

Baltimore Police Newsletters

Baltimore City Night Patrol

Volume 1 Number 1

March 28, 1966

To

Volume 1 Number 12

May 20, 1966

Missing Volume 1, Number 11

After this the New for the Baltimore City Police Department Newsletters came out.

BALTIMORE CITY

NIGHT



PATROL

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

To the Members of this Department:

I firmly believe that if a man understands the reasons for performing a task, it will be performed intelligently and with enthusiasm.

I also believe that if a man is afforded the opportunity to ask questions or to express his opinions, he will do so and in this way contribute immeasurably to the over-all efficiency of this Department.

A man that possesses a knowledge of all that our Department offers him would do his utmost to encourage others to join him, just as I encourage you to express yourself. For this reason, I have created this news sheet which will be published by the Personnel Office.

This paper will be published weekly. Its purpose will be to keep the members of this Department well informed. A suggestion box will be placed in each District, Division and Bureau for the purpose of receiving your suggestions and comments. Such comments should be legible and concise and need not be signed.

I feel it is fitting that the first publication be dedicated to the RECRUITMENT OF PERSONNEL. The Department has 308 vacancies at the present time and it is incumbent upon all of us to extend our effort in the area of recruitment. Every member of the Department is urged to contribute whatever talents he may possess to assist in this effort.

At present, we need men with public speaking, creative writing, and selling, or public contact experience. If you do not possess any of these talents, you can still help the Department by faithfully delivering recruitment materials you are given and assist us in developing a positive attitude toward recruiting new personnel. In your daily contacts, look for promising young men. REMEMBER, THE MORE MEN WE HAVE . . .

The fewer number of posts you work.

Leave schedules will be more stable.

The more help you will have in case of an emergency.

Add to this the fact that you get five (5) days leave for each applicant who is appointed and successfully completes his training course (up to 8 days leave).

Are you willing to help?

HOW ABOUT IT! WHAT KIND OF DEPARTMENT DO YOU WANT?

BALTIMORE CITY

NIGHT



PATROL

The Career Opportunities Exposition at the Civic Center, which ended on April 1, 1966, was an overwhelming success according to Jack Winer, the Co-Chairman of the Junior Association of Commerce.

The response was so great that it became necessary to discontinue showing the film "Every Hour...Every Day", and devote full attention to answering inquiries posed by the visitors.

The Night Patrol would like to thank all of you who came to the Civic Center and stopped at our display. Your comments were appreciated. Many favorable comments were also made by the visitors pertaining to the conduct and attitude of the men visiting the display, as well as those working there. Our thanks again for helping us enhance Police Public Relations.

SUGGESTION BOX

Suggestion boxes have been made available in all Districts and Bureaus for the purpose of receiving your suggestions. However, our response to date has been disappointingly light considering the number of personnel in the Department.

The primary purpose of the Night Patrol is to give the men of this Department the opportunity to make suggestions which they feel will add to the over-all effectiveness of the Department. The only restriction placed on a suggestion is that it be clear, concise and as brief as possible.

SUGGESTIONS NEED NOT BE SIGNED

These suggestions will be categorized by topic for use in subsequent issues of the Night Patrol. Upon obtaining a sufficient number of suggestions pertaining to one subject, an issue of the Night Patrol will be devoted to that subject with a reply when possible.

The next issue of the Night Patrol will be devoted to Uniforms. Since you wear these uniforms, General Gelston, Acting Police Commissioner, especially desires to have your opinion concerning uniform design. This has been a topic of discussion among many of you for sometime. Please give us your opinion Today.

Remember! General Gelston instituted this paper for you.

The Night Patrol is your paper, Support it today for a better Department tomorrow.

BALTIMORE CITY

NIGHT



PATROL

A Message From The Commissioner

To Members of the Department:

In accordance with my policy that the members of this Department be informed of events that affect them departmentally, I have ordered that a series of articles explaining the pertinent points of the Omnibus Police Bill be printed in simplified language to facilitate a better understanding of its contents.

The Night Patrol will delay printing the issue dealing with uniforms until such time as House Bill 674 (Omnibus Police Bill) is covered fully.

OMNIBUS POLICE BILL (House Bill 674)

General

- . The Baltimore City Police Department will be continued as a State agency.
- . The Governor will maintain the right of appointment.
- . The Attorney General will act as the Departmental legal advisor.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The Civil Service Commission will continue as the examining authority for the Baltimore City Police Department.

The Commission will consult with a National Police Agency - designated by the Police Commissioner - prior to preparing examinations. Upon successful completion of an examination a graded list open to the public will be compiled ranging from High Score to Low Score by the Commission. This list does not continue for more than one year, unless the Civil Service Commission requests that the Police Commissioner make this list effective for an additional year; but in no instance will this list continue for more than two years. (A request of this type is usually made because of an administrative burden that would prevent new testing.) The original test papers and other material are not open to public inspection and can be reviewed only by the Police Commissioner or his representative and the person who took the test. A name can only be removed from the eligibility list under these conditions:

Promotional Examinations

Non Availability

Applications for Appointment

Misstatement of a material fact

Commission of a Crime

Non Availability

Promotions and Appointments must be made by using the Rule of Five.

NEXT WEEK: RULE OF FIVE EXPLAINED

BALTIMORE CITY

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Members of some units have inquired about the delivery of new suggestion boxes which were ordered two weeks ago. These boxes have now been completed. However, a little more time will be required for delivery and installation to all districts and divisions.

In this edition we will discuss two important suggestions received.

PATROL

SUGGESTIONS

SUGGESTION: "Now that the standards for eye examinations have been lowered, the officers who had been denied drivers' permits should be called in to have their eyes re-examined. This will help the department to obtain more drivers."

ANSWER: Dr. John W. Ashworth has announced that the standards for eye examinations HAVE NOT BEEN LOWERED - THE STANDARDS REMAIN THE SAME

The only change made is that Doctors assigned to the Medical Bureau will examine eyes of members -- not police officers.

DR. ASHWORTH OUTLINES THE EYE EXAMINATION STANDARDS WHICH WERE SET IN 1955:

20/20 each eye - with or without correction -- 85% Depth Perception
Free of any muscle imbalance
150° field of vision on perimeter -- 75° right eye -- 75° left eye

Sergeant George Pattinson, Jr., of the Motorized Safety Division has made a survey which reveals the following:

In 1954 the Accident Frequency Ratio was 6.00 per 100,000 miles driven.

Intersection accidents accounted for 79.8% of the total.

In 1965 the Accident Frequency Ratio was 2.09 per 100,000 miles driven.

Intersection accidents accounted for 33% of the total.

SUGGESTION: "In our department we are required to pay for our own shirts, which we wear with our uniforms while on duty and with civilian clothes while off duty. I suggest that the department furnish us with uniform shirts, which is the practice in many cities today.

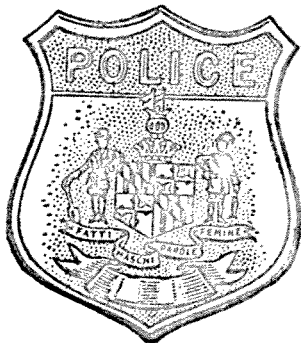
ANSWER: It is true that the wearing of name badges causes some damage to shirts. This matter is being considered by the Acting Police Commissioner and The Chief Inspector. All members will be kept apprised of action taken and progress made.

CONTINUE TO USE YOUR SUGGESTION BOXES

BALTIMORE CITY

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Delivery of the new suggestion boxes have been made to most of the districts and divisions. Your response to General Gelston's request for you to make suggestions has been tremendous, and eventually all suggestions will be published.

Every effort will be made to publish the suggestions chronologically, and we assure you that no suggestion will be overlooked.

PATROL

SUGGESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SUGGESTION: I believe every man on the force has recognized General Gelston's desire to create better morale. I offer the following suggestion, which I am sure will make everybody happy.

"Presently, we have so many different pension plans for our men which are conflicting, and it seems that some members are the recipients of greater benefits than others. We have:

1. A 16 year plan
2. A 20 year plan
3. A 25 year plan
4. A 30 year plan
5. A 32½ year plan

"As the top administrative official of our department, will the Police Commissioner consider writing an order causing everyone to have the same pension plan? Also: if he could make it 16 years for everybody, there would be no recruitment problem."

ANSWER: The Police Commissioner of Baltimore City has many powers, and in many instances he has the right to act in his discretion. However, the various pension plans, which we have in the department, were brought about from time to time through the legislature by persons authorized to make the laws. It is not within the realm of the Police Commissioner's jurisdiction to create or to change pension plans.

However, upon learning of the numerous pension plan arrangements existing within our department, General Gelston expressed a sincere desire to strive toward having more uniformity, and he has ordered that your recommendation be submitted to the Bureau of Planning and Research for further study and subsequent consideration by the lawmakers.

SUGGESTION: I am a Southern District officer, and I cannot find a suggestion box in the Southern District. There is none.

ANSWER: A new suggestion box has been delivered to your Commanding Officer, and it is now available for your use.

THE SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED THUS FAR HAVE BEEN INFORMATIVE, AND WE ENCOURAGE YOUR CONTINUED USE OF THE SUGGESTION BOXES.

NIGHT

EDITOR'S NOTE



Major General George M. Gelston has made it emphatically clear that suggestions received from members of the department will be considered in future planning. Those of you who have made suggestions, which have not yet been published, are requested to bear in mind that progress is being made through your participation and patience on your part will contribute greatly to the success of the Police Commissioner's program.

PATROL

SOME SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED

SUGGESTION: I would like to submit a suggestion that optional leave days be regulated so that every member of the department receives an equal share of Saturdays and Sundays. Some members are disgusted with this problem and we have been skeptical about voicing our opinion. Many of us are married and would like to have the privilege of spending these weekends with our families.

ANSWER: General Gelston is presently working with representatives of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and top ranking Police Officials to coordinate procedures within the department, which will ultimately eliminate any possibility of favoritism to members of the department; and he will not tolerate anything less than uniformity for all members.

SUGGESTION: When members of the department perform heroic services and receive rewards, the department automatically deducts 25% to be put in the special fund. I suggest that we be allowed to keep the entire reward without any deductions.

ANSWER: Recently, this matter was discussed at great length by the Acting Police Commissioner and the Chief Inspector. Subsequently, on May 12th, 1966, the following order was issued by the Acting Police Commissioner concerning awards, rewards, etc. received by members of the department:

"Effective immediately, members of the department will be allowed to receive 100% of such awards, but no award, reward, etc. shall be accepted without permission of the Police Commissioner pursuant to Section 30, Rule 1, part 1 of the Rules and Regulations of the Police Department."

"The procedure now in effect, as to the disposition of these funds, will remain the same."

SUGGESTION: It is suggested that the water fountain on the fifth floor, communications, be repaired. While it does dispense water, the cooling mechanism does not work and with the advent of warm weather coming, it would be appreciated if it were to be repaired.

ANSWER: This matter has been brought to the attention of Captain Gordon H. Daugherty, who has taken the necessary steps to have the water fountain repaired or replaced.

BALTIMORE CITY

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EDITOR'S NOTE

General Gelston especially desires to have all members of the department made aware of the fact that he has not forgotten his promise to personally visit all of the various districts and divisions. When it is possible for him to do so, the General will visit your unit.

PATROL

SOME SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED

SUGGESTION: Many years ago, police officers were issued paperback books giving the locations of all call boxes in the city. I suggest that consideration be given to printing such a book for all members of the department.

ANSWER: The telephone, signal box pamphlet, to which you refer, was printed in 1925. Your suggestion has been forwarded to the Bureau of Planning and Research for further study.

SUGGESTION: I suggest that each district be supplied with photographs of known burglars, holdup men, narcotics peddlers and other convicted criminals. District men would be better prepared to cope with potential criminals.

ANSWER: Your suggestion has merit and it has been forwarded to the Planning and Research Bureau for further study.

SUGGESTION: I suggest that additional police cadets be hired for office duties at the station houses. This would be helpful.

ANSWER: Your suggestion will be considered.

SUGGESTION: I suggest that when members of the department lose their nameplates, that the station house fund be used to replace same.

ANSWER: The answer to your proposal is left to the discretion of each individual station house fund representative. You should take this matter up with your own district committee.

SUGGESTION: I would like to see a permanent log book in all radio and post cars, listing in chronological order all calls and times out of service. This would help us, upon returning from a day or two off, to know what happened on our post. This book should be of the permanent type and should be made of durable material.

ANSWER: Your recommendation will be forwarded to the Bureau of Planning and Research.

CONTINUE TO USE THE SUGGESTION BOXES

BALTIMORE CITY

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Since the creation of the Night Patrol as the means to publicize your suggestions, seventy-six suggestions have been submitted concerning new uniforms for members of the department. General Gelston has ordered that all of the recommendations received, concerning uniforms, be forwarded to the Uniform Committee for their information. This has been done.

PATROL

SOME SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED

SUGGESTION: I recommend that each member of the department be given two assigned days each week instead of one, and that the present method of allowing members to take optional days be discontinued. My wife and my side partner's wife both have kept records of the number of Sundays each of us has been on leave. Last year, my side partner received seven Sundays more than me. Now, my wife is nagging me, and I suggest that all members be treated the same.

ANSWER: Your suggestion will be forwarded to the Bureau of Planning and Research for future reference and study.

SUGGESTION: We had been advised that we would receive additional days off for bringing in new recruits to the department. I produced one, who is now a member of the department and I have not yet been compensated with additional leave days. I suggest that these days be given to me.

ANSWER: Since you have not as yet identified yourself, it is recommended that you submit a form 95 report to your Commanding Officer, who will be more than happy to make the necessary arrangements, through the Chief Inspector's office, for you to be compensated.

SUGGESTION: I suggest that a new Manual of Procedure be issued to each member of the department to keep us up-to-date on procedures.

ANSWER: The department is presently undergoing a complete reorganization and your Planning and Research Bureau representatives are cognizant of the need for a new Manual of Procedure. When the time is appropriate, new manuals will be available for all members.

SUGGESTION: I suggest that each district station, as well as each division, have a reference library containing books and informative writings on criminology and police procedures.

ANSWER: Your suggestion has been forwarded to the Bureau of Planning and Research.