such as murder and assault, and conducted 5,553 more examinations than in 1977. In one case, an empty shotgun shell found near the body of an auto parts dealer was microscopically matched with a misfired shell known to have been chambered in the suspected murderer's shotgun. The misfired unit was recovered in

a field 70 miles from the murder scene where it had been discarded by the weapon's previous owner a year before the slaying. Even though the killer had dismantled the gun after the killing, and police recovered only the barrel, that was enough for State Police firearms experts to cement the murder case.

The Documents Section lists 4,048 examinations for the year, an increase of 391 from 1977. One of these trapped a forger working in a sheriff's department, who cleverly submitted a series of bills under fictitious accounts which he paid to himself by way of cash and checks. The one mistake he made, which was discovered by the documents examiner, was that he reinserted checks in the typewriter after they had been signed by the sheriff; type faces did not line up properly, leading to his downfall.

The Serology Section listed 202 sex crimes among its 451 cases (about the same as the previous year). In one case, a fatal hit-and-run, metallic blue paint on a road sign led investigators to a suspected car. Serologists

then identified several hairs and a half-inch brown thread adhering to the undercarriage, resulting in a confession by the car's owner.

The Criminalistics Section cited an increase in arson cases for its rise in 87 work units for a 1978 total of 614. In one case, two vandals who ransacked a municipal building left behind several footprint impressions on pieces of paper thrown about that were so perfect that when two suspects were arrested, sneakers and shoes submitted for examination were immediately matched. The prints left behind were even better than test impressions made at the Laboratory.

The Toxicology Section, whose workload increased 203 units to 883, noted that its backlog on Dec. 31 was 256 units compared to the backlog a year earlier of 620 units.

About 40 percent of Laboratory cases originated from these areas: law enforcement departments other than State Police, state agencies, federal offices, and outside laboratories. Lab personnel testified at 145 trials in 1978. ■

AN ODD DEATH BY FIRE

A 70-year-old man was found burned to death on his kitchen floor. But only his body, a chair, and the floor beneath him had been consumed by flames. Laboratory analysts, handed the unusual case, first ruled out suicide or the presence of drugs and poisons by examining his blood and organ specimens. A negative carbon monoxide level in the blood indicated the oldster had died from fire, not inhalation of smoke. A blood alcohol test of .41 then enabled the medical examiner to rule death by accident by piecing together this string of events: the victim, who had been drinking heavily, staggered against a hot stove. His pajamas burst into flames, and as he fell to the floor, his fiery clothes set fire to a chair and the floor beneath him as he lay helpless. He died almost instantly, before he had a chance to inhale detectable monoxide.

Central Records

A new Division Headquarters Section known as Central Records was established during 1978. The new section, a consolidation of Pistol Permit, Accident Reports, and Soundex, was formed due to complexities of federal and state laws and regulations concerning criminal history information and dissemination, issues of privacy and security of records, and the requirements of various "Sunshine Laws." It was determined that the necessary administrative control over State Police records could be established only if the complete function were centralized.

Some of the more pertinent statistics concerning the record keeping functions of the Division are:

On Dec. 31, there were 674,395 pistol license applications on file, including 30,510 licenses issued during the year. The total record of firearms now on file is 3,433,337, which includes 213,634 new records filed during 1978. Pistol Permit responded to 4,515 inquiries concerning weapons and licensees during the year. During 1978, a total of 51,537 amendments to existing pistol licenses were issued by the various licensing officials and were received for filing.

During 1978, Soundex received 93,274 investigative reports and supplementals for filing. A total of 867 requests for verification of lost or stolen property were received and processed for various insurance companies. During each month, over 1,600 requests for information from authorized agencies concerning files kept by this section are processed with appropriate responses made. ■

PLANNERS EYE SECOND LABORATORY GRANT

The Planning and Research Section, which was instrumental in securing a \$250,000 federal grant funnelled through the Law Enforcement Assistance Association for the first State Police regional laboratory at Newburgh, which opened in 1978, was awaiting a word of another fund approval as 1979 dawned. The green light from Washington would signal establishment of a second regional crime lab to be located in Binghamton to serve the 10 counties of the Southern Tier; projected opening is late summer or early fall.

In November, planners dispatched a computerized version of the "Distribution of Personnel Report" throughout the Division, to be followed by bi-monthly updates resulting in substantial savings.

During the year, the Division and Department of Motor Vehicles entered into a joint federal grant program for a "Traffic Law Enforcement and Disposition Demonstration Project," involving a statewide traffic ticket program to be tested in the Troop E area in 1979-80.

The members manual revision team was looking toward completion of its task by Spring of 1979. ■

Aviation Unit

A big game hunter scaling a steep cliff of the Shawangunk Mountain range slipped and his rifle discharged, sending a bullet into his thigh which left him in shock and bleeding badly. It took other members of his hunting party an hour to reach a phone. State Police at Ellenville alerted the Aviation Unit at Stewart Airport and moments later a State Police helicopter was en route to the site.

Recognizing that an attempted land rescue over rough terrain would almost certainly prove fatal, the copter pilot opted for a dangerous evacuation while hovering over a rocky ledge. First he picked up a rescue squad member who was lowered onto the mountain where he performed first aid and prepared the victim for a risky transfer to the craft by strapping him securely to a stretcher.

With great care, the stretcher was elevated by rope to the copter and the injured Nimrod was on his way to a Kingston hospital, where a surgeon said the difficult rescue had saved his life.

This was but one of many



A State Police helicopter prepares to join in the search for a palsied 13 year old missing in woods outside Buffalo. He was spotted from aloft and rescued.

lifesaving maneuvers credited to the 11 pilots who respond to calls across the state from airports at Albany, Syracuse, and Newburgh, flying three Bell Jet Ranger copters, a Bell bubble helicopter, a Huey helicopter, and a fixed-wing Cessna.

Another flight over impenetrable Lewis County terrain led to the removal of a severely injured snowmobiler from a snow-blanketed, desolate area to an ambulance waiting nine miles away; the victim was placed in a plastic air bag for protection. In another instance where ground vehicles were frustrated, a copter pilot

A LOST PILOT GETS HIS BEARINGS

A dramatic rescue of a student pilot who was lost in clouds near Albany required the ingenuity of two copter pilots. First they managed to establish radio contact and to give directions on the use of navigational equipment. They then managed to find him through his vague description of the area. By flying in close proximity to the wandering craft, they then led it to a safe landing.



State Police aviators and scuba divers engage in a joint training session at Lake George. Photo by Inv. P. R. Knapik.

was able to snatch a badly hurt 17-year-old girl from the bottom of a 150-foot cliff in Rotterdam.

Two ice fishermen who fell through thin ice on Oneida Lake and could not be reached by would-be rescuers were saved from drowning by two helicopter pilots who effected a tricky tactic: while one pilot held the craft in place, the other aviator stood on the skid and used a rope in assisting the anglers to pull themselves into the copter.

A different example of missions of mercy flown by State Police pilots involved the transporting of a critically-ill patient from Ellis Hospital in Schenectady. Suffering from gas gangrene, the stricken woman had to be placed in a hyperbaric chamber to stabilize her condition, and the closest hospital with that equipment was Mt. Sinai in New York City. The patient and a medical team were flown to NYC's Central Park directly across from the hospital in 80 minutes. Another team wheeled her across the street for immediate treatment; doctors concurred she could not have survived an ambulance trip.

Missing persons are often located from the air. A motorboat was lost on Oneida Lake, and copter pilots quickly found the lone sailor; he was marooned on an island after the vessel had become inoperable. An 18-month-old Tivoli tot chose Mother's Day to

run away. After a lengthy ground search proved fruitless, a copter commenced a low-level scan and found the infant playing a mile from home.

Another type of missing person is the prison escapee. Two who fled and were tracked to a house near woods were kept at bay by a circling helicopter while ground forces recaptured them without incident.

Often, aviators become involved with criminal activity. With two troopers aboard as observers, a pilot followed a leased tractor from Buffalo to a residential area; when ground forces moved in, they arrested two men with a cargo of \$120,000 worth of stolen cocoa powder. Another pilot-ranger team located a harvested marijuana field from on high, leading to the seizure of 90 pounds of drying grass and the arrest of the two growers. One of three burglars managed to escape a dragnet and flee into woods. A copter flew overhead and by calling the thief's name and directing him to come out effected his capture, precluding a time-consuming land search.

A vehicle submerged in a river, which could not be located by divers, was pinpointed from aloft when the pilot reported sighting an oil slick. The swift current had carried the car with its deceased driver far downstream from where it had missed a curve and plunged into the water. ■



A sneaker that served as evidence in a rape case is held by two Troop G divers after its recovery in a Menards sewer. Photo by Tpr. L. E. Moyer.

Scuba Divers

One of the most difficult—and dirty—recoveries of the year from the state's waters was made by Troop G divers who felt their way through debris-laden slime to come up with a valuable find: a sneaker. The needle-in-a-mudstack find, made by groping in a sewer in zero visibility which precluded the use of underwater lights, secured evidence that corroborated a woman's story that a rapist had first removed her sneakers and tossed them into a storm drain.

A challenge of another sort faced Troop D divers who found a car on its side in the barge canal which rocked and threatened to roll over in strong current. By feel in near zero visibility, divers identified

a shoe, suitcase, clothing, broken glass, and twisted metal, and finally a body. The car was secured to shore with a line, the body was delicately removed through the driver's window, and the vehicle, which was a navigation hazard, was removed with extreme difficulty.

These are but two of many unusual cases to confront State Police underwater operatives who become detached from normal patrol duties when the occasion demands. All troops except the Thruway have teams of about six divers.

The Troop K scuba team, which in one nighttime dive in subzero weather recovered two drowning victims, gave one public diving demonstration which spectators won't forget



Troop B divers recover the bodies of a couple who went fishing in the St. Regis River and failed to return.

easily. During the show the drivers were whisked away to find a drowning victim 40 miles to the north. On their way back, they were detoured again, this time 80 miles to the south where they recovered three drowning victims.

Another diving team searched for three days to find the body of a woman who drowned in the St. Lawrence River after a hit-and-run speedboat struck her vessel broadside. Three others were rescued, and the culpable navigator was tracked down

and arrested for leaving the scene of an accident.

Stolen items that could incriminate thieves are frequently tossed into the state's waterways. Recoveries by scuba details often lead to arrests as occurred when Troop A divers checked the frigid waters of Conewago Creek in winter to come up with property tossed away by a team of burglars. In two other winter dives, the Mohawk River yielded stolen safes to Troop G divers. ■



A Troop F diver retrieves a stolen handgun from Cold Brook. It led to the arrest of two youths for a residential burglary. Port Jervis Union-Gazette photo by Bob Couture.



It's graduation day for seven German shepherds following 18 weeks of training.

Canine Corps

A New York City patrolman, vacationing in Tompkins County, became lost three miles from his cabin in freezing weather. He might have died of exposure if it hadn't been for "Big Boy Brummer," one of seven German shepherds who only the week before, on Nov. 10, had graduated from 18 weeks of State Police training.

The year-old pup, trained to sniff out explosives, protect VIPs, and track criminals and lost persons, led his handler directly to the benumbed

hiker who was rushed to a hospital.

The sheperds, all donated to State Police, are the first canines to be trained entirely by troopers. They join three original State Police shepherds who are bio-sensor dogs raised by the Army. Unlike the State Police bloodhounds that are kenneled at five troops, the shepherds live at home with their handlers whom they accompany on normal patrol duty; they are available for assignments throughout their troop areas and in emergencies anywhere in the

SHE THREW IN THE TROWEL

Bloodhound "Bonnie," a young hound on her first case, sniffed a mason's trowel used by a burglar to break a window. She started trailing behind the house, then with a wind shift reversed her tracks and went right up to a neighbor whom an investigator was interviewing. When Bonnie "identified" the neighbor as the thief by sitting directly in front of her and placing a paw on her leg, she immediately confessed and also admitted to several open arson cases.



Tpr. J. J. Curry, who has charge of the State Police shepherd program, places a badge around the neck of "Donner" as Dep. Supt. George L. Infante hands the diploma to the pup's handler. Photo by Bob Miazga.

state. (One of the SP-trained shepherds went to work for ENCON at Watertown; he was additionally trained to sniff out illegal venison.)

During 720 hours of training, the dogs learned obedience to hand and verbal commands, agility for climbing ladders and scaling walls, protection of their handlers and others, tracking with and without scents, locating every type of explosive known in the country, searching buildings and mountain rescues.



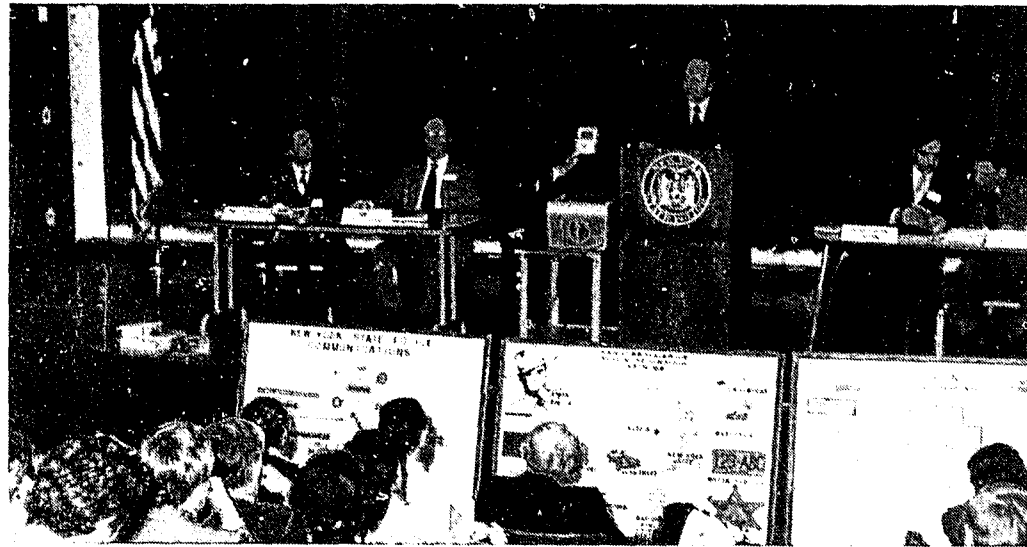
Bloodhound "Rustus," who during six years of service to Troop D conducted 192 searches, of which 88 were successful, and who was one of the main attractions at the SP exhibit at the State Fair the past five years, died July 8.

They will be on duty at the 1980 Olympic games at Lake Placid.

The bloodhounds, meanwhile, continued to demonstrate their uncanny knack of following scents. A Troop D sniffer was set on the trail of three culprits who split up and fled through woods after sideswiping a patrol car. He found one hiding under a log, continued the trail across a swamp and flushed out another behind a tree, then wended his way until he nosed out the third at the bottom of a ravine.

"Max" and "Dobie" of Troop A led their handler 10 miles from Steuben County Jail to an abandoned shack where an escaped felon was recaptured. And "Ike" of Troop B beat a trail from an abandoned stolen truck over farms and through residential areas to the home of the thief, who readily admitted his crime.

Bloodhounds are kenneled at Troops A, B, D, G, and K for use around the state. They participated in nearly 200 cases in 1978. ■



Dep. Supt. Warren B. Surdam presides at the annual NYSPIN Advisory Committee meeting at the SP Academy. On the rostrum are, from left, John B. Campbell, assistant director of SP Electronic Data Processing; Lt. Lorin Scott of Colonie PD, committee chairman; and Staff Sgt. Richard J. Martino of SP Communications Terminals Operations.

Speedy Data

An Onondaga County youth who fled to Pennsylvania to escape State Police scrutiny during several burglary investigations returned with a friend and went on a thieving spree in three communities. They also stole a car which they wrecked, then after narrowly escaping a police department, stole a second car and didn't stop till they reached Michigan. However, an entry into the NYSPIN system alerted midwest authorities, and after a chase the pair was captured carrying six weapons. One youth ended up in a hospital when he dove out of a courthouse window trying to escape, but in time both were extradited to New York.

The bulletin which led to their arrest was carried over the State Police-operated statewide computerized teletype network that links more than 643 law enforcement terminals within New York with ties to national

memory banks in Washington and Phoenix. The national hookup enabled Michigan State Police to be aware of the fleeing culprits.

The NYSPIN system, which processed over 96 million transmissions during 1978 (a daily average of 263,000), stores and disseminates such 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.

A breakdown of NYSPIN traffic shows a daily average of 19,529 stolen property inquiries, 16,180 National Crime Information Center inquiries, 25,284 Department of Motor Vehicle license and registration inquiries, and 7,901 Department of Criminal Justice Services wanted and missing persons inquiries.

* * *

SP has completed the law enforcement mobile radio implementation of all land mobile vehicular mounted transceivers to the new five-channel standard in nine troops. The statewide distribution of 1,680 vehicles possess the capability to transmit on the basic four SP station-to-car and car-to-car channels, and a fifth channel identified as the inter-

agency law enforcement operations channel permits direct communications with other law enforcement agencies similarly equipped. SP has been designated the control agency to enable a statewide radio system capable of providing an available emergency channel to more than 10,000 police vehicles to address mutual law enforcement services. ■

Manhattan's Anniversary

A convict serving 25 years to life for the slaying of a parole officer sawed through his cell bars and climbed out of Ossining Correctional Facility using knotted bed sheets. He was soon reported seen around his former hangouts in Brooklyn, and the State Police investigators at Manhattan set up roving surveillance. Two weeks later he was spotted, but managed to escape after a shootout in an abandoned apartment house.

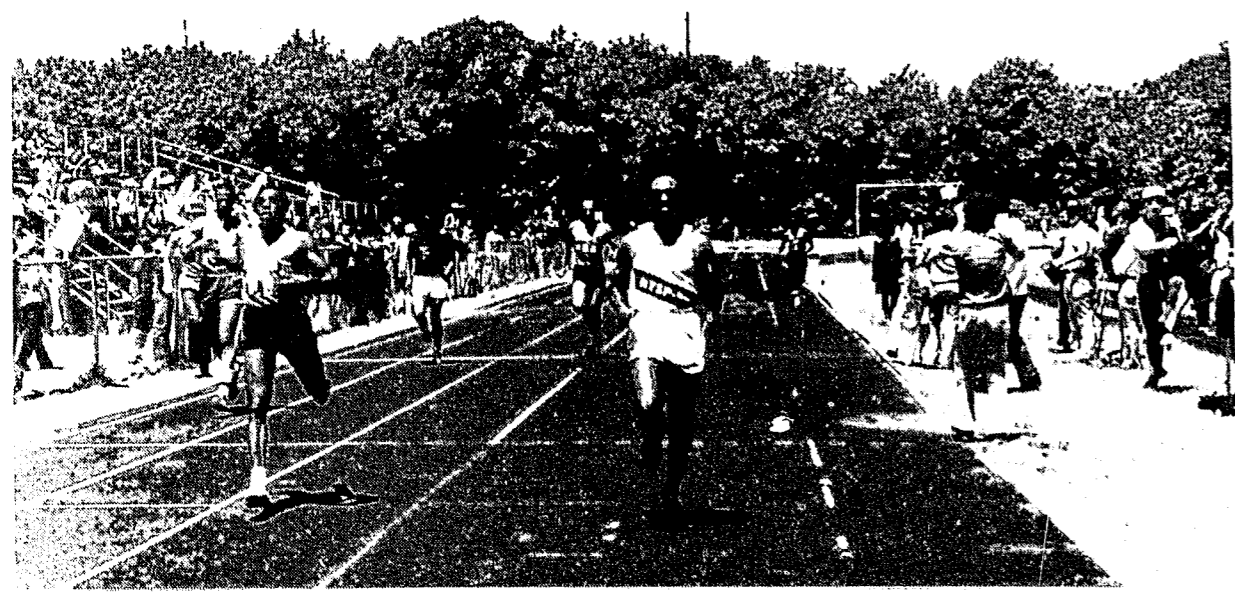
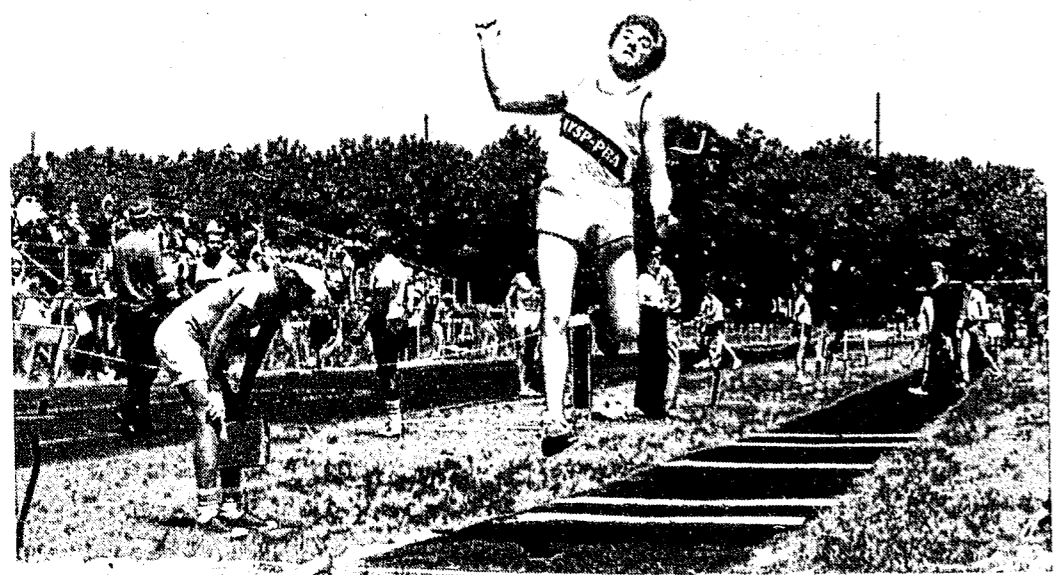
Five days afterwards he was seen again at a housing project, and a large force of State and New York City police surrounded the structure hoping to snare the killer who had vowed he would not be taken alive. First, all tenants were notified by phone to lock their apartments and stay inside. Electricity serving elevators was cut and stairways were sealed off. Officers entered the building and on sighting the escapee ordered him to freeze. Instead he drew his revolver and ran down an "L"-shaped corridor. When he came to a dead end, he stormed toward the detail; he managed to squeeze off two rounds before he was killed by a shotgun blast.

This was perhaps the most

dramatic of 142 felony arrests to confront the State Police's New York City-based office, which in 1978 celebrated its 25th anniversary. SP Manhattan, as it is referred to within the organization, has been a tenant on the 58th floor of the World Trade Center the past four years; previously it operated from a Broadway address.

The detachment is led by a captain and consists of 27 BCI men, six troopers, and seven clerical workers. In addition, during 1978 two investigators were added to the Attorney General's office at the World Trade Center raising the SP contingent there to five.

The varied work at SP Manhattan ranges from the serving of warrants and conducting background investigations of prospective troopers and potential high-echelon governmental appointees to difficult criminal cases such as the one involving the escaped killer. Liaison with the many law enforcement agencies—federal, state, and local—centered in New York City frequently leads to significant joint undertakings, such as a raid which netted 10,000 pounds of pure Colombian marijuana salable at over \$4 million and an assault on a gambling network on Superbowl Sunday which shredded a \$200 million operation. ■



Superintendent Connelie presents a trophy to the winning team at the annual Division Open Golf Tourney, from left, T/Sgt. Charles Mataraza, T/Lt. Dick Thomas, T/Sgt. Tom Griffith, and Insp. Joseph Gillespie.

Athletics

With the focus on three Olympics and a new police marathon, State Police flexed its athletic muscles during 1978.

In April, ground was broken for a \$3.8 million State Police facility at Ray Brook, Essex County, to serve as a security and public safety structure for the 1980 winter Olympics at Lake Placid.

State Police is charged with coordinating state and federal security arrangements to assure a safe Olympics, and the 49,000 square-foot building will be the nerve center. Following the Olympics, the structure will be converted for use as the new headquarters of Troop B, serving the counties of Franklin, Clinton, Essex, St. Lawrence, and the northern portion of Hamilton.

At the end of June, the largest delegation ever to represent State Police at the annual Police Olympics,

Three State Police gold medalists are seen in action at the state's Police Olympics on Long Island: Trooper William P. Grandell, swimming; Investigator Michael G. O'Rourke, decathlon, and Trooper Carl L. Summerlin, 220-yard dash. Photos by Trooper Charles E. Stuart.



Captain Robert B. Leffler, a State Police marathoner, completes the first Police Chase at Newburgh. Photo by Newburgh Evening News.

held on Long Island, came away with an astonishing 64 medals. Twenty of the medalists then participated in the International Police Olympics in San Diego in August, capturing 16 medals in competition with 2,000 law enforcement officers from four countries.

In November, two troopers—Jim Kelly and Len Bauer—organized the first annual New York State Police Chase, a 10,000-meter event at Stewart Airport. A total of 216 officers representing state and local departments from six northeastern states competed.

For the second year, Superintendent Connelie hosted a Division Open Golf Tournament at Colonie Golf Course.



The Brummer Award, the highest State Police honor for bravery, is presented by Superintendent Connelie to, from left, Sgt. Thomas J. Ward, and Tprs. Michael J. Clark, Donald J. Boyea, Scott C. Saunders, Louis J. Lang, and William H. Bender.

Awards Day

The highest State Police award for bravery—the Brummer Award—was shared by six uniform members who participated in actions involving an accident in which a woman was rescued from a burning car, a fire in which 30 persons were saved, and a shooting in which a trooper's restraint nearly cost his life.

In the highlight of a series of presentations at the second annual Awards Day at the Academy June 7, the six shared \$3,000, representing income from a trust fund established in 1968 by the late Bertram F. Brunmer and his wife, Susie.

The winners:

Tprs. Louis J. Lang and Scott C. Saunders, who extricated a woman from a flaming, smoke-enveloped car on the Thruway.

Sgt. Thomas J. Ward and Tprs. Michael J. Clark and Donald J. Boyea, who led 30 occupants of a flaming Malone apartment building to safety.

Tpr. William H. Bender, who in intervening in a landlord-tenant dispute in Fishkill was wounded by a shotgun blast when he refrained from using his service revolver for fear of striking bystanders.

Eleven members received Superintendent's Commendations Awards, chosen from among Superintendent's commendations for outstanding performance during 1977. Among them was Tpr. Richard F. Soluske, who also received the annual Fathers and Sons Alumni Award for dragging two unconscious men from a burning apartment house. The others were: Invs. George P. Rebhan and Michael G. O'Rourke, T/Sgt. Anthony P. Peters, Sgt. Brian S. O'Connor, and Tprs. Robert P. Metcalf, James Dolan, William J. Mante, Gerald J. Long, Gordon E. Cole, and Albert E. Doney Jr.

Recipients of the George M. Searle Memorial Award for contributions to training went to Sgts. George G. Loper and Robert Buchholz and T/Sgt. Henry M. Michelin. ■



A woman climbs out of her hospital bed to thank Brummer Award winner Tpr. Scott C. Saunders, who with another trooper pulled her from her burning car.

Court Case

The Division of State Police was involved in a trial before Chief Judge James T. Foley, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York, during 1978. The key issues in this litigation revolve around allegations by the U.S. Department of Justice that Division hiring practices, past and present, are discriminatory against minorities and females. A decision from the District Court is expected early in 1979.

Division efforts to expand minority members representation date to the late 1960s with greatly increased activity from 1972 to the present time. This increased activity stemmed from internal realization that minorities appeared underrepresented and that the role of women in the State Police must be researched. Additional impetus came from community interest and amended provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Late 1972 saw the first minority recruitment effort begin. This project and accompanying publicity drew the greatest number of persons ever applying for the State Police to that time, including the first female applicants. During the period 1973 to 1975, the first female members were sworn in and minority representation was increased.

During this same period, the Division contracted with the U.S. Civil Service Commission to conduct a professional analysis of the trooper position. This analysis project was intended to:

1. Define selection criteria or standards.
2. Develop a competitive candidate evaluation process which was psychologically sound and would meet applicable federal guidelines.

3. Eliminate standards on testing procedures which had non-job related adverse impact on minorities or females.

Candidate evaluation was begun in September 1975, using the results of this analysis. Recruitment prior to that time resulted in over 23,000 persons participating in the critical evaluation stage, a written examination. When the evaluation process was completed, an eligible list of over 3,700 candidates was established. Despite the effort involved and expenditures of over \$1.2 million, disappointingly small numbers of females and minorities placed high enough to be offered appointments in the traditional manner.

Appointments numbering 225 were made from this list during the first nine months of 1977. The Justice Department moved before Judge Foley, in September of that year, to have the Division restrained from further hiring, alleging that State Police hiring practices were discriminatory. An order enjoining the State Police from further hiring without Court approval was issued by Judge Foley, after arguments, on Oct. 25, 1977. The trial of this action brought by the Justice Department was held during June and July 1978.

Hiring under control of the Court took place in 1978, with two classes of recruit troopers being trained. The modification orders which permitted this hiring substantially increased minority and female representation by mandating appointment of predetermined numbers from these groups.

Minority representation as of Dec. 31, 1978 was: 33 black males, 22 white and two black females, 27 Hispanics, and eight other minorities. ■

LAW ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS
CALENDAR YEAR 1978

Miles Traveled	<u>53,845,100*</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>\$ 176,966.</u>
Value of Property Recovered	<u>\$ 1,359,550.</u>
Value of Stolen Cars Recovered	<u>\$ 3,465,955.</u>
Fines Remitted to Treasury by Courts	<u>\$ 10,213,664.</u>
Sale of Unserviceable Vehicles by Office of General Services	<u>\$ 294,447.</u>

*Includes Thruway Mileage of 7,199,004

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	146	55	61		19.
Arson	155	57	24	56	92.
Assaults & Reckless Endangerment-Fel.	640	295	116	60	71.
Assaults & Reckless Endangerment-Misd.	1759	550	593	155	54.
Burglary (Include attempts & burglar's tools)	5355	2091	553	1913	87.
Criminal Trespass (Buildings only)	1315	661	352	136	65.
Children (Except sex offenses)	105	152	131	75	64.
Criminal Mischief	2012	671	172	510	72.
Criminal Tampering	79	46	6	2	89.
Dangerous Drug Laws	5666	3705	1591	225	71.
Disorderly Conduct and Harassment (Except Physical Contact, Attempts & Threats)	2573	1326	519	52	63.
Firearms and Weapons (Crimes)	1012	536	272	66	69.
Forgery and Counterfeiting-State Laws	501	110	161	11	75.
Frauds and Cheats; Bad Checks	2576	1567	751	20	65.
Gambling	223	123	65		61.
Harassment (Physical Contact, Attempts & Threats)	1504	633	560	61	55.
Homicide (Criminal Negligence)	21	17	5	1	75.
Homicide (Murder and Manslaughter)	60	13	13	1	78.
Larceny (Except Grand Larceny 1st, Embezzlement and Motor Vehicles)	5781	2158	1393	967	71.
Larceny (Motor Vehicle)	897	411	192	257	75.
Loitering	92	63	35	3	65.
Menacing	252	79	101	29	51.
Prostitution Offenses	20	11	2		55.
Public Intoxication	1	1	5		17.
Rape	116	61	17	5	61.
Robbery	293	123	12	25	75.
Sex Offenses (Except offenses listed on Prostitution & Rape lines herein - includes Patronizing)	426	215	121	33	67.
Stolen Property	1582	655	136	169	65.
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	6914	3103	1265	659	75.
Total	12595	20091	10256	5605	71.
Vehicle and Traffic Arrests	611963	501311	72759		57.
Total - All Arrests	657861	521105	83075	5605	58.

*Conviction and dismissal columns include persons arrested in previous years. Percent convicted is based on cases processed in court in 1978.

Persons referred to Family Court (Column 4) are treated as convictions in computing the conviction rate.

CRIMINAL OFFENSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1978

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		False or Unfounded		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	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
Aggravated Harassment		51		2389		51		732		1592		38
Agriculture and Markets Law		2		271		33		84		156		
Alcoholic Beverage Control Law	1	6	3	436	1	18	2	198	1	190		6
Animals (Crimes Only)		7	1	591		163	1	99		329		7
Arson	159		591		168		168		209		205	
Assaults	77	5	1082	947	51	90	917	619	77	235		11
Bail Jumping	22	15	39	17			38	41	5	7	18	14
Bribery		2	21	30	1		17	28	2	3	4	1
Burglary	1710		21011		7561		5573		10511		5133	
Coercion			9	13			6	12	2		1	1
Conservation Law			1	3371		186	1	1281		1901		3
Conspiracy	2		70	111			60	113	1	1	2	
Controlled Substance	66	11	1115	5983	55	157	925	5633	71	179	133	25
Criminal Mischief	270	161	1109	13177	26	761	387	2272	621	10194	342	114
Criminal Nuisance				72		4		29				39
Criminal Trespass		11	2	9702		1081	2	2009		6616		7
Criminal Usury			3	6		2	3	3		1		
Custodial Interference	2	4	9	156		55	7	55	1	77	3	3
Dangerous Weapons	10	12	580	931	33	45	521	777	14	102	19	19
Disorderly Conduct		31		15119		788		2948		11400		14
Education Law				11		1		3		6		1
Election Law	1		3	7				1	3	6	1	
Embezzlement	9	1	116	19	3	2	97	41	5	7	20	
Escapes and Absconding	161	31	231	415	6	10	255	172	9	247	125	20
Extortion	5		26		1		16		8		9	
False Report		11	6	532		17	4	339	2	180		10
False Written Statement			11	95		1	11	91		3		
Family Court Act		36		6113		119		1592		4726		52
Federal Offenses	2		395	169	13	11	345	98	34	57	8	
Fireworks		2		715		26		327		361		
Forgery and Counterfeiting	352	12	2611	147	79	9	2137	116	353	29	121	5
Fraud	93	455	151	7271	27	147	381	5599	18	1705	115	275
Gambling	6		247	490	3	5	224	469	20	11	6	5

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		False or Unfounded		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	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
General Business Law		11		81		5		52		24		11
Hindering Prosecution			10	26			10	23		3		
Homicide:												
Murder	91		67		6		51		1		97	
Manslaughter	1		10		3		7				1	
Criminal Negligence:												
Auto	32		312		211		62		20		48	
Other			7		3		2		1		1	
Kidnapping	5		41		22		16		5		3	
Labor Law		5	5	56	3	3	1	33	1	20		5
Larceny - Theft	1119	350	3651	15113	211	1355	923	5059	2369	5755	1267	291
Loitering				153		22		53		348		
Mental Hygiene Law		39	1	1535		60	1	1132		660		22
Motor Vehicle Theft	107	11	1205	1175	266	262	335	306	024	622	51	32
Navigation Law				12				23		19		
Obscenity and Indecent Material	7		1	32		3		26	1	3	7	
Obstructing Governmental Administration			3	311			3	307		7		
Offenses Against Family		17	19	1440	7	110	7	713	3	625	2	9
Offenses Against Public Order				233		15		74		143		1
Ordinances				133		1		51		75		
Parks and Recreation Law				119		2		86		32		
Parole and Probation Violations	10	13	163	360		2	117	355	9	10	17	6
Perjury			55	1			57	3		1	1	
Possession of Burglar Tools				122				121		1		
Prison Contraband (Promoting)	1	7	53	116	1	9	71	355	6	29	6	30
Prostitution and Vice		3	7	55	1	5	5	51	1	5		
Public Drug Intoxication				53		2		12		39		
Public Health Law	1	1	1	291		20	3	176	1	102	1	
Rape - Forceful	31		121		37		72		18		28	
Rape - Attempts	3		31		11		11		7		5	
Real Property Law				1		1		2		1		
Robbery	105		515		168		254		138		180	
Sex Offenses	39	32	559	597	52	30	462	462	42	108	42	29
Simple Assault		31		5305		117		3722		4163		37

Offenses	Pending at Beginning of Period		Known or Reported		False or Unfounded		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	Felonies	Misd. and lesser offenses
Stolen Property	71	17	990	955	52	33	888	876	65	50	76	13
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle		23		1271		210		655		402		30
Unlawful Imprisonment	5	4	50	78	0	21	37	45	4	12	5	4
All Others (Not Listed)	20	8	615	4523	189	316	364	918	57	3286	25	11
TOTAL	7755	1492	41745	107860	9352	6758	16188	41524	15379	59908	8581	1162
VIOLATIONS HANDLED BY NYSP - REPORTED BY OTHER AGENCIES			11	96	1		4	60	6	36		
TOTAL - ALL VIOLATIONS	7755	1492	41756	107956	9353	6758	16192	41584	15385	59944	8581	1162

NONCRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1978*

Classification of Investigations	Pending Beginning of Period	Matters Reported	False or Unfounded	Converted to Criminal Case	Closed by Investigation	Pending End of Period
Accidents:						
Airplane	1	84	33	1	50	1
Hunting	2	75	1	2	71	3
Navigation	1	32	3	3	26	1
Train		36			36	
Miscellaneous	24	1255	15	45	1205	14
Animals (No Crime Involved)	5	8124	52	1	8076	
Applicants (Division Only)	144	344			470	18
Death, Natural	7	876	12	2	853	16
Drowning	2	66	7		58	3
Firearms and Weapons (No Crime Involved)	15	209	4	1	203	16
Fires, Floods, Other Disasters	4	897	73	2	823	3
Lost and Missing Persons	31	4847	167	34	4644	33
Property - Lost and Found	42	3788	68	8	3706	48
Suicide (Include Attempts)	7	668	87	6	571	11
All Other	103	27233	552	18	26691	75
Total*	388	48534	1074	123	47483	242

*Vehicle and Traffic Data Reported Separately

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION SUMMARY, CRIMINAL AND NONCRIMINAL*
CALENDAR YEAR 1978

Type of Activity	Pending at Beginning of Period	Known Reported or Received	False or Unfounded	Cleared by Arrest	Closed by Investigation	Converted to Criminal Case	Pending at End of Period
Criminal Violations	9247	149712	16111	57776	75329		9743
Noncriminal Investigations	388	48534	1074		47483	123	242
Investigations For Other Agencies**		3358			3358		
TOTAL ACTIVITY	9635	201604	17185	57776	126170	123	9985

*Vehicle and Traffic Felonies and Misdemeanors reported separately

**Includes both Criminal and Noncriminal Matters

SUMMARY - UNITS OF WORK

Criminal Cases Reported	149712
Vehicle and Traffic Cases	644963
Noncriminal Investigations	48534
Vehicle and Traffic Investigations	60605
Investigations For Other Agencies	3358
Total Units of Work	907172

VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT DATA

Hazardous Violation Arrests		
Violation	Number of Arrests	Percent of All Hazardous Arrests
Alcoholic Beverages	1889	0.4
Backed Unsafely	1528	0.3
DWAI Drugs - Misd.	107	0.0
DWAI Drugs - Fel.	4	0.0
DWI - Misd.	12085	2.6
DWI - Fel.	328	0.1
Drove Median Strip	1313	0.3
Motorcycle Equipment Infraction	1403	0.3
Motor Vehicle Equipment Infraction	9237	2.0
Equipment - Misd.	297	0.1
Fail To Comply	636	0.1
Fail To Dim Lights	740	0.2
Fail To Keep Right	5937	1.3
Fail To/Improper Signal	1408	0.3
Fail To Stop/Railroad	81	0.0
Failed To Yield Right Of Way	4846	1.1
Following Too Close	2285	0.5
Highway Law	55	0.0
Hitchhiking	1625	0.4
Illegal Turns	3135	0.7
Improper Lane Usage	2717	0.6
Improper Passing	7133	1.6
Inadequate Brakes - Misd.	33	0.0
Insecure Load - Misd.	142	0.0
Insufficient Lights	22111	4.8
No Red Flag - Lights	260	0.1
Obstructed Vision	1592	0.3
One-Way Traffic	545	0.1
Parking Infraction	4677	1.0
Pass Red Light	4850	1.1
Pass School Bus	424	0.1
Pass Stop Sign	5632	1.2
Pedestrian Infraction	52	0.0
Reckless Driving - Misd.	1036	0.2
Speeding Infraction	323801	70.5
Speeding/Conditions	4275	0.9
Speeding - Misd.	13	0.0
Unsafe Tires	26650	5.8
Other Hazardous Infractions	4364	1.0
Other Hazardous/Bicycle	78	0.0
Other Hazardous/MC	18	0.0
Total Hazardous Violations	459342	100.0

Nonhazardous Violation Arrests		
Violation	Number of Arrests	Percent of All Non-hazardous Arrests
Emergency Lighting Infraction	773	0.4
Inadequate Signal Equipment	8340	3.4
Insurance/Misd.	20807	11.2
Left Scene Accident Infraction	1556	0.8
Left Scene Accident/Misd.	252	0.1
License Infraction	21373	11.5
License/Misd.	161	0.1
Littering	2335	1.3
Muffler Infraction	9562	5.2
Excess Noise	5	0.0
License Suspended - Revoked/Misd.	8287	4.5
Registration Suspended - Revoked/Misd.	56	0.0
Oversize Vehicle	1814	1.0
Overweight Infraction	10704	5.9
No Permit Size Weight	43	0.0
Registration Infraction	31284	16.9
Registration I Limit Use Vehicle	23	0.0
Registration/Misd.	37	0.0
Registration/Fel.	3	0.0
Excess Smoke	358	0.2
Vehicle Inspection Infraction	52605	28.3
Vehicle Inspection/Misd.	25	0.0
Repair Shop V - ation	5	0.0
Other Nonhazardous	137	0.1
Other Nonhazardous/Misd.	17	0.0
Local Laws - Ordinance	306	0.2
East Hudson Parkway Authority Rules/Regs.	649	0.3
Public Health Law/Misd.	10	0.0
Transportation Law	6875	3.7
Thruway Rules/Regulations	2225	1.2
Thruway Toll Violation	439	0.2
Thruway Drive Flat Tire	5	0.0
Thruway Unsafe Vehicle	12	0.0
Thruway Towing Violation	20	0.0
Thruway Damage Property	43	0.0
Thruway Prohibit Intoxication	214	0.1
Truck Mileage Tax Law	6261	3.4
Total Nonhazardous Violations	185621	100.0
Total Traffic Arrests	644963	

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
228808	644963	504311	*72789	29347	267324	87%

*This includes 9754 dismissals - Notice of Correction - Lights - which accounts for 13% of dismissals

Accident Analysis				
Year	Total Accidents	Fatal Accidents	Personal Injury Accidents	Property Damage Accidents
1977	49009	454	16586	31969
1978	49422	492	16712	32218

Speeding Arrests							
Year	Total Speed	Radar	Percent of Total Speed	Computer	Percent of Total Speed	Patrol	Percent of Total Speed
1977	299169	254729	85.1	1090	0.4	43350	14.5
1978	328089	285250	87.0	118	0.0	42721	13.0

(Speeding represented 51% of all V&T arrests in 1978)

Intoxicated Driver Violations								
Year	Total DWI Arrests	Total Chemical Tests			Total Refusals	Convictions DWI	Convictions DWAI	Convictions Lesser Charge
		Breath	Blood	Urine				
1977	10840	9196	570		1226	4088	4329	2633
1978	12413	9784	622		1462	4284	5219	2454

Conviction columns include persons arrested in previous years.

Accident Causes					
Principal Causes of Accidents	Fatal	Personal Injury	Property Damage	Total	Percent of Total
- HUMAN -					
Alcohol Involvement	119	2355	2379	4853	9.82
Backing Unsafely	4	156	1927	2087	4.22
Driver Inattention	15	989	1680	2684	5.43
Driver Inexperienced	10	441	495	946	1.91
Drugs (Illegal)	1	9	8	18	0.04
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	23	1651	2703	4377	8.85
Fell Asleep	33	579	555	1167	2.36
Following Too Close	2	1036	1621	2659	5.38
Illness	4	41	17	62	0.13
Lost Consciousness	2	59	25	86	0.17
Passenger Distraction		65	69	134	0.27
Passing/Lane Usage Improper	63	1301	2646	4010	8.11
Pedestrian Error/Confusion	41	530	23	594	1.20
Physical Disability		10	12	22	0.04
Prescription Medication		12	9	21	0.04
Traffic Control Device	10	291	316	617	1.25
Turning Improperly	4	298	803	1105	2.24
Unsafe Speed	120	3675	5399	9194	18.62
Other Human Causes	27	928	2152	3107	6.30
Total Human	478	14426	22839	37743	76.38

Principal Causes of Accidents	Fatal	Personal Injury	Property Damage	Total	Percent of Total
- VEHICULAR -					
Accelerator Defective		45	36	81	0.16
Brakes Defective	2	147	267	416	0.84
Headlight Defective		5	7	12	0.02
Other Lighting Defects		13	55	68	0.14
Oversize Vehicle		3	59	62	0.13
Steer Failure	1	116	123	240	0.49
Tire Failure/Inadequate	1	256	496	753	1.52
Tow Hitch Defective	1	8	79	88	0.18
Windshield Inadequate			6	6	0.01
Other Vehicular Causes	2	256	805	1063	2.15
Total Vehicular	7	849	1933	2789	5.64

Principal Causes of Accidents	Fatal	Personal Injury	Property Damage	Total	Percent of Total
- ENVIRONMENTAL -					
Animal's Action	1	533	5266	5800	11.73
Glare		43	67	110	0.22
Lane Marking Improper/Inadequate		3	12	15	0.03
Obstruction/Debris	1	112	485	598	1.21
Pavement Defective		33	52	85	0.17
Pavement Slippery	3	521	1151	1675	3.39
Shoulders Defective/Improper		12	31	43	0.09
Traffic Control Device Improper/Nonworking		8	7	15	0.03
View Obstructed/Limited	1	100	219	320	0.65
Other Environmental Causes	1	72	156	229	0.46
Total Environmental	7	1437	7446	8890	17.98
Total Causes	492	16712	32218	49422	100.00

Accident Arrests		
Principal Causes of Accidents	Accident Arrests for This Violation	Percent of Total
Speed/Too Fast for Conditions	3790	12.1
Failed to Keep Right	3377	10.8
Failed to Yield R.O.W.	3191	10.2
Following Too Close	1565	5.0
Improper Passing	1647	5.2
Backing Unsafely	803	2.6
Had Been Drinking	3339	10.6
Improper Turning	737	2.3
Unsafe Equipment	430	1.4
Unsafe Tires	1271	4.0
Improper Parking - Stopping	293	0.9
Pedestrian Violations	25	0.1
Reckless Driving	427	1.4
Passed Stop Sign	418	1.3
Defective Brakes	23	0.1
Failed to Signal	88	0.3
Lights - Improper Use - Defective	160	0.5
Passed Red Light	300	1.0
Driving While Impaired (Drugs)	27	0.1
Other Hazardous Violations	176	0.7
Nonhazardous Violations	9293	29.4
Total	31380	100.0

Road Check Statistics

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

Total Checkpoints Held 1978

Road Check Arrests:

V&T	27544
Criminal	640
Total	28184

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY -- VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC

TYPE OF INVESTIGATION	NUMBER CONDUCTED
Dept. of Transportation (re traffic signals, speed zones, other controls)	2267
Suspension & Revocation Orders for Department of Motor Vehicles	8424
Fatal Accident Scene Review	492
Total Investigations	11183

END