Transcript of Saint Paul Police Oral History Interview with

Officer

Edward Buehlman

1958

2007

Saint Paul Police Officer

Interviewed
August 15, 2007
By
Kate Cavett of HAND in HAND Productions
At
HAND in HAND’s officer in Saint Paul, Minnesota
This project was financed by a grant from the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota Historical Society’s Grants-in-aid program.

All photographs are from Edward Buehlman’s personal photo collection or from the Saint Paul Police Department’s personnel files.

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and
HAND in HAND Productions
2007
ORAL HISTORY

Oral History is the spoken word in print.

Oral histories are personal memories shared from the perspective of the narrator. By means of recorded interviews oral history documents collect spoken memories and personal commentaries of historical significance. These interviews are transcribed verbatim and minimally edited for accessibility. Greatest appreciation is gained when one can read an oral history aloud.

Oral histories do not follow the standard language usage of the written word. Transcribed interviews are not edited to meet traditional writing standards; they are edited only for clarity and understanding. The hope of oral history is to capture the flavor of the narrator’s speech and convey the narrator’s feelings through the tenor and tempo of speech patterns.

An oral history is more than a family tree with names of ancestors and their birth and death dates. Oral history is recorded personal memory, and that is its value. What it offers complements other forms of historical text, and does not always require historical collaboration. Oral history recognizes that memories often become polished as they sift through time, taking on new meanings and potentially reshaping the events they relate.

Memories shared in an oral histories create a picture of the narrator’s life – the culture, food, eccentricities, opinions, thoughts, idiosyncrasies, joys, sorrows, passions - the rich substance that gives color and texture to this individual life.

Kate Cavett
Oral Historian
HAND in HAND Productions
Saint Paul, Minnesota
651-227-5987
www.oralhistorian.org
KC:  Kate Cavett
EB:  Edward Buehlman

EB:  My name is Edward Buehlman and I’m 85 at this date.
KC:  Where were you raised in Saint Paul?
EB:  Well, I came to Saint Paul in about 1938. I was downtown district. When I think back, every place that I have lived in Saint Paul, is torn down. When I was going to grade school and high school, I lived downtown area, right downtown on, practically, Ninth, and then there was 513 ½ Wabasha, that was the old Glendale Apartments. Then Saint Peter and Tenth Street, that’s when I was with my mother, and then she had a place on Cedar Street. After I went in the service and I got married, then my wife and I come back and, like I say, everyplace that we moved is tore down right now. So, I live in Maplewood, they haven’t tore me down yet.
KC:  What service were you in?
EB:  I was in the Navy.
KC:  Where were you stationed?
EB:  I was in the Atlantic all the time. I was lucky I got on PT boats, patrol torpedo boats. That’s another whole story.
KC:  What high school did you graduate from?
EB:  Mechanic Arts in 1942. We’re getting into my life now, but I always laugh, I guess I’m lucky. I went to Mechanic’s, I took English One, and I’m very bad in English, writing, anything to do with English, I’m bad. So, I failed English One, I’m alright in the other subjects, I’m not great, but I get some A’s and some C’s and some D’s, but in English I get E, that’s as
bad as you can get. So, what do I do, I have English One, again – what do I do, I fail English One for the second time.

Now this is where your teacher comes in. I can remember Miss Grant, she says, “Edward, do you want to graduate from high school?” I said, “Yes Miss Grant.” She says, “Okay, I’m gonna have you in English Two, and if you pass English Two.” She says, “I’ll pass you on English 1.” But I was still a half a grade short, and then I had to double up on English. And, I just barely passed. But she said, “Do you want to go?” I said, “Yes Miss Grant.” She was a hard teacher, but she got through to me.

KC: She got you through it.

EB: Yeah.

KC: Well, and obviously, she gave you enough of the skills ‘cause you were a successful patrolman. You could write the reports.

EB: That’s right. Well, when we wrote the reports, I was with a fellow named Dick Bronson¹ and when he’d write a report, I’d read his report, and he says, “Any corrections, let me know.” And he’d read my report and I said, “Well, any mistakes, let me know.” So, I’d done that for a long time.

KC: What interested you in the Saint Paul Police? How did you happen to come on?

EB: Now, that’s a good question, because all through my life I never had anything to do with policemen, directly or indirectly. I was never

¹ Richard W. Bronson was appointed patrolman July 11, 1955; and retired December 19, 1978.
arrested. But when I grew up, my mother had a boyfriend who was, well he was kind of a hood, you could say. He’d take booze back and forth and a bootlegger and all that good stuff. So, I never thought about the police work.

And after I got out of the Navy, I was married when I was in the Navy, but after I got out, why, jobs were hard to get. I worked at Western Electric for five years and then they moved out. One day my wife said, “Why don’t you go down and take the police exam.” And I said, “Sure, I will.” She said, “Yeah, I bet you will.” So, anyway, I took the exam and that was the physical exam that we started out with. When I come home, she said, “Did you take the exam?” I said, “Sure, I did.” She said, “Oh, you’re lying to me.” I said, “No I took it.” I took the exam and it was two years later that – in between time that I took it. I went on in 1957, so that was ’55 that I took the written exam and that, and two years later they decide to put some more policemen on the Police Department. So, I was the second batch, one batch went on in January of ’57 and I went on March 4, 1957.

KC: Now, you brought in a scrapbook and one of the things in the scrapbook is the notice of the exam, dated September 17, 1955. You want to just highlight some of the, like, what was the salary and some of the requirements back in ’55.

EB: Well, the monthly salary was starting at $321 and then it went up to $384, that was the maximum for a patrolman. And the minimum requirements was a high school graduate, you had to be under 35 years of age, which I
was lucky I was, and you must be five foot eight and around a hundred and fifty-some pounds. What you were supposed to do was a written test, was the first one, which gave you 40 points and physical test was 30 points and the oral interview was 30 points. But in between time, you got 5 points if you were a veteran, so if you got veteran’s preference, you got an automatic 5 point advantage over those who did not have.

KC: And, of course, veteran’s preference was very big in Minnesota.

EB: Yes it was.

KC: They had one of the strongest veteran’s preference laws in the nation.
NOTICE OF EXAMINATION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the following examination will be held as shown below for the purpose of establishing a register of eligibles for employment in the Classified Civil Service of the City of St. Paul.

September 17, 1955

PATROLMAN

MONTHLY SALARY: Starting, $321.00 -- Maximum, $381.00

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High school graduation, must be a qualified voter of the city under 35 years of age, and must be at least 5'8" in height (bare feet). Each applicant must furnish a certificate of birth or other satisfactory proof of age and his high school diploma at the time of filing of the application. Active military service may be substituted month for month for education lacking. Must also possess and show a Minnesota driver's license at the time of application.

DUTIES OF POSITION: Under general supervision, to patrol an assigned district or beat, in an automobile, boat, or on foot, for the purpose of enforcing laws, ordinances, rules and regulations relative to the prevention of crime, the apprehension of criminals, the protection of property and persons, and the control of traffic; to do investigational or inspectional duties in plain clothes or uniform when so assigned by the Commissioner; and to perform related work as assigned.

ADVANTAGES AND BENEFITS: Opportunities for promotion of qualified employees; security of tenure; salary increases for meritorious service; automatic adjustment of salaries based on changes in the cost of living; liberal provision for paid vacations and sick leaves; retirement systems; etc.

This EXAMINATION will consist of the following subjects and weights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Weights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Written test</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Physical test</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Oral Interview</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(For promotion weights, see over.)

A minimum average rating of 75% is required in each of Subjects 1 and 2.

MEDICAL TEST: Applicants must pass a qualifying medical examination. The main provisions of the medical standard are shown on the reverse side of this sheet. If you cannot meet these requirements, please do not file for this examination.

LAST DAY FOR FILING: Applications for this examination must be filed in the Civil Service Bureau not later than Friday, September 9.

TIME AND PLACE: This examination will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, and will be held at the Mechanic Arts High School, Central Ave., and Robert St. (Use rear entrance on Aurora Ave.)

JOSEPH J. MITCHELL
Civil Service Commissioner

(7-29-55)

(OVER)
RESIDENCE, AGE, AND CITIZENSHIP: Unless otherwise mentioned in this announcement, new applicants must be at least 16 but under 55 years of age, must have been legal residents of St. Paul for at least six months next preceding the date of the examination, and must be citizens of the United States. Applicants of voting age must also be registered voters. (Age limits do not apply to persons entitled to Veteran Preference, except where the law otherwise provides.)

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Under certain conditions experience may be substituted for education lacking, or approved special training or education may be accepted as a substitute for experience lacking. (See the Civil Service Bureau for details.) At least one-half of the minimum experience required must be within the last ten years.

TIE SCORES: In case of tie final scores in an examination, the applicant filing first will be given precedence on the eligible list.

MEDICAL TEST: Applicants must pass a qualifying medical test at or prior to the time of appointment.

ELIGIBLE LIST: The eligible list resulting from this examination will remain in force for at least one year.

VETERAN PREFERENCE: The State War Veteran Preference Law requires that eligibles entitled to and claiming veterans' preference must be appointed ahead of other eligibles on the same eligible list, no matter where they stand on such list. A separate claim must be filed at the Civil Service Bureau for each position applied for.

PROMOTION: Promotion candidates who fail to attain an average rating of 75% or more in the Direct Examination will be considered as having failed. For those who attain 75% or more in the Direct Examination, the final average will be computed as follows: Direct Examination, Wt. 60; Service Rating, Wt. 30; Seniority, Wt. 10.

For APPLICATION BLANK and further information, call at the Civil Service Bureau, Room 265, City Hall, St. Paul 2, Minnesota.

MEDICAL STANDARD NO. 1

(This standard provides for the following requirements, among others.)

1. The standard height and weight schedule shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Standard Weight</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Standard Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 ft. 8 in.</td>
<td>150 pounds</td>
<td>6 ft. 1 in.</td>
<td>175 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 ft. 9 in.</td>
<td>154 &quot;</td>
<td>6 ft. 2 in.</td>
<td>181 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 ft. 10 in.</td>
<td>158 &quot;</td>
<td>6 ft. 3 in.</td>
<td>187 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 ft. 11 in.</td>
<td>163 &quot;</td>
<td>6 ft. 4 in.</td>
<td>192 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 ft.</td>
<td>169 &quot;</td>
<td>6 ft. 5 in.</td>
<td>197 &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicants may be accepted if their weight does not vary more than 20% either way from the standard.

2. Vision (without glasses). Must be able to read 20:30 with each eye (Snellen's test), and must also pass a near-vision test by reading test type W. O. 75 at a distance not greater than 30 cm. Color blindness on red or green shall reject.

3. Teeth. There must be a minimum of twenty natural teeth present, including three masticating teeth (bicuspids or molars) in each jaw, in good occlusion. Teeth must be well cared for. Bridge work in good condition and not spanning more than two spaces may be counted as natural teeth. Gums are counted as natural teeth. The wearing of complete plates (artificial dentures) shall reject. Marked pyorrhea shall reject.

4. Physical Defects. Any physical characteristics that might interfere with good service or seriously affect appearance shall reject.

PHYSICAL TEST

In addition to tests of strength of the arms, legs, and hands, as measured by instruments, there will also be an obstacle course run.
Civil Service Bureau
Minnesota

Notice of Certification

City of St. Paul

January 10, 1957

Date

You are one of the eligibles that have been certified to the Department of Public Safety for consideration by the appointing officer of that Department in filling a vacancy in the position of Patrolman.

Report at once to Chief of Police W. F. Proetz, Public Safety
Eldon, 102 E. Ninth St., Thursday January 17, 1957, at 10:00 a.m.
Unless you report promptly, your name must be removed from the eligible register (Sec. 29). Waiver of this certification is permitted only in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 29. (See other side.)

To
Mr. Edward J. Buehman
800 Pleasant
2

CIVIL SERVICE BUREAU

By

Civil Service Bureau

Notice of Examination Rating

This is to notify you that you attained a passing mark in the examination for Park Policeman held September 17, 1955. Your name is No. 56 on the original entrance list.

CIVIL SERVICE BUREAU

To
Mr. Edward J. Buehman
800 Pleasant
2

Notice of Standing:—This is a notice of your standing in the examination, and not a certification or offer of appointment. You will be notified when your name is reached on the list for certification.

Change of Address:—If you change your address, you must notify the Civil Service Bureau at once, otherwise you may miss an appointment.

Temporary Work:—If you care to accept temporary work in this position, please notify the Bureau in writing.

Inspection of Papers:—You may call at the Bureau on any Tuesday to inspect your own examination papers. Such inspection of papers is permitted up to three months following the mailing of the Notice of Examination Rating card.

Certification:—Whenever a vacancy occurs, unless it is filled by reduction, transfer, or reinstatement, the Civil Service Bureau certifies the names of the highest three standing on the appropriate eligible list, and from these three the appointing officer appoints one. If any of these three waive certification or decline appointment, the next names in regular order on the list are certified instead. Appointing officers have the privilege, in certain cases, of specifying sex, and when this is done, certification is made of the highest three of the sex specified. According to a State law most war veterans, no matter where they stand on the list, must be appointed ahead of all non-veterans.

Separate lists are maintained for promotion eligibles and for original entrants. The promotion list must be exhausted before the original entrance list can be used.

Probation:—Every new appointee is subject to a six-months’ probationary period, and if his services during this period are not sufficiently satisfactory to warrant a final regular appointment, his employment automatically terminates at the end of the six-month period. (The same rule applies to promotion appointments.)
KC: So, you take the test in ’55 and then you’re hanging around. How were you notified?

EB: Well, then they sent out a notice that I was – come down and take the physical exam. Let’s see, I took the written and then take the physical exam and the oral interview.

KC: What did your wife think when you got the notice that you had been chosen?

EB: She was surprised, so was I. Laughs] Because, well, you had to be a high school graduate or GED, to begin with, so. So, we were both, well, I was more surprised than she was. Like I say, everybody would say, a lot of people you ask why were you a policeman? Oh, I just love to help people. Well, my big thing was in those days, is the salary and a steady job. I never thought about helping people, I never gave it a thought one way or another that I was or I wasn’t, until I got out of the Department.

KC: What were some of the highlights of being an officer for you?

EB: I think the highlights were, when I, after I first got on they had a – I went on in March and 30 days for service school and in that 30 days, next was just go out on routine patrol with a couple patrolmen in the squad car.

When you’re in the Navy, you know, they say don’t volunteer for anything. But when I worked at Western Electric, I had a supervisor that said, “Ed, volunteer, that’s gonna help you in the long run.” So they said
they wanted some people for a special program, so I volunteered for that. John Mercado\(^2\) was our sergeant.

KC: What did you do in this special program?

EB: This was a special squad, this was in July, so I went on in March and this was in July. Chief Proetz\(^3\) wanted to put a special unit on, and we were trained in tear gas and we walked a beat. We started the training that way, there was six of us and that’s where I first met Larry McDonald, through life, why, we were friends.

KC: In your scrapbook, there is a newspaper article from the Saint Paul Dispatch, dated Monday July 8, 1957. There’s a picture of a number of officers in plainclothes and the caption under the picture says – Use of tear gas is one of the many skills to be covered by the new volunteer police Mobile Tactical Unit that went into training today. Shown from left, front row are: Chief of Police William Proetz, Sergeant John Mercado, shown with tear gas gun, patrolmen Theodore Petersen\(^4\) and Lawrence McDonald\(^5\) with gas mask. Back

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\(^2\) Jesus John Mercado was appointed patrolman July 6, 1948; promoted sergeant June 26, 1957; lieutenant July 19, 1971; and retired August 24, 1983.

\(^3\) William F. Proetz was appointed patrolman March 1, 1937; promoted to sergeant March 16, 1948, detective September 20, 1948, lieutenant December 1949, and chief March 11, 1955; returned to detective lieutenant March 13, 1961; and retired June 12, 1963.

\(^4\) Theodore A. Petersen was appointed reserve patrolman November 1, 1949; and retired February 28, 1975.

row from left to right: patrolmen Edward Buehlman, William Swiger⁶, Thomas Kisch⁷ and Fred Leske⁸. And the article goes onto say:

William R. Swiger was appointed patrolman November 1, 1949; and retired June 30, 1976.

Thomas B. Kisch was appointed patrolman March 4, 1957; and retired November 22, 1985.

Fred M. Leske was appointed patrolman March 4, 1957; and retired December 15, 1983.
And, of course, all of these tactics that they’re describing are commonplace now days, but in 1957, we know, that this was cutting edge police work.

EB: When we had the Mobile Tactical Unit, one of our good things about it was, at that time you had the Detectives Unit and the Patrol Unit. With the Patrol Unit, you’d did the initial report and the detectives got your report and they went and finished up on it and they got all the glory – where you helped out. But when we got on John’s crew, the best part of it was Proetz said, “I want John and his crew to find out what’s going on in the districts.” That way, we got information and we were able to make good arrests, also. So, that was good that way.

KC: At that time they had the two divisions, Detective and Patrol and you stayed in Patrol your whole career.

EB: Right. I couldn’t put the X’s in the right boxes to make any other decisions, so I stayed in the Patrol.

KC: Now, by ’58, Larry [McDonald] is researching starting a K-9 Unit in Saint Paul. It’s believed that this may have been the second K-9 Unit in the nation and he asked you to volunteer again, to be one of the K-9 officers.
EB: Well, it started when we were on John Mercado’s crew.
KC: Wasn’t that known as Mercado’s Marauders?

EB: Yeah, Mercado’s Marauders at one time, Mobile Tactical Unit, that’s our – our true name was Mobile Tactical Unit. We would walk beats and things like that. We had a lot of plants or stakeouts. Larry and I were on a stakeout one night and we were watching this house. So John Mercado, the whole upshot was that the woman that wanted this house and some of her relations lived downstairs and they wanted to buy the place, it was a duplex. We were there watching this woman and we finally got our report done and Larry said – it was cold out and we laying down in the backyard there and there’s fences all around us – he says, “You know this would be a good idea, if we had police dogs then they could jump the fence, where maybe we couldn’t.” So, that started the dog training [idea]. Larry had went on and talked to Proetz and Proetz thought it was a good idea, so we started the dogs.

KC: Do you remember anything about what you had to do for the training?

EB: For the dogs. Well, we had Al Johnson and Bob Gates, they were the two trainers and we were the handlers. I was lucky enough to get a dog and Bill Swiger got a dog and Larry McDonald got a dog. And then we went through the training for obedience was a specialty, because when the dog – told the dog to stop, he had to stop, sit and sit, and stay and guard. So, that was our big training. We went through the training the same as the dogs did.

KC: Had you had dogs before?
EB: Little bitty dogs, you know, like a cocker spaniel, that’s about as big as the dogs that we had, at the time, that I had anyway.
"CHAMP CLAMPS" his teeth into the padded arm of "suspect," Patrolman Ed Kaase, as he runs from a door during demonstration of police department's new German Shepherd dogs.

Champ's handler, Patrolman William R. Swiger, stands by. Other patrolmen-handlers are Edward J. Buehiman and Laurence F. McDonald.

Staff Photo by Sally Doroshow.

Law's Arm Grows Longer--

Police Dogs Bolster Force

By JERRY URBHAMMER Staff Writer

St. Paul's long arm of the law is growing longer—by the length of a dog leash.

Three German Shepherd dogs trained to work with St. Paul police, patrolman-handlers in searching out crime suspects were unveiled and put through their paces Tuesday for press and city officials in the Public Safety building.

The dog-patrolman teams will begin actual police work in two or three weeks, Chief William F. Proets said.

The dogs will be used in various ways—as beat patrols, mobile patrols, on "planting," or on special details. Perhaps the greatest value, the chief said, will be the psychological and deterrent effect on criminals knowing that such dogs are on the streets.

The dogs, donated to the police department, have been in training eight months—first learning strict obedience to their handlers, then being taught to corner or attack a suspect on a voice command.

learned their lessons was evident in the demonstration.

When their handlers said "sit," the dogs sat. When the handlers said "stay," the dogs remained riveted to one spot. When the dogs were released and sent after a "suspect" in a padded suit, the dogs snarled, lunged and fastened their teeth in the subject's arm.

When the handler said "out," the dog reluctantly released the victim, and on the command "guard," the dog closely watched the subject, alert to any getaway attempt.

Alward Johnson, assistant traffic manager for Minnesota Farm Bureau Service Co., who directed the training of the dogs, said they will be on leashes at all times except when they're sent after suspects.

Proets's advice to suspects who come upon the dogs suddenly: "Stand perfectly still. Don't move a muscle."

Police personnel—except for the individual handlers—have been ordered to keep away from the animals. They are not to speak to, direct orders to, or at any time touch or attempt to pet the dogs.

"Although they may seem friendly and docile, a quick movement or tone of voice might precipitate an attack," the order said.
KC: How did you like being a canine officer?

EB: Real well. It was real nice being you had the dog. My wife said “Well...” she said “... you got somebody to protect you.” We had lots of, especially when we had the dog, we had lots of stakeouts or plants, whatever you
want to call them. And the one that I recall real well, is it was cold weather and we had a stakeout at Warner Hardware store on Wabasha Street. So, what happens is, I’ve got an old tin suitcase or metal suitcase there that’s all battered up and I got just enough room to put in this big heavy battery pack for the walkie-talkie and the walkie-talkie itself. Both packs must have weighed about 25 or 30 pounds and this suitcase was just big enough for me to break the shotgun down and put it in, and then put my lunch in there. So, we were going to Warner Hardware, walking down, it must have been about 12 or 1:00, the detectives would drop me and the dog off then we’d walk up the street there. It was cool, I had a big coat on, I had the dog on one side and this heavy pack set on the other side and then trying to sneak around to see if anybody was looking. And I would duck in – Warner Hardware at that time, there was a parking ramp right next to it – so, I’d look around to see if anybody. . . then I’d walk in there, I had a key to the place, we’d go in and get all fixed up and set up ‘til in the morning. Nothing happened, but we were there.

KC: Did you ever catch who you were trying to catch?

EB: No, no, no. I don’t know why they had us there, but they must have suspected somebody would – ‘cause they had guns at that time, they sold guns at Warner Hardware at that time.

KC: What do you do to stay alert all night long in a dark building? What did you do?

EB: I guess I slept enough in the daytime that at night I was more alert. I wasn’t on the Police Department that long, probably about a year, no,
about two years then or three, and I was still gung-ho, ready to go, so, hoping we’d catch somebody. But we didn’t that time.

KC: Was it easier to do a plant when you had your companion with you, when you had your dog?

EB: Oh, yes, you had somebody to keep but he was real good that way. He would keep quiet and was alert in case something happened, why, he would hear before you would, really, or kind of smell them out.

KC: I can only imagine spending all those hours just kind of snuggled with a dog and close with a dog, that enhances the bond that you have with your animal.

EB: Baron was – a strange thing, it was in the wintertime and I was on Western Avenue going south, and this is what I found out later on, but it was in the daytime and I was patrolling down there and the dog liked to lick me all the time. I never wore after shave lotion ‘til he got done licking me from the back. We had an opening right behind the driver’s seat, so he’s kind of frisky and he comes over and he puts both paws on my shoulder and I’m telling him, “Back Baron, back Baron.” We were kind of wrestling while I was driving, so later on I talked to Howie Toronto’s³ wife, I knew Howie and his wife, and she said, “You know . . .” she says, “. . . we saw this policeman driving and he was wrestling with somebody with a big overcoat on.” That was the dog, Baron, and I. [Laughter]

KC: What a great story.

When you were in the original K-9 Unit, you did a lot of demonstrations.

³ Howard J. Toronto was appointed patrolman March 4, 1957; and retired April 2, 1978.
EB: Yeah, all three of us did, Bill and Larry and myself. We went to schools and Boy Scout troops, Girl Scout troops, and anybody that wanted a dog demonstration to show what our dogs would do, we would have a demonstration for them.

KC: I’ve seen the letters. You have this huge stack of letters, where people have asked for demonstrations. Would you spend like a third of your time doing demonstrations?
1270 Barclay
St. Paul, Minn.
December 10, 1959

Dear Officer Buhlman,

Thank you for bringing Baron to Prosperity Heights School on Wednesday. I am sure our whole school enjoyed it.

How is your job and how is Baron? Have you caught any burglars yet? I hope you do not have to work on Christmas. Thank you again.

Your friend,

Tim Swenson
EB: Well, you know, we had days off the same as everybody else, so, a lot of times we would go on our days off. We didn’t get paid for it but, I mean, it was just part of our growing up I suppose you’d say.

KC: Contributions to the Department and the city.

EB: Yeah, that’s about it, we did a lot of those, because all of this was on, a lot of this, was on our own time for the training of the dogs, ’cause it was about a year or so that we were training the dogs, we had our own cars and stuff.

KC: So you weren’t paid for any of the training that you did?

EB: No. We were just, later on, we got paid for – the city did buy the dog food for us and then later on we got ten dollars a month more to get our clothes cleaned.

KC: Were there days you had to change clothes several times because the dogs might . . .?

EB: No, no, you just got to smell like a dog once in awhile that’s all.

KC: And how did your wife like you coming home, smelling like a dog?

EB: Well, you could always take a shower – smell human again.

KC: And then we have this interesting piece of paper in your scrapbook, its called *Bill of Sale*. 
KC: So, what was it like having a dog live in your home?

EB: It’s just like you with your dog, you know, you get used to him and they get to be a big pet. Only when they go to work, why, then they go to work – you go to work, they go to work.
KC: And, this scrapbook, Ed, that you have, is so incredible. Here is this wonderful picture. It says, *Home for the hunter...*

It’s a great picture of you and Baron.
Another great headline, “Police Dog Corner’s His Man”

And to show the variety, here we have an articles about:

- participating in the Minneapolis Aquatennial,
- dog halts winde peeper,
- and a tipsy dog lover.
These articles are just fantastic. *Shoot at me, but keep the police dogs away*, the article is headed.

October 1960
EB: Morelli’s Food Store\textsuperscript{10} on Payne Avenue, they were having it redone – this is kind of a funny story – they were having it remodeled and the front end of the store was just covered up with canvas, so I had the job for a couple of days – like, I say, the detectives would take us down. Well, old man Morelli, he says, “You got charge of the store. . .” he says, “. . . everything is yours.” So, of course, there was lights on in the store and you had to keep out of sight, but Baron and I, we went to go in and stay there ‘til pretty close to daylight, but the strange part about it was that I would feed Baron, you know, they have scraps for making hamburger and they had them in a big barrel there, see, so I’d take and feed Baron these scraps. So, then when the plant was all over with and then I went to feed Baron, he wouldn’t eat for three days, his dog food. [Laughter] Finally, when he got hungry, he ate his dog food.

KC: Baron definitely had a personality, didn’t he?

EB: Everything seemed to be routine. You’d go on a plant, you’d take the dog and a lot of times you didn’t take the shotgun, just when they suspected something big, why, you’d take the shotgun and the pack set, because they were such big pack sets. It isn’t like today, where you got one that you can put on your hip and back pocket and walk around and talk to somebody.

KC: You weren’t allowed to wear side arms, were you?

EB: Oh, yes.

KC: Were you?

\begin{flushright}
\textsuperscript{10}Since the 1920s Morelli’s has been located at 535 Tedesco Street and Payne Avenue. This family store first opened in 1915, with the fourth generation of Morelli’s owning the store in 2007.
\end{flushright}
EB: Oh sure.

KC: I thought Larry [McDonald] had said . . .

EB: Well, that’s when they had the pictures taken and that. We didn’t have guns on, or side arms, or whatever.

KC: Well, that makes sense, publicity shots.

To my knowledge, Saint Paul has only had two riots or two race-related riots in our history. One of them was on Rondo Avenue [August 15, 1959] and, I believe, you were there. Can you talk about that?

EB: Yes. Before this started, Larry McDonald and myself, we each had a police dog, and for quite a while we would, or, I should say, days before that there was trouble up there, people were getting mugged and slugged.

KC: And this was in what’s known as the Rondo neighborhood?

EB: Yeah, this was the Rondo area. But Larry and I would switch off, we would walk, one with the police dog would walk Saint Anthony, from Western to Dale, and the other officer would walk Rondo [Concordia Avenue], from Western to Dale, most of the time at 10:00 we would walk together and then we’d walk the whole area. That night we had our dogs and we came together about 10:00.

Before the riot started, we were checking cars and people in the area for IDs because of all the muggings and things that had been going on up there. So, oh, about an hour before the riot, why, this car with Illinois plates pulled up on the corner of Rondo and Kent, and stopped there and Larry and I went over and we checked the driver and we found out that
the car was a stolen car from Illinois. Being that we found that out, then we took and arrested the three people that were in the car and we found out that they had a shotgun in the back and the trunk was loaded with drugs. I don’t know what kind they were because most of them were pills of some kind.

We had another squad come up and they took them down and those three men were arrested. There were two of them that were sentenced later on. They went to trial and all three of them had went to – sent to prison.

Then a little later on, when a couple of the detectives were going to arrest a person in one of the beer joints there on Kent and Rondo that’s when, later on, everybody started coming out, and Larry with his police dog and me with my police dog, why, we tried to keep them away from the squad car, it was a plain car, detective car that they had, keep the people away.
At that time, why, Larry’s dog bit one of the women there, so she was arrested and then we stood back, and by that time there was a lot of squads and the Fire Department came down and the Chief ordered them to spray the people at the corners with the fire hoses. And at that time, everything started to break up, but we had quite a battle there for about an hour.

KC: How did the police dogs being there make a difference in that situation? Clearly, the people of the community didn’t like the fact that the detectives were making an arrest.

EB: Well, the dogs, we kept most of the people away from the squad car, so they couldn’t box in the detectives and that’s what helped.

KC: So people were afraid of the dogs?

EB: Right, they stayed back. They didn’t want anything to do with the dogs. Of course, when they started barking and growling, why, you kind of watch out for what’s going on.

KC: And you have a wonderful article in there that does talk about the fact that people are more afraid of dogs than they are of, at that time, men in uniform.

EB: That’s true. Larry and I would walk that same area before we even had the police dogs, we patrolled, well, after that they started to rip up for the freeway going through there, but we walked there and that was with John Mercado’s crew, the Mobile Tactical Unit that the six of us worked.

KC: And, of course, in the article that we have, it says there were 300 rioters on Rondo Avenue. What was the date of that?
EB: That was Saturday August the 15th in 1959. That was just after we had the dogs on the street, too.

KC: One of the first big tests.

EB: Right.
USE OF TEAR GAS is one of the many skills to be covered by the new volunteer police mobile tactical unit that went into training today. Shown from the left, front row, are Chief of Police William F. Frosts; Sgt. John Mercado, shown with tear gas gun; Patrolman Theodore Peterson and Lawrence McDonald, with gas mask. Back row from left are Patrolmen Edward Bushman, William Swiger, Thomas Klisch and Fred Leski. Staff Photo.

**IN POLICE SKILLS—**

**6 Start Training**

A six-man mobile tactical unit of volunteer police officers have begun training in special law-enforcement skills, Chief of Police William F. Frosts said today.

They are Patrolmen Theodore Peterson, William Swiger, Lawrence McDonald, Thomas Klisch, Fred Leski and Edward Bushman. They will be supervised by Sgt. John Mercado.

Chief Frosts said their training will include judo, katas, tear-gas equipment, blast and surveillance, use of automatic weapons, defensive tactics, raids and field problems and juvenile control.

A vacant house in the development area will be provided for the group to practice their gas use.

Instructions will be by Detective Anthony Tupa, Lt. Donald Wallace, Sgt. Roy Shepard and Capt. Louis Giehler.

New Police Squad Set For 'Trouble'

Robert F. Peterson, commissioner of public safety who is seeking reelection today announced a modified version of "Operation 23," employed extensively in New York, has been introduced in the St. Paul police department.

"A squad of eight men on foot are assigned areas which have a high incidence of crime where trouble is suspected," he said.

"An example of trouble spots is specified street corners where juveniles have been aaying provocations." The police officers so employed have been given intensified training in sociology, jobs and human relations, toward equipping them to "tie-up" or handle a given situation, Peterson further explained.

"These officers can be detailed to any section of the city quickly, individually, in pairs, or to saturate an entire area in an emergency," he said.

"This technique has been highly successful in preventing and discouraging future and major trouble."
KC: A sad day, Ed, here is a letter dated September 6, 1962 and it’s addressed to Officers L. McDonald and E. Buehlman, Police Department.

The end of a great beginning. So, how did it feel when McAuliffe came in and decided that we were no longer going to have police dogs?

EB: It felt very strange, because that was his decision and he asked me, he says, “How do you feel about getting off the K-9 Unit?” I says, “Well, . . .”
I says, “... I thought we did a good job and I thought it was a good thing.” That’s all you could say, I mean, what else, you know, you can’t say, *hey, please, put him on again*, because he wasn’t that type of a man.

But I found out later Fred Leske was in our Mercado’s crew and, I think, that McAuliffe kind of liked Leske, he was a marine and he taught us judo and stuff when we were in Mercado’s crew. But he says to Fred, he said, “What’s the matter with Ed Buehlman, he comes in here and he’s crying because we got the dogs off? And, I said, “Crying?” You know, that’s – you just tell the truth and I prefer to have the dogs on, but. So, I don’t know, there was a few other times when he asked some of the people that I worked with, what kind of a guy I was, I don’t know why, but.

KC: So your dog lived with you then?

EB: Yes, Baron stayed at home with us.

KC: Did he miss the police work?

EB: Well, it wasn’t too long – well, we went for a walk and that, but he was just happy that he was with my wife and I, so I don’t know how much – he had epileptic seizures not too long after I had him about a year. I took him out to the University and had an autopsy done and they said that probably when he was a puppy, he might have had distemper and the distemper was part of what happened, why he got epileptic seizures. They were seizures, just like a human being, he’d just fall over, urinate and foam at the mouth. I got kind of leery afterwards, that happened a couple, three times, I told my wife, “Well, don’t get close to him, you don’t
know what’s going to happen.” I figured it would be just as well, he was losing weight, have him put down.

KC: That must have been sad.

EB: Yeah, because they get close to ya.

KC: Oh, very, and that unconditional acceptance, is so important.

After 1962 when they closed the Canine Unit for awhile, do you remember where you went from there?

EB: Yeah, I was on the regular squad. Well, there was three of us that had a police dog, so McAuliffe said, “Well, we need the three men on the street.” And the strange part about it is, you’re absorbed in the squad in a regular relief. But when you’re on a regular relief, why, you got two fellows that are ahead of you and if you’re the third man on the squad, why, you just fill in when the other two are gone. But I used to walk the beats afterward, like, Selby and Snelling. Nothing out there midnight shift and all you do is you stand out there and you freeze to death in the wintertime, with your big heavy overcoat on. But that was always one of the things that I had against
McAuliffe that I wasn’t absorbed to do anything special, just to throw you in with the group, but I stayed there.

Then I was on the downtown squad 310, with a couple of partners. 310 was a downtown district, we had half of it. They put an emergency car in each of the four districts that we had. So, we had the third district, that was the west side and the downtown district.

KC: Where were you?

EB: Well, I was in the third, you’d call it the third district, this was downtown district. Yeah, we had west side, we went out West Seventh Street to Osceola and then we went up to University and down University and downtown again.

KC: And another article from your wonderful scrapbook dated Thursday July 29, 1965. There is a picture with all the equipment in the new emergency cars laid out and it’s titled *Emergency trucks go into police service on Friday*. Any stories you remember about being in the emergency cars?

EB: Oh, we had a lot of training. First aid training, and then we took pictures of crime scenes and took pictures of accident scenes, the ones that were maybe killed or hurt real bad, we’d take their pictures. And we’d take, like I say, in case there was a murder or something like that, why, we would go in and take pictures of that and then we’d dust it for fingerprints.

KC: Now, this was not the stretcher car?

EB: Correct.

KC: This was the car that went into major crimes?
POLICEMEN IN ST. PAUL will be seen traveling in some new ways this week. Top photo shows Patrolman Jerry Dolan, left, and Capt. Frank Spaltgen with one of four new emergency trucks which will go into operation Friday. At bottom, Patrolman Robert Bradley gets ready to roll in one of the two new three-wheeled scooters now being used for traffic work in the Loop. The scooters cost $1,800 apiece, are less fatiguing to operate than a motorcycle and offer the rider protection from weather and collisions.—Staff Photos by Don Spavin.

* * *

Emergency Trucks to Go Into Police Service Friday

Four new emergency trucks, equipped to handle many kinds of problems, will go into police service here at 4 p.m. Friday, Commissioner Dean Meredith said today.

The trucks will supplement the squad-car system and will be provided with many types of emergency units, such as bolt cutters, wire cutters, tin snips, axes, saws, cutting torches, gas and oxygen supplies, and ambulance and stretcher equipment, Meredith said.

The units were purchased from International Harvester Co. for $9,066, net, and for the past three weeks were being outfitted.

The commissioner said the trucks will carry two-man crews and will be in service 24 hours a day. They will be assigned, one each, to four areas—downtown and East Side, West Side, West Seventh and Highland area, and the Midway and North Side area.

"These trucks will add to our cars on the streets and will be able to provide quick help at many emergencies," Meredith said.

They are being paid for through the police equipment fund, but the matter of providing crews has been more difficult. It has been necessary to make a number of adjustments in assignments to get the needed crews, the commissioner said.

He said that the department years ago had one car thus equipped, but for some reason it was discontinued. The fire department has two larger, well-equipped emergency trucks serving the city.
EB: That’s correct. Yeah, we went in when things got, like I say, major crime or anything where there was, say there was a burglary and they wanted somebody to take fingerprints, dust for prints, why, then they would call the emergency car in that district to come in and take pictures and dust for prints and see what kind of evidence they could get. We also had rope that we could [repel down cliffs,] we’d practiced that, But we didn’t have to repel down any cliffs to save anybody, so, we were lucky that way.

KC: But you had the rope in case it was necessary?

EB: Yeah, we had the – it was a harness and that.

I was in the emergency car then, yes. That was, well, we had the accidents – we had oxygen and bars in case there was an accident and we had to try to get somebody out, why, we had crow bars and different type of instruments to open the doors and break the windows and good things like that. But most that we did was, like, accident scenes and transport people to emergency rooms and that. We got a lot of emergency calls.

KC: So you were really the investigators, you were one of the first specialty units to be investigators.

EB: Yeah, that’s correct. We did a lot of that. We had several major accidents that we went to.
STEELWORKER: Louis R. Stacey Jr., 635 Mount Curve Blvd., suffered multiple fractures of his right leg at 2:38 p.m. Thursday when he fell from a third-story steel beam of the new first federal building under construction at Fifth and Cedar streets. Police officers Ed Aultman and Gordon Anderson got help placing Stacey in an ambulance. He was taken to St. Paul-Ramsey Hospital and transferred to Midway Hospital.

—Staff Photo by Craig Borch.

SERIOUS INJURIES in St. Paul Police Officer Michael J. Molyneux, 35, of 1840 Ashland Ave., resulted from this accident Thursday afternoon on eastbound I-94 near Western Avenue. The crash involved a semi-trailer truck, two cars and a pickup truck. The Highway Patrol said Molyneux and another officer, Dan Borkowski, had stepped off I-94 at 7:40 p.m. to direct traffic around a disabled vehicle. About five minutes later, two cars collided in the traffic. Molyneux helped push one of the cars onto the shoulder, but then received injuries to both legs when a semi-trailer lost control and hit the other car, spinning it into the officer. The semi-trailer then collided with the pickup truck. Others brought to the hospital for treatment were: Kebekish H. Turner, 30, of 600 E. 16th St., Minneapolis, a passenger in a car driven by Daniel L. Turner, 20, of 910 16th Ave. S., Minneapolis, and Jarrell J. Wilson, 29, mound, driver of the semi-trailer. The accident caused a traffic jam that wasn't cleared until about 8:45 p.m., according to authorities—Staff Photo by Don Church.
EB: I think the biggest thing, was we rescued some boys. Some of the boys on the west side had buried one of their friends in sand to his neck. So, we got a call and we dug him out. I was working with a different fellow at that time, not one of my regular partners, but. I guess that was a good one.

KC: And here’s the article about Police rescue boy buried by friends, with a picture of the four boys.

How did you happen to find the kid?
EB: Well, they knew where he was, but they had buried him and they couldn’t get him out, so, somebody called the police. It was at night there, so, but we dug him out, so it wasn’t – he wasn’t hurt any.

KC: Was he scared?

EB: Yeah, he was scared, but his friends, hey, that was their thing to do, you know, to bury him, so that’s what they did.

KC: Were they given any charges for putting him in danger?

EB: No. Those days, why, you just – Don’t do that again.

And then when we were on emergency car, also, there was the bombing in Dayton’s Department Store downtown. This young fella’s name was Hogan and the strange thing about that – I went to school with his dad, Lloyd Hogan, we called him “pooty boy.” He had set a bomb in Dayton’s downtown in the woman’s washroom and the bomb went off and a woman was cut up pretty bad with the explosion. We took her to the emergency room, we were lucky, and, like I say, we were downtown squad, so we got the call. Joe Renteria, Sr.¹¹, he found the second bomb, so that didn’t go off. That was quite a big thing at that time.

KC: Did you have any special bomb squads?

EB: No, at that time we didn’t. When I was on John Mercado’s crew we did have a seminar with the Army. We went for bomb disposal and then we collected a lot of ammunition. Like say, you had a bunch of old

¹¹ Joseph A Renteria was appointed patrolman July 25, 1949; and retired July 24, 1979.
ammunition, you called up and you say, *do you want it?* Then we’d take it and get rid of it. After I had retired, why, then they had the bomb squad.

At that time, we were almost like the SWAT squad and the emergency squad.

**KC:** Mercado’s [Mobile Tactical Unit]?

**EB:** Right.

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**August 22, 1970**
Hogan's Friend Sticks to Story

Continued From Page 17

Aug. 31 he and Hogan were riding bicycles to Minneapolis and they stopped to rest near the Gulf Oil Co. tanks on N. Fairview Avenue near University Avenue. He said Hogan just looked at the tanks but didn't say anything.

The following morning another bomb exploded beside those tanks but did little or no damage. That same morning there was another explosion in the offices building of the Burlington Northern Railroad and a third one in the Second Street tunnel below Kellogg Boulevard. It was in the latter blast that Hogan was injured and taken to St. Paul-Ramsey Hospital.

After Wright completed his testimony, Collins called on a series of police officers who were the first on the scene of the Dayton's blast. They were patrolmen Roger W. Emott, Joseph Renteria, Edward J. Buehman, Richard P. Granberg and Gordon H. Anderson.

They told of finding Mrs. Mary Jane Peek, 47, of Grey Cloud Island, lying on a bench outside the rest room near the 6th and Cedar entrance. She was the only person inside the room when the explosion occurred.

According to the officers, Mrs. Peek was suffering from an abdominal wound which one said was jagged and 3 to 4 inches wide and also severe leg cuts which apparently were caused by shrapnel. Her skin also was blackened from burns and dust, they added.

Officer Renteria, who rode with her to SPR Hospital, said that on the way she told him she had just started to comb her hair "when something went off."

Officer Granberg said that after they arrived at the hospital Mrs. Peek looked up from her stretcher and said, "It looks like my insides are torn out."

The injured woman, who is scheduled to testify in the case later, spent three months in the hospital recovering from her injuries.

Prior to the start of the afternoon session Thursday Judge David Marsden turned down a defense motion to reduce Hogan's bail from $30,000 to $15,000. Conolly told the court the youth's family had indicated they could raise the surety on the lower amount but could not make the present bond demand.
EB: The thing is, I look back, and whatever the Police Department has got today, I had worked in it. It’s just like the HELP Program—[Housing Environmental Liaison and Police Program]. That came after, when Larry [McDonald], he was a lieutenant there, and they were going to have the Help Program for the housing development. When we went on the HELP Program, I and several others, we took care of the high rises. We had Central Hi-Rise, Redeemer Arms and Ravoux, the three of us that worked together. We worked from 10:00 to 6:00 those days. All our work was strictly with the Hi-Rise, if they needed us they’d call us for other duties. We would go from Hi-Rise to Hi-Rise and talk to people and enjoy their conversations. We were just police babysitters. I know at Redeemer Arms, we used to take them for a walk up on Dale and Concordia and around, it was enjoyable, it was something different.

KC: Well, now days, we probably call it community relations or community policing and just building those rapport with the people.

EB: That’s about it.
KC: I know that the HELP Program was very much of a volunteer program, because you had to be on call and be willing to come in on your days off, if you were needed. Different than the way the Department was run at that time. How did you decide to volunteer for the HELP Program?

EB: Larry McDonald asked me if I wanted to go on it and explained it to me. And I said, “Yeah, that’s a good [idea].” I always volunteered for everything.

KC: That was one of the first programs to start doing the 4/40, where you would work ten 4-hour days.

EB: That’s correct. You’re right there, that started the 4/40.

KC: So this was very different for policing, how did you feel about working four 10-hour days?

EB: I don’t know, its just one of those things, you go along with the flow. I always went along with the flow. They would ask you how you felt, you know, at the beginning – Were you tired? Do you get monotonous working that long hours? and things, but you don’t. If you enjoy the job you’re doing, why, you go along with it.

Officer Edward Buehlman
1977
TO ALL PERSONNEL:

January 19, 1971

The Bureau of Police has undertaken two new programs in 1971 which offer greater police protection for the residents of the City's Hi-rise apartments and housing projects. The programs are herein explained to provide Bureau members with their inner workings and intended goals.

The Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) has senior residents in the Central Hi-rise, Central and Kent, the Redeemer Arms Hi-rise, Dale and Concordia, and Ravoux Apartment at 280 Ravoux Street. Many residents have been victims of crime en route to and from grocery stores and bus lines. Concern for the residents has prompted the HRA to contract with the City of St. Paul and the Bureau of Police for six police officers to patrol prescribed routes used by the elderly residents. Six officers eligible for day positions were selected to begin this assignment on January 1, 1971. The officers are Edward Buehlman, Richard Haugen, Donald Hinz, Gerald Rogers, Gary Valenta and Chester Sorensen. The contract agreement will provide seven day per week coverage, during the hours of 1000 to 1800, with a maximum of two vehicles to patrol the three Hi-rises and adjacent areas.

The security units will not be available for other police calls unless they pertain to the residents or buildings in the HRA area. Contact with these officers may be during the 1000 hour roll call, conducted by Lieutenant Kneissel, or the Station Commander. Patrol function will be done with marked vehicles assigned the following radio call numbers: 32, 733 and 734.

The second Bureau activity deals with St. Paul's Housing Authority's Public Housing Units. The units involved are McDonough Homes, Mt. Airy Homes, including the Valley and Mt. Airy Hi-rises, Roosevelt Homes and Dunedin Terrace Homes, including Concord Terrace Hi-rise. This is the "HELP-P" project. The somewhat awesome title, simply, is a shorthand way of saying Housing Environment Liaison Police Program.

This program is possible because of Federal assistance. The life expectancy of the program is three years. The grant calls for fourteen patrolmen, and two supervising officers.
TO ESTABLISH A BETTER WORKING TOGETHER RELATIONSHIP WITH RESIDENTS THE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED. THE ASSIGNMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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<td>Jim Campbell</td>
<td>Joe Renteria, Jr.</td>
<td>Mark Klinge</td>
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<td>Bernie Daninger</td>
<td>Mel Lindberg</td>
<td>Matt Lynch</td>
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<td>Harold Breyer</td>
<td>Dennis Wilkes</td>
<td>Mike Markson</td>
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ALTERNATES

Paul Kill - McDonough - Roosevelt
Keith Miller - Dunedin - Mt. Airy

The assigned officers will have vehicles available to them although a great amount of their time will be spent on foot. This will include walking visits to the homes, apartments, gym, social centers, schools and businesses which are adjacent to their areas. Each police team will have office space in each project manager's office for interviewing, report writing, phone and filing. Radio communications will be maintained at all times so that any reported activity within the area can be responded to by the "foot-vehicle" police team. Radio call numbers are as follows:

Dunedin - 739    Mt. Airy - 738    Roosevelt - 737    McDonough - 736

The HELP-P team will vary their ten hour work shift to needs of the project. It is anticipated that the starting times will be between 1500 hours to 1800 hours. HELP-P supervisors will visit each police unit prior to roll call to exchange information in an attempt to prevent or reduce crime occurrences in the project community.

To assist in better understanding of the HELP-P program we have outlined the goals that the unit will strive to achieve, along with our duties and responsibilities.

PROGRAM GOALS

I. GENERAL AND SPECIFIC GOALS

A. GENERAL GOALS

1. REDUCTION OF CRIME AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IN AREAS DISPROPORTIONATELY COMPOSED OF CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY.

2. THROUGH COMMUNITY ACTION TO BRING A MEASURE OF SOCIAL AND LEGAL CONTROL TO THESE AREAS IN THE INTEREST OF CREATING A WHOLESOME PHYSICAL AND PHILOSOPHIC ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CHILDREN AND DIMINISH THE FEAR OF THE ELDERLY, WHO ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY THE VICTIMS OF CRIME.
3. To develop a solidarity among residents rising from the realization that a cooperative effort with the law enforcement agency can bring order to the area and that each has a genuine stake in, and responsibility for, preservation of an orderly community.

B. SPECIFIC GOALS:

1. To develop a highly personalized police-community interplay of the resources of each in the structuring of a model effort to reduce crime and diminish the contagion rising from criminogenic influences.

2. The identification of the nature and extent of crime to the residents for remedial action within their capability, and the need for active surveillance and deterrence.

3. The absorption of the police into the community as community workers and guardians and developing rapport and trust in meaningful ways apparent to the community's residents.

4. To pioneer a case work approach to the problem of crime in identification of crime inducing environments and situations which lend themselves to efforts by certain resource or referral agencies and by the community at large.

5. To develop a model that will have validity in similar application to other areas if the current plan is demonstrably effective.

OPERATING PROCEDURES CRUCIAL TO THE PROGRAM

The operating philosophy associated with the program goals is to emphasize the police role in an experimental situation where variables can be controlled or understood through historical data developed since the construction of the project areas. The experimental hypothesis to be tested is that a deeper involvement by police on a personalized basis will result in influencing a community to undertake a cooperative arrangement with its law enforcement agency. It is not a diffused or differential approach but in equational sense - good routine law enforcement plus personalized, directed police social and education activity plus citizen involvement equals a wholesome, healthy, safe community.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The pursuit of a law abiding society by the application of patrol and investigative techniques to detect and apprehend criminals, control vehicle traffic and deter crime.

2. To adopt the role of a law enforcement advisor, attending meetings and serving as an informational resource in matters relating to crime and criminal activity, and defining the design of citizen participation programs integral to program success.

3. To familiarize themselves with statistical data available from the Bureau of Police to report trends in crime frequency or remission, to foster a feeling of pride and accomplishment when progress is made and solidifying community attitudes against threats to its welfare.
4. To develop a community team approach with citizens involved as reporters, surveillants and cooperative witnesses in matters relating to crime, and the police as identifiers of crime inducing situations and environments lending themselves to joint action.

A. The involvement of the citizen is requisite to the workability of the program. Active participation by the citizen as a deterrent to crime is a key program objective which, hopefully, will exert a contagious influence upon the total community.

5. Patrol time shall be efficiently utilized by selective attention to localities and situations within the area. High visibility is desirable in crime deterrent situations.

6. Particular attention will be paid to gatherings of children and young adults to develop a friendly relationship, as well as provide an exemplary image by the conduct and deportment. Respect must be won by a professional but not necessarily impersonal attitude.

7. When tactical situations so require, officers may wear civilian attire to observe or otherwise maintain surveillances or stake-outs.

8. Identification of the pre-delinquent is an integral element of the program and officers will be urged to counsel, advise or adopt any means consistent with their role, but not intrusive to other resource agencies, to prevent the development of a criminal philosophy among the project clientele.

9. Officers are expected to consult parents and guardians to win their cooperation in instances of delinquent behaviour. They may use civilian dress or uniform, as the situation requires. In demoralizing situations where parental or guardian control is not deemed sufficient, the police Juvenile Unit, or other referral agencies may be brought into the case.

10. Efforts to enlist the aid of Alcoholics Anonymous and other self-help agencies to begin chapters in the project area should be pursued and all possible assistance provided.

11. Close cooperation with probation and parole officers is expected. It is not intended that officers be merely suspicious observers, but instruments of the rehabilitative process.

12. Officers shall hold meetings, seminars with children in the project constantly reinforcing the premise that law abidance is a self-serving benefit. Tours of police buildings and training sessions for school patrol candidates and bicycle safety are other examples of youth activities with which officers will be involved.

The above two programs are under the direction of Lieutenant Laurence McDonald and Sergeant Richard Erwall.
KC: You’ve got a number of articles for the HELP Program. Here’s one that talks about *Six police officers will work at and near to apartment buildings for the elderly, Redeemer Arms* – and you’re in the picture, socializing with the people, dated December 25, 1970. So, even on Christmas day you’re out there doing your community work, that’s great.

EB: {Chuckles} Well, you know, you get to meet these people, they’re elderly, now I am, and my wife and I, we went down to Ravoux, like, on Halloween, we were all dressed up, we’d go in, of course, you couldn’t have any drinks out there, but they’d invite you in to have a drink.
KC: Now, the HELP Program was very much about community relations, about helping people, its non-traditional police work at that time.

EB: Yeah, that’s right.

KC: How did you feel about being a public relations officer? Your job was out there to be a friend and help in any way possible.

EB: Like I say, I just go with the flow, it was rewarding, really. When they had trouble, the officers and the projects would call and then you would go in and you’d sit in and try to straighten out the arguments between the two people, or whoever was having their discussions, you know. You just tried to give them your best advice that you could give them, what they could do and what they couldn’t do.

KC: Now the program was designed after the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago, when police had done a lot of brutality and there was a lot of calling police pigs and, so, Saint Paul wanted to be proactive in building relationships in the housing projects.

EB: That’s part of it, you’re right. That’s exactly what happened. Over time you forget about why they start these things, you’re just happy that you remember the good parts of it.

KC: Do you think it was successful in building racial relationships between the police and low income people and people of other ethnic backgrounds?

EB: I really don’t know what to say on that, because I never had that much trouble, you know, as a policeman with other – I don’t know, I just went along. I suppose it should have, because we were always welcome and that’s the only thing that I can go by, is my own personal experiences and
how people treated me, at that time. And I was always 90%, 99%, I was always treated as a policeman and respected.
KC: What other assignments did you have while you were in the Department?

EB: Well, towards the end, after the emergency car was – a fellow by the name of Lee\textsuperscript{12} and myself, Lieutenant Johnson\textsuperscript{13} asked me if I wanted to work, there was a special – they were having a lot of burglaries on the east side of Saint Paul and they were mostly kids, and he said, “You and Lee will work burglary details.” and he says, “Besides that, why, if they need somebody on the squad, you will be ready for a squad.” I said, “Well, that’s alright.” I never worked with Lee before, he never worked with me, but we got along fine. Worked the burglary detail in the daytime and if they needed somebody in the squad – we worked plain clothes – but, they’d say, “Ed, come in tomorrow, we need you on 305. . .” or some district here. Okay, so then I would be in uniform the next day or three or four days in a row. We used to go down and get the old junker cars from the impound lot, so they didn’t know who we were when we worked plain clothes on the east side, the kids.

KC: What did you do on a burglary detail? What was that like?

EB: Well, we got to know who the burglars were.

KC: Youth burglars?

\textsuperscript{12} Lee Robert Alexander was appointed patrolman March 2, 1964; promoted sergeant March 10, 1977; and retired July 19, 1996.

\textsuperscript{13} Gustave William Johnson was appointed patrolman March 1, 1950; promoted detective March 1, 1962; lieutenant November 27, 1971; acting captain December 20, 1983; returned to lieutenant April 1, 1984; retired April 6, 1990; and died in 1995.
EB: Yeah, correct or any burglary that happened, we’d get all the details and then we would try to saturate, the two of us, we’d saturate that – ride around that area, so that’s the way we worked that.

KC: Any stories that you remember of specific burglaries that you were able to solve?

EB: We almost caught a burglar there, but we didn’t, not quite. We saw him, and then by the time we saw him, why, he was gone. That was just for a short time, maybe about six months, eight months and then I retired.

KC: Do you remember any time where you had to draw your gun?

EB: Only one time on the west side working the midnight shift and it was on Halloween. There was somebody across the street, it was early in the morning, right around 12:00 or something like that, called in and said they think that there’s a hold up across the street in the beer joint.

So, I think, it was VanZyl and myself, we were working emergency car at the time, and we run over there and they said there was somebody walking around with a mask on, it was Halloween, with a paper bag over there head, see. So, we go over there and VanZyl takes the front and I take the back. This guy is out there and, of course, we call up and I say, “What’s going on?” And he says, “It’s him.” So, I draw my gun and he goes like heck and I take a shot at him, but I miss him, and he was one of the robbers, and the other one was inside, so VanZyl got him. But that’s

14 Frederick S. VanZyl appointed patrolman April 24, 1961; and retired April 25, 1986.
about the only time I drew my gun, that I had to, or I don’t know if I had to or not, but I did.

KC: What made you decide to retire?

EB: Well, I don’t know. I had twenty years in and then they were putting on the different team policing. Larry McDonald, he was in charge of one of the areas and he says, “Ed, . . .” he says, “. . . you want to come and work for me?” There’s Larry again. I says, “Larry, no,. . .” I says, “I’m coming up on twenty years and . . .” I says, “. . . I’d like to work for you, but if I work for you, the way the police department works, if I leave, retire, you’re gonna to be short a man.” So, I said, no. So that was it for me on the Police Department. Told my wife, we saw that we could live on what we – we had the house paid for, we were lucky, so we could live on my pension, so.

KC: And, of course, you had laid a lot of the foundation in going into the team policing, you know, the HELP Program was the 4/40, you know, working closely with community. I can understand why Larry would have invited you to be on his team.

EB: Yeah, well, we were partners for a long time with John Mercado’s Marauders and then with the dogs, so we had a lot.

KC: You are the Commander of the Public Safety American Legion Post.

EB: I was Commander, I’m just Adjutant, right now I’m Adjutant, and I have to write newsletters, of all things. Adjutant and Finance Officer, I’ve been that for several years. Being the Public Safety Post, why, our charter says that we should have, like, police, firemen, sheriff’s office, but, of course, everything now days, you know, anything to do with police, everybody
has their own organizations now days, so, we’re just going down, slow
but sure.

KC: Mostly then you have World War II veterans?

EB: That’s correct. Vietnam, Korean War, and mostly World War II.

KC: Ed, thank you.

EB: Thank you.

Retired Officer Buehlman
1983
Ed’s list of assignments:

Mar 4, 1957  Start Police School

Apr 1, 1957  Start Shift work Portland

Jul 5, 1957  Military Police Unit - Boston

Sep 5, 1957  Work deserted - Brookline

Oct 17, 1957  Start work with police investigations - President's - Compound - Newark

Feb 25, 1958  Dogs - Start work on Stout - Buckman - No. 100 - Bill - Engen

Mar 4, 1958  Back to reg Relief

Mar 17, 1958  Sped 310 - Jessica

July 17, 1958  Sped 310 - Brunson - Jessica - Buckman

Aug 17, 1958  Sped 318, West Side, Hig - Brunson - Buckman

Oct 13, 1958  Sped 312, West Side, Hig - Brunson - Buckman

Aug 3, 1959  Sped 333, Emergency Car - Service - Hig - Brunson - Buckman

May 17, 1959  Off Sped 333

June 25, 1959  Sped 333 - Kennum - Brunson - Buckman

Sept 18, 1959  Sped 333 - Brunson - Buckman

Dec 2, 1959  Sped 333 - Brunson - Kennum - Buckman

Feb 1, 1960  Sped 333 - Kennum - Brunsch - Buckman (Brunson & Sped 332)

Mar 7, 1960  Sped 333 - To 30, Kennum - Buckman

Mar 11, 1960  Breckinridge School

Jan 5, 1961  Sped 303 & Sped 304 - Lemke - Buckman

Jan 5, 1961  1st year on Boy Scout

Jan 5, 1961  2nd year on Boy Scout - Sped 304 - Breckinridge - Buckman

Jan 1, 1961  3rd year on Boy Scout - Hig - Buckman

Jan 1, 1961  Work the Run - Sped 733

Jan 1, 1961  4th yr Boys

Feb 1961  Sped 733, 4th yr. - Hig - Buckman

Mar 1961  Sped 733 - Change to 313 - Hig - Buckman

Oct 17, 1961  Henry made Esq. - 3rd Partner

Nov 5, 1961  Sped 733 - Hig, Lemke - Brunson - Buckman

Jan 4, 1962  Sped 733 - 1st yr. - Boys - Lemke - Buckman

July 9, 1962  Sped 725 - Help lug. K. Miller & Buckman

Sept 19, 1962  Sped 725 - M. K. King New Partner

Jan 1, 1963  Sped 725 - 7th yr Boys, Lemke, K. Miller, M. K. King, Buckman
Jan 1 - 1976 8th year Day - Sgt. 775 - Deetsen, H. Miller, W. Kleng, Buchman
Jan 6 - 1976 Organ Hunt School - training
Jan 14 - 1976 P. D. School - Field training officers
Mar 29 - 1976 775 - Last day with K. Leu - K. Leu made Sgt.
Apr 21 - 1976 First day of help rig.
Sep 22 - 1976 Start of Roy Realty - A. Section Alexander & Buchman
Sep 27 - 1976 Emergency Car Retraining
Oct 1st - 1976
Jan 1 - 1977 9th year on duty - Roy Realty & Burglary District Alexander & Buchman
Apr 6 - 1977 Hot day. Radiation 20 yr. 1 mo. 2 days.
An undated letter to the editor demonstrates the kind of officer Ed Buehlman was, a person who truly served the citizens of Saint Paul.

May 19, 1961