

Keeping Law and Order . . .

Station X—24-Hour Radio Saga of City

BY SHARON MOLONEY
The Cincinnati police radio, Station X, broadcasts a 24-hour program of crimes and complaints—the cry of the city.

It is a minute-by-minute account of trouble and tragedy—a record of the comic and catastrophic messes people get into; and the ordinary and extraordinary ways they get into them. Or try to get out.

The "program," on a typical summer day, started at 7:10 a. m.: "Person missing, Harrison avenue. (An 82-year-old woman had wandered away from a nursing home. She was later found, confused but not harmed, and returned by police).

7:24 a. m.—"Auto accident—Foley and Pedretti." (No one injured; damage minor).

8:08 a. m.—"Sick person—Parker street." (Elderly woman who collapsed in

yard was assisted into home).

9:07 a. m.—"Auto larceny — blue Chevy taken from 2368 Victory parkway." (Car later found by police parked on Race street).

10:28 a. m.—Oxley and Anthony Wayne — investigate mud in street." Building contractor contacted and will clean it up).

11:56 a. m.—"Linn street — drugstore — holding juvenile." (A seven-year-old boy caught taking a candy bar. He was referred to Juvenile Bureau to appear later before Juvenile Court, and his mother notified to come and get him).

12:28 p. m. "Person with gun—E. Fifth street." Patrolman Urban Ebert found a man guarding his furniture with a loaded 12-gauge shotgun to prevent his estranged wife from moving her belongings out. He surrendered shotgun without trouble to Patrolman Ebert, who cited him for pointing firearms, and stayed until wife had moved her things).

2:55 p. m.—"Midland avenue—see complainant about bats in basement." (Police investigated and advised calling SPCA).

By 3 p. m., the end of the first eight-hour period, police had answered radio calls to take a total of 11 people to hospitals, help 9 sick and injured citizens, investigate 19 auto accidents and five traffic jams.



Helping the sick, the hurt and the dying is part of his job. Patrolman Donald Shroyer shows how to give oxygen in an emergency case.



Patrolman Marvin A. Boone answers a Station X radio call from his cruiser.

and joined the up to 90-mile-an hour chase down the parkway to Straight street where the driver was finally forced to the roadside.

The driver and his girl companion, both 17, were arrested and taken to Juvenile Detention center. The car was towed to the police lot to be held for parents.

4:30 a. m.—"Reading road—juvenile complaint." (Gang of disorderly juveniles — broken up; sent home).

5:28 a. m.—"E. 13th street —disorderly woman—disrobing in street." (Gone on arrival).

6:58 a. m.—Stetson avenue—shots fired." (Man fired shots at his wife during argument; arrested for abusing family).

This was the final radio call of the 24-hour broadcast which started at 7 a. m. the previous day, July 17. During that time, Station X made 4277 radio transmission—885 calls to all cars and the rest to individual cars — sending police to investigate, among other things, 94 accidents, 54 persons injured or sick, 29 fights, 39 juvenile complaints, 12 burglary and hold up alarms and 278 miscellaneous trouble calls and

The traffic duties were mild, however, in comparison to the later two-hour period from 4 to 6 p. m.—when police went to 23 auto accidents and at least 10 traffic tie-ups in just 120 minutes.

At about 6 p. m., the program begins to change. There are more complaints, and they are more violent.

6:05 p. m.—"Grand larceny—1215 E. McMullan." (Thieves made off with a \$350 movie projector from an open parked car.) Investigation and report, but identity of thieves unknown.

6:31 p. m.—"Burglar alarm—3180 Beekman street." (The door of a maintenance shop broken open and \$40 worth of tools taken. District Five police recovered the tools about half an hour later in the arms of two men and a boy walking down a nearby railroad track. The three were arrested and charged with housebreaking).

6:33 p. m.—"Family trouble—Freeman avenue." (Police found a man trying to take the family fan to pawn for drinking money. It was a hot night, and the family was not about to let him get away with the fan. Police arrived and strongly advised leaving fan at home. It was.)

6:57 p. m.—"W. McMicken—man and woman fighting." (Patrolman Richard Durvel broke up fight, and reported the man "left to keep the peace.")

7:45 p. m.—Back to W. McMicken again. "family trouble." (This time man went to jail—charged with abusing family).

8:17 p. m.—"Shooting—2631 Cook street." (Sgt. Marcellus M. Abel of District 5, first on the scene, "found a man (Willie Acres, 41, of 2631 Cook street) lying in front yard seriously wounded, and another man (William Price, 41, a neighbor upstairs) standing by him with a gun in his hand.")

Acres was pronounced dead on arrival at General Hospital, with three bullet wounds in his chest.

The fatal shooting, according to witnesses, climaxed a running two-day argument between the two men over excessive noise in Acres' apartment. During the final quarrel, Price said Acres swiped at him with a knife. Price, in turn, fetched his .32 calibre revolver. The two men scuffled and Acres was shot. Price was arrested and charged with the shooting.

12:15 a. m.—"Fight in street—504 Forest." (Julius

Slaughter, 41, was beaten, and robbed of \$17 in the latest of a series of strong-arm robberies committed by a juvenile gang headed by Edgar "Pee Wee" Gibson, 17. Gibson eluded the police quadrant—as he had done several times before—but was finally picked up about three hours later by police who received a tip he was at home. Gibson, tried on eight different beating and robbery charges, is now in Mansfield Reformatory.)

1:40 a. m.—"W. Eighth street—trouble." (Waitress complained her husband hit her on head with a sugar bowl. She did not want to prosecute. Husband sent home.)

2:13 a. m.—"Barnard street—investigate man naked in the street. (Found man, who had returned to his home, and cited him for indecent exposure.)

2:30 a. m.—"Sick person—Wells avenue." (Man took overdose of nerve pills after an argument with his girl friend. Police noted he "wanted sympathy" — instead, got his stomach pumped at General Hospital. He recovered.)

2:55 a. m.—"Knifing—903 E. McMullan." (A man knifed in the side in a cafe brawl. The man told police another man accused him of "getting fresh with his wife," and knocked him off his chair.

As he fell, the man said, his assailant's wife cut him in the right side. The man and his wife were arrested and charged with assault. The victim was treated and released from General Hospital.)

3:35 a. m.—"Ft. Washington Way—investigate woman screaming in a car." (Woman told police she was sick and her boy friend was taking her home. Went on their way).

3:47 a. m.—"Escaping car—Newport police cruiser pursuing 1955 Chevy in District 1 area." (District 1 police saw the car at 12th street and Central parkway

Constipated?

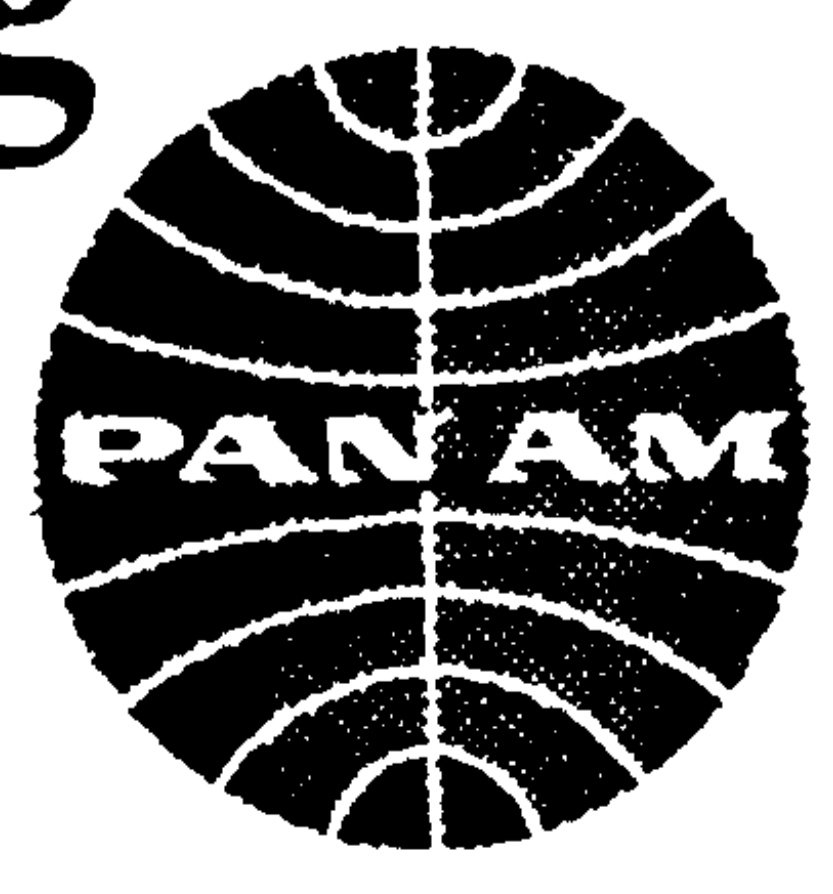
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