



The 1990s

The decade of the 1990s was a time of continued escalation in several law enforcement efforts, including impaired driving enforcement and drug arrests. Arrests were up and fatalities were down, and the Division put to good use confiscated property from drug seizures, including drug money that purchased training and equipment.

In April 1990, money from assets seized in drug raids purchased six drug detection dogs. The first canine purchase was Rex, who spent a lot of time with her handler, Trooper Robert J. Burns. Since then, officers have confiscated hundreds of millions of dollars worth of illegal narcotics, weapons, and currency thanks to these canine heroes. The Patrol later added dogs that specialize in detecting explosives. All of these purchases were made according to a five-year strategic plan; Patrol employees put into the plan what they wanted to see happen within the Patrol, and a canine unit was one goal of the plan.

Another new enforcement tool in the strategic plan was sobriety checkpoints. The July 4th weekend – one of the busiest in the year for traffic violations – was

chosen as the start date in 1989.

Of course, one important detail for a successful sobriety checkpoint was the purchase of portable breath testers (PBTs). The devices were not as accurate as a court-admissible blood-alcohol test, but proved highly effective in determining whether someone needed a formal test. When used with other sobriety tests, PBTs proved to be a quick and reliable way to determine a person's level of intoxication. The Patrol obtained many of the PBTs through donations from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and Nationwide Insurance.

Marked patrol vehicles changed in many ways during the 1990s. White vehicles went to gray with reflective striping to be seen easily at night and to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Patrol. Field facilities used Jeep Cherokees in adverse weather and road conditions, and for special uses. Three bright red IROC Camaros, confiscated through auto title fraud investigations, were equipped with emergency lights and patrol markings and deployed for traffic enforcement. The Camaros were among more than \$250,000 worth of

In addition to troopers patrolling Ohio's roadways, by the 1990s, the Patrol's workforce included officers serving in various specialty assignments as well as civilian professional staff working in both technical and support positions.





Trooper Mark Ball and Ringo were among the approximately 14 canine units and handlers in the 1990s searching Ohio roadways for illegal drugs and even seeking out explosives.

confiscated vehicles incorporated into the Division's fleet at the time.

In 1991, the Patrol began use of the Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). The Department of Administrative Services coordinates MARCS, and includes the Patrol as a major user of the system. The new system allowed the Division to use modern communications technology to benefit field personnel in their daily operations. The upgrade included an 800 MHz trunked radio system, a computer aided dispatch system, installation of mobile computer terminals in patrol vehicles, and an automated vehicle location system. Not only did the new system allow for an upgrade to the Division's existing system, it also established a communications link between the Patrol and other agencies.

Another boost to the Patrol in 1991 was the revitalization of the Patrol Auxiliary. At the instigation of Colonel Rice, officials took several steps to energize the volunteer group: they approved new general orders; established district training sites where troopers could teach; revised the selection process to resemble that of troopers; divided groups of auxiliaries according to post location, rather than by county; and required retirement at age 65. Also, they decided that Auxiliary members were no longer required to be American Legion members and could include women.

In 1991, Colonel Rice also asked Reverend Richard

D. Ellsworth to serve as the Patrol's chaplain. The Patrol's voluntary chaplain positions are ones of support, encouragement and friendship. As the Division's longest serving chaplain, Rev. Ellsworth continues to provide support to all members of the Patrol family.

In the early 1990s, Colonel Rice looked to the strategic plan to create new units within the Division. The Crash Reconstruction Unit and SRT (Special Response Team) proved valuable and efficient in crash and crime investigations and riot control. The SRT especially showed its worth during the prison uprising at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in 1993.

The Crash Reconstruction Unit, formed in 1990, now recognized nationwide as a leader in the use of computer technology in crash reconstruction, uses state-of-the-art technology to calculate exactly what took place at a crash scene. The unit assists other law enforcement agencies upon request.

The SRT formed in early 1991 as an update to the COMMAND team formed in the late 1970s. Colonel Rice formalized the group, and acquired equipment and special training. The group even necessitated a new patch; the bright, easily visible, traditional Patrol patch would stand out on the camouflage SRT uniform. The special camouflage SRT patch was designed by the son (Robert) of the first SRT commander, Captain Bob Welsh.

The SRT improved with more modern, specialized weaponry and specialized, intensive training. Some train-



The Patrol's Special Response Team (SRT), formed in 1991 as an update to the already active COMMAND team formed in the late 1970s. Colonel Thomas Rice formalized the group and acquired equipment and special training.

ing occurred with the U.S. Army Special Forces and Navy SEALs so the unit could be proficient for situations in the water. This training assured response proficiency in hostage situations, disturbances in state institutions and other high-risk scenarios within Patrol jurisdiction. All troopers also got a comprehensive safety package, including upgraded body armor, semiautomatic .40 caliber weapons, new handcuffs, and more reliable flashlights.

Also in the 1990s, the Division launched drug interdiction programs, including Operation CIN (Confiscate Illegal Narcotics) and TDIT (Traffic Drug Interdiction Teams).

Administrators added dash-mounted cameras in patrol cars for use in training, as well as evidence of a stop; some officers patrolled in TDIT teams, which were pairs of officers who shared a vehicle and placed special emphasis on drug interdictions. Officers also took on urban interstate freeway patrol upon the request of Cuyahoga County Chiefs of Police Association. This resulted in the introduction of officers on Interstate 480 in Cleveland. Patrol Post 18 expanded soon thereafter and created two shifts.

The Division celebrated a monumental achievement in highway safety during this time. Total arrests increased

18 percent from 766,500 in 1993 to 904,800 in 1994. Total traffic fatalities decreased 7.5 percent from 1,479 in 1993 to 1,368 in 1994. Rural fatalities decreased 4.7 percent from 1,054 in 1993 to 1,004 in 1994.

The Division maintained its program to make the public aware of the safety belt law, in order to save lives, reduce injuries and promote voluntary compliance. Safety belt arrests increased 16 percent from 179,250 in 1993 to 208,507 in 1994, the highest number of that type of arrest ever reported in Ohio up to that date.

In the early 1990s, Colonel Rice began a program known as FORCE (Field Officers Recruiting Career Employees). Although the acronym dropped later, this unit met Affirmative Action goals for minority employment just three years later. Troopers Clifton Spinner and Morris Hill each were assigned half of the districts to travel to high schools, colleges, and other community centers to tell people interested in law enforcement about job opportunities for minorities with the Patrol.

On Easter Sunday, April 11, 1993, a fistfight at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville resulted in 11 days of chaos, and 10 people dead – including one

Hero of Heroes

Bradley Raby, the son of Sgt. Frederick A. Raby, who suffered permanently debilitating injuries in an on-duty accident on the Ohio Turnpike in 1990, wrote the following article. The story tells of Sgt. Raby's bravery in helping apprehend kidnappers.

I would like to tell you a story about Superman. Superman puts on his uniform and transforms it into a symbol of safety that everyone looks up to. Superman is a man who doesn't let fear or anger fog his judgment, nor does he allow evil to triumph over good. He is a man who comes home from work and, whether his children are sleeping or awake, he gives them a kiss and tells them that he loves them. He is a man who defines courage and bravery and is what every man strives to be.

Superman performed one of his many acts of

courage early one morning on April 25, 1980. Superman was an Ohio State Highway Patrolman from the Swanton Post. He was patrolling an area near Oak Openings Plaza on the Ohio Turnpike when his CB alerted him that three suspects had shot a man at a plaza somewhere east on the Turnpike. They were headed west, in his direction. He became quickly alert to try and track the vehicle described; although it wasn't quite dawn, vehicles were becoming increasingly recognizable.

He soon spotted the vehicle and, moments later, turned in pursuit. Superman called in for backup as he pulled closer, but because the vehicle didn't slow to his warning lights, he had to make a quick decision. They were headed towards the next plaza, and Superman knew there were already two kidnapped women in the vehicle. He did not want to endanger more people, so he forced the vehicle off to the side at the entrance to the plaza. Then he quickly engaged the vehicle with his revolver pointed directly at the driver's side window. He knew they were armed and dangerous, so he proceeded cautiously, withholding

prison corrections officer. It remains the longest and the third deadliest prison uprising in United States history.

Convicts took hostage eight corrections officers who tried to stop the original fight. They beat other corrections officers and left them in the recreation yard. The criminals also killed six fellow inmates, claiming they were snitches. Demands from the prisoners issued forth, and negotiations took place. It looked even bleaker on day five, when inmates threw the body of murdered prison corrections officer Robert Vallandingham from a cellblock window.

Several talks with the leaders of the rioting groups took place out in the courtyard throughout the ordeal. But it was not until Cleveland Attorney Niki Schwartz (requested by the inmates to represent them) and Colonel Rice got involved that negotiations improved. Colonel Rice said that he and Schwartz met in the prison gymnasium with three prisoners, one representing each disgruntled faction – the Black Disciples, the Aryan Brotherhood and Sunni Muslims to finalize the terms of surrender. By day 11, Schwartz, Prison Warden Arthur Tate, and Colonel Rice announced that the siege was over, ending the long and deadly riot.



President Bill Clinton speaks while a trooper keeps an eye out for security problems.

any signs of panic.

He ordered the people out of the vehicle. They did exactly as he asked, but suddenly two of the three men grabbed one of the two women, and they started to walk towards the plaza. Superman, not knowing who had the guns, decided to deal with the remaining two and handcuffed them to the car. Then he ran towards the direction he last had seen the other suspects. He forced them in the direction of the woods behind the plaza, where, much to the surprise of the suspects, the Williams County Sheriff officers were waiting for them. They were apprehended without further incident.

This man I am telling you about is my father, Sergeant Frederick A. Raby, my Superman. His determination to serve and protect at all costs earned him the highest award in the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the O.W. Merrell Award. This award is given to men who act in a calm and professional manner, without falter, in the face of danger. But the true reward for him was the thankfulness and safety of the two young women who he successfully rescued from the armed robbers.

My father's other honors included three Post

Trooper of the Year Awards in 1969, 1976, and 1977. He also attained Ace status in 1973. Unfortunately, for the Ohio State Highway Patrol and my family, my father retired after 26 years service due to a near fatal accident that left him permanently disabled. His fellow officers showed me just how much respect my father had earned over his years of service, when at the hospital on September 1, 1990, the day of the accident, more than 100 officers from all ranks from all over the state of Ohio, came to be by my father's and my family's side.

His courage, love, and determination through those next few months defied the doctor's expectations of him never awakening from his coma, but to this day, he has not returned to a full consciousness. However, he is partially aware, and he can walk short distances with the help of a cane. He is still currently undergoing rehabilitation in a brain injury facility. Unfortunately, he is never expected to regain what he lost, but his heart and courage carry me through each day. I will never forget what my hero of heroes has done for many people and myself.

Thanks to help from the FBI, Colonel Rice said that Patrol investigations succeeded in finding out who committed the murders during the riots. For instance, FBI technology allowed law enforcement to inconspicuously drill holes in a floor or wall and insert recording devices or even cameras. This data, added to the forensic and chemical analysis information gathered after the rioting, and other evidence led to the conviction of five people who remain on death row as of the publication of this book: Siddique Abdullah Hasan (formerly known as Carlos Sanders), Namir Abdul Mateen (formerly known as James Were), Keith Lamar, Jason Robb, and George Skatzes. According to the Ohio Department of Corrections in 2008, four were housed at Ohio State Penitentiary in Youngstown; Skatzes was located at the Mansfield Correctional Facility.

With the dramatic siege behind it, the Patrol celebrated its 60th anniversary in 1993. Open houses and post dedications marked the occasion, as did a special commemorative event at the end of the year, and the Division published a book about the history of the Patrol.

Growth continued throughout the early 1990s; auto title fraud units in Columbus, Cincinnati, and Cleveland were added to the Division. Also, the Patrol used confis-

cated drug money to fund the purchase of a state-of-the-art mobile command vehicle, a twin-engine airplane from the U.S. military, and a new helicopter equipped with forward-looking infrared radar. All these purchases were made according to the five-year strategic plan coordinated by Colonel Rice.

Administrators also developed several programs during the decade to help prevent driving under the influence. Although developed by federal leaders, the Patrol promoted National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month (3D Month) in December 1993, which asked friends and families to “Take a Stand!” and intervene before tragedy struck. Any citizen could use Ohio’s 1-800-GRAB-DUI, a toll-free, 24-hour hotline, or cellular *DUI, to report a suspected impaired driver. A Multiple Offenders’ Project targeted habitual offenders and includes a Habitual Offenders’ Tally Hot Sheet, listing the names of repeat DUI offenders.

Vehicle immobilization, through the courts, immobilized the vehicle of multiple offenders who drove under suspension. This program came about in 1993. Also in the early 1990s, designated driver campaigns, including the Ohio Alcohol Servers Coalition, created an alliance





A load limit inspector checks out a truck traveling one of Ohio's roadways to ensure weight limits aren't exceeded.

of liquor permit holders around the state who pledged to support the designated driver concept and other such programs. And lastly, the MADD Red Ribbon campaign began, urging motorists in all 88 counties to tie red ribbons to their vehicles to remind everyone not to drive while impaired and to support anti-impaired driving measures. In 1994, 16 special media events took place across Ohio to recognize law enforcement officers for their efforts to apprehend impaired drivers. The Division recognized 239 officers for getting impaired drivers off Ohio roadways.

Congratulations were given to Tpr. Mary Cosgrove (1993) and Tpr. Eliezer Fontanez (1994) for their efforts. Both awards were historic; Tpr. Cosgrove was the first female to receive the Trooper of the Year Award. The other winner from 1994 was Tpr. Eliezer Fontanez, the first Hispanic to win the award.

In 1994, Colonel Rice retired after 33 years of service. Major Warren Davies succeeded him as superintendent.

Soon afterward, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) established that the Division met the requirements of this agency's body of law enforcement standards and accredited the Patrol for a second time.

Federal DUI grants funded sobriety checkpoints and

speed enforcement. The Patrol, sheriff offices, and local law enforcement received grants of approximately \$1.5 million for DUI enforcement in 1994. In addition, various Patrol posts were involved in CarTEEN programs where officers spoke to juvenile traffic offenders with the cooperation of the area juvenile courts. Juvenile traffic offenders were required to participate in order for them to have their driving privileges restored.

Beginning in 1994, children under 4-years old and/or weighing less than 40 pounds were required to be in a child safety restraint that met federal motor vehicle standards. Previously, the law stated the child need to be either age 4 or 40 pounds.

TDIT realized continued success in stemming the flow of illegal drugs through Ohio, seizing millions of dollars in narcotics during the course of normal traffic stops in the 1990s. On average, TDIT officers initiated three felony drug investigations a week during that time, as well.

Officers in the TDIT program in 1995 helped conduct four regional drug interdiction school presentations in Montgomery, Wood, Hamilton, and Lake counties. Each course was three days long and trained 142 law enforcement officers throughout Ohio.

In 1995, there were seven teams comprised of officers specially trained in drug interdiction, canine handlers, and 15 drug-detecting canines. The Division assigned teams strategically around the state, based on the location of interstate routes or the known U.S. drug pipeline routes. The



In 1990, Colonel Thomas W. Rice initiated children's programs that emphasized anti-drug messages.

case breakdown included felony and misdemeanor drugs, weapons, stolen vehicles, and miscellaneous investigations. Illegal drugs seized at that time included marijuana, cocaine, heroin, hashish, methamphetamine, and LSD.

Broadening Patrol benefits, Governor George V. Voinovich signed into law, effective on September 21, 1994, Senate Bill 306, which included:

*An increase in the minimum monthly pension for most retirees paid less than \$1,000. The three percent cost-of-living increase would be calculated on the new pension.

*A reduced eligibility age - from 60 to 57 - for the three percent COLA (Company Leave of Absence). Disability retirees are eligible for the benefit after five years of disability retirement, no matter what age.

* A purchased service credit provision. This meant that members who purchased military service that did not inter-

rupt their Patrol employment could use that credit to meet the 25-year service requirement for unreduced pension benefits.

*A provision allowing service retirees to choose from several joint and survivor options at retirement; the only provision was that the option be less than their pension to a surviving beneficiary.

With the expansion of the Internet in the mid-'90s, the Patrol set up an informational Website that focused on the Patrol's duties and responsibilities, history, and enforcement programs, as well as news media releases and in-car videos to better educate and inform the media, general public, and elected officials.

In 1995, statistics showed an overall increase in traffic arrests, coupled with a high level of visibility. These played a major role in a six percent decrease in rural traffic



Affirmative Action goals were met with the November 6, 1992, graduation of the 123rd Academy Class. There were four African-American graduates and three female graduates. The recruitment program continued thereafter with efforts to inform minorities about Patrol employment.

Efforts result in meeting Affirmative Action goals

The following article, written by Lieutenant

Morris L. Hill and Staff Lieutenant Clifton L. Spinner, shows the efforts in the early 1990s to open up opportunities for minorities to gain employment with the Patrol.

In 1992, under the direction of Colonel Thomas W. Rice, the Ohio State Highway Patrol began an initiative called FORCE (Field Officers Recruiting Career Employees) in order to achieve our Affirmative Action goals. The acronym was later dropped, however the initiative was still implemented.

Two troopers were selected for the initiative, Trooper Morris Hill of the Mansfield Post and Trooper Clifton Spinner of the Batavia Post. Under the supervision of the Office of Personnel and the Recruitment and Minority Relations Section, each was assigned one half of the state which was divided by Interstate 70. Trooper Hill was assigned to Findlay, Bucyrus, Massillon and Warren districts; and Trooper Spinner to Piqua, Cambridge, Wilmington and Jackson districts. Personnel within the Recruitment and Minority Relations Section at the Training Academy handled the Columbus District.

Our job was to identify and recruit females and minorities interested in law enforcement. We were given the resources and latitude to be innovative in our efforts. We were provided training on the recruit-

fatalities. Thus, Ohio, one of the eight most populous states, which also had, in this period of time, the fewest number of troopers, maintained its historic downward trend in traffic deaths.

The prosecution process of inmates involved in the April 1993 riot at the Southern Ohio Correctional Institution in Lucasville continued into 1995. The court indicted 50 inmates on 200 charges, ranging from felonious assault to aggravated murder. Of the 50 trials, there were 47 convictions, two acquittals, and one dismissal.

On January 19, 1996, the Division received tragic news once again. A felon fatally shot Tpr. James R. Gross of the Ashland Post earlier that morning. The perpetrator shot Tpr. Gross while he conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 71. A portion of the highway was later dedicated in honor of Tpr. Gross.

In the summer of 1996, the Division and Colonel Davies launched a new officer safety tool, dubbed the COP (Caution Ohio Police) Initiative. Created to offset a communications deficiency which hindered the communication of critical information among agencies, the COP Initiative was an early warning system that alerted officers to potentially dangerous suspects. When law enforcement suspected a person of fleeing a crime, police officials could make a COP entry in LEADS (Law Enforcement Automated Data System) to assure that if an officer contacted the suspect before obtaining and placing on-line a proper warrant, the officer would be aware of the potential danger. Although officers could not use a COP entry as a basis to detain or arrest, it did help assure that officers did not blindly approach a potentially deadly situation.

Because of this information, now readily at hand,

ment process and legal issues. We were given the freedom to set our own schedules and make contacts that would help us in our endeavors.

The primary goal was to recruit minority and female applicants for the trooper and cadet candidate positions. We accomplished this in part by making contacts at high schools, colleges, universities, churches, and other community organizations within the urban areas. We kept track of all of our contacts and were required to provide a monthly report. The information was kept in a database for future reference. What we found to be most amazing was the number of people who did not know what the Highway Patrol was and what it had to offer. They didn't know about the opportunities available to them as an Ohio State Trooper.

We were very successful in our efforts, and in 1992, our efforts resulted in over 330 different contacts to enhance our recruitment program and increased the number of applicants scheduled to test. The 123rd Academy Class convened on May 4, 1992, and was reflective of the Affirmative Action goals we set out to achieve.

In November 1992 two female troopers were added to the program to enhance female recruitment. In the summer of 1993, the program was put on hold

due to racial unrest as a result of an incident in Los Angeles, California. On April 29, 1992, twelve jurors in Sylmar, California rendered their verdicts in a controversial case involving the 1991 beating of Rodney King by four LAPD officers. One of the officers was found guilty of excessive force; the other officers were cleared of all charges.

The verdicts were broadcast live, and word spread quickly throughout Los Angeles. At various points throughout the city that afternoon, people began rioting. For the next three days the violence and mayhem continued. The toll from the worst civil unrest L.A. had experienced since 1965 was devastating: more than 50 killed, over 4 thousand injured, 12,000 people arrested, and \$1 billion in property damage.

The field recruitment program picked back up as the unrest began to ease with a new focus on recruiting Latinos and females. As a result of the efforts of the Field Recruitment Program, we were able to project and meet our Affirmative Action goals through 1994. The Field Recruitment Program has since grown, and is still very active today in assisting the Division with its recruitment efforts as we continue to work in an ever-changing and diverse society.

troopers had the necessary information without having to conduct two-way communication with a dispatcher. It took about 15 seconds for troopers to retrieve LEADS information, whereas before, when contacting a dispatcher about information, it sometimes would take a few minutes.

In 1996, another female made history upon graduating from the FBI National Academy (FBINA) program at Quantico, Virginia. Sergeant Brigette Charles completed 11 weeks of advanced investigative, management and fitness training. She also set the FBINA 186th Session school record at the time for the fastest female time in the 120-yard shuttle run, an obstacle course race. A couple of years later, Sergeant K. Kim Campbell graduated from the same program.

In 1997, after more than 30 years of service, Colonel Davies retired. Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth B. Marshall

became the Patrol's 12th superintendent on February 28, 1997.

March 1997 brought so much rain Ohio Governor George Voinovich declared a state of emergency due to flooding in five Ohio counties. The declaration soon extended to 17 Ohio counties. Those counties also became federal disaster areas. The Patrol, along with more than 30 state, federal, and volunteer agency representatives, coordinated resources and responded to local needs.

Another challenge for 1997 was a gun battle involving Trooper John H. Harker, Wilmington Post, and Deputy Robert Gates of the Clinton County Sheriff's Office. On February 15, 1997, Tpr. Harker stopped a 1977 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Chevie Kehoe due to expired registration. Tpr. Harker asked for Kehoe's driver license, but he could not produce it.



On Easter Sunday, April 11, 1993, a fistfight at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville resulted in 11 days of chaos and 10 people dead. It remains one of the longest and deadliest prison uprisings in United States history.

Violence rules during riot at Lucasville prison

A fight at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville on Easter, April 11, 1993, soon turned into a dangerous situation. Prison corrections officers were taken hostage and, after 11 days of chaos, 10 people were dead – including a corrections officer.

In an hour's time, convicts took hostage eight corrections officers who tried to stop the original

fight. They beat other corrections officers and left them in the recreation yard. The criminals also killed six fellow inmates who were thought to be snitches. Inmates issued demands and negotiations, but neither side came to any agreements. Things got really bad when, on day five, inmates threw the body of murdered prison corrections officer Robert Vallandingham from a cellblock window.

Negotiations occurred in the prison yard, but it was not until Cleveland Attorney Niki Schwartz and Colonel Rice (Schwartz was requested by the in-

The Kehoe family was known for their involvement and support of hate groups such as the Aryan Nation, and Chevie Kehoe had prior convictions of charges of murder in aid of racketeering. Tpr. Harker patted Kehoe down and asked him to accompany him back to the cruiser. Kehoe resisted the search, and broke away on the way back to the Patrol car. Chevie's younger brother, Cheyne, was a passenger in the vehicle, and opened fire on Tpr. Harker. After a brief exchange of gunfire, Cheyne fled on foot into a wooded area and Chevie managed to get back into his vehicle and drive away. Video from Tpr. Harker's dash cam showed the entire incident.

Cheyne Kehoe eventually surrendered on June 16, 1997, to authorities in the state of Washington, and told officers where to find his brother. Both brothers were later convicted of crimes ranging from carrying a concealed

weapon to murder.

One change that aided troopers was the shift from the Beretta 92D, .40 caliber weapon to the SigArms P-226, .40 caliber weapon. With guidance from Colonel Davies, a committee spent three months testing different weapons to replace the Beretta, which was changed due to less than optimal performance. Two incidents revealed that the Beretta's slide tended to lock back during combat firing, requiring the trooper to manually clear the weapon.

The biggest project of 1997 was preparing for the move to new buildings, the Charles D. Shipley Ohio Department of Public Safety Building at 1970 West Broad Street, and to the Alum Creek Facility at 1583 Alum Creek Drive - both in Columbus.

Colonel Marshall led the Patrol during a time of innovation, including the creation of traffic safety initiatives

mates to represent them; prisoners requested to talk with both of them) got involved that talks improved. Colonel Rice said he and Schwartz met in the prison gymnasium with one leader of each complaining faction – the Black Disciples, the Aryan Brotherhood, and Sunni Muslims to finalize the terms of surrender. By day 11, the siege was over.

Afterward, audio and visual recordings obtained with FBI technology, forensic information, and chemical analysis aided in convicting five people who were still on death row for murders during the uprising at the time of publication.

In 2008, the riot still stands as the longest in U.S. history, and – in lost lives – the third worst in U.S. history.

The incident had lasting effects on the Patrol, as well as corrections officials. A portion of a letter, published in the January – April 1993 issue of the Flying Wheel, and written by Colonel Rice stated,

“It seems as though the history of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is marked with intervention in prison riots. In November of 1952, Patrol personnel quelled six days of rioting at the Ohio Penitentiary. In August of 1968, the riot at the Ohio Penitentiary stopped after Patrol personnel stormed through a hole in the wall and freed nine hostages. This is in addition to the countless responses to Ohio's prisons to offer assistance when an escape occurred or a riot seemed imminent.

“...Just as Operation Desert Storm tested the strength, the capability and the resolve of the American military, the Lucasville prison riot tested the strength, the capability, and the resolve of the men and women of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Both were unfortunate events but both provided a wealth of knowledge that will always be used in future preparations and operations.

“We learned very quickly that we must always be ready. For those that got the call Easter Sunday, it brought home the realities that are inherent in our jobs. For many of us, the reality check of the Lucasville riot was shocking. For many of us, it made us re-examine our priorities. For all of us, it brought us together and made us stronger.

“We will identify personnel concerns, physical fitness issues, equipment needs, training considerations, and operational preparation needs so that when we are needed again, we will improve on the success we attained at Lucasville.

“The men and women of the Ohio State Highway Patrol are like no other. It didn't take a riot for me to learn that. It is something I've known since I joined the Patrol in 1960. Yes, many lessons can and should be learned from the Lucasville riot; but every member of the Ohio State Highway Patrol should always remember the words which echoed in the corridors of the Lucasville prison after the riot was over, ‘Thanks, trooper, we appreciate all that you did.’”

that still are beneficial as troopers work toward goals of lower traffic fatality rates. For instance, officials introduced Operation TRIAD (Targeting Reckless, Intimidating, and Aggressive Drivers). The program used aircraft enforcement to target motor vehicle violations typically difficult to detect and enforce by road troopers, such as frequent or unsafe lane changes, failure to signal, failure to yield the right of way, disregarding traffic controls, and impaired driving.

“We looked at anything we could do to get the message out about the dangers of erratic driving,” Marshall said in a 2006 interview. “People only know what you tell them. The more you can tell them, and the more people that you get involved in delivering that message the more credibility the message has.”

State legislators passed the Graduated Driver Licensing Law in 1997, assisting in enabling Ohio youth learning and respecting highway laws. The law, which didn't go into effect until 1999, limited the number of passengers allowed in a teen's car and extended the night-time curfew for drivers under the age of 18. Sixteen-year-olds could only have one passenger and could not drive between midnight and 6 a.m. Seventeen-year-olds could not drive between 1 and 6 a.m. These hours were found to be when the largest number of teen-age crashes occurred.

“Partners for Safety,” a program that began in the late 1990s, emphasized partnerships with businesses, community groups, health and safety organizations, law enforcement agencies, and schools to reduce traffic crashes and

meet voluntary compliance with traffic laws. It was so successful that the person who coordinated the program, Lt. John Born, was honored with the J. Stannard Baker Award for his work. This prestigious award, sponsored by the IACP, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety, annually recognizes individual law enforcement officers and others who have made significant outstanding lifetime contributions to highway safety. Only a few people throughout the country are presented with this award; three of them have been from the Patrol.

Colonel Marshall, in his 1998 annual report letter, stated, “We feel these programs and others like them have helped us in educating the public on traffic safety, enforcing traffic laws when needed, and equipping Ohio drivers with the skills they need to safeguard themselves and their families within the highway environment. 1998 exemplifies the spirit of dedication possessed by all members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.”

Partnerships with other agencies to promote safety were a prevailing theme as the Division moved toward the new century. Potential computer problems thought to plague the Patrol's systems (as well as the rest of the world) because of the changeover to a new century were unfounded. The Division moved on to the year 2000 smoothly, as did the rest of the state, ready to take on new technological changes and sharpen even more its focus on criminal patrol and highway safety.

Driver shoots and kills trooper on traffic stop

Although very painful, the death of Trooper James R. Gross on January 19, 1996, increased awareness of the importance of communication. Signs erected on Interstate 71 in 2002 honor Trooper Gross by naming after him the stretch of highway where he was killed. Trooper Gross's death also created The COP (Caution Ohio Troopers) Alert program, which alerts all state, county and city police of an offender and circumstances of a situation.

Maxwell White, convicted in Gross' death, was sentenced to death row at Mansfield Correctional Institution. White, of Reynoldsburg, shot Gross several

times after he stopped him on the freeway near Ashland. At the time, White was fleeing his hometown, where, less than two hours before killing Gross, he shot his mother in the foot.

Public response to Gross' death, both from those in and outside of law enforcement, was overwhelmingly supportive for the grieving family. The following is just one letter to the editor that appeared in *The Tiffin Advertiser Tribune* on January 29, 1996, written by Officer Frederick W. Steves, Tiffin Police Department. Permission to reprint this article given by *The Tiffin Advertiser Tribune*.

“On Tuesday, Jan. 23, 1996, my faith was reaffirmed in my chosen profession. I attended the funeral of Trooper James R. Gross and I, like 99 percent of



Colonel Robert M. Chiamonte, Colonel Thomas W. Rice, Colonel Anson B. Cook, and Colonel Adam G. Reiss gather at the open house ceremony at Mt. Gilead Post, which was dedicated to Colonel George A. Mingle in 1993.

the other Law Enforcement Personnel there, did not know Trooper Gross personally. However, this did not keep us from coming to honor a fallen comrade.

“The funeral procession stretched for miles. I was approximately in the middle of the procession and I say approximately because as I looked forward the red and blue lights of the patrol cars stretched as far as I could see. When I looked behind me they went back as far as I could see. This was truly a sign of respect, but what really hit home was the show of support, not just from the Law Enforcement community, but from the public as well.

“As the procession proceeded down I-71 vehicles pulled off to the side of the road that didn’t have to and the people got out and just stood there. As the procession went under overpasses they were lined with viewers from stopped traffic. When we exited

onto Route 303 customers, owners and workers from restaurants, businesses and homes were standing outside by the road in silence. I saw truck drivers stop their rigs in the other lane of travel and get out and take their hats off. People came out of houses with their children in their arms or were kneeling down beside them pointing at the endless procession of red and blue lights and I wondered what they were telling them. I knew it was something like, ‘there go the men and women who make our lives safer,’ and for one brief moment I knew that at least for today, the public remembered the cost of having a good night’s sleep.

“Trooper Gross’ funeral will forever remain inside of me as a wondrous show of respect, support and caring for a human being and a Peace Officer from both the Law Enforcement community and the public.”



General Headquarters moved to a new location in 1998, on the Hilltop at the former site of the Columbus Asylum for the Insane (also known as Columbus Lunatic Asylum, and Columbus State Hospital); that building was razed in 1991.

GHQ Over the Years

At first, Colonel Lynn Black settled for a small room on the eighth floor of the old State Office Building on Front Street for a home for the newly formed Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Then, came time to expand, and subsequently, to move.

The Division moved in 1935 to 1117 East Broad Street, the location of the old Victorian mansion previously owned by Governor James Campbell.

After bulging out of the seams of that former home, Colonel George Mingle began a search for a new General Headquarters (GHQ) and, in 1954, ac-

cepted an offer to occupy the south dormitory of the Ohio State School for the Blind, located at 660 East Main Street.

Upon moving into this location, they soon came to a sobering realization – the electrical wiring enabled only a single 25 watt light bulb in each office. That meant immediate upgrades to all electrical facilities in the place.

Plans began for a new GHQ began in the 1960's, but soon into the game, designers created and discarded three different plans. Leaders reviewed many plans during the 1980's. After roughly six years of planning, countless hours of meetings and coordination, and more than two years of construction, the



In 1954, The Patrol moved into the south dormitory of the former Ohio State School for the Blind, located at 660 East Main Street, near Parsons Avenue.

Ohio State Highway Patrol moved into its new GHQ in February 1998; exactly 63 years after the first GHQ move.

The biggest project of 1997 was preparing for the move to the new buildings - the Charles D. Shipley Ohio Department of Public Safety Building at 170 W. Broad Street, and to the Alum Creek Facility at 1583 Alum Creek Drive.

Columbus' former Mayor Greg Lashutka said of the move, "The west side of Columbus is where our first settlers chose to call home. The Franklinton Hilltop area has a diverse and proud heritage, and for this state complex to become part of that rich history is a benefit to all."

The new GHQ was built on the former site of the Columbus Asylum for the Insane (also known as Columbus Lunatic Asylum, and Columbus State Hospital); that building was razed in 1991.

Located on the west side of Columbus and the downtown area, the Hilltop area earned its name from its geographic location at the top of a hill left by the

last glacier to barge through Ohio thousands of years ago.

Early Mingo Indian tribes lived in the area long before Europeans settled in America. A large Indian mound located near the Hilltop on McKinley Avenue remains an historic site.

According to the Hilltop Historical Society, the Hilltop area also served as the home for the state's largest training camp for Union soldiers during the Civil War. Leaders named the area Camp Chase, for Salmon P. Chase, a former governor of Ohio who served as U.S. Secretary of the Treasury under President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War. The camp encompassed over 160 acres and also served as a holding place for Confederate prisoners of war. At the height of the Civil War, the facility housed more than 9,200 Confederate prisoners of war. Officials buried the 2,260 people who died while incarcerated in the Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery, the largest Confederate cemetery in the north.