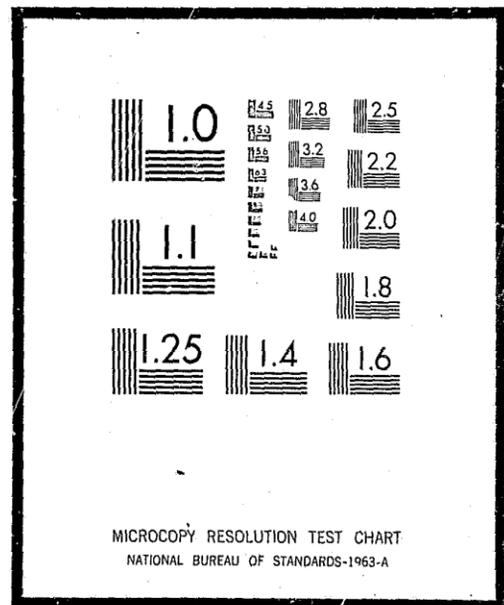


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LEAA INFORMATION MATERIALS
* * *
SELECTED REPRINTS

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION FOR INSERVICE POLICE TRAINING

By

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"Just what we need . . ." "Up to the minute . . ."
"The greatest step ever taken for the benefit of police officers in this State . . ." These are comments of South Carolina officers who have participated in their State's Law Enforcement Educational Television (ETV) Training Program.

With nationwide attention being focused more and more on the rising crime rate, South Carolina has taken a revolutionary approach to law enforcement training which is the first of its kind anywhere in the United States.

A statewide training program utilizing the closed-circuit facilities of the South Carolina Educational Television (ETV) Network was begun in 1965 for all law enforcement officers.

Conducted by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), the program is endorsed by South Carolina Gov. Robert E. McNair, South Carolina FBI National Academy Associates, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association, the South Carolina Police Chiefs Executive Association, the South Carolina Sheriffs Association, and the Southern Police Institute Associates.

Background

Prior to December 30, 1965, the date of our first telecast, South Carolina had no statewide program for law

enforcement training whereby every officer could acquire the same up-to-date information. Training was handled primarily by individual departments—the larger ones, of course, being better equipped financially, as well as in terms of manpower, to provide training. Smaller departments and agencies suffered. Yet, their members were expected to perform their duties in the same manner as officers in metropolitan areas.

Short courses to provide basic and advanced training in specialized fields were conducted by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division at its headquarters in Columbia or in various locations throughout the State.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation also provided specialized training and/or assisted with schools conducted by SLED or other departments.

Two major problems of these schools, however, were: (1) frequently the same officers attended all the schools, and many of the officers who needed the training never had an

opportunity to attend; and (2) the cost, both financially and in terms of manpower, made attendance prohibitive for the majority of officers.

Complete Training Needed

Thus, training reached the acute stage in the early 1960's. The various law enforcement agencies continued to set up isolated schools or short training sessions as could best be done with limited funds, time, and personnel—as well as students.

The need for more complete, up-to-the-minute training was emphasized even more when court decisions made it imperative that officers be experts on law and its enforcement. The manner in which law enforcement officers performed their duties—every minute detail of any case—was important. Therefore, training needs in South Carolina reached a critical stage.

During the latter part of 1964 and early 1965, the State Law Enforcement Division turned its thoughts toward utilizing closed-circuit facilities of the South Carolina Educational Television Network to assist in providing the training, since mass communications seemed to be the only answer.

Educational TV

The network is a State agency and consists of statewide open and closed-circuit facilities capable of providing any type of educational material to all South Carolinians. Thus communication may either be private, as with the closed-circuit system, or public through its five broadcast channels which reach 90 percent of the State's population. The South Carolina ETV Network has long been recognized as the Nation's leader in educational television, and some 45 countries have sent visitors to its production center in Columbia.

The basic plan was to develop a series of inservice training programs which would be broadcast over

the statewide closed-circuit network. Since schools in every county were equipped to receive closed-circuit ETV, officers in each county could visit a local school and receive this up-to-date law enforcement training. Following the broadcast, a discussion leader would assist the "students" in making local application of the subject matter presented.

With a definite plan for upgrading law enforcement training in South Carolina, I consulted Governor McNair, South Carolina Attorney General Daniel R. McLeod, ETV General Manager Henry J. Cauthen, key law enforcement personnel in South Carolina, as well as FBI Training Division staff members.

Final details were worked out for the Nation's first statewide law enforcement training program utilizing closed-circuit television, and the South Carolina Law Enforcement ETV Training Program was born.

Governor Announces Program

In announcing the training program on September 20, 1965, Governor McNair stated, "Law enforcement is a complex profession requiring constant retraining as new techniques are developed and laws changed. South Carolina already has outstanding law enforcement officers. I foresee that the State will maintain a force of officers—county, city, and State—which will be second to none as a result of this continuing training program via the ETV Network. All of us should take great pride in this 'first' for South Carolina and the Nation."

Program Organization

The ETV Training Program has an intricate organization which involves all branches of law enforcement and is operated in the following manner:

1. Members of the previously mentioned law enforcement officers associations formed a Law Enforcement ETV Train-

ing Committee which serves as the policy-making and advisory group for the program. Governor McNair appointed me chairman of the committee.

2. E. Fleming Mason, a former FBI Agent (now retired) who has concentrated his efforts in the training field during a major portion of his career, was appointed statewide project director. Mr. Mason is also a former commanding officer of the South Carolina Highway Patrol.
3. Since South Carolina is divided into 16 judicial districts, 16 judicial district area coordinators have been appointed by the Governor to have overall responsibility for program participation within their area.
4. Each area coordinator, in turn, selected a discussion leader for each county within his judicial district. Each discussion leader then chose one or more assistants. Each discussion leader and assistant discussion leader was subsequently appointed to his position in the training program by the Governor.
5. The discussion leaders and their assistants selected a school or some other facility equipped with closed-circuit outlets within their county and made arrangements for it to be open when the program was shown. They also extend the training beyond the television program by reviewing it, answering questions, and making local application of the subject matter through use of a study workbook.

Preview Program

Prior to each program, all area coordinators and discussion leaders have an opportunity to view the program at the ETV Center in Columbia, where they also receive lesson guides to assist them in the follow-up and printed materials to give to officers as they leave the classrooms.

The Training Session

Each month officers go to an appointed location within their own county for a training session, and, therefore, all officers receive the same information.

The first portion of the session is devoted to watching a video-taped ETV program which has the overall title, "From Crime to Court." This title was selected because topics for

instruction will spell out every detail of law enforcement from the time officers are called to investigate a crime to the time they present testimony in court.

Following the ETV program, discussion leaders at each school devote the remaining time to reviewing the subject matter presented on television.

Unit Topics

The subject matter is divided into units of instruction. Thus far, the following have been presented:

- Searches and Seizures, S.C. Law (3 programs)
- Searches and Seizures, Federal Law (1 program)
- Law of Arrest (2 programs)
- Probable Cause for Arrest (2 programs)
- Duties and Responsibilities of Magistrates (4 programs)
- Rules of Evidence (6 programs)
- Basic Criminal Law
 - Burglary and Related Subjects (1 program)
 - Rape and Related Subjects (1 program)
 - Homicide (3 programs)
 - Assault and Battery (1 program)
 - Alcohol Beverage Control Act (1 program)
 - Larceny and Related Offenses (2 programs)
 - Arson and Related Offenses (1 program)
 - Forgery (1 program)
 - Worthless Checks (1 program)
 - Defenses (1 program)
- Traffic Violations That Kill (3 programs)
- The Criminal Investigator and the Coroner (3 programs)
- The Criminal Investigator and the Press (2 programs)
- Riot Control and Prevention Techniques (3 programs)

Proposed Programs

Proposed programs include the following:

- Chemical Tests for Intoxication and the Law (6 programs)
- Automobile Accident Investigation (4 programs)
- The Structure and Operation of the South Carolina Courts (3 programs)
- Duties and Responsibilities of the Juror, Petty and Grand (1 program)
- Crime Scene Search—Methods and Techniques (3 programs)

Testifying in Court (2 programs)
 Physical Search of the Body (2 programs)
 Hypothetical Arrest Problems (3 programs)
 The Art of Interrogation (3 programs)
 Self-Defense Techniques (3 programs)
 Scientific Aids to Police (13 programs)
 (Programs included in this unit deal with lie detectors, ballistics, fibers, fingerprints.)
 Report Writing (2 programs)
 Patrol Car Operations (2 programs)
 Community Relations (4 programs)
 The Transportation of Prisoners (1 program)
 Use of Temporary Restraining Devices (1 program)
 Arresting Techniques (4 programs)

Instructors

Material for each program is thoroughly researched by the State Attorney General's office. Television instructors have been State Attorney General Daniel R. McLeod; Assistant Attorneys General J. C. Coleman, C. T. Goolsby, and Grady Patterson (now State treasurer); FBI Inspector Dwight J. Dalbey; Alcoholic Beverage Control Chief Commissioner Otis L. Livingston; and instructors of the South Carolina Highway Patrol. These instructors have also met with discussion leaders at their training programs at ETV to answer questions.

Financing the Program

The initial sum for the Law Enforcement ETV Training Program was approved in September 1965 by the State Budget and Control Board.

On April 1, 1966, the State Law Enforcement Division became the first agency in the United States to receive a major grant under the Law Enforcement Assistance Act of 1965. The grant of \$180,700 was used to help defray expenses of the Law Enforcement ETV Training Program over a 2-year period.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and the ETV Network have submitted a proposal to the South Carolina Governor's Commission on Criminal Administration and Juvenile Delinquency outlining ways

in which ETV can be used to accomplish objectives of the Omnibus Crime Bill. Information about the Law Enforcement ETV Training Program is included for the Commission's consideration in establishing its projects.

Many Departments Attend Sessions

Approximately 4,000 officers receive this training each month. Not only do officers from all sheriffs' offices, city police departments, the highway patrol, and the State Law Enforcement Division go to these monthly training sessions, but others having law enforcement responsibilities have attended and participated in the discussions.

Throughout the State discussion leaders report that local magistrates, solicitors, coroners, newspaper representatives, and city judges and recorders have attended. Also in attendance have been city attorneys, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Division agents, agents of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, members of the Office of Special Investigation and the Air Police at Shaw Air Force Base, officers with the Forestry Commission, South Carolina Tax Commission, Civil Defense Auxiliary Police, officers with the Southern Railway, Naval Base Police, South Carolina probation officers, officers with the South Carolina Ports Authority, and officers from the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston.

Press and Public Support

The Wildlife Resources Department and the South Carolina Police Academy have also utilized certain units of instruction.

Support from the press has been outstanding. All over the State, editors have taken a personal interest in the program and have written editorials encouraging officers in their newspapers' coverage area to take advantage of the training offered. Also,

reporters and photographers have accepted the invitation of the area coordinators and discussion leaders to attend the sessions. In turn, they have written excellent and factual articles about the program content without revealing any information which might benefit the criminal element of society. Photographs of officers attending have consistently appeared in the papers.

Those working in radio and television also lent their support right from the beginning.

Ever since its beginning, public interest in the program has been extremely high. Project Director Mason, area coordinators and discussion leaders, and members of my staff and I have been requested by civic and service organizations to speak about this new approach to law enforcement training.

International Honors

The State Law Enforcement Division has also received international honors and \$1,500 from American Express Co. for the training program. SLED was one of five law enforcement agencies to receive the American Express Police Science Award in October 1968.

Evaluation of Program

An indepth study and evaluation of the South Carolina Law Enforcement ETV Training Program was conducted during late 1967. Dr. Lark O. Daniel, director of instructional technology at San Diego State College, served as educational consultant in evaluating the training program.

In the final report of the evaluation of the program, Dr. Daniel stated: "The ETV program has been successful, in relation to the law enforcement officers of South Carolina, in a number of ways." Some of the principal findings are as follows:

1. Using televised instruction as the teaching medium, it has achieved its primary mission of increasing the competency of the law enforcement officers.
2. Both their knowledge and their skills may be expected to have been improved as a result of participating in the program.
3. The attitude of the average officer toward the job of law enforcement has become more positive as a byproduct of the ETV programs.
4. Even though attitudes toward being taught via TV are very positive at the beginning, they become even more favorable after actual experience with the law enforcement ETV training program.
5. In general, law officers of all differentiating characteristics are favorably inclined toward ETV as a means for instruction.
6. Acceptance of ETV as a vehicle of instruction increases as responsibility, age, income, service, and education increase.
7. For the group of officers represented in this analysis, attitudes toward the job appear to be positive.
8. The ETV law enforcement training project has enhanced morale among the law enforcement officers of South Carolina.

Accomplishments of Program

The critical training needs of law enforcement officers are now being met through the communications medium of television. Officers in small departments have an opportunity to receive up-to-date training, and they will be as well equipped along this line as members of larger law enforcement departments.

It is estimated that this project has benefited counties, cities, and the State by:

1. Substantially reducing travel and subsistence costs officers may have spent traveling great distances outside their territories for routine or specialized training. Officers are now able to drive a short distance to a location within their territories and receive the latest information in their profession.
2. Cutting court costs. A poorly prepared case and lack of evidence from officers can cause a case to be dismissed from court or may result in the guilty being adjudged innocent or result in an injus-

tice to the innocent. The expense involved in a trial, no matter what the outcome, must be paid. Therefore, a case that is dismissed because of error in the officer's preparation or the presentation of his case, or some missing link in evidence, represents money wasted and causes unfavorable public reaction. A major hazard in having a case dismissed for the above reasons is that criminals may go free to commit the same or more serious crimes.

3. Reducing the number of civil lawsuits involving officers. Suits for breaches of any laws are both embarrassing and expensive. Specific instruction in the many laws will keep officers better informed and thus in a much better position to avoid lawsuits.
4. Preventing crimes and saving lives. Each year millions of dollars are lost as a result of crime, not to mention the loss of human lives on which no price tag could possibly be placed. Up-to-date enforcement training will further provide officers with knowledge—their greatest weapon in the constant fight to curtail crime.

END