

BLUE LINE

Canada's National Law Enforcement Magazine

December 2005



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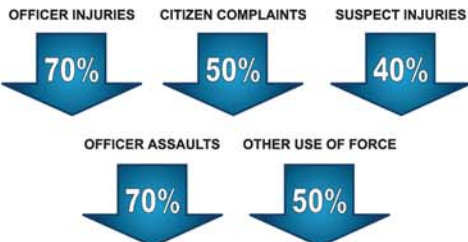


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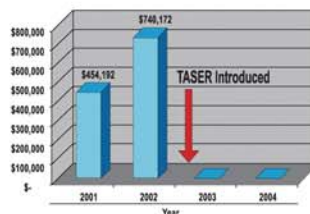
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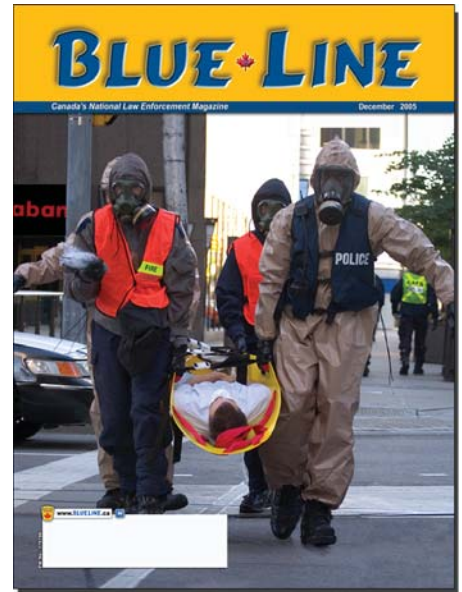
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"Practice makes perfect!"

This well known slogan has a very poignant meaning in the response to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism. Acronomically known as "CBRN", it has become a well known phrase to emergency service personnel around the world. It is a form of response which relies heavily on specialised training and equipment as well as co-ordinated effort. The only manner in which co-ordination can be assured with any level of competency is to practice using mock exercises such as was held in September, in downtown Toronto. This month our cover feature is entitled *Refining the Response* and is started by a feature filed by freelance journalist and EMS worker, **Simon Martin**. *Blue Line Magazine* researcher and staff writer **Kathryn Lymburner**, completes the feature with an overview of what you need to know about CBRN.

Ever wonder what it's like behind the scenes of a movie set and how the actors know what to do with firearms? On page 10 *Blue Line* columnist and feature writer **Dave Brown** introduces you to how he teaches movie stars in gun safety on the set.

On the same theme of firearms we have a feature, written by **Greg Anderson**, **Mike Trump** and **Darryl Plecas**, which challenges the validity of Canadian police firearms training. The *Back of the Book* column, by **Antoon Leenaars**, addresses the issue of breaking the regional violence subculture which all too often ends with firearms abuse.

This month you will find articles by staff writer **Ryan Siegmund** on inter-agency borderless enforcement and **Mark Giles** on specialized support supplied by Canada's Military Police.

A special insight article on page 32 is presented by **Jim Clark** on policing in China. Jim's brief encounter with Chinese policing styles shows a distinct attitudinal contrast to western style policing.

There is much more to tell you about in this last issue for the year of *Blue Line Magazine*, but we here at "magazine central" feel it is more important to wish you all a very *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*.



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WE SAVE LIVES



by Morley Lymburner

If one offers money to a government to influence it, that is corruption – but if someone received money for services rendered afterward, that is a commission.



ice and the communities it serves. The Gomery report makes it quite clear that several senior RCMP members were pleased to receive a lot of money on behalf of the force. The report presents no evidence whatsoever that these people made any personal gains from the money transacted, but in the murky world of politics and crime, it is difficult at times to know when black and white turns to shades of gray.

These are the sage words of Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi in an interview from the mid '80s. In light of the Gomery Inquiry, this can be viewed as clear thinking.

Gomery's preliminary results have been released and the media has ground out meatloaf sized stories to feed the public. With each steamy morsel, people seem to become more enraged and frustrated. Take the RCMP for example; although some members could be viewed as rather unsophisticated, the force comes out looking more like victims or pawns. Closer inspection of the report, however, increases the likelihood RCMP management will be viewed negatively.

There are some nagging portions that should invoke a little discomfort and cause the RCMP ethics people to take a serious look. I am, of course, referring to item 8.5 of the report, which details the granting of \$3 million to the RCMP for its 125th Anniversary celebrations in 1998. A senior Mountie approached Chuck Guité, director of the sponsorship program within Public Works and Government Services Canada, in 1997. The Gomery report advises this visit was evidently successful, as it was announced the RCMP in Quebec would receive \$500,000.

Gomery clearly indicates that, on a second visit by RCMP members, a further \$3 million was earmarked for these celebrations. It is made clear at this point that the force was to receive \$3 million but about \$1.3 million was skimmed off by the ad agency who wrote the cheque.

The Gomery Inquiry asked RCMP senior management some direct questions, such as how buying a few horses and trailers would help to unify Canada. Other revelations included that the only stipulation for receiving the money was that the Canadian flag had to be shown on all vehicles and other prominent locations — as a federal agency, the Mounties are required by statute to do this anyway.

More pointed questions were not asked, such as how a police agency, trained and entrusted to identify criminal activity and organized crime, would not be suspicious when an ad agency is paid so handsomely for simply writing a cheque.

Given the side glances of Gomery toward a police agency's appearance of naivety, it is strikingly obvious to me that the RCMP should not be the sole agency to investigate these matters. In fact, after due consultation with its ethics department, I would hope the RCMP would invite a joint forces criminal investigation into the matter.

There are no shortage of precedents. Agencies do not hesitate to call in the RCMP and other departments to investigate irregularities that could be viewed as a conflict of interest. The Toronto Police Service announced in April 2004, for example, that numerous charges were laid against its own drug squad officers after a lengthy RCMP investigation.

Likewise in July 2000, the Cape Breton Regional Police called in the Ontario Provincial Police to investigate a death in its cell blocks. The RCMP has a long history of investigating internal matters on behalf of other police departments and on this occasion, it should ask other agencies to assist in this investigation.

In the end it amounts to sustaining credibility and confidence within the police serv-

Ice as to where criminal responsibility lies, can we say beyond all doubt that any portion of \$1.3 million could not influence any of its members? Can we be confident that there would be no conspiracy theorists or political opposition members in the country who would not complain about the propriety of such an investigation?

I think it is in the best interests of the public and the RCMP to have a joint forces investigation into the findings of the Gomery Report by the time of its final release in two months.

I will close with another sage remark, this one from US mafia boss Joe Gallo.

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REFINING THE RESPONSE

A mock subway chemical attack tests Toronto's first responders



by Simon Martin

At 08:30hrs on September 18, 2005, an explosion rocked the St. Andrew's Subway Station in downtown Toronto.

Minutes later, the survivors, assisted by transit security personnel, began to emerge at street level. Aside from the blast effects of the explosion, many were covered in a white powder and had respiratory complaints.

Calls immediately went out for emergency assistance, beginning Toronto's latest test of its emergency preparedness and the capabilities of its joint Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Team.

A short time after the simulated explosion, three CBRN responders – a firefighter, paramedic and police officer, clad in protective attire – cautiously approached the scene from their team's staging point, just a block away. As they moved closer, they continuously took readings, with hand-held metres, of airborne toxins and contaminants. Each carried out their assigned roles, assessing the scene and patients and speaking with witnesses to try to ascertain what had occurred and the response that would be required.

The ambulatory patients were moved to a decontamination area that had been set up and more CBRN team members went into the subway station. They began removing the non-ambulatory patients, assessing the damage and attempting to make the area safe. Police members conducted a forensic investigation of the scene to determine the cause and origin of the explosion.

While the casualty count was quite low in this simulated incident, several transit security staff were among the victims and it is likely that, had this incident been real, more first responders would have been injured or killed before they recognized the nature of the incident.

As things were winding down, a second explosion was reported in the Toronto Dominion Bank Centre, adjacent to the staging area,

and a bomb threat in another adjoining building. While a few undetonated improvised explosive devices were found, the one simulated device that did explode was reported to have released a quantity of hydrogen cyanide gas that injured more inside the tower. While it was being evacuated and the victims treated and decontaminated, police arrested someone whom they believed was trying to use a radio to detonate one of the other devices.

This exercise truly tested the city's ability to respond to such incidents. Toronto Mayor David Miller oversaw the exercise in the emergency operations centre (EOC), as he would had the incident been real. EMS operations contacted surrounding ambulance services to ask if they could service calls in areas left vacant, as city ambulances moved in to transport patients from the explosion.

The EMS destination co-ordinator determined which hospitals could take patients and how many and what acuity they could manage. Canadian Blood Services was contacted to see how much blood they could supply. The Toronto Transit Commission provided buses to move ambulatory patients and Toronto EMS sent in their multi-patient and emergency support units.

All Toronto emergency services now use a common radio system that allows seamless communication between services, especially in circumstances such as this. It's used extensively by the CBRN team, which was developed to provide a coordinated response to criminal acts involving such materials.

The Toronto Police Service handles explosive disposal and supplies special weapons and forensic identification skills. In addition

to its technical response, the service has trained and equipped uniformed officers to perform policing duties in contaminated environments. The service is ready to deploy appropriate, specially equipped tactical response officers to mitigate an armed terrorist encounter involving CBRN weapons.

Toronto Fire Service's hazardous materials/CBRN technicians' responsibilities include intervention, containment and mitigation of CBRN agents. The service's technical on-site expertise helps in the handling of hazardous material and/or CBRN agents and firefighters rescue and extract the injured within contaminated areas and decontaminate affected persons, response team members and equipment.

Toronto EMS provides CBRN trained paramedics who are trained to assess the impact of the incident on the health care system and provide emergency medical treatment while wearing personal protective equipment in a contaminated environment. In addition to providing medical support to other members of the team, CBRN paramedics and EMS also manage casualties both inside and outside the contaminated area.

Other agencies, such as Toronto Public Health, are integral to the off-site operation of the joint team, providing CBRN support by directing physicians and pharmaceuticals and arranging analysis of CBRN agents.

Simon Martin has been involved in EMS in Ontario for more than six years. An advanced care paramedic with York Region EMS before embarking on a career with air ambulance, he worked in various locations in Northern Ontario before returning to Toronto. He is currently a flight paramedic on 'Bandage 1' in Toronto with Canadian Helicopters EMS Division. In his spare time, Martin, who can be reached at simon-martin@sympatico.ca, works as a freelance photojournalist.

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What you need to know about CBRN

by Kathryn Lymburner

In the last few years the acronym CBRN has been used frequently by governments, TV shows, maybe even your co-workers. So what is it and what is all the fuss about?

CBRN means chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear and refers specifically to any device containing these agents which is meant to harm a society. These agents include sarin, mustard and tear gas, anthrax, uranium radiation and nuclear bombs. Radiological and nuclear agents are considered to be similar and are treated under the same heading by many.

Emergency preparedness needs to be the most concerned with chemical and biological agents, which are the cheapest to make. Recipes are easily found on the Internet.

The Chemical Weapons Convention defines chemical agents as "any chemical which, through its chemical effect on life processes, can cause death, temporary incapacitation or permanent harm to humans or animals," including tear gas, chlorine gas and tabun.

There are seven sub-categories of chemical weapons within this category, the most commonly used being nerve and blister gases. Three categories haven't been used militarily since World War I, another was mostly used in Vietnam and it's rumoured that only one chemical agent in the final category — 'incapacitating' — was developed for military applications and production was discontinued shortly after it began.

Nerve chemical agents cause irreversible reactions which results in continual stimulation of the body's nervous system and even-



Simon Martin

tual death. Agents include sarin (most notably used by the Japanese religious cult Aum Shinrikyo in the March, 1995 Tokyo subway attacks), soman and tabun.

Blister agents affect the lungs and eyes and produce skin blistering. Mustard gas and ether are among the noteworthy toxins in this sub-category.

Biological agents are the scariest members of the CBRN acronym. They are capable of causing more fatalities than a nuclear explosive device, are the cheapest and quickest to make and are given the dubious distinction of being the "poor man's atomic bomb." Their use in warfare is prohibited by an international treaty, Biological and Toxin Weapons Conven-

tion, 1975, but a few states still research and produce these.

Like chemical agents, biologicals are divided into sub-categories: viruses, bacteria, rickettsiae (typhus) and toxins. Viruses such as Venezuelan equine encephalitis (VEE) were weaponized and then scrapped by the U.S. in the 1950s and '60s. VEE is generally mosquito borne and found naturally in horses, mules and donkeys but can be deployed in aerosol form.

The bacteria sub-category includes anthrax, brucellosis (transmitted by contaminated food or sprayed) and plague. Anthrax was at the centre of the mail scare in the United States post-September 11th and is considered the bio-agent of choice in this category. Brucellosis was first weaponized in 1955 when the United States produced cluster bombs laced with it; production was stopped in November 1969.

Toxins are biologically produced poisonous chemicals such as botulin, animal venoms and ricin. The latter was used in London, England in 1978 in the death of Bulgarian writer/journalist Georgi Markov, who was attacked by a man wielding an umbrella. The umbrella point was rigged to inject the ricin under Markov's skin.

Ricin is naturally found in the castor bean and the waste produced in making castor oil. Although not contagious, it only takes an amount the size of a pin head to kill an adult and there are no antidotes - medical journals suggest avoiding exposure as the only solution.

Because of incubation periods, biological attacks are difficult to defend against and would only become apparent between 24 hours to six weeks after the event, while toxins would be apparent immediately. Any country with a moderately sophisticated pharmaceutical industry can produce bio-terror devices but explosives with these agents are harder to make since they have unpredictable results.

Radiological and nuclear agents are the most



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regulated of the four groupings. Of 140 radioisotopes used worldwide in medical applications, 60 per cent are licensed in Canada for medical uses. The more frequently a radioisotope is used in this industry, the more highly it is regulated and access to many of these are granted to only a few specialized medical personnel.

It is possible to buy radiological and nuclear agents on the world market but it requires a lot of money and numerous connections to avoid detection by any one of several regulatory boards.

The majority of CBRNs were dispersed internationally with the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union. Both countries produced and stockpiled large amounts of CBRNs and there aren't any concrete numbers as to how much was made, but it can be guessed that their respective arsenals were vast.

Control over CBRNs, which previously lay with Moscow, has shifted to the individual former Soviet states. Areas such as Afghanistan, Bosnia, Macedonia and Georgia faced power struggles, split allegiances and failing economies; as a result, many former Soviet soldiers took to selling off stockpiles to whomsoever was willing to pay. Any terrorist group with even modest financial means could obtain arms for their cause.

Unfortunately, deterrence does not provide adequate protection from CBRN attacks because often there are no return addresses to retaliate against. Only protection and planning measures and co-operation between intelligence, customs and police agencies will allow for effective co-ordinated responses in the event of a CBRN attack.

To do their jobs without becoming casualties, first responders must have access to protective equipment that meets their particular needs, combining functionality with sufficient protection.

Military efforts have resulted in a new generation of CB protective clothing to address potential use of these agents in regional conflicts. Much of this knowledge is useful for domestic terrorism response.

Currently, first responders have limited guidance in selecting and using existing protective equipment for CB threats. Much of the equipment is designed for other uses, with a wide range of cost, protective ability and user burden imposed as a result. First responders need assistance in appropriately selecting and operating existing off-the-shelf equipment in order to meet their immediate needs and should have access to information on equipment under development.

Guidance will be provided by a project team led by the Chemical Protection Group at the Royal Military College of Canada. Defence Research and Development Canada, Health Canada and experts in the US and UK will provide additional expertise in toxic chemicals and biologicals and develop methods for evaluating and predicting how well protective equipment performs, combining user testing with modelling of equipment performance and potential toxic effects to the wearer.

3M Canada and DuPont Canada, industry leaders in developing and manufacturing pro-

TECTIVE materials and equipment, will lend their expertise in developing standards and improving protective equipment.

First responders will provide input on operational requirements, assist in evaluating equipment and disseminate information to colleagues, with the aid of the RCMP, Office of Critical Infrastructure Preparedness and Emergency Preparedness and various regional and military organizations.

Results of this program will be used to develop recommendations, specifications and standards for new equipment designs. Improved respiratory, blast and body protection from chemical hazards are also anticipated over the next few years.

For further information about CBRN you may contact Dr. Eva Gudgin Dickson 613 541-6000 x6217 or go to the [Police Resources](http://www.PoliceResources.ca) section of www.BlueLine.ca and go to [Emergency Services](http://www.EmergencyServices.ca).

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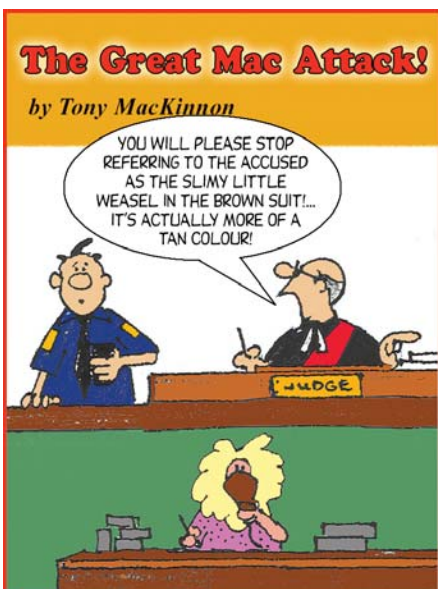
Aum Shinrikyo (Supreme Truth), founded in 1986, is the Japanese religious cult that killed a dozen people and injured 5,000 more in a sarin gas attack on several Tokyo subway lines on March 20, 1995. The group was well-financed by over 10,000 Japanese members and 100,000 overseas members.

The founder, Asahara Shoku -- his assumed name -- taught that Armageddon would happen any day and the only way to escape this destruction was to give up all modern conveniences and personal ties with corrupt modern society. Members were encouraged to abuse each other so that "bad karma" could be removed by enduring suffering.

The sarin gas was developed and produced by cult-maintained front companies and laboratories staffed by skilled technicians and scientists. Smaller scale tests done on a prominent Japanese lawyer and his family and three judges -- enemies of the cult -- proved very effective. Evidence uncovered later showed, according to some sources, that the group was testing a nuclear weapon at property it owned in the Australian outback.

At the time of the subway attacks, Aum Shinrikyo was an official registered religion with the Japanese government. By the end of 1995, there was a push for the group to be disbanded under Japan's Anti-subversive Activities Law, but this did not occur. Aum Shinrikyo remains intact but not as active; there are roughly 500 full-time members and it's speculated to be in a rebuilding phase. Asahara was handed a death sentence in February, 2004 but has launched an appeal.

Although not the largest act of terrorism, this was the first time chemical weapons were used in a large scale urban terrorist act.



YES! ... IT IS A GUN IN MY POCKET

Life behind the movie scenes is nothing like reality

by Dave Brown

Movie stars are just like you and me. They put their pants on one leg at a time – only they have six helpers, and they are really, really expensive pants. Other than that, they are just regular folk.

Working with some of the biggest names in Hollywood has taught me some important lessons, not the least of which is that the vast majority of them are great people to work with. Of course, as a firearms safety coordinator and weapons handler, I am on set to basically keep them alive and make them look good. This pretty much makes me their best friend for the next three to six weeks and the smart ones know enough not to have too many 'diva' moments with the guy handling their guns.

If you ever get an opportunity to work on a film set as an actor, background performer, technical adviser, film crew or paid-duty officer, you may too get a chance to work with some of these fascinating people. I even have some advice for you, learned from a career behind the scenes: wear good shoes; you will be doing a LOT of standing around.

Watching a movie being made is much like watching paint dry, but without the non-stop glamour and excitement; and if you have ever experienced the military version of 'hurry up and wait,' you ain't seen nothin' yet. It can take days to film a scene that might last only a few seconds on the screen, but when they need something, they need it now. If you have ever sat through the credits at the end of a movie, picture the number of people it takes to make a major motion picture and the last thing you need is for all those people to be standing around waiting for YOU.

A motion picture camera also burns through 24 frames of film – the same 35mm film that you buy at the drugstore – every second, so you quickly learn to stifle sneezes and carry lots of cough drops.

The fantasy

It happens nearly every day. A grocery store robbery has gone bad and the armed assailants are holding hostages. The SWAT team mills around scratching their heads and wondering what to do, just as the handsome detective with the succinct name and the souped-up car drives through the front window, against all orders, and levels the bad guys with well-aimed shots from his non-issue magnum. The SWAT team looks on in amazement, thinking, "We never would have thought of THAT!" as the police chief begins to add up all the damage to private property, because that seems to be the sole



job of the chief.

One last robber tries to make a getaway in a stolen police car, but one shot from the hero into the gas tank causes the car to explode into flames and flip over five times while flying through the air. The hero walks up to the burning wreckage and mumbles through gritted teeth, "You have the right to remain silent... forever."

The mayor profusely thanks the hero for saving the city, the chief recalculates the damages and the detective shows up for work the next morning only to find he has been assigned a new rookie partner who he will both grow to love and ultimately have to save from his own stupidity.

Well... it COULD happen.

Hey, nobody ever said the typical action movie is real. Thankfully, most of us see these movies as mindless entertainment and a means to temporarily escape the real world of grinding routine, civilian review agencies and the knowledge that a shot into the gas tank of a real speeding car would cause it to simply run out of gas in an hour or so – if it didn't T-bone a bus full of nuns in the meantime.

The reality

In reality, a film set can be a very hazardous environment. In addition to the fast pace and long hours in often difficult conditions, one has to deal with all the gunfights, car chases and explosions which make the workplace unique, short of maybe a convenience store in the middle of downtown Detroit on a Saturday night.

Thankfully, very few people are actually hurt, mostly due to high standards in safety and professionalism of the crews. Unfortunately, when things go wrong, they go spectacularly wrong.

Three actors were killed on the set of *The Twilight Zone Movie* when a helicopter crashed on their heads. A TV star died when a busy props assistant put a gun loaded with blanks into his hand and then walked away, leaving the actor to jokingly place it against his head and pull the trigger. A promising young actor is killed when the weapons specialist is sent home early to save a few dol-

lars. The propmaster fails to detect a dummy bullet that became lodged in the barrel of the prop gun, subsequently piercing the chest of the actor when propelled by a blank two weeks later.

All these tragic accidents share one common theme; there is never a single cause but rather a series of contributing factors. Lack of proper supervision, failure to follow the advice of the experts, substituting people part way through a day or a need to save time and money are

all elements in accidents on film sets.

Hollywood has been increasingly forced to deal with the safety issue in recent years and has mostly taken these incidents to heart. Interestingly enough, Canada as a filmmaking jurisdiction has not only followed this trend but leads the industry in many ways.

One example is my position as firearms safety coordinator (many jurisdictions have dropped the archaic and incorrect term 'armorer' from their lexicon, mostly because I have been in this business for many years and have yet to be asked to build a suit of armor). The firearms coordinator and the weapon handlers are on film sets to ensure the safety of cast and crew, to comply with Canada's firearm laws and to advise productions on authenticity and realism when handling firearms. That is the official answer.

Unofficially, I am there to make sure the cast and crew are comfortable enough about safety that they can concentrate on their work. I ensure that the people with the real talent get to do what they were hired to do.

Keeping people safe while weapons are being handled is a matter of high safety standards and a fervent adherence to the PROVE safety checking procedure every time a gun changes hands (see sidebar for more on the PROVE procedure).

It also means acting as a positive role model and avoiding spinning a handgun by its trigger guard, no matter how late it is or how bored I am – maybe that's why an actor once called me "the most anal guy in film." I think he meant it affectionately, because I certainly took it as a compliment.

Having a professional, relaxed and confident manner helps people relax, especially when under pressure from producers or directors, who probably spend more money on socks than you make in an entire year.

Who gets a gun?

While I am on set to work with the principle cast members and to supervise the handling of real firearms, I often also help out by rigging all the background extras who add authenticity to a production – but handing them plas-



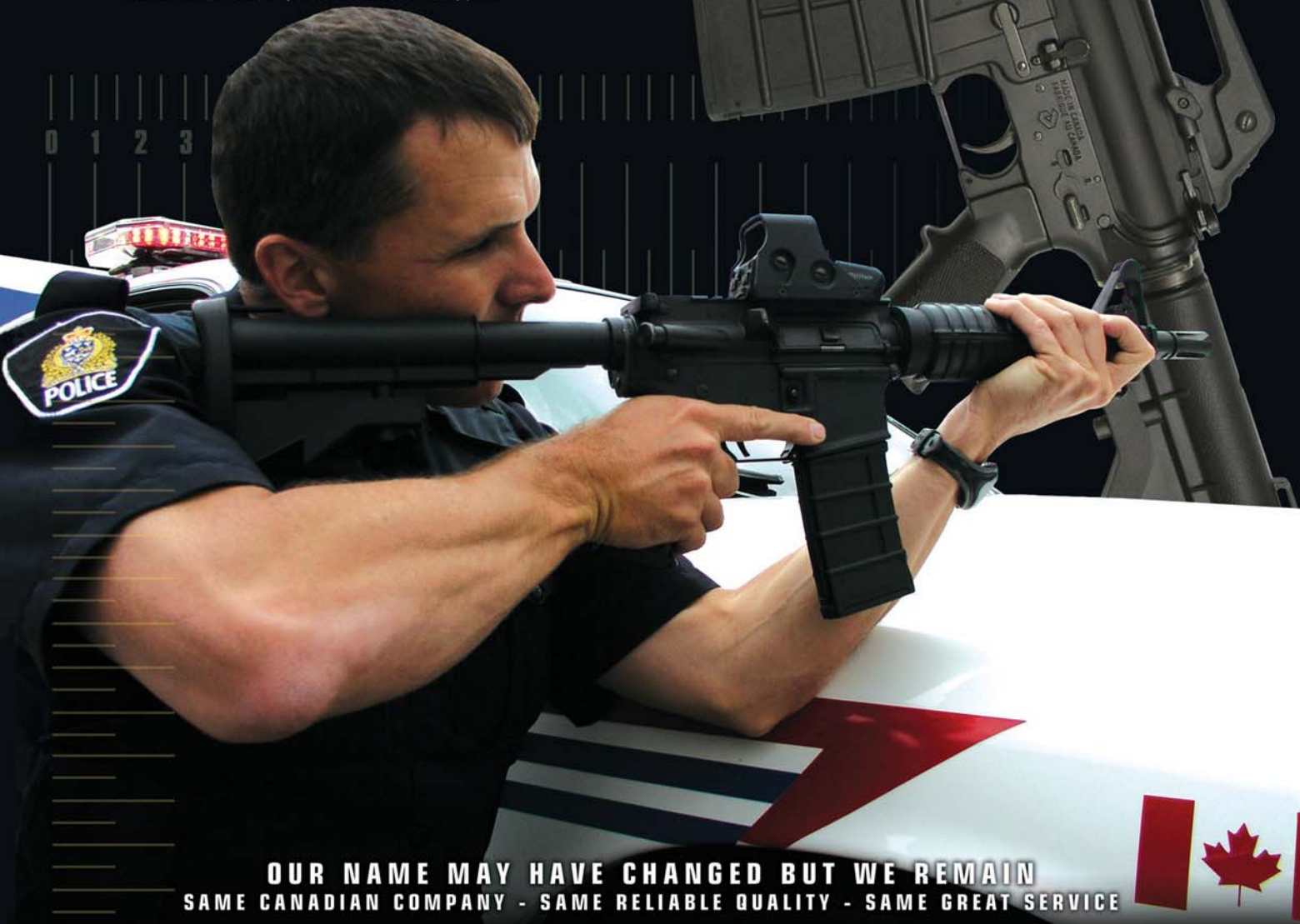
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tic replicas is not quite as simple as driving up in a truck and unloading toy guns. A big scene in, for example, a busy FBI office may involve close to 50 people who have to sit at desks, walk through a scene carrying folders or chat with each other at the water cooler.

To sell the scene as a busy FBI field office, many of them will be armed with shoulder and hip holsters. Often, the propmaster solves the problem of who to outfit with various weapons by the simple expediency of dumping it in my lap. Using intuition and an age-old system that has yet to fail me, I simply stroll over to the holding area and ask all the extras playing FBI agents to stand up. I then ask which of them want guns. Those who put up their hands are told to sit down. I give them only to the people who don't really want them.

Hey, it works. Even plastic guns must be treated with respect and safety standards apply even to those who are never going to pull them out of a holster.

So where's the glamour?

Well I did say it wasn't all glamour and excitement. It might seem like it would be fun working with all those movie stars but the glamour tends to fade fast when it is three in the morning, you have another five hours to go in a long day and the actor you are trying to rig with a shoulder holster decides she wants to playfully squirm away every time you try to get the straps around her head. I can't really blame her for wanting to have some fun; after three double cappuccinos, it is either chase cars down the highway or drive the firearms guy crazy.

Yes, it may be hard work but if you ever get an opportunity to work on a film set, take advantage of it. Inviting a large production into your community can be much like inviting a large circus elephant out to dinner. Sure, it may be very polite and well-behaved, but you just know that someone is going to get their toes stepped on, something is going to get broken and it's going to look very uncomfortable dressed in a suit and tie – but I still think I have the best job in the world. My biggest fear is that I will wake up one day and find it has all just been one great dream – or I have to go out and find a “real job” like my wife is always urging me to do.

Until that happens, I am going to enjoy the ride and work towards my personal mission in life, which is to one day see a disclaimer at the end of every movie that states “No humans were harmed in the making of this picture.”

There are some perks. For example, a certain flight attendant in Alaska promised to upgrade my airline seat if I would introduce her to Robin Williams. Three days later, after two back-to-back 18-hour days, I staggered on board my flight home and found myself sharing an entire first class compartment with only two other people.

In case you're wondering if it really is much nicer riding up front... I wouldn't know. I slept the whole way.

Dave Brown is a professional firearms instructor and *Blue Line's* Tactical Firearms Editor. He has worked on more than 50 feature film, television and theatrical productions and now teaches workshops on firearms safety in film production. He can be contacted at firearms@blueline.ca

The PROVE Procedure

The PROVE procedure is an important component of the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and should be an essential tool for anyone routinely handling firearms. This is the procedure I teach and use on film sets and I encourage police officers to adopt it universally. Designed for simplicity and consistency, it will prevent accidents and save lives.

PROVE is an acronym that details the steps necessary to safely handle a firearm; it stands for Point, Remove, Observe, Verify and Examine.

Point

Point the firearm in the safest available direction. Depending on the circumstances, that may be downrange, away from people or perhaps straight up. In fact, watching muzzle control and trigger finger discipline is the fastest way to determine a person's ability with a firearm. Hand them a gun and in less time than it takes to read this sentence, you can find out if they have proper safety training.



Point

Remove

Remove all ammunition. Remove the magazine from the firearm if it is detachable FIRST and then open the action to remove any chambered cartridges.



Remove (a)



Remove (b)

Observe

Observe the chamber to determine there are

no cartridges remaining. This eliminates the possibility that a supposedly 'empty' gun can discharge. Never rely on mechanical safety features in a firearm; observe the chamber is completely empty AFTER removing the magazine.



Observe

Verify

Verify the feed path. Check the entire path a cartridge may travel from magazine to chamber. On a semi-automatic handgun, this means checking the magazine well and feed ramp. On a shotgun with a tubular magazine, this means checking the loading port, shell lifter and magazine follower.



Verify

Examine

Examine the bore for obstructions. Due to the velocity which bullets travel, any obstruction in the barrel could cause an explosive rupture from the tremendous build-up of aerodynamic pressure.



Examine

The PROVE procedure covers the five basic steps to firearms safety. It acknowledges that we are all human and that humans make mistakes. This system of redundant checks ensures that those mistakes are caught before anyone gets hurt.

If the PROVE procedure had been widely used in the film industry back in 1993, actor Brandon Lee would still be alive today. If it was widely used in police training, several law enforcement officers would also still be alive.

Stress affects police officers' health

by Lois Baker

Researchers from the School of Public Health and Health Professions at the University at Buffalo (UB) have received \$1.75 million last November from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to conduct one of the first large-scale studies on how the stress of police work affects an officer's physical health.

A team headed by John Violanti, Ph.D., UB research associate professor of social and preventive medicine, will gather information on a number of stress and health indicators from 700 City of Buffalo police officers.

"Policing is a psychologically stressful work environment filled with danger, high demands, ambiguity in work encounters, human misery and exposure to death," said Violanti, himself a 23-year police veteran. "The study will provide important information for possible interventions to reduce the risk of disease in this stressful occupation."

The new study will focus on the relationship of stress and cardiovascular disease in police officers.

"Despite the large size of this workforce nationwide and the strain of this occupation, the police are understudied in terms of work



influence on psychological well-being and physical health," said Violanti.

An earlier pilot study Violanti conducted in 2000 with members of the Buffalo police force showed that:

- Police as a group experienced higher job stress than a reference population
- Police officers over the age of 40 had an increased risk for arteriosclerosis
- 72 percent of female officers, compared to 43 percent of male officers, had cholesterol levels higher than recommended by medical authorities
- Police officers as a group had higher-than-average pulse rates and diastolic blood pressure

• Officers over age 40 had the highest 10-year risk of a coronary event when compared to national standards

The study will be conducted at the UB Centre for Preventive Medicine. Researchers will test participants for fluctuations of the hormone cortisol, a bio marker for stress, and compare those fluctuations with artery blockage, elasticity and blood flow. They also will look at metabolic changes in individuals, such as body composition and bone density, in relation to cortisol changes, and will examine lifestyle and job factors that may be associated with cardiovascular disease.

"This project has the potential to serve as a model for future epidemiological investigations in police work, as well as establishing a base for future prospective inquiries into stress and disease," Violanti said.

Co-principal investigators, all from the UB Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, are Maurizio Trevisan, M.D., professor and interim dean of the School of Public Health and Health Professions; Joan Dorn, Ph.D., associate professor, and Jean Wactawski-Wende, Ph.D., clinical assistant professor.

Lois Baker may be contacted by e-mail at ljbaker@buffalo.edu or phone: 716-645-5000 ext 1417.

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CHALLENGING CHANGE ON THE RANGE

Canadian police face an urgent need for better firearms training



by Greg Anderson, Mike Trump and Darryl Plecas

Police managers today face a bewildering array of departmental and community issues which require resources, flexibility and prompt or urgent attention. Duplicating efforts or using flawed tactics, strategies or training methods is wasteful and potentially harmful to officers and those they protect.

In these days of tight budgets, it's crucial that administrators use methods which can be empirically demonstrated as effective for their intended purposes. Training experiences and qualification processes should enable officers to perform competently when they need to protect themselves and the public during dangerous encounters.

All municipal police officers in British Columbia must meet provincial firearms qualification standards, first as recruits at the Justice Institute of BC (JIBC) Police Academy and then, periodically, throughout their employment. However, despite their extensive marksmanship and gun handling training, most studies show that police officers have poor shooting accuracy in deadly force situations.

The ability to shoot safely and accurately is an essential skill for satisfactory job performance in police work. Failure to provide a firearms training program that teaches the skills necessary to use lethal force could ultimately pose a very serious liability issue for police training centres across Canada.

The City of Margate, New Jersey was held liable for providing "grossly inadequate" firearms training after a police officer shot and killed an innocent bystander while chasing a possible kidnap suspect (*Popow vs. the City of Margate, 1979*). US courts have determined liability by judging whether a training program prepares an

officer to perform required tasks, including firearms proficiency and sound judgment.

Firearms qualification

It would appear that the qualification scores generated by any department's firearms training program would, if taken at face value, attest to competence. The same could be said for the training program at the JIBC academy, but qualifications primarily test baseline marksmanship. Managers should consider many other issues, looking "beyond traditional marksmanship qualification scores as their measure of officer preparedness" (*Morrison and Shave, 2002*) and examine the validity of the qualification process.

In the April, 2003 edition of *Blue Line*, John Weiler suggested that requiring or training an officer to "fire at distances beyond 15 metres with a handgun is tactically unsound; that weapon is intended for sudden, unexpected threats at close proximities." These statements strongly contradict the established training and qualification standards used in various police training facilities across Canada (*JIBC 2000, RCMP Depot Division 1996*). Most North American training practices are done at 25 metres and require some shots to be fired at this range during a qualification round.

Validity of qualifying practices

The main goal of the JIBC academy firearms training is to make a recruit competent enough to achieve provincial certification. However, few North American agencies have attempted to validate their firearms qualification practices, even though basic qualification processes are being repeatedly challenged in the courts. For example, the BC 50 requires a minimum score of 70 per cent – 35 of 50 shots within the scoring area – to pass. Ten rounds are fired

at 25 metres, six at 15 - nine at 10, seven and five metres - and seven at two metres.

Three BC officers have been shot and killed by assailants in the last 25 years and there were more than 40 separate fatal shootings during the same period. Literature suggests that most police officers are fired upon when there's low light or poor visibility. Half are killed from a distance of less than two metres, 75 per cent within three metres and 90 per cent at less than six metres, according to US based *Law and Order Magazine*. Furthermore, 67 per cent of suspects who kill an officer and 80 per cent of those assaulting an officer fired without a sight picture, using point shooting. This data is not consistent with present qualification practices.

Training and liability

Police managers who rely on an officer's qualification scores as an indication of their ability to function in a critical incident assume that the firearms training program uses defensible content and practices. Studies have indicated the hallmarks of marksmanship and firearm qualification – stance, breath control, trigger squeeze, etc. – are not generally present in deadly force encounters. Setting an arbitrary qualifying score of 70 per cent also assumes police agencies accept the risk inherent in 30 per cent of the bullets missing their mark – a number that is surely inflated during critical incidents.

Recent data (*Trump, 2003*) collected in BC examined the impact of high levels of physical stress on shooting performance, as measured during a 20 round qualification (five rounds at each of three, seven, 15 and 25 metres). The first score was obtained under optimal conditions of rest and with no time constraints; the second immediately after completing the Peace Officer Physical Abilities Test (POPAT).

Shooting performance decreased signifi-

cantly at three, seven and 25 metres following the physical stress; 20 per cent of shots fired from 25 metres missed the target completely and the average bullet strike distance from the centre of mass, as depicted on the targets, was 19.3 cm. Should the individual move, or turn sideways to the officer, which reduces the target size by 50 per cent, the majority of shots would miss the target.

Morrison and Vila (1998) state that “conventional target shooting never sought to duplicate field characteristics such as physical exertion, darkness and other reduced lighting, or dynamic, close range multiple targets.” They have grave concerns about the validity of law enforcement training programs and discount any notion that qualification should in any way imply competency. They note similar levels of field marksmanship were reported for “untrained 19th century police officers, untrained contemporary opponents and today’s well equipped, highly trained and handgun ‘qualified’ police officers.” The authors conclude that police handgun training doctrines and techniques “provide poor preparation for the challenges posed by armed confrontations.”

This is supported by recent data (*Trump, 2003*) that found no significant difference in qualification scores before and after firearms training, even in the strictest of controlled conditions. Interestingly, previous experience and choice of firearm were significant factors in predicting qualification scores. Recruits who entered training with some firearms experience performed consistently better than those with no previous experience (although neither group of officers improved significantly over the

course of training). Furthermore, officers using the *Glock Model 22 40* calibre performed significantly better than those using the *Beretta Model 96 40* calibre handgun.

While all recruits must pass all components of the POPAT to the provincial standard set by the BC Police Act before they can become qualified municipal constables, many fail the firearms portion of the training. Failure rates of 50-55 per cent are observed in some classes on the initial qualification round. Once a recruit fails, he or she must undergo remedial training to bring them up to the necessary provincial standard. This places an enormous burden on finite resources such as staffing, facilities, time and consumables tied to training and qualification activities.

An urgent need

Canadian police agencies would do well to learn from past experience in generating a unified use-of-force paradigm that meets the needs of all. There is an urgent need for research examining the efficacy of the present training and qualifying practices of Canadian police agencies and policies concerning deadly or lethal use of force.

Mike Trump (mike.trump@jibc.ca) is the Deputy Director of the JIBC Police Academy and an adjunct professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University College of the Fraser Valley (UCFV).

Darryl Plecas (darryl.plecas@ucfv.ca) is the RCMP Research Chair, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (UCFV).

Greg Anderson (gregory.anderson@ucfv.ca) is Chair of UCFV’s Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education. Darryl and Greg have written numerous journal articles on law enforcement issues.

Gov’t makes no promises to families of slain Mounties

OTTAWA —The government has acknowledged, but made no commitment to the families of four slain RCMP constables lobbying for criminal justice reform.

In a meeting with Prime Minister Paul Martin, Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan and Justice Minister Irwin Cotler, the families expressed their desire to have the Liberal government scrap its plans to decriminalize simple possession of marijuana. They also called for changes to be made to toughen sentences for grow-ops, weapon offences, and cases involving child sexual abuse. In addition, they also want tougher parole provisions.

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper, Bloc Quebecois Leader Gilles Duceppe and members of the NDP also met with the families.

Don Schiemann, whose son was one of the four officers gunned down in Mayerthorpe, Alberta, says all four federal parties agree legal changes are needed. Schiemann specified, however, that no commitment from the PM was made on their one key demand of getting the government to scrap its plans to decriminalize simple possession of marijuana.

“We didn’t really get much of a discussion on it at all,” Schiemann was quoted as saying. “We were more focused in the meeting with him on (other) justice issues.”

The families have indicated they intend to make their demands a campaign issue in the next federal election, but have no plans to back specific parties or candidates.

BLUE LINE News Week

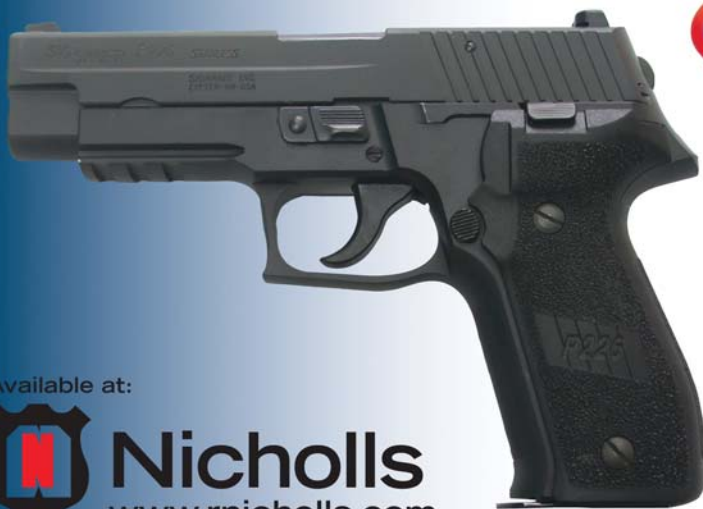
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Award recognizes innovative youth policing

by Ryan Siegmund

Toronto Police Service Det. Hugh Wong has been given the National Youth Justice Policing Award, in recognition for his innovative work with at-risk youth.

The award is given to officers whose work with young people furthers the federal government's goals for youth justice renewal. Wong's contributions to the Peacemaking Circle program in Regent Park and St. Jamestown garnered the honour.

The circle program is an initiative of Peacebuilders International, a non-profit organization that promotes, despite cultural differences, relationships based upon common values, including respect, sharing, compassion and accountability. Participants either have charges going through the court system or are at risk of choosing the wrong path.

A community-based alternative to the court system, the circle helps keep youth connected to their community by including police, schools and social workers.

"We do things that you don't get the chance to do in a traditional court room setting, whereas they might have to do community service or write an apology and it is dealt with," says Wong, who is also on the programs steering committee. "Here, you are spending the time to ensure you are fully understanding why this occurred and come out of it with

concrete solutions."

More often than not, participants include the accused and person at risk, which ensures both points of view are shared. Family members also play a vital role, Wong says, noting it's important to understand a person's background.

"The circle process is fairly involved in that it may start off with the person in a one-on-one situation in order to determine more about this person's character and personality," Wong says. "This way, parents who may have influence over them may be brought into the bigger circle at the final portion of it."

The program may be recommended by the crown, judge or a police officer. Each individual and situation is different, Wong says, adding it is a matter of taking the time to figure out and analyze what is needed to help get the person(s) on a more positive track. Anyone participating has to want to do it, admit their guilt and take responsibility for their actions, he notes.

"A lot of people ask how long the circle takes. Well, there is no prescribed time and it



goes far beyond the initial incidence of why you might be there in the first place. Lets say in the case of a charged situation, you may be there for an assault that occurred on a particular day, but it is a process whereby you don't just deal or look at that one incident – it is more about identifying why it happened and what is going on here, really."

A recent circle Wong participated in didn't have an acceptable level of honesty and openness, a situation which he addressed immediately. Wong discussed the problem with the parties and communication continued for five to six

hours over the course of two days. Sometimes you have to remind people that "I'm not here for me – I'm here for you," he explains.

That particular circle involved two boys charged with assaulting another boy and included a member from each of the boys families, the victim and Peacebuilder community members – 10 or 11 people in all.

The circle makeup is a consensus "of what forms of reparation are going to be implemented towards the accused party," Wong says. "It's not meant to penalize them, it is meant to help them not go back to those ways and help them to grow and ensure they are not going to do this again."

The circle process not only addresses the issues of the accused but also helps the victim, he says, who can realize they need something to bolster their emotional and mental state. That's where mentorships come in.

"We have found the people involved with Peacebuilders have helped to open their eyes and they seem to want to come back and help participate in other circles."

The circle program was launched in Toronto in 2004 and has already begun to branch out. Other divisions have sent cases through the process and has caught on with some schools, including one which sent a group of students to training sessions so they could conduct circles to deal with school issues.

Wong accepted his award, which is sponsored by the federal justice department in collaboration with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, at the convention in August.

A certificate of distinction was awarded to Kelowna RCMP Cst. Dean Childs. Sûreté Sgt. Danielle Bouchard, Vancouver Police Department constables Elizabeth Miller and Valerie Spicer and Waterloo Regional Police Service Sgt. Mike Allard, Insp. Robert Gould, and staff sergeants Tom Matthews and Lee Fitzpatrick received honourable mentions.

E-mail Det. Hugh Wong at hugh.wong@torontopolice.on.ca or call 416 808-5105 for more information.

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Bill would counter gun crime increase

by Danette Dooley

A private member's bill that would introduce mandatory minimum prison sentences for serious gun offences is in committee after barely surviving second reading in the House of Commons. The tie vote of 148 for and 148 against was broken by House Speaker Peter Milliken.



Speaker Peter Milliken

Bill C-215, introduced by Prince Edward Hasting M.P. Daryl Kramp, would "get tough on gun crime," the Ontario Conservative MP says. It's merely "political football with politicians," counters the John Howard Society.



M.P. Daryl Kramp

The bill would add sentences of five to 15 years, depending on the severity, to such violent offences as murder, assault, sexual assault, hostage-taking, kidnapping, robbery and extortion. The additional time would be served consecutively to the judge's sentence.

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), Canadian Professional Police Association (CPPA) and Toronto and Montreal police testified first hand in October about the increased violence to the Standing Committee on Justice, Human Rights, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.

Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Chief Richard Deering, speaking on behalf of the CACP, detailed the worsening situation in Newfoundland and Labrador.



Chief Richard Deering

"We had a 105 per cent increase in armed robberies in 2004 over 2003. Year to date 2005 we have a 35 per cent increase in armed robberies over the staggering numbers of 2004."

Most of those robberies are linked to drugs, Deering noted.

"In the drug culture, drugs and guns go together. It's the status. People who are selling drugs carry guns. It's for intimidation and all those sorts of things... We now have kids 16, 17 and 18 out there selling drugs; they're carrying firearms and they're committing armed robberies as part of it."

The problem is similar in the rest of the country, he said.

"If you're talking about the gang violence in Toronto and Winnipeg, these street gangs are organized crime groups. If you're talking about the sale of drugs in Newfoundland and Labrador, that's controlled by organized crime, so this is a really serious issue for us all."

Those who commit offences with a gun must realize the seriousness of their crime and the punishment they will receive, Deering said.

"Right now, there's no rationalization in sentencing because there's no consistency from region to region. In many cases, people are getting heavier sentences for impaired driving



than they are for violent crimes...

"(With Bill C-215) it's automatic. There's no discussion about it, no plea-bargaining. They'll go to jail for five years or 10 years or 15 years on top of the sentence they get for the crime."

Sentencing should be left in the hands of the country's judiciary, the John Howard Society maintains.

"When we start taking sentencing out of the hands of judges and putting it into the hands of politicians, we are not sentencing on the basis of a case, of an individual, of a circumstance — but on just our instincts about what everybody is like, and we will inevitably end up with circumstances that we are not happy with," Executive Director Graham Stewart said.

The society opposes the principal of mandatory minimum sentences for any offence.

"What it means is that the most serious offenders essentially go unaffected because they were getting those sentences anyway, while the least serious offenders — where a really harsh prison sentence seems not appropriate — are the ones that end up being punished," he said.

A sentence is based on what a particular judge deems appropriate, he says, and that's as it should be.

"It's based on the blameworthiness of the individual, the seriousness of the circumstances and it also relates to what the penalties are for other offences."

Kramp argues that as a consecutive sentence, his bill would mean the original sentencing remains in the hands of the judges.

"All we're simply doing is tightening up the parameters and raising the bar for acceptance and for punitive measures. The guilt, innocence and/or proportion of penalty still lies within jurisprudence."

Stewart disagrees. Once sentencing becomes a "political football," the end result is less impact and a much more expensive correctional system.

The longer a person is in jail, the more likely they are to reoffend when released, he argues. "There's just no room for this kind of arbitrary sentencing measures and I don't think some politician who's grandstanding in the House of Commons for a few seconds... is in the best position to determine (a sentence)."

Kramp, a former police officer, argues the punishment no longer fits the crime when it comes to criminal use of guns.

"The pendulum is out of balance here. There's not enough consideration given to the victim and more of an emphasis on support for the criminal, so I thought we needed to bring the pendulum back into balance."

The Criminal Code now calls for a four-year minimum sentence for using a gun in the commission of certain offences, but when the three days for one pre-trial custody is factored in, the offender could walk after serving very little of that sentence.

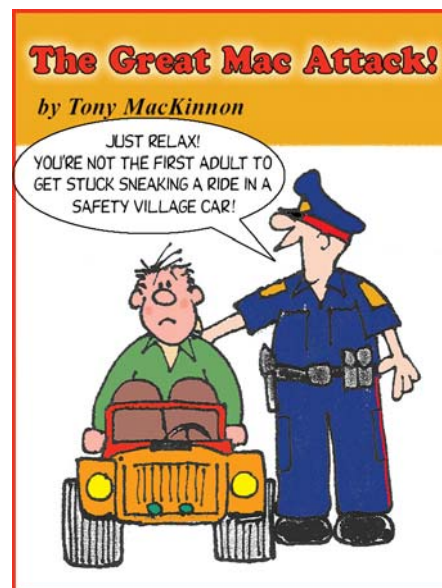
"You might spend 100 days in pre-trial then, upon conviction, I'm giving you four years — then you're released, so that's a joke," Kramp notes, stressing that his bill is not 'draconian' but rather meant to serve as a severe deterrent.

"We're not talking about a blue-collar crime here. We're not talking about somebody getting their nose busted. We're not talking about a fraud or a theft. What we're talking about is someone picking up a firearm in the commission of a serious indictable offence — they have to know that they are committing a very serious offence because there is a high degree of probability or likelihood that they are going to kill or injure someone."

Speaking in the House, Kramp accused federal Justice Minister Irwin Cotler of "talking in legalese" about the bill.

"He's talking about the proportionality and the totality of the offence and (asking) is it cruel and unusual punishment?... I say cruel and unusual punishment is when a four-year-old child is shot four times or a bus driver is shot in the face and blinded. That's cruel and unusual punishment, when our system does not protect the people it's designed for, and that's something we have to do something about."

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Military police unit provides specialized support

National Defence's major-crimes unit sends clear message

by Mark Giles

"Do you guys carry guns?," a customs officer asked recently after learning I was with the Canadian Forces (CF) Provost Marshal. Explaining that military police are, like their civilian counterparts, armed for frontline-policing duties, I once again realized that the role, resources and jurisdiction of the CF Military Police are a mystery to many in the law enforcement field.

While most are aware that military police patrol bases and Department of National Defence (DND) property across the country, few are familiar with the extensive support services behind these frontline-policing activities. Like their civilian counterparts working the street in communities across Canada, military policemen and women have investigative and technical support available to assist with serious and sensitive cases.

Military police detachments have their own investigative sections to deal with routine offences, but sexual assaults, death, computer crimes, large thefts and frauds and drug trafficking and cultivation are normally handled by the CF National Investigation Service (NIS). Established in 1997 as an independent unit, the NIS is similar to the major-crimes units of most large civilian police agencies, providing sur-



Corporal Aaron Anderson (left) and Corporal Ken Small, both members of Edmonton's 1 Military Police Platoon, prepare to rappel from a CH-146 Griffon helicopter during an exercise in October. The NIS provides investigative support for frontline military police personnel who must sometimes operate in isolated parts of the world.

veillance, criminal intelligence, computer crime, drug enforcement and polygraph expertise to support DND, the CF and military police detachments around the world.

"The NIS provides vital support to the Defence community, including local military police detachments," said Colonel Donald Dixon, head of the NIS. "Given the department's national and international commitments,

the NIS is prepared to provide investigative expertise in support of CF operations at home and abroad."

Under direct command of the CF Provost Marshal – the military's chief of police, the NIS functions as an independent police unit. A deputy provost marshal manages day-to-day operations, including four regional detachments – Western, Central, Eastern and Atlantic – the Major Case and Sensitive Investigations Detachment (MCSI), Support Detachment, a national headquarters based in Ottawa, and approximately 125 experienced and well-trained investigators – essentially detectives for the CF Military Police. NIS investigators can lay charges under the *Criminal Code* or other federal statutes, such as the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. Unlike other military police personnel, they can also lay charges under the Code of Service Discipline of the *National Defence Act*.

CF military police have a rather unique jurisdiction – one that includes all CF bases, missions and DND property (Defense Establishments) and extends to offences committed by CF members anywhere in the world. This means that military police, including NIS investigators, must work closely with their Ca-

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nadian counterparts at the federal, provincial and local level and with law enforcement agencies in many other countries.

This jurisdiction calls for a specialized investigative unit – one able to probe allegations of criminal or other illegal activity in urban settings, isolated areas across Canada and sometimes even remote regions of the world. In 2002, the NIS conducted an investigation requiring the exhumation of a body in a mountainous area of Afghanistan. Investigators had less than one hour to conduct an entire scene exam while CF troops secured the area against enemy attack.

Although most investigations are related to Defence Establishments in Canada, the unit maintains a detachment in Afghanistan and will normally assign investigators to support any significant CF troop deployment. Conducting investigations outside of Canada presents unique challenges as it often involves working with foreign police, different languages, laws and cultures. Even with established missions such as the one in Afghanistan, investigations often require liaison with International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and local police investigators.

As CF personnel work and train in other parts of the world, investigators can sometimes find themselves on short-term assignments to other countries. During the past year alone, NIS investigators have travelled to Bosnia, Germany, China, Thailand, Algeria, Poland, U.K. and the U.S. to conduct CF related investigations. These assignments, which during the past year included the investigation of two deaths related to HMCS

(submarine) and HMCS *Montréal* (navy frigate), usually require liaison and diplomatic skills when dealing with foreign law enforcement and military officials from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

Like most communities, DND and the CF have to deal with a small minority who engage in criminal or other illegal activity here at home. These investigations, often involving allegations related to drugs, sexual assault, theft and fraud, are common to most law enforcement agencies. Working closely with local military police detachments and civilian police agencies, the NIS national drug enforcement team has made arrests for drug possession and trafficking at several bases across the country. These investigations enforce Canadian law and assist commanders in maintaining morale and a drug-free work environment for all personnel.

The NIS is a leader in investigating technological crimes, including those often related to Internet use, such as accessing or possessing child pornography. Although rare, DND and the CF are not immune to these crimes. Working with other agencies and the RCMP Child Exploitation Centre, the NIS has increased its investigative efforts aimed at curbing child pornography and child exploitation in Canada. Its computer-crimes team has considerable resources at its disposal to detect and thoroughly investigate these cases. Investigators work closely with DND computer analysts to uncover evidence related to illegal or inappropriate use of departmental computers and have laid several child pornography-related



Corporal Aaron "Frodo" Anderson (left), Corporal Ken Small (centre), both members of 1 Military Police Platoon (1 MP PL), get into position to rappel out of a 430e Escadron tactique d'hélicoptères (430 ETAH) CH-146 Griffon at CFB Wainwright, Alberta.

1 MP PL is stationed at CFB Edmonton Alberta, and 430 ETAH is stationed at CFB Valcartier, Quebec. Both units are in CFB Wainwright to take part in Phoenix Ram.

Exercise Phoenix Ram, the largest combined arms brigade-training event in Canada since 1992, will be taking place at the Wainwright Training Area in Alberta. Exercise Phoenix Ram will be a 24/7 training event that will set the precedent for Army training events across Canada in the coming years.

charges in recent months.

Although the majority of the work done by the NIS relates to DND or CF personnel, its jurisdiction, like that of all military police members, extends to all offences committed on, or

in relation to, Defence Establishments. This was illustrated in late 2004 when a civilian, not employed with DND, was arrested for robbery at Garrison Edmonton's Wild Rose Credit Union, and again early this year when an HIV-positive woman was charged with aggravated sexual assault after allegedly engaging in unprotected sexual relations at CFB Borden, Ont.

The NIS is committed to working closely with Canadian and international law enforcement agencies, often through integrated police operations and officer exchanges. The RCMP continues to assign an inspector to the NIS, who now serves as officer commanding the MCSI Detachment and provides independent input into sensitive investigations involving senior DND or CF personnel. The NIS also currently assigns investigators to the RCMP Major Crimes Section in Edmonton, the Integrated Technical Crime Unit in the National Capital Region (RCMP and Ottawa Police Service), Sureté du Quebec and the criminal intelligence services of Canada and Nova Scotia.

"The NIS is developing a well-deserved reputation for professional competence and investigative expertise," said Captain (N) Steve Moore, CF Provost Marshal. "With its commitment to teamwork and an integrated approach, the NIS will continue working closely with local military police detachments, our partners in law enforcement and the Defence community."



Captain Mark Giles is *Blue Line Magazine's* correspondent for the National Capital Region, public and media relations and military-related issues.

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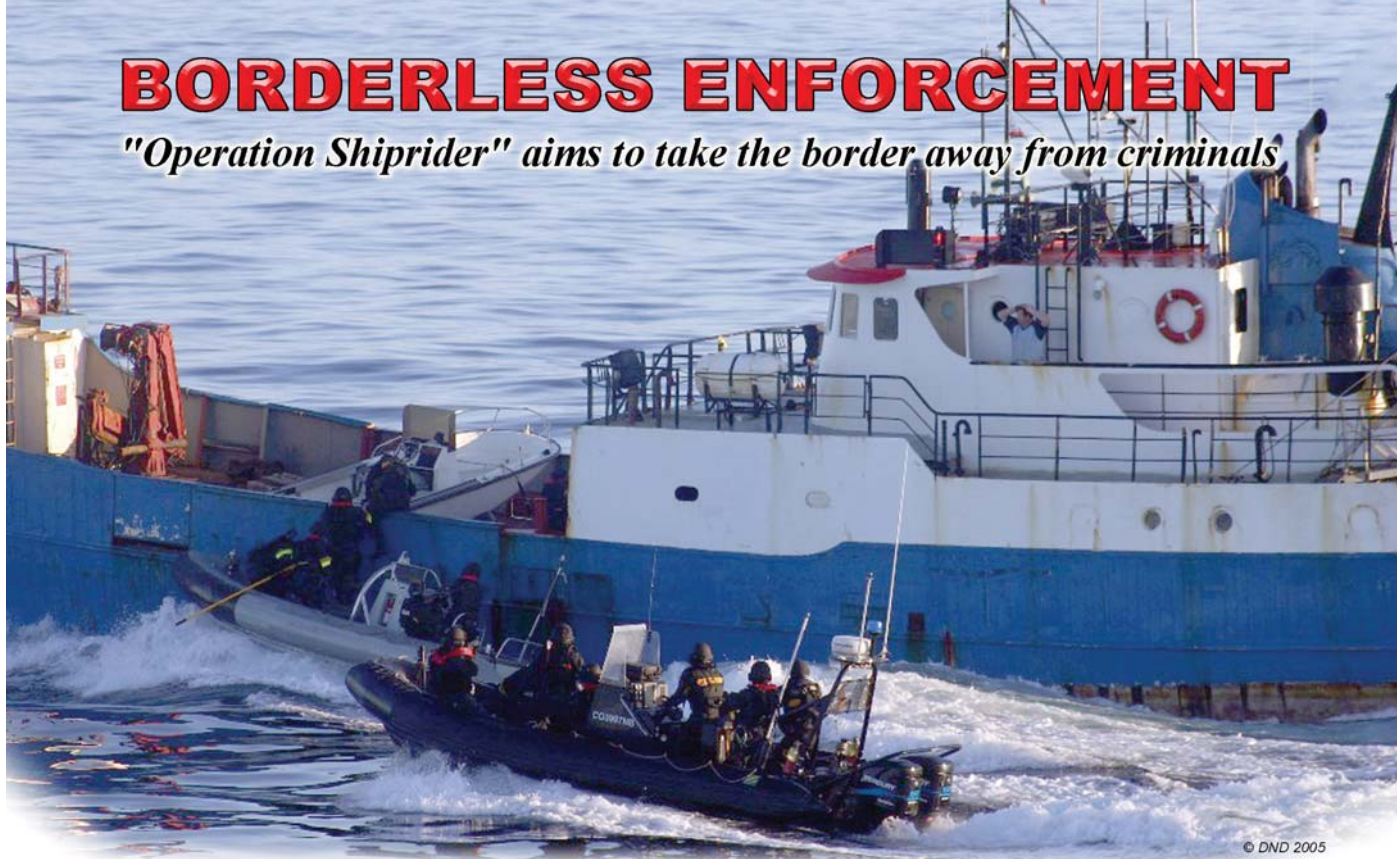
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BORDERLESS ENFORCEMENT

"Operation Shiprider" aims to take the border away from criminals



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by Ryan Siegmund

The RCMP and United States Coast Guard (USCG) are looking at ways they can work together to maintain security and enforce laws on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway.

The two agencies engaged in a two week pilot project called Shiprider in September, during which officers patrolled both sides of the border.

A lack of integrated enforcement has made the Great Lakes and seaway very vulnerable to potential terrorist activities and organized crime. To counter and stave off these issues, law enforcement from both sides of the border are trying to better integrate their efforts.

Shiprider marked the first time RCMP officers were given powers in US jurisdiction and US coast guard officers were given powers in Canadian jurisdiction. While the program didn't yield any big arrests, it was intended to help foster better communications and co-operation. It is now being critically analyzed by both Canadian and American officials, who are discussing where to go from here.

"I think the biggest thing we expected from the program and, as we look forward, is that police officers, once involved in an interdiction, don't lose authority," says RCMP Chief Superintendent Mike McDonell, the Director General of Border Integrity. "The bad guys use borders interprovincially, interjurisdictionally and internationally against law enforcement, so this is the first step to take that away from them."

Patrols were stepped up considerably along the seaway, Detroit River, Lake St. Clair, Lake Erie and Port Huron during the trial. The RCMP and Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) normally deploy boats only on an as needed basis but were on the water every day during Shiprider and out around the clock by the final weekend.

More than 170 boats were stopped over the two weeks, which demonstrated that the RCMP

and US Coast Guard are able to work together effectively, says RCMP media officer Cst. Annette Bernardon. She says the project ran extremely smoothly and there were very few communication problems.

"We were able to determine this is something that will certainly be a big benefit to law enforcement because we no longer have to stop at that border," she says.

"If there is a Shiprider out there on a daily basis, then the other units – say a drug or immigration section – are able to call Shiprider and say 'look, we have info that drugs are coming into the country, by boat in Wolfe Island; where are you guys at, are you able to get out there?' ...

"Whether a US Coast Guard boat or a Mountie boat, either can just cross that border freely without having to stop to get an OPP boat or another Mountie boat out there. With Shiprider out there, that boat is able to go out wherever it wants. It has endless possibilities."

Changes needed to maintain border integrity

Some aspects of the law don't support border enforcement, McDonell says, noting officers are told to integrate but advised to never cross the border. It can be unclear just who has the authority when a Canadian police officer helps an American officer on the US side, or vice versa. Front line officers need clearer authority, which would require legislative changes, and better training and equipment, he says.

"The US is offering Canadian law enforcement Title 19 authority and have given us right of free passage for Canadian law enforcement boats, be it OPP, RCMP (or) Akwesasne Mohawk Police, so we are moving along that line," says McDonnell. "The Shipriders from the American side were actually supernumerary RCMP special constables... so for all intents and purposes, they are covered by the RCMP

Act. Our fellas were full fledged customs officers but even with that, if you follow the letter of every law – you could say you are not supposed to be doing that...

"Every time you go across that line you have to stop, pick up that phone and report in. As you go through the seaway system, for an American ship to come from international waters and travel to Duluth – it has to cross international boundaries 27 times – a Canadian one to Thunder Bay crosses 26 (times) and that is an accepted way of life. Whereas if it is going to be a police officer doing it in the Thousand Islands area, law would state they have to now directly report to a port of entry. I'd like to see more affirmative defence mechanisms for law enforcement along that border."

McDonell says he'd also like to see front line officers protected and given the authority to do what is expected of them – "(to) have it spelled out for them rather than having them rely on their gut instinct and hoping common law captures (it)."

Police have to inform and educate the public about their role and mission – national security and the fight against organized crime on the waters, he notes.

Acknowledging the many challenges that lay ahead, McDonell says "like the lessons of life, the more you learn, the more you realize what you don't know." The deeper law enforcement delves into this environment – be it on the legislative, enforcement or resource front – the more implicated they become, he adds.

Officials in Ottawa and Washington will dictate whether there will be more initiatives similar to Shiprider; agencies could pool intelligence and co-operate on deployment and interdiction issues.

For more information, contact Cst. Annette Bernardon, RCMP media relations, at 519 948-5287.

Defending against cyberstalking

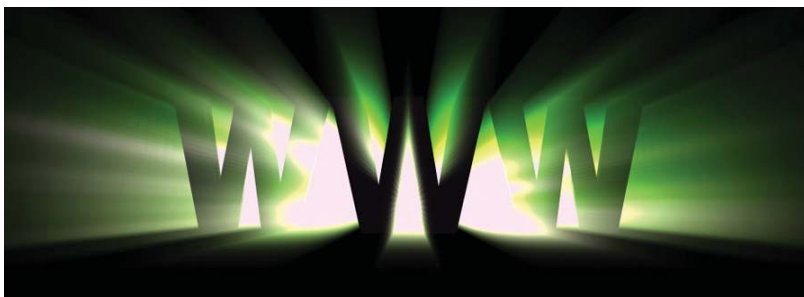
The Internet has become a widely used tool of communication, providing a wealth of information to millions of people around the world. A recent phenomenon called cyberstalking has also been gaining global attention.

Cyberstalking is defined as threatening behaviour or unwanted advances directed at another using the Internet and other forms of online communications. The vast amount of information and limitless boundaries make policing the Internet an ominous task. Without tangible laws to govern its use, sexual predators and stalkers have free reign.

Cyberstalkers target their victims through chat rooms, message boards, discussion forums and e-mail and the crime takes many forms, including threatening or obscene e-mail; spamming (in which a stalker sends a victim a multitude of junk e-mail); live chat harassment called flaming; leaving improper messages on message boards or in guest books; sending viruses or unsolicited e-mail; and electronic identity theft.

The victims of cyberstalking are usually women, who are stalked by men, or children, stalked by adult predators and are usually inexperienced online.

Cyberstalkers lurk in chat rooms just as pedophiles lurk near schoolyards. Be cautious



and remember these important safety tips when using the Internet (as recommended by Cyberangels (www.cyberangels.org), an Internet safety specialist:

The following is some common advice for people who become victims:

- Where the offender is known, send the stalker a written message indicating that any further contact is unwanted.
- Don't communicate with the stalker after the warning message.
- If harassment continues, contact your and the stalker's Internet service provider.
- Service providers often have services to block and filter unwanted communications.
- Collect all evidence, including e-mails, postings, or other communications in hardcopy or electronic form.
- Contact local law enforcement agencies to see what action they can take.
- Consult your local computer store about

encryption and privacy protection software.

- Consider changing your e-mail address, Internet service provider and home telephone number.
- Contact online directories to remove yourself from their listings.
- Never agree to meet with a cyberstalker to work things out face-to-face.
- Never leave your computer logged in unattended.
- Choose a good account password and change it frequently; the best passwords don't spell anything and don't follow a logical pattern.
- Make your password seven letters long because the longer it is, the harder it will be to break (there are more seven letter words in the English language than six or eight letter words).
- Review your e-mail signature and headers; do not reveal any personal information about yourself.
- Contact the International Web Police (www.web-police.org), who fight crime on the Internet.
- Tell family, friends and co-workers about the harassment so that they can provide support.

Visit <http://www.safetied.org/help/stalking.html> for more information. This article was prepared by the Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime.

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Rules differ for short term detainees

by Mike Novakowski

Strip searching a short term detainee requires more than simply a possibility they may be detained in cells, the Alberta Court of Appeal has ruled.

In *Ilnicki v. MacLeod, 2005 ABCA 349*, two police officers arrested the plaintiff at

his home on an outstanding warrant for no insurance, which they became aware of while investigating another matter. The officers patted him down and took him to the station, where he was injured when they used force after he resisted a strip search. He was treated for a sprain at the hospital, taken to the detention centre and held about 10 minutes before seeing a justice of the peace, who released him on \$250 bail.

Ilnicki sued; a civil court judge found police breached his s.8 Charter right and committed a battery conducting the strip search. He was awarded \$5,000 for the indignities of the search and \$6,000 for the injury.

The officers appealed to the Alberta Court of Appeal, arguing the trial judge erred in finding the strip search was unreasonable and that an unreasonable amount of force had been used in conducting it.

Unreasonable search

In *R. v. Golden, (2001) 3 S.C.R. 679*, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized that the power to search as an incident to arrest can include a strip search, provided police have reasonable grounds to believe it is necessary. Merely having reasonable grounds for arrest, however, does not automatically carry with it the right to strip search.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court outlined a distinction between a person held in short term detention and one entering a prison population. In the latter, the court noted, there is a greater need to ensure no weapons or illegal drugs are

smuggled into the prison, which may justify routine strip searches of all prisoners, since they often come in contact with each other. Short term detainees in police custody, however, must be assessed on a case-by-case basis and cannot be strip searched as a matter of routine.

Alberta's highest court agreed with the trial judge. This was a short term detention. Police were not opposing bail and knew Ilnicki would be released immediately from the detention centre or after only a short incarceration. As a consequence, the appeal court held:

The police officers, therefore, were not entitled to conduct a strip search simply because there was a possibility (Ilnicki) would be detained briefly in police cells. This does not mean... that police officers are prohibited from conducting a strip search if other circumstances gave them a legitimate safety concern, but there were no such concerns in this case.

(Ilnicki) was arrested at his house, in front of his wife and children, because of an unpaid traffic fine. When he was arrested, the police had no apparent reason to suspect he was carrying either weapons or drugs and he was under constant surveillance thereafter. If they were concerned about their safety, they were entitled to a 'pat down' or 'frisk' search as an incident to arrest. In fact, they had carried out a pat down search on arrest.

The only reason the police officers gave for later conducting the strip search was that (Ilnicki) had to go before a justice of the peace and to do that, he would have to go to the detention centre, where he might be placed in a cell with other detainees. This wasn't enough to justify the strip search (paras. 15-19).

Furthermore, it wasn't reasonable to think that, even if Ilnicki was to go to the detention centre, he would come into contact with another detainee. The officer testified that because this was a traffic matter, he would have been taken to the justice directly. If one wasn't available, he would have been placed in a single occupancy cell at the detention centre. Moreover, even if it was necessary for the arresting officers to consider future contact between Ilnicki and other detainees, they had an obli-

gation to consider ways of avoiding such contact. By minimizing the chance of contact, the need for a strip search is also minimized.

The court suggested police could have ensured Ilnicki didn't come into contact with other prisoners by phoning the detention centre to see if a justice or a single occupancy cell was immediately available, making the search unnecessary. They noted there were search facilities at the centre, which could have been used to strip search Ilnicki if he had to be detained with other prisoners.

Unreasonable force

As for the trial judge's decision about the amount of force used in conducting the strip search, the court could not say she was clearly wrong. They deferred to her finding that police controlled the agenda and could have tried other techniques to comply with the strip search — warning force would be used or he would be left in the search room if he didn't comply, for example, or consulting with a sergeant about other ways to gain compliance.

The appeal was dismissed.

Ex-cop awarded for controversy

Former Vancouver police officer Kim Rossmo who sued the service for wrongful dismissal, is the 2005 recipient of a Simon Fraser University award that honours controversy.

While a Vancouver constable, Rossmo was also a PhD student at Simon Fraser University, where he developed a computer program for geographic profiling that was subsequently used in the investigation of Paul Bernardo and the Washington D.C. sniper case.

He was promoted to detective-inspector and put in charge of a geographic profiling unit. When his five-year contract expired, Rossmo was told budget restraints would require him to return to being a constable and accept a 60-per-cent pay cut.

Rossmo quit the department in 2001 and unsuccessfully sued it for breach of contract and wrongful dismissal.

Three years before the arrest of accused serial murderer Robert William Pickton, Rossmo had testified he warned his superiors of a possible serial killer targeting prostitutes.

Since leaving the department, Rossmo has served as director of the Police Foundation in Washington, DC and teaches criminology at Texas State University in San Marcos.

The Nora and Ted Sterling Prize for Controversy was awarded to Rossmo in October.

"I'm very honoured to receive the award," he said from his home in Texas Thursday. "I think that one of the things the award tries to do is encourage people to go outside the boundaries, to think outside the box."

BLUE LINE News Week

This article is an extract from *Blue Line's* weekly news briefing e-publication.

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Destroyed disk results in stay

by Mike Novakowski

Destroying a computer disk which held notes supporting a search warrant application breached disclosure rules, Saskatchewan's highest court has ruled.

In *R. v. Forster et al*, 2005 SKCA 107, a police officer used confidential informants, electrical consumption records, infrared imaging, drive-by and other information to build grounds for a search warrant in a drug investigation. He either memorized his observations or jotted them down on his hands or scraps of paper, which he edited and stored on a disk.

He used information from the disk to obtain a search warrant but later destroyed it and all his original notes and source information from the six to seven month investigation, saving only that which related to the execution of the warrant.

The three accused were charged with growing marijuana and possession for the purpose of trafficking. The Crown disclosed the notes made during the execution of the warrant and a copy of the information to obtain, but details relating to the confidential informants was blacked out.

Saskatchewan Provincial Court stayed

the charges at the beginning of the trial. The judge ruled that destroying the source material and computer disk breached the Crown's duty to preserve material produced during the investigation.

The Crown appealed to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, which noted that not disclosing evidence can prejudice an accused, violating their s.7 Charter right to full answer and defence, a principle of fundamental justice. To determine whether destroying the documents was a breach, the judges asked:

- 1) Were the destroyed notes and disk relevant evidence?
- 2) If so, did the Crown fail to meet its obligation to preserve them?

Justice Sherstobitoff, writing the judgment, concluded that both branches of the test had been met. In ruling on the first question, he wrote:

While the officer swore that everything on the disk was contained in the information, it is obvious that the conversion of that information from the form of entries, made from time to time over a period of many months, into the form of an information to obtain a search warrant, involved not only reorganizing, rewording and editing all of the material, but, almost certainly, some selection and discarding of material that was, in the opinion of the officer,

not significant or useful. These processes would, in all likelihood, put all of the information in the very best light for the Crown in its application for the search warrant, as opposed to its original form, and would tend to minimize the aspects unfavourable to the success of the application.

They would have certainly changed the form of the content of the disk and very probably, to some degree, also the substance of the content of the disk. Those changes could have been of use to the defence.

In addition, it must be borne in mind that there were two kinds of notes destroyed: those written on his hand or on scraps of paper and those on the disk. We do not know what sort of editing or copying was done in transferring the information from the first kind of notes to the disk. The transcript is silent in this respect, as none of the counsel asked about the process, but it is self-evident from an examination of the information that it does not merely reflect the unedited and unchanged content of the sorts



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of notes that would be written on a scrap of paper or on a hand.

There are many uses to which the destroyed notes and the original content of the disk, as well as the changes between that content and the content of the Information to Obtain a Search Warrant could have been put to by the defence at trial. The credibility of (the officer) would be important at a trial since it was his sworn evidence that obtained the search warrant and it was the search warrant that uncovered the evidence to support the prosecution.

The information on the disk in its original form would be invaluable in any attack on the validity of the search warrant. If there were inconsistencies between the notes, the content of the disk, the information or the constable's evidence on a voir dire or at trial, his credibility could have been challenged. This is a frequent and necessary use of police notes and often the only effective way to test the credibility of a police witness. The defence in this case has been deprived of all that.

We must conclude that it was open to the trial judge in this case to find, as she impliedly did, that the destroyed notes and the disk contained material which the defence could have used, even though it is difficult to specify the precise manner in which the information could have been used without knowing the exact content of the disk...

Given the broad scope of the material and its importance to the prosecution of the case,

it was material that should have been available to the defence (references omitted, paras. 26-29).

As for the second branch:

The next question is whether (the officer) failed in his obligation to preserve relevant evidence. In this case, the disk in question was deliberately destroyed in order to protect the identity of confidential informants. Since the disk served as (the officer's) notebook respecting his entire investigation of this matter, it amounted to destruction of his notebook.

Curiously, although the constable was examined or cross-examined by four separate counsel, none asked him if he was aware of the duty of the Crown and its representatives to preserve all relevant material for the purpose of disclosure to the defence and in particular, notes of the investigation. It is hard to believe that, in the decade or so since Stinchcombe, any police officer could be unaware of the duty to preserve his notes. Nor did any counsel ask the officer why, in order to protect the identity of the informants, the content of the disk could not have been transcribed, with confidential portions omitted (as was done with the Information to Obtain a Search Warrant).

Nor was he asked why it wasn't left to Crown counsel or the judge to decide whether or what part of the contents of the disk should be disclosed to the defence, in order to comply with the rules of privilege respecting informants. Since these questions remain unanswered

and (the officer's) evidence was taken by all to be credible, we must assume that his motive in destroying the disk was his stated motive and not an improper one, and that he believed that he had preserved the content of the disk in the Information to Obtain a Search Warrant. The innocent motive, in the circumstances of this case, cannot affect the result.

If the officer knew of his duty to preserve and produce the disk, he acted in bad faith in destroying it... If he did not know of the duty to preserve and produce the disk, that amounted to inexcusable negligence... As noted above, it is almost inconceivable that a police officer could be unaware of the obligation to preserve material, such as his notes of an investigation and the disk in this case, constituted his notes of the investigation. If he did not know of his obligation to preserve evidence, he should have known (paras. 30-31).

In dismissing the Crown's appeal and holding that the trial judge's granting of a stay of proceedings wasn't improper, the court stated:

The difficulty in this case is that the material in issue has been destroyed. It cannot be recreated. Since it could have been of use to the defence, the defence has been prejudiced by its loss. Accordingly, both branches of the test are met. The prejudice caused by the destruction will be manifested through the trial and its outcome. Perhaps most importantly, no other remedy is capable of removing that prejudice (para. 33).

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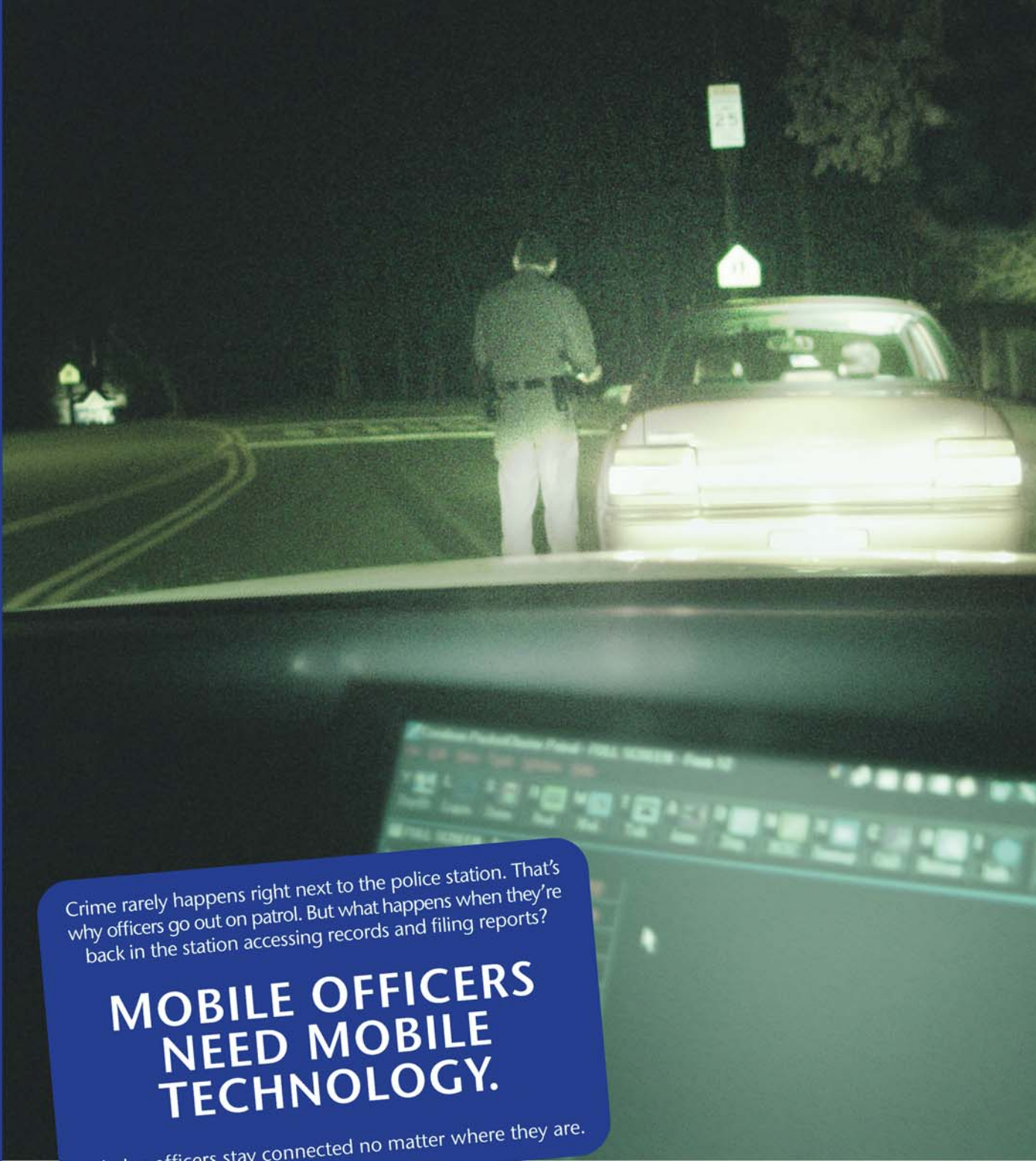
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Additional warning unnecessary without diligence

by Mike Novakowski

In a two to one decision, Alberta's top court has held that no additional warning is necessary when a detainee is not diligent in contacting counsel.

In *R. v. Jones*, 2005 ABCA 289, the accused was arrested for impaired driving, advised of his right to counsel and read the demand for breath samples. He said he wanted to speak to a lawyer of his choice and was taken to a private room at the station which had a phone, phone books and a list of lawyers. He was told to knock on the door when he was done and did so seven minutes later.

An officer entered and asked Jones whether he had contacted counsel. He had not contacted his lawyer, he replied, and the officer again told him about legal aid, pointed out the phone book and pointed out that he could call another lawyer. Jones said he only wanted to talk to counsel of his choice and did not ask for more time or assistance. He was escorted to the breathalyser room and provided samples.

At trial in Alberta Provincial Court the judge found Jones was provided with a reasonable opportunity to consult counsel, which he wasn't reasonably diligent in exercising. The breathalyser certificate was admitted and Jones was convicted of over 80mg%.

His appeal to the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench was dismissed so he took his case to the Alberta Court of Appeal, arguing his right to counsel under *s.10(b)* of the Charter had been violated. Police should have asked him why he wasn't able to reach a lawyer, read a further caution or at least asked him if he needed more time, he maintained, and should not have suggested contacting other counsel.

In dismissing the appeal, Justices McFayden

and Ritter first summarized the duties of police with respect to *s.10(b)* of the Charter:

Section 10(b) of the Charter imposes two duties on police officers. They must inform the detainee of his right to consult counsel without delay and of the existence and availability of legal aid and duty counsel. If the detained person wishes to consult counsel, the police must provide a reasonable opportunity for the detained person to exercise that right and refrain from eliciting evidence until he or she has had that opportunity.

Where the trial judge concludes that a reasonable opportunity has been provided, the trial judge must consider whether the detained person was reasonably diligent in exercising that opportunity. The burden is on the detainee to establish reasonable diligence. If the detainee is unable to reach counsel after reasonably diligent efforts, then the issue of waiver will arise and a Prosper warning may be required (para. 8).

In finding police complied with their responsibilities under *s.10(b)*, the majority found officers did not do anything to interfere with Jones exercising his right to counsel. Rather than remaining in the phone room or asking for more time or help, Jones terminated his efforts by knocking on the door, signalling he was finished. Moreover, questioning a detainee about their reasons for not being able to reach counsel could be viewed as interfering with their right to privacy in consulting a lawyer. Other arguments submitted by Jones were also rejected:

The (accused) also suggests that the police officer should have asked him whether he required further time. However, the police officer had not interrupted the (accused) nor had he suggested to him that his time was up. On the only evidence, the (accused) knocked on the door because he had terminated his efforts

and was ready to proceed to the next step.

The police officer reasonably concluded from the (accused's) actions that the (accused) had terminated his efforts to try to call his own lawyer. In the circumstances, an inquiry about whether the (accused) needed more time would have been redundant. As he knew that the (accused) had been unable to reach his own lawyer, the police officer reminded the (accused) that he could seek the assistance of legal aid counsel or other counsel. The (accused) responded that he did not wish to do so.

We do not agree with the suggestion of counsel for the (accused) that the police officer's attempt to provide additional information to the (accused) constituted an improper interference with the (accused's) right to consult counsel of his own choice.

The (accused) also suggests that an additional Prosper warning should have been read to the (accused). That warning may be required where the detained person, who has been reasonably diligent in exercising his right but hasn't been successful, subsequently wishes to waive his right to counsel. It is not applicable here (references omitted, paras. 9-12).

Justice Berger disagreed with his colleagues, noting there are two ways a person can waive their right to counsel after asserting it:

- 1) By unequivocal waiver (clear and unambiguous language).
- 2) By failing to reasonably pursue the right to counsel.

In this case, Justice Berger opined that police did not provide the accused with a reasonable opportunity to contact counsel and should have clarified the situation before taking him to the breathalyser. Berger would have allowed the appeal, quashed the conviction and entered an acquittal.

Visit www.blueline.ca/resources/caselaw for the complete case. E-mail caselaw@blueline.ca to reach Mike Novakowski.

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Chief wants gang members off firing ranges



Calgary Police Chief Jack Beaton wants street gang members banned from firing ranges.

Beaton says criminals shouldn't be given a chance to practise their aim when gang violence is rising across the province. He says he'd like a system in place where any shooter using the range would have to scan their driver's licence before they begin target practice.

Beaton has spoken with Alberta government regulators and asked them to come up with measures that can be put in place to limit the activities of gang members.

"I asked them to start discussing registering everybody who comes in to use the firearms range," Beaton says. "Right now members can use it, but I want everybody."

Beaton says police at a firing range recently observed a gang member who was under a 10 year firearms ban.

Cadet corps curbs youth violence

by Judy Monchuk



UNDATED (CP) - With children as young as 10 involved in gang activity and drive-by shootings becoming frighteningly commonplace, Aboriginal leaders on Alberta's Hobbema reserve went looking for a way to stem the violence.

They are hoping a cadet program will be the answer.

"This has gone beyond our control and we need help," said Mel Buffalo, spokesman for the Samson Cree Nation, one of four bands which live in Hobbema, south of Edmonton.

Officers policing the community of 12,000 have a caseload that is a staggering 3.5 times the national average, including a sizable amount of youth crime.

Although many might think a program with mandatory uniforms and honour-bound activities would be viewed as too geeky to attract teen interest, that's not so.

It got an enthusiastic response from teens when pitched to Hobbema high school students in June. About 30 kids have signed up for the Community Cadet Corps program, which is expected to begin in the fall once volunteer leaders are trained.

"A lot of them were saying 'when do we get started?'," said Cst. Darrel Bruno of the Hobbema RCMP.

Bruno says kids in broken families are easy targets for gang leaders looking to recruit children as young as 10 to run drugs because they are out of range of the law - at least until they turn 12.

"They're looking for acceptance from somewhere, and if they're not getting it at home they'll get it somewhere else," said Bruno.

RCMP Cpl. Rick Sanderson, who created the Community Cadet Corps in Saskatchewan in 1996, says Hobbema is not alone in its struggle.

"We actually have kids here in Regina who will brag about how many cars they stole: to them that's a badge of honour to make themselves look better," said Sanderson, whose Cree heritage was key in establishing the parameters of the program.

"We have to reach these kids before they get involved with crime," he said.

Sanderson started the corps in Carry The Kettle reserve near Regina after an elder came to him seeking help when her grandson got in trouble with the law.

"I want these kids to be proud of themselves for something positive," Sanderson said from Regina, where he's part of the Aboriginal policing unit. "That could be getting their first-aid certificate or being involved in a sports program."

Sanderson says that when he began the corps he was able to attract some of the leaders of a loose-knit gang and channel their energy into more constructive ventures.

"It's my feeling that these kids want a

chance to lead, they want recognition," he said. "Unfortunately, we have home situations where these kids don't get a chance to be heard or seen as someone important. They want a family and that's what cadet corps is: a family."

The paramilitary organization hones leadership skills, teaches self-defence including use of firearms, requires regular school attendance and a set amount of community service. It's aimed at youth aged 12 to 18.

In the past, reserves involved with the program across Western Canada have seen their crime rates drop by up to 50 per cent, while cadets have seen their school marks rise.

"One of my biggest payoffs is when I can walk through the First Nations University in Regina and see a bunch of my former cadets in university," said Sanderson.

Buffalo says only a tiny minority of Hobbema's youth are involved with drugs and gang activity, but the frequency of violent incidents has many residents worried for their safety.

In May, a teenage girl was charged with second-degree murder after a 30-year-old man was beaten to death by a group of young people brandishing bats, boards and a sword.

A turf war between rival gangs has resulted in a marked escalation in violence, home invasions and gunfire. One girl narrowly escaped injury when a bullet came through her window and embedded itself in her mattress, and a 17-year-old boy was shot in the shoulder in a gang-related incident.

"It almost seems like a rite of passage," said Buffalo, frustration evident in his voice. "It seems for young persons in this community the only way to survive is to get involved with gangs, and that shouldn't be."

Sanderson says the cadet corps offers a support network to kids facing a troubled future.

"For a kid to say 'I want to be a doctor, I want to work hard at school and stay out of trouble,' that's way beyond the world they live in," he said. "It takes a pretty brave person to say 'I don't agree with your drinking or your gang stuff.' With the cadet corps, everyone has a common goal of making something of themselves."

There is obviously a demand. At one point, there were 1,200 young people involved in the corps in Saskatchewan but a lack of funding has reduced the number to 200. Calls for Sanderson's expertise have come from across Canada.

Buffalo is hopeful that establishing the cadet program in Hobbema could eventually lead to an Aboriginal police force but he concedes that's far down the road, and now it's just one small step in fixing the many social problems on the reserve.

"One just stops the bleeding," he said. "There's a whole list of things that need to be done: courts, policing, the social system, the child safety net... I could go on and on."

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POLICING IN CHINA

A failure to communicate with the people



by Jim Clark

My work as a security consultant has taken me to many places. You may recall my partner and I breaching security barriers at the Madrid train station as part of our review. Two days later terrorist blew up the station, killing many people.

Our assignment on a recent trip to China was to look at security from a crowd control perspective. We have a client who manages property in Whistler, BC, which will host the 2010 Olympics. Beijing will host the 2008 Olympics and Shanghai is hosting the World's Fair in 2010, so what better place to learn?

I was asked by *Blue Line* to also look at policing. Armed with several copies and a handful of police pins to help introduce myself, we set off for Beijing. The plan was to start in the capital city, move through the country to Shanghai and then down through the back

country, ending up in Hong Kong.

China has about 1.3 billion people. It encouraged large families in the '60s during the cold war, we were told, as a means to support the largest free standing army in the world, a distinction it holds to this day. As China's relationship with other countries changed, it was discovered the population could not be supported by the country's own resources alone. A one child, one family policy was established and still exists today. This is a dramatic change for a country that, until 1979, allowed males to have more than one wife in some areas.

China has several levels of policing under a system controlled both locally and by the central government. The Ministry of Public Security is the principle police authority, responsible for most day-to-day policing, and is the main domestic security agency, along the lines of the RCMP or FBI. Its officers are usually unarmed, wear a blue uniform and are not as respected by

the public as those from other agencies. Negative comments about poor training, salary and complaints of poor conduct are commonplace.

The People's Armed Police Force is paramilitary and responsible for domestic security. Its officers are not normally deployed but we had a chance to observe them in Tiananmen Square during the holiday week. They carry sidearms and other weapons if needed. The "armed police," as they are known, wear an olive green uniform instead of dark grey or blue. Their primary mission is to protect government buildings and public corporations, provide internal security and deal with major public events. The force retains a military structure responding to emergencies and maintaining law and order and has a counter-terrorist unit.

An interpreter and driver was assigned to us when we arrived in Beijing. The young man was a university graduate who studied languages. All guides must take a government training program and be licensed. We travelled as tourists, as restrictions still exist in China and it was felt that this would be easier.

Beijing became China's capital in 1057 and was given its present name in 1421 during the Ming Dynasty. The city, which was known to the west as Peking until 1949, is 16,807 square kilometres and home to some 13.8 million people.

The first thing that hits you is the city's enormous size and the second thing is the traffic. There are six million bicycles and millions of other assorted vehicles, including motor scooters and push carts. The many expressways and modern bridges and roadways cannot handle the traffic volume. Think of the busiest roadway you've ever seen, at the peak of rush hour – then triple it and you'd have some idea of traffic in downtown Beijing.

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Drivers make unsafe lane changes and following too close an art form. Cutting in and out, inching in front of others and pedestrians who wander out between cars would test the nerves of the best of us. They have around 600 traffic fatalities a year, I was told, which may seem high but, compared to Toronto's 2.5 million people and some 60 pedestrian deaths annually, doesn't seem out of place.

We made our first attempt to connect with a police officer on our way to the Forbidden City, located across the street from Tiananmen Square and filled with people because it was a national holiday week and everyone was off work. Our interpreter advised us not to try but I insisted that he introduce me so that I could ask a few questions. He reluctantly agreed, approached two officers and quickly returned to advise me that they did not wish to speak to me.

They turned their backs and took a couple of steps away when I tried to take their picture, and I could see they were not pleased with my efforts; their body language clearly signalled that I should move on. After several attempts with other officers from both police agencies, it became clear they did not want any part of an exchange with foreigners.

As westerners, it was obvious that we stood out in the crowd and police who were assigned to the immediate area continued to pay special attention to us. In an effort to satisfy my own curiosity, I would make eye contact with various officers while moving along with the crowd and, at the same time, lift my camera. Each time I did so, the officer would move from his post and look in the other direction. This conduct wasn't just limited to tourist locations.

Officers standing at street corners or patrolling pedestrian malls, or in other cities, reacted the same way. It was apparent they were trained not to engage in contact with foreigners.

Although this reluctance may seem strange, Toronto Police had similar restrictions when I joined in the 1960's. A section in our regulations directed officers not to engage in "unnecessary talking" with shop keepers and other persons – the opposite of what we today call community based policing.

This is beginning to change; police recently held their first 'Police Open Day.' Several thousand people watched officers carry out exercises and had a chance to look at equipment on display or talk to officers at information desks.

Police officers are assigned to neighbourhood patrols and, in most cases, live in the immediate area. They are expected to know residents personally, not only preventing and punishing crime but promoting desirable behaviour by counselling and acting as role models.

Equipment is as good and in some cases better than we have in Canada. Police vehicles come in all shapes and sizes, from high performance pursuit vehicles to excellent motorcycles. They have bomb response vehicles, helicopters and golf cart type vehicles for use in pedestrian malls. I didn't see one officer who wasn't neatly dressed and physically fit.

Note that officers in the picture stand at attention. This is very common, since they're assigned static posts for very long periods of time and stand without moving, which may look good but doesn't help them see what is going on around them.

Shanghai, often referred to as the Paris of

the east, covers 5,800 square kilometres and has a population of 18.7 million people, including two million who live on boats. Police there face the same challenges as in Beijing, with the added responsibility of dealing with a large floating population. There have been dramatic changes over the past 15 years and the city continues to grow at an incredible rate. It has five subway lines, with five more under construction, and serious traffic problems. Very high density living brings with it serious domestic and crime issues.

I left China with a new understanding. This is a country of great wealth but with overwhelming poverty. The average wage is about \$1,200 US per year, which means the low end of the line has people making as little as a dollar a day. They work hard, are very friendly and have a culture and history that is both exciting and tragic.

As a former police manager, I am in awe of their ability to cope with the enormous challenges facing police, but I am also reminded they have strict and sometimes oppressive powers at their disposal. They have the necessary equipment and staff, but they lack the skills and ability to communicate with all of the people they serve. This is not the fault of the front line officer, but a failure of command officers and government authorities. They don't understand, or simply do not agree, with the principle that police are servants of the public.

Jim Clark, president of *Monad Security Audit Systems* is a former deputy chief of the *Toronto Police Service*. He can be contacted at: jclark@monadsecurity.com

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EDITORIALS

Police in Oxnard, California say the investigation involving the missing UPS packages has been solved.

Authorities say a worker found a different and illegal way of dealing with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of parcels – by delivering them to himself.

The investigation began when UPS investigators detected a major problem with missing packages. Upon further investigation, they were led to the home of UPS worker Carlos Mendez, wherein \$25,000 worth of stolen property was found.

The total loss is estimated to be in the half million-dollar US range, authorities said.

Investigators arrested Mendez and his wife on grand theft, conspiracy and possession of stolen property charges.

Convicted murderer Synthia Kavanagh, notorious for winning the right to have a sex-change operation while in prison is back in the news.

Kavanagh was recently transferred out of Edmonton's women's prison to Grand Valley Institution for Women in Kitchener, Ontario for threatening staff.

Cathy Stocki of Correctional Service of Canada says in 2001 the service agreed to pay for sex reassignment surgery in cases where it is considered essential by a gender identity expert. Stocki says follow-up medical assistance like "aftercare" is provided if it's considered medically essential.

A prison source was quoted as saying that Kavanagh was given a sex toy "for medical purposes."

Authorities say a Texas man crashed a stolen pickup truck into three vehicles, a light pole

and a bridge pillar before a crowd caught him and tied him up with a garden hose.

"It was a three-ring circus, it really was," witness Mike Cates was quoted as saying.

Cates says the truck nearly hit him before its final collision with a vehicle in a fast-food restaurant parking lot. Drivers in two cars were injured.

Amarillo Police Cpl. Brian Thomas says Joshua Smith, 26, was arrested and charged with the following; unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, failure to stop and render aid, driving under the influence of drugs and driving with a suspended licence.

Witnesses say approximately 20 people chased the suspect before they subdued him with the garden hose.

Dirty talk wasn't what New Jersey drivers were expecting when they called the state Motor Vehicle Commission to get special license plates.

A typo on a motor vehicle Web site as well as on printed material distributed by the state was actually sending callers to a phone sex hotline.

The toll-free number with information about handicapped or animal-friendly plates has one of the new 888 area codes, instead of the usual 1-800 numbers.

The Web site has been corrected, according to state officials. They are also producing stickers with the correct number to be placed on current brochures previously printed.

A Federal Court of Canada judge has awarded Vlado Maljkovich \$5,000 in compensation after being exposed to second-hand smoke in prison.

The convicted murderer sued Correctional

Services Canada, claiming he was exposed to second-hand smoke at the Fenbrook Institution in Gravenhurst, Ont.

The judge's decision noted Maljkovich was in non-smoking areas of the prison and was entitled to live without such exposure. He also said Correctional Services Canada failed to take what would have been reasonable steps to ensure the smoking policy was enforced.

Maljkovich's lawyer says the case sets a precedent for other inmates.

He was serving a life sentence for killing his wife and daughter in Toronto in 1993.

Donovan James Clements immediately called police when he had his bottle of whisky stolen by muggers.

But when police in Moncton reviewed liquor store video tapes to see if they could identify the muggers, they instead saw Clements initially pocketing the bottle of booze himself.

When police went to arrest him, Clements initially fled only to be apprehended a short time later.

In an odd circumstance of karma, Judge Irwin Lampert asked Clements, "How could you have the nerve to report it stolen when you stole it from the liquor store in the first place? This is bizarre, to say the least."

Clements pleaded guilty to theft, assaulting police, resisting arrest, possessing a prohibited weapon, escaping lawful custody and to an unrelated charge of shoplifting at another store.

He was fined \$200 and placed on probation for two years.

What's a grade-two field trip without your uncle's stash of illegal drugs?

A teacher from the Dunbar School in Bridgeport, Connecticut discovered an eight-year-old boy stuffing more than a dozen bags of pot into his pants during the school trip. School officials contacted authorities.

Apparently not aware of the ill-advised show and tell, the boy escaped any punishment, however, not his uncle.

Albert Davidson, 18, now faces a number of charges including drug dealing and risk of injury to a minor. He was released after posting \$1,000 bond.

The original policeman in the 1970s music group the Village People apparently is not able to let go of his "Macho Man" hit single.

Victor Willis decided to skip out on his drug case sentencing say Redwood City, California authorities.

Willis was arrested in July after police found a gun and what was believed to be crack cocaine in his car after a traffic stop.

Scheduled to be sentenced in San Mateo County Superior Court, Willis' failure to show up prompted the judge to issue arrest warrants for a probation violation and the drug case.

BLUE LINE TRADE SHOW 2006

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- Bridging phrases and key messages that work every time
- The importance of building alliances



April 25 & 26: 0900-1500

Instructor: Jim Stanton, J Stanton & Associates

Fee: \$500 +GST

Pre-register: www.blueline.ca/tradeshow

Winnipeg, Toronto—Two Canadian cities are implementing new measures to try and curb the growing concerns of gang violence.

Toronto police's Gun and Gang Task Force is being expanded to include police from York, Peel and Durham regions in addition to the Ontario Provincial Police and RCMP.



Bill Blair

TPS Chief Bill Blair says it will take a co-ordinated effort by all police agencies in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) to battle the issue of gang violence that affects all outlying communities, not just in the city. He says the OPP, RCMP and all GTA police services have committed to resources and officers.

"We are committed to the formation of a GTA gang enforcement unit," said Blair, who was joined by Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Monte Kwinter and TPS Board chair Dr. Alok Mukherjee at a news conference.

Ontario Attorney General Michael Bryant, also present said, "today marks a major escalation in the forces of law and order in the face of utterly unacceptable gun violence ... "We are immediately and dramatically strengthening the ability of Toronto's Gun and Gang Task Force to investigate and prosecute those responsible for gun violence."

The expansion of the task force will include 26 more veteran officers and 32 additional expert Crown attorneys to assist police in prosecutions of major criminal gangs.

Kwinter described the 44 gun-related deaths in Toronto this year as shocking and says they have left "a blanket of fear" over the city.



Jack Ewatski

Meanwhile, Winnipeg Police Chief Jack Ewatski and Mayor Sam Katz have announced the formation of a special police unit to carry out Operation Clean Sweep, an initiative to target street-level crime in the inner city.

Comprised of 40 officers, the unit will perform high visibility enforcement in areas deemed to have the greatest criminal activity in Winnipeg. Operations will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and will bring together input from all city departments with resources who can support it.

Launched in November, the Clean Sweep unit will be in addition to existing police shifts which will not change their deployment strategy.

The city is spending 800-thousand dollars on the unit that will target street-level violence, weapons and prostitution. Ewatski says public safety is the number one concern which is why they are taking their enforcement efforts to another level.

"Not only is this an unprecedented manpower commitment, but it also brings together all our crime fighting resources to collaborate with other agencies and the community to make

a safe Winnipeg," Ewatski says.

The announcement of the new unit came two weeks after 17-year-old Philippe Haiart was killed when he got caught in gang crossfire.

TORONTO (CP)— They're an elite group of officers with a no-holds-barred approach to chasing down child pornographers in cyberspace and rescuing the young victims – an aggressive and controversial style that has earned headlines and notoriety around the world.

But when faced with the horror of children being sexually exploited on the Internet, the members of Toronto's child exploitation unit say they have no plans to stop pushing the boundaries of traditional police work.

"Certain agencies around the world think that we're too aggressive, (but) I'm not quite sure that we could be too aggressive in this area," said Det.-Sgt. Paul Gillespie, who steers the internationally renowned squad.

"If it was one of my loved ones in some form of horrific abuse that I didn't know about, I would want the police to do anything and everything they could to rescue that child. We'll just sort of keep pushing that envelope."

Gillespie vowed to step up the fight at an international police conference aimed at helping investigators to battle the rapidly evolving world of Internet child pornography.

The unit's willingness to push the envelope became evident last spring when Gillespie, desperate to drum up clues about one particular young victim, publicly released digitally altered photos of the girl in hopes someone would recognize where they'd been taken.

The move touched off concerns about privacy - especially when another photo was released, this one of a young girl not considered to be a victim, but a material witness.

It worked - sort of. The victim was indeed identified, but had been rescued years earlier and her abuser convicted and jailed by U.S. authorities.

Squad members said they wouldn't hesitate to take similar liberties again.

"I really think that it's a valuable tool to get the public involved in helping to identify victimized children, or at least locations where they are so we can further our investigations," said Det. Ian Lamond. "If you don't know where the child is, there's really no meaningful investigation you can conduct."

That aggressive approach and the recognition that Internet child pornography is a borderless crime, has been instrumental in putting the Toronto squad in the same professional circle as the FBI and Scotland Yard.

"They're a local Toronto squad, but they're willing to take on the world," said investigative journalist Julian Sher, who shadowed the unit while preparing to write a book on Internet child porn. "They're willing to start an investigation without there being any clear evidence that a Toronto child is at risk. That's very broad and far reaching."

The esteem in which the Toronto team is held was evident at the conference.

"They are the people that we look to and I've looked to, for guidance as well as for knowledge as to where we need to go and where we need to be," said Det-Sgt. Mark Clarke, a Bermuda police officer who was in Toronto for the conference.

That level of respect in the global police community stems from the "national and international expertise" the Toronto team has built in recent years, said Sher.

"The Toronto guys know the Scotland Yard guys on a first name basis. They know the FBI guys. They pick up the phone and they literally talk to somebody."

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- How to read liars and detect deception
- Techniques to get "court admissible" confessions



April 25: 0900-1530 or April 26: 0900-1530
Instructor: Gordon MacKinnon, Peel Police Service, Ret.
Fee: \$150 + GST
Pre-register: www.blueline.ca/tradeshow

Clock runs out on Stopwatch Gang affiliate

HOLLYWOOD — Christopher John Clarkson, a man with alleged ties to Canada's notorious "Stopwatch Gang" has been arrested in South Florida, authorities say.

Clarkson, who had been working in a suburb of Hollywood under the name Stephen Willis Duffy, had his real estate office stormed by U.S. government agents.

Clarkson, 59, has been sought by authorities since he fled his drug trial in January, 1976. Clarkson, not involved in the robberies, had been charged with gang member Thomas Harrigan for allegedly arranging a drug transaction on the Caribbean island Curacao.

"Clarkson was sentenced to 20 years in prison but fled before he could serve his time," Sgt. Nathalie Deschenes, a spokeswoman for the RCMP was quoted as saying. "If he comes back to Canada, he will be arrested and he will go to prison."

During the 1970s and '80s, more than 100 banks and armoured cars in the United States and Canada were robbed by the Stopwatch Gang.

Dubbed the Stopwatch Gang because they used a stopwatch to time their hits, the robbers have gained notoriety from several films and books documenting their activities.

Clarkson, after fleeing Canada, allegedly stole the identity of a four-year-old who died in northern California in 1948. He applied for a U.S. passport and was arrested in 1991 on a drunk and disorderly misdemeanor charge in Los Angeles.

Upon the U.S. Diplomatic Security Service checking Duffy's driver's licence, authorities said a flag went up because the driver's licence belonged to a dead person.

Boyd becomes new chief in Edmonton



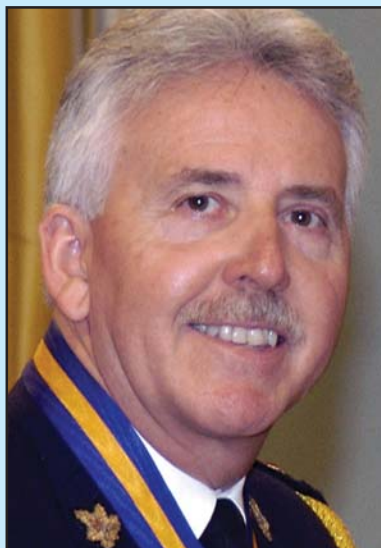
Nine-months in waiting, the Edmonton Police Service has announced Mike Boyd as their new

chief of police.

Boyd's appointment concludes an ongoing search for a new chief since the firing of Fred Rayner in February. Darryl da Costa has been serving as acting chief during that time period.

Boyd, who lost out on a bid to become the chief in Toronto earlier this year, becomes Edmonton's first chief to be hired from outside the agency since Bob Lunney came aboard from Ottawa in 1974.

Boyd, 53, joined the Toronto Police Service as a 17-year-old in 1969. Before becoming deputy chief in 1995, he made a reputation for himself as a stellar homicide detective which led to his eventual role as the homicide staff sergeant. He was also a consultant to the Canadian and American law enforcement agencies on criminal and homicide investigation.



He worked at the Toronto Police College in 1991 and in 1993 where he was appointed the deputy director of training, education and development for the service.

Persuaded out of retirement this year to act as police chief in Toronto, Boyd was narrowly edged out by Bill Blair for the permanent job in April. He comes to Edmonton highly regarded by his peers in Toronto and elsewhere.

"If Edmonton is looking for a bit of a

change in direction, he is ideal for the job," Brockville Police Chief Barry King was quoted as saying. "Sometimes it's better to bring someone from the outside in when you need to get back on the rails ... You could call 100 people in the Toronto Police Service and you wouldn't hear a bad word about him."

Boyd is expected to begin his new post in January.



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Police officers celebrate basic training graduation



Iraqi Police recruits celebrate after a Sept. 29 graduation ceremony at the Baghdad Police Academy (above); an Iraqi police officer reflects in front of a mural painted by a contractor at the academy (below left); graduating students hand over the academy flag to incoming students (below right). Since it opened in January 2004, the academy has graduated close to 16,000 students. This class was the first taught entirely by Iraqi police trainers.



Photos by Ann Bertucci
The Advisor - Multi-National Security Transition Command News



BAGHDAD – The Iraq Police Service graduated 669 police officers from the basic police training course at the Baghdad Police Academy Sept. 29.

The Baghdad Police Academy opened its doors in January 2004 and has graduated more than 15,800 students since then. This was the first basic training course taught entirely by Iraqi police trainers, who received basic and advanced instructor development training at the facility.

The 10-week basic police training program is designed to provide fundamental and democratic policing skills based on international human rights standards to the students in preparation for assuming police officer responsibilities. The program consists of academic study of general policing topics combined with a heavy emphasis on tactical operational policing skills. The basic police training course was recently modified to increase combat survival and police skills training while building an attitude of teamwork and cohesion. New classes were added that provide for more hands-on and practical training exercises especially addressing specific survival skills needed by today's Iraqi Police Service officers.

More than 45,000 police recruits have previously completed the basic training program at police academies throughout the country.

The new officers will report for duty in the coming weeks and take up their assignments at their respective police stations throughout Iraq.

Transport Minister **Jean Lapierre** plans to head to cabinet soon with ideas to beef up anti-terrorism measures aboard rail and mass transit systems, says his security adviser, **Margaret Purdy**. There has been an increased focus to improve transit security following the bombings that hit the London subway system during the summer. Purdy says industry members are calling for more training, better emergency preparedness, additional anti-terrorism exercises and simulations, and better information sharing. More physical security measures in transit stations and aboard vehicles such as extra personnel and greater use of closed-circuit cameras has also been recommended, she says. She says while the government is working on an overarching transportation security blueprint due next year, it also wants to take some quick, interim steps on commuter systems.



Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, **Irwin Cotler**, has introduced legislation that would restrict the use of conditional sentences for serious and violent offences. "This Bill is part of our set of initiatives to better protect Canadians, building on recent legislation regarding trafficking in persons, the protection of children and the DNA databank," says Cotler. "In particular, this new legislation would further extend our child protection laws by removing conditional sentences as an option for offenders who sexually assault children – thus reflecting the serious harm caused by such offences." The reforms would create a presumption preventing courts from using conditional sentence in cases of serious personal injury offences and any offence where the individual case is so serious that the need to condemn the act – and not use a conditional sentence – takes precedence over any other sentencing objective.



Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police president **Armand La Barge** says lengthy court delays, skyrocketing costs and lax prison sentences are making a mockery of the justice system. Labarge's comments came as he announced a new committee to work with government and community leaders to make the system more effective. He says a critical lack of justices of the peace, overbooked courts "and a growing insensitivity towards victims of crime" have clogged the system and kept officers from doing their jobs. La Barge says, "truth in sentencing, meaningful and enforceable rights for victims of crime, a full review of our parole system and the elimination of the red tape and bureaucracy that is strangling our criminal justice system and costing our taxpayers millions of dollars may well turn the tide of crime."



Cape Breton Regional Police Chief **Edgar MacLeod** says while the agency wants the province to immediately bring in an electronic monitoring program for people serving conditional sentences – it shouldn't waste its time with a pilot project. Justice Minister Michael Baker has introduced a bill to allow the province to put electronic ankle bracelets on criminals sentenced to house arrest or other conditional sentences. The bracelets will use GPS satellite technology to monitor offender's whereabouts. With a one-year trial program to begin in the Halifax area next year, MacLeod says the program should just go ahead because the public needs more protection.





Computers are changing everything

by Dorothy Cotton

There ought to be a name for that infinitesimally short period of time between when you hit the 'send' key and when you think "oh s—, I shouldn't have said that." Maybe others don't have as much trouble with this as I do, but if I had a dime for every time I had a second thought – a fraction of a second too late – I'd be a rich person.

It's funny how people can find themselves saying or doing things on the Internet that they'd never say or do in person. Research shows we are more direct and aggressive, and less inhibited, on computers than in person, likely because we don't receive immediate feedback. When you talk to someone face-to-face, you can see their eyebrows go up and eyes begin to roll when you step out of line. There are no such cues on the net.

People are also relatively anonymous on the net, which might give you liberty to say and do things you otherwise would not. It's like picking your nose or rubbing unmentionable body parts. Most of us only do it in the elevator where no one can see us. The fact that communication is different can lead to all sorts of strange happenings; some are illegal or involve taking advantage of the innocents among us. One has to wonder – to what extent does technology in general and computers and the Internet in particular affect crime? Specifically, one might ask:

1. Do computers cause or allow people to commit crimes who otherwise would not do so?
2. Are the kinds of people who commit computer-related crimes different from other criminals?
3. Are people more vulnerable to computer crimes than other criminal endeavours?
4. How much of all this is attributable to the differences between communicating through computers or face to face?

Based on an extensive review of the literature and all the research done in this area, I can

say conclusively:

1. We don't know
2. We don't know
3. Maybe
4. Some

There are a number of assumptions and beliefs about how computers and technology contribute to crime. Consider those who might be on the receiving end of illegal computer-based activities. Are we actually more vulnerable on the computer than in person? It can be argued that people (e.g. potential victims) are handicapped by not having access to the same cues that they might use in face to face contacts, and thus may not be as good at sizing up people who approach them.

Take people who respond out of greed to requests from Nigerians wanting help moving money, for example. Potential victims don't have access to the nonverbal cues and contextual information available in everyday life. They may end up relying simply on what people say rather than whether they look shifty eyed or dress badly, making them more vulnerable – but research also indicates that a person with fewer hints and cues to rely on pays a lot more attention to the ones they have. That may make them MORE rather than less cautious. It can work both ways. The 'bad guy' cannot use tone of voice, nice clothes and a suave manner to persuade you; their only tool is words.

It's also been argued that the sheer availability of large numbers of people on the Internet makes crime easier – but also renders computer users immune more quickly. How many of us fail to answer our door or the telephone to the same extent that we delete unread e-mail? Also, curiously enough, the very fact that Internet scams hit so many people at once actually makes the potential crime more rather than less visible.

My guess is that we would never hear about it if someone phoned a few people and asked them for their bank account numbers so they could transfer large sums of money from Nigeria. When a few gazillion people are e-mailed about it, especially when some, like you, work in the criminal justice system, then it's all over the news that we should not give out our account numbers; again, it works both ways.

Come to think of it, how prevalent are things like obscene phone calls any more? Maybe the folks who used to make them now send obscene e-mails. Is this indicative of MORE or just DIFFERENT crime? There's not a lot compelling evidence that the crime rate overall is going up – it might just be the same people using different tools. One wonders, did the people who used to be horse rustlers become car thieves or did the automobile actually bring about a whole new category of criminal?

Research also tells that, along with being direct, honest and aggressive, people also tend to rely less on the little civilities that make conversations run smoothly in everyday life. That might make people more apt to try naughty things on the net, but it also could mean others will be quicker to tell them to get lost than they would be in person.

There's no doubt that the Internet has made crime a little different, but it remains to be seen just how different. It's also not clear yet whether it has led to more or worse crime.

As for hitting the send button too fast – when I really stop to think about it, the fact is that I do the same thing in person. Things sometimes just fly out of my mouth without editing... you know, maybe it's not so different after all.

You can reach Dr. Dorothy Cotton, *Blue Line's* psychology columnist at deepblue@blueline.ca, by fax at (613) 530-3141 or mail at: Dorothy Cotton RTC(O) PO Box 22 Kingston, Ontario K7L 4V7.

The Great Mac Attack!

by Tony MacKinnon



BLUE LINE TRADE SHOW 2006

Lessons From a Gang Cop

Gangs have spread from big cities to the suburbs and even rural areas and it's crucial that law enforcement train and upgrade their methods to deal with this threat.

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April 26: 0900-1530

Instructor: Tony Moreno, LAPD

Fee: \$150 + GST

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CARING FOR EMERGENCY WORKERS

Cops caught in the eye of Katrina get some backup



by David Greenhalgh

Gulfport, Mississippi police officer Raymond Brooks worked 18 hours a day for 21 days straight after Katrina hit, sleeping in his car. His wife Evelyn, a nurse, also worked non-stop.



Raymond Brooks

Communication lines were down, preventing them from reaching their three children, who went to live with their grandparents in Florida. "The kids saw what had happened here on TV and they thought we were dead," Brooks says.

Neither had time to check on the condition of their house, which was located about three blocks from the Gulf shoreline. Finally, Evelyn asked an officer friend she saw at the hospital to check on it.

"There's good news and bad news," he told

her during a phone call. "The pets are all here but the house is flooded, off its foundation and there's a hole where the fireplace once was."

The Brooks didn't live in a flood zone and so had no flood insurance, but their mortgage remains. If you look carefully, you can see the 'debris line' on the side of their house, which was formed by the remains of three homes that used to be between the Brooks and the waterfront highway. Their house is well over 1,000 feet from the high tide line and some 20 feet higher in elevation.

Since the hurricane, it has been an emotional roller coaster. Brooks says, "It was really hard on Evelyn the first couple of weeks - a lot of crying. She still thinks of some item

missing in our lives and remembers just where it was located in the house." The couple is expecting another baby in March.

The Federation of Christian Police Officers (FCPO) are moving from the 'recovery' into the 'repair' phase of our operation in Gulfport. Our partners at Youth For Christ (YFC) have completed about 16 of 26 recovery jobs for the Gulfport Police Department (GPD) and have done much to help and bless a hurting and needy community.

With the help of skilled Samaritans Purse volunteers, we have begun five 'repair phase' work orders and there are many more to go. Our members have offered their skills, which include sheet rock installation and roofing.

One of our civilian staff, a very gracious lady and both a flood and wind damage victim, was underinsured and her husband is incapacitated by a lengthy illness. Knowing others were worse off than her, she would not ask for help. A YFC team from a Colorado church was dispatched and promptly dealt with some of her immediate needs.



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The Great Mac Attack!

by Tony MacKinnon



TRY AND GET A GRIP BUDDY!... IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD!... BESIDES; KRISPY KREME IS GONNA KEEP AT LEAST SIX OUTLETS OPEN!

Having read Ms. Cotton's article *Are we spreading fear* (November 2005), I couldn't help but send a response. It would seem from the focus of the article that Ms Cotton has spent too much time in university and has lost her grip on reality. She has difficulty in seeing the benefit of notifying the communities of the potential danger of a sex offender or several sex offenders being re-established into our neighbourhoods, as was the case in Pickering.

As parents, we street safe our kids against talking to strangers but I would like to know how she would suggest protecting the most vulnerable of our society, our kids, against sex offenders who are masked as trustworthy neighbours. As she should be aware, they are predators and commonly network with others on how best to victimize.

It would appear from the article Ms. Cotton is more interested in the life time impact to the released sex offender than she is to the life time scarring of the victim and their family. I have followed Bill O'Reilly's *The O'Reilly Factor* for some time and am in agreement with Jessica's Law (legislation being established in numerous states throughout the US) regarding sex offenders.

Our children deserve the same rights as adults to be protected. We should commend the

police services for their courageous efforts in creating such a database and notifying the public. This gives parents a great tool to protect their children and our neighbourhoods.

Ms. Cotton should realize it's not about fear, it's about protection for the innocent. These predators forfeit their rights to anonymity when they destroy the lives of their victims.

Ken L. Bloomfield
Australia

Re: Training Alberta under one roof, page 40, October 2005 issue

Kudos to Solicitor General Harvey Cenaiko in his attempt to "Compile the highest stand-

ards of policing... in Canada," by virtue of a new training academy for Alberta police.

The article indicates the academy is to be the training centre for all Alberta peace officers EXCEPT the RCMP, who will continue to train in Regina.

In fact, the piece would suggest that Alberta is developing a double standard of policing. One for the communities having their own police service and the other – mostly rural areas and small towns – by the RCMP who leave Regina (or get transferred in) with only superficial knowledge of the many provincial laws and procedures relative only to Alberta.

Andrew F. Maksymchuk
Vernon, BC

Grow-op bust has national implications

WINNIPEG — A rural marijuana grow operation was raided by more than 100 RCMP officers in October, a takedown believed to have implications organized crime ties from Ontario and British Columbia.

One individual was arrested in the raid, which happened about 16 kilometres north of Inwood, Manitoba. The grow-op takedown followed the arrests of three individuals allegedly connected to the operation, one from Toronto and two at the Ontario border.

For 27 hours, a truck loaded with 317 kilograms of bud marijuana was followed by the RCMP from a farm to several locations in Toronto before arresting the driver.

Explaining the RCMP had to see where the truck was going, Staff Sgt. John Fleming says the Inwood operation also has ties to a raid which happened in Sundown, Man., on October 7. Eight-thousand plants were seized during that raid which resulted in charges against 25 men and three women.

During a bail application that was denied to one of the implicated women, Defence lawyer Mike Cook told court the group of 28 were impoverished Chinese immigrants who did the "grunt" work of watering plants and picking leaves after being lured to the Prairies by the promise of fast, easy money.

The accused were found by the RCMP sleeping side-by-side, head-to-toe in every room of a small, 700 square-foot house.

While investigators are trying to determine who ran the operation, Crown attorney Anne Turner says the individuals played an important role in the operation.

The 28 have been charged with production of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking.

BLUE LINE News Week

This article is an extract from *Blue Line's* weekly news briefing e-publication.

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FEDERAL SIGNAL

The perfect storm

How the DNA bill passed despite parliamentary chaos

by Steve Sullivan

Some political commentators might call it the perfect storm – that rare set of unconnected circumstances that come together to create a scenario and accomplish the impossible.

In this case, the impossible was the passage of legislation through the most tumultuous parliamentary session in decades, becoming law while a non-confidence vote leading to a possible government collapse loomed in the background.

The legislation was Bill C-13. The parliamentary crisis was a confidence vote on the minority Liberal government's budget. The urgency was the impending release of killer Karla Homolka and the potential release of many other violent offenders. The odds of getting any legislation through a committee and the House of Commons in this environment were not good, but the odds makers had not met a trio of determined women who were not about to take no for an answer.

The National DNA Databank opened for business in 2000. Since then, tens of thousands of DNA samples, including those of some of Canada's most violent offenders, have been submitted to it. The results are staggering – the databank has assisted law enforcement in investigating more than 200 murders, 500 sexual assaults and 70 attempted murders, not to mention hundreds of robberies and over 1,000 break and enters.

Yet even with those impressive results, the impact is a fraction of what it could be. Judges are not ordering the number of samples the government anticipated, despite clear direction to do so. The retroactive application of the law, specifically to dangerous offenders and serial sex offenders and killers, was recognized as too narrow almost from the start. Offenders found not criminally responsible by reason of a mental disorder were excluded, despite the fact that such people have committed some of the most horrific crimes in Canadian history. Legislators were concerned because these individuals were not convicted of a crime.

Despite the concerns of civil libertarians and defence lawyers (and their clients) that this was one more example of government playing Big Brother and trampling on people's privacy



rights, the DNA Databank has proven to be an important crime fighting tool and has had an impact on public safety.

At the beginning of May, the Commons Justice Committee was negotiating amendments to the government's bill to broaden the scope of the legislation. Most of the major amendments were based on recommendations by the Canadian Professional Police Association (CPPA) and Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime (CRCVC). These included expanding the retroactive scheme to include offenders who were serving sentences for only one murder and one sexual offence. They finally came to agreement May 10 and unanimously returned the amended bill back to the House of Commons for third reading.

That same afternoon, Parliament came to a grinding halt. The Conservatives and Bloc combined forces, threatening to bring the Liberals down on a motion of non-confidence in the government. The opposition parties won the vote, but the government and most parliamentary experts agreed it wasn't a true vote on non-confidence. However, Prime Minister Martin acknowledged there was a question of confidence

and said the parties would have their chance to bring his government down May 19th.

The opposition parties were not satisfied and brought the work of Parliament to a standstill, boycotting committees and adjourned the business of the House for three days straight. Bill C-13 was caught in the middle and it still had to get through the Senate before the 19th.

It was at this point Lesley Parrot, Carolyn Gardner and Terri Prioriello, all strangers to each other, had heard enough. They could not stand by while public safety was compromised for the sake of political gamesmanship.

Parrott's 11 year old daughter, Alison, was murdered by Frank Roy in 1986. Despite his murder conviction and previous convictions for rape, he is not in the DNA databank. Nor is Ralph Power, who murdered Sheryl Gardner in 1981, or David Dobson, who murdered Darlene Prioriello in 1983. Alison's mom Lesley, Sheryl's sister Carolyn and Darlene's sister Terri, with the assistance of the CRCVC, began to send e-mails and make calls to Stephen Harper, Jay Hill (opposition House leader), Tony Valeri (government House leader), Irwin Cotler (minister of justice) and anyone else they knew who

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might have some influence.

Their message was clear – whichever party was responsible for Bill C-13 not being passed before an election would pay at the polls. The public would be told, over and over again, who stopped authorities from getting Karla Homolka's DNA and that of many other violent offenders who could be walking the streets by summer.

On the evening of May 11, the CRCVC received a blackberry message from a high ranking Tory. They had agreed to let Bill C-13 go through the following morning. Shortly after the House opened on May 12th, the parliamentary secretary to the minister of justice, Paul Macklin, informed the speaker he had the consent of all the parties to pass Bill C-13 immediately.

There was no time to celebrate. The bill had a week to get through the senate before the real confidence vote on the 19th.

The three women began calling and sending more e-mails, this time to the powerhouses in the senate – government leader Jack Austin, opposition leader Noel Kinsella, Landon Pearson, who had carriage of the bill, etc. Soon, mass e-mails to all the senators were going out.

CPPA President Cannavino called upon the senate to give the bill speedy passage. It would help his members and make Canada a safer place.

The bill received first reading on the same day it passed through the house. Second reading took place late Monday night and it was sent to legal and constitutional affairs. The three women, however, hoped the senate would forego the committee review this time in order to get the bill moving. The Canadian Bar Association was asking the senate to hold extensive hearings. Senator Noel Kinsella told the press he would not simply rubber stamp the bill and would amend it if necessary, which meant sending it back to the House for their approval.

The three women kept busy, sending more e-mails, making more calls and notifying more reporters. The committee agreed it would only be necessary to hear from the minister of justice and that meeting was held on the evening

of May 17th. It lasted two hours, during which senators questioned the charter implications of removing judicial discretion, adding "less serious" offences for which DNA could be taken and collecting samples from those found not criminally responsible.

After hearing repeated assurances from the minister and his officials, the committee agreed to send the bill back to the senate for third and final reading. It was assumed this would happen on Wednesday, May 18. Surely they would not leave it to Thursday, the day of the confidence vote.

Wednesday came and went and third reading wasn't given. It was on the agenda for Thursday afternoon, which meant royal assent would have to be given immediately following the vote and before the vote of confidence in the House of Commons.

The three women waited, knowing everything possible had been done. It was now out of their hands. Shortly after 3 p.m., the speaker of the House of Commons announced the senate had given third reading to Bill C-13. Later that afternoon it received royal assent.

Given the political chaos in Ottawa, no one except these three women thought the bill would be passed in time. At the end of the day, Bill C-13 means thousands of violent offenders will now be included in the DNA databank, which in turn means police will be able to solve crimes.

The databank has already helped law enforcement match crimes in one province to crimes committed in another, sometimes years apart. It has helped police solve crimes that were decades old and written off as unsolvable.

There are over 3,000 unsolved homicides in Canada and recent trends suggest the number is likely to grow – statistics show they're increasing in Canada and the United States every year. Contrast the increase of unsolved murders with the dropping murder rate. One would think that fewer murders would mean police have more time to solve them; not so, say homicide investigators.

The nature of homicide is changing. They

are becoming tougher to solve. More murders are drug and organized crime related, which are among the most difficult to solve. For example, the highest unsolved homicide rates are in BC and Quebec, which have the biggest problems with drugs and organized crime.

Homicide investigations, like all police work, have become far more complex in recent years. Just getting a search warrant is a formidable task, not to mention the hours that go into preparing a case for trial.

There is little doubt that with more DNA being collected, more crimes will be solved. One only has to compare the Canadian experience to that of the United Kingdom, where authorities can take DNA at the time of arrest for virtually anything. They have a 40 per cent chance of getting a match. In Canada, where DNA is only taken from select offenders after conviction, there is a five per cent chance of getting a match.

There are countless families waiting for a call from the police saying they made an arrest or have a suspect – and hundreds people walking the streets who have so far gotten away with murder.

At a recent meeting of families of unsolved homicides hosted by the CRCVC, everyone agreed that what they needed most was some form of resolution to their case. At a similar meeting with cold case investigators, there was unanimity in response to that need – give police more access to DNA evidence.

Thanks to the efforts of three determined women, police have their wish and hopefully some of those families will as well.

Thanks to the quick passage of this bill, Karla Homolka was among the first offenders ordered to submit a DNA sample under the new legislation.

This article first appeared in the CPPA Express, Issue 64 and is reprinted with permission. CRCVC President Steve Sullivan can be reached at crcvc@crcvc.ca, 613 233-7614, (toll free) 1-877-232-2610 or (fax) 613 822-4904. Visit www.crcvc.ca for more.

BLUE LINE TRADE SHOW 2006

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Imaging software



Privasoft features Accesspro Redaction, an imaging software that provides all the image, document, page and redaction status data in one place. Featuring encryption, watermarking, audit logs and multi-layer security to protect sensitive images.

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Sirens



SoundOff Signal introduces three new sirens to complement its emergency vehicle products including an eight function siren, multi-function siren with three position slide switch, and a remote dual tone siren. Sirens include five different warning tones, public broadcasting capability, and a park kill feature to disable the siren when the vehicle is in park. All models are compliant with SAE certifications and CA Title XIII Class A requirements.

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Tactical field smock



SEALS Action Gear's field jacket has even greater load carrying capacity, with no less than eleven pockets. Designed to be loose fitting, for maximum mobility in the field and for wear with a liner, the smock has a high collar and large removable hood, and made from super tough and very comfortable 50/50 NYCO Twill Multicam fabric throughout. Doubled up material in the elbow/lower arm and shoulders provides maximum durability.

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Professional flashlight



Electronic Services Agency (ESA) recently introduced the Pila line of professional flashlights that were specifically designed with Security, Police, Law Enforcement and SWAT in mind and built around their needs and requirements for the daily and hard usage they would have to endure. In addition, Pila also offers a wide selection of accessories and attachments to accommodate all Pila flashlight products.

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Hi-tech flashlight



Pelican's M8 Alkaline 3C is the most recent addition to the Black Knight series, a range of hi-tech flashlights for professionals. Made of Xenoy with non-slip rubber grip, rubber lens protector and unbreakable hi-temperature polycarbonate lens the M8 Alkaline 3C is water resistant and uses 3C cell alkaline batteries offering the brightness and strength needed on the field.

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Duty gear



Gordon Contract has released their own line of duty gear, Sgt Max, featuring everything from cargo pants and duty socks to reversible raincoats and bomber jackets in unisex sizes. Coats and jackets are made from waterproof breathable materials and most are reversible with high visibility yellow linings.

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Shotgun laser sight



LaserMax introduced the LMS-1202 laser sight for Remington shotguns. Featuring solid-state LED light with a 10,000 hour lifetime, a low-battery indicator, deliberate on/off activation with optional remote activation and is user-alignable for windage & elevation. The LMS-1202 does not interfere with squad car shotgun mounts or airbag deployment and is user installed in minutes with no special tools needed.

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Criminals cash might fund federal wiretap scheme

by Jim Bronskill

OTTAWA (CP) — A planned federal wiretap scheme would be funded with cash seized from criminals under a proposal by police and telecommunications firms. Money forfeited through the federal proceeds-of-crime program should help pay for the new eavesdropping initiatives, says the ad-hoc coalition of police chiefs and communications companies.

The idea, spelled out in a recent confidential letter to the Public Safety Department, is intended to avoid a public outcry from phone and Internet subscribers, who might otherwise be stuck with the tab.

"It's an opportunity to use the bad guys' money against them," said Tom Copeland, chairman of the Canadian Association of Internet Providers. "I think this proposition makes a lot of sense."

The idea emerged from a desire to come up with "some creative solutions" to the dilemma of covering wiretap costs, said Vince Westwick, co-chairman of the law amendments committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

"We'll have to see what the government's views are on it."

The Liberals planned to introduce legislation as early as November aimed at preventing criminals from using digital technologies to shield their communications from police and intelligence agencies.

Authorities contend the measures are needed to keep up with technically savvy outlaws involved in activities including terrorism, money laundering, child pornography and murder.

The legislative proposals, first outlined three years ago, have drawn sharp criticism from privacy advocates and civil libertarians.

There is an equally charged debate about who should foot the bill for phone wiretaps and email intercepts.

Under the federal proposals, service providers would be required, when upgrading their systems, to build in the technical capabilities needed by police and intelligence agencies, such as the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, to easily tap communications.

The controversy revolves around the ongoing costs of looking up phone numbers, hooking up to networks and relaying communications from one city to another - individual services that may cost anywhere from pocket change to thousands of dollars.

Currently, a mishmash of payment practices applies, from negotiation of fees by the parties involved to refusal by some police forces to accept the bills.

"We're frankly sort of perplexed," said Parke Davis, a senior regulatory officer with Telus. "What do you do when you have somebody like the police saying, 'Do this wiretap,' and then ignoring the invoice? And they do it repeatedly."

Police insist they should not be obliged to pay for services, such as wiretaps, that are ordered by the courts and performed in the public interest.

Last year the chiefs of police suggested adding a surcharge of about 25 cents to the monthly bills of phone and Internet subscribers to cover these costs.

Telecommunications firms balk at asking law-abiding customers to pay such fees.

Under the federal proceeds of crime program, administered by the RCMP, specialized units trace and seize criminal assets in cases involving drugs, smuggling, fraud, gambling and terrorism, with the ultimate aim of proceeds being forfeited to government through the courts.

However, the program was until recently burdened by a complex financial structure that left it with hefty annual deficits - raising the question of whether enough money would even be available for wiretaps.

The government is considering the proceeds of crime idea.

BLUE LINE News Week

This article is an extract from Blue Line's weekly news briefing e-publication.

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COMING EVENTS

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April 25 & 26, 2006

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April 25, 2006

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April 25 or 26, 2006

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This one-day course by instructor Gordon MacKinnon,

will draw on case law and rules of interviewing, witness psychology, teach how to detect deception and use techniques to get court admissible confessions. Course details and registration at www.blueline.ca.

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This two-day course by instructor Jim Stanton, will provide you with media training for your police service including proactive media techniques, workable key phrases and messages, and building alliances. Course details and registration at www.blueline.ca.

April 25 & 26, 2006

Collision Safety Institute

Crash Data Retrieval System Operators Update

Markham, ON

This two-day course by CATAIR is for previously trained Collision Safety Institute (CSI) CDR system users. Upon successful completion of this update class, the student will be current on the systems supported by the CDR system from their original CSI class to those supported at the time of training. An exam will be held on the second day on material covered during the update training. Course details and registration at www.blueline.ca.

April 26, 2006

Lessons from a Gang Cop

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Breaking the regional violence subculture

by Antoon A. Leenaars

Violence is a problem in many areas of Canada. Winnipeg, Toronto and Edmonton are just three cities of late where, almost daily, we read about murders.

Dangerously, it is males, especially young males, who take to killing and violence in general. We read about elected officials politically posturing in the media, but law enforcement and citizens need a factually based theory to understand the violence so that they can better predict and control it.

The subculture of violence theory, originally proposed by Wolfgang and Ferracuti in 1967, suggests some subcultures have their own norms and values, separate and distinct from those of the dominant culture. Violence is the norm in some of these 'cultures within cultures,' a valued and accepted form of behaviour that is expected if one is insulted, injured or frustrated by another. We read about such instances daily.

Not participating in violence may result in ostracism from the group and even death; therefore members learn to be violent from an early age. Such behaviour earns glory rather than provoking guilt or psychological distress. Wolfgang and Ferracuti suggested that subcultures of violence might be strong in some subgroups — young Canadian males, for example, for whom violence is a way of life and seen as acceptable rather than deviant behaviour.

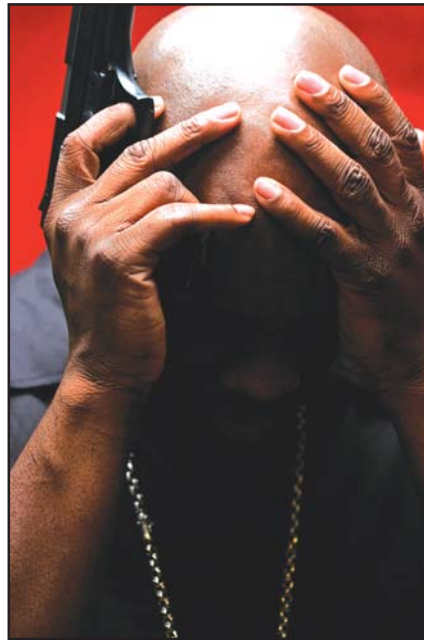
One problem with this theory is that the hypothesis can easily be used in a tautological fashion. For example, an investigator may propose that a group which commits many murders has a subculture of violence, the existence of which is then used to 'explain' the high murder rate. For sound scientific explanation, it is necessary to use one set of variables to identify the subculture, which can then be used to

explain a second, different set of variables. Despite these problems, subcultural theories have been used to explain delinquent behaviour, drug abuse, murder and suicidal behaviour.

It can be predicted, based on regional subcultures of violence, that the rates of several types of violence should be associated with it. The work of Whitt et al. (1972) is relevant here; they suggested that adding a society's homicide to its suicide rate would indicate its amount of lethal violence, and this in turn might provide a more meaningful behaviour to study than either homicide or suicide alone. According to Whitt, suicide might be seen to be as violent a behaviour as murder. Sigmund Freud suggested this at the turn of the 20th century.

The question is then, can we predict the number of homicides by youth using firearms based on suicides by firearms, or visa versa, in a region of Canada?

Lester and Leenaars (1998) explored the association between various indices of firearm violence in Canada and in particular, suicide and homicide rates. Accidental deaths from firearms were also included in the data set. Using the subcultural violence theory, one would expect that various measures of suicide and homicide mortality rates and accidental death rates from firearms would be positively



associated over the whole of Canada and its regions.

The study supported the notion of a subculture which promotes, teaches and values firearms violence and possibly violence in general. Specifically, we found there was a positive association between rates of suicide and homicide using firearms and accidental deaths from firearms across Canada; firearm death rates were also modestly associated with the suicide and homicide rates by all other methods.

Cultural norms and values are seen as central to studying the cause of violence. It's

probable that there is a subgroup of the Canadian population in which homicide and suicide are more common. Violence predicts violence. Homicide rates by firearms predict the rate of suicide by firearms. There may be norms in this group that are conducive to these types of violence.

Both suicide and homicide may be encouraged and seen as ways to achieve status or prestige, not unlike suicide bombers in the Middle East and elsewhere. The existence of such a subculture is cause for concern and research suggests that it is found predominantly in young males in Canada, who in recent years have had high rates of mortality from both suicide and homicide. This is, of course, consistent with newspaper reports.

If there is a subculture of firearms violence in Canada, then it follows that social changes are needed. Gun control alone will be insufficient, although it is an essential aspect of Canada's response. More than means restriction is called for.

Wolfgang and Ferracuti suggested that greater assimilation of the subculture is required to break it up or, alternatively, active attempts must be used to change its norms. An interdisciplinary team of police, health specialists and community representatives, among others, could promote norms and values that are inconsistent with those of the subculture.

A multi-component approach is best, since police and public health specialists can then better predict and control the group. This strategy has been proven to be effective. Community, societal and national levels of intervention are needed.

Windsor psychologist Dr. Antoon A. Leenaars, Ph.D., C.Psych., CPQ, is a lead Canadian researcher in suicide, homicide and gun control. His new book, *Psychotherapy with Suicidal People* (Wiley, 2004) provides a unique window to the suicidal mind. He has served as an expert witness in legal cases dealing with wrongful death, suicide and homicide and can be reached at draalee@wincom.net or 519-253-9377.

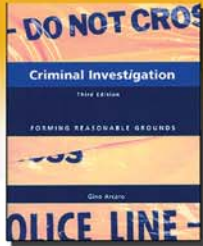
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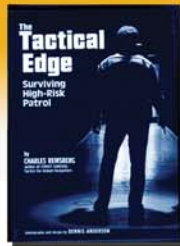
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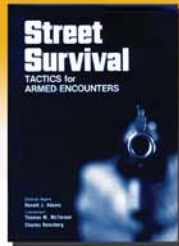
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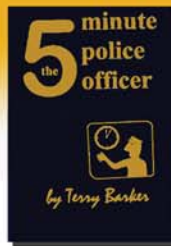
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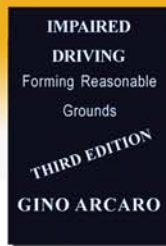
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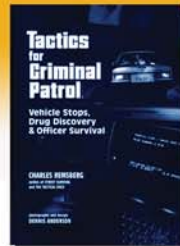
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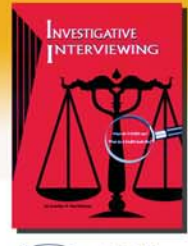
12 \$22.00

This book is a comprehensive study of Canada's drinking driver laws. Excellent resource for police officers, prosecutors or anyone interested in the administration of laws toward drinking drivers.



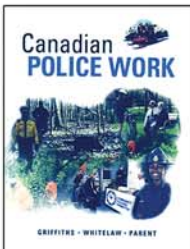
19 \$58.95

The main concepts of Tactics for Criminal Patrol states that "vehicle stops are golden opportunities for unique field investigations which ... can lead to major felony arrests." For officers who want to stop smugglers in transit.



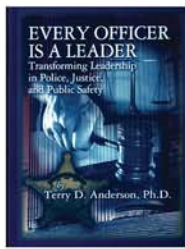
23 \$29.95

Police officers are seekers of truth and facts. This book will help officers to interview people with the ultimate goal being to identify the guilty party in an effective manner, consistent with the requirements of any tribunal or court.



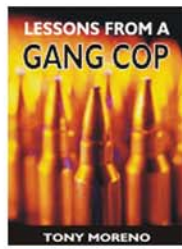
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This book effectively bridges both the theoretical and practical aspects of police work. It surveys current research and policy to examine the structure, operation and issues facing policing in the new millennium.



31 \$59.00

This book, reviewed in the Jan. 2000 issue, responds to the need for a comprehensive leadership development model for the education and training of police, justice and public safety supervisors, managers and front line officers.



35 \$25.00

This book presents the key principles Tony Moreno believes are essential for the mental, physical and emotional well-being of police. Full of inspiring stories and no-nonsense advice, this book is an indispensable resource for any gang professional.



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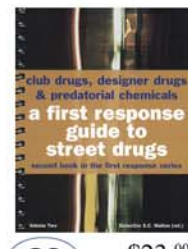
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