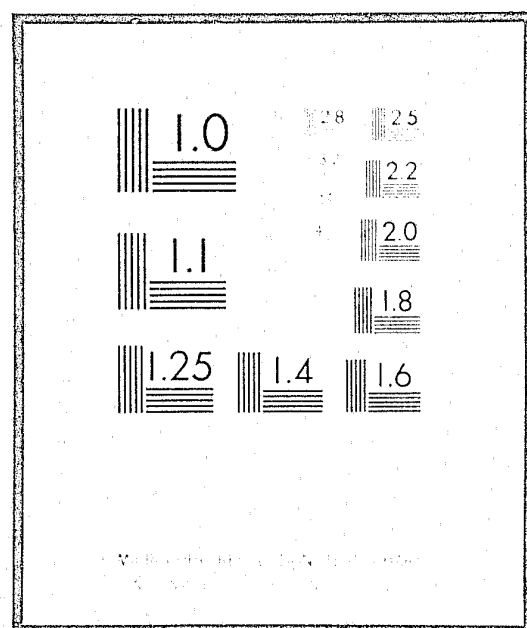


NCJRS

This microfiche was produced from documents received for inclusion in the NCJRS data base. Since NCJRS cannot exercise control over the physical condition of the documents submitted, the individual frame quality will vary. The resolution chart on this frame may be used to evaluate the document quality.



Microfilming procedures used to create this fiche comply with the standards set forth in 41CFR 101-11.504

Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the author(s) and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531

11/18/76

Date filmed

Home Office

SEPTEMBER 1975
NUMBER 27

THIS ISSUE

READING PARENTAL
AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

CRIME PREVENTION IN
DEVON AND CORNWALL

2 1/2 hrs

29865-29866
Crime Prevention
news



CRIME PREVENTION NEWS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL.

Reproduced from Devon and Cornwall Constabulary 1974 Annual Report by kind permission of the Chief Constable, Devon and Cornwall Police.

The Force exhibition caravan was more widely used than in past years for joint Crime Prevention and Accident Prevention appeals. Displays were shown to potential audiences of over 340,000 people at forty events, and a distance of approximately 1,800 miles was covered by the unit. Principal displays were mounted at the Devon County and Royal Cornwall Shows, and at the former the police team was awarded the Netherway Perpetual Challenge Trophy, £5.00 and the gold medal award for the best Trade Stand at the Show.

Direct appeals to the public during the year began with a booklet "Protect Your Home" which was issued by the Home Office and delivered by post to most householders in the South West.

In January a Home Office working party report on shoplifting and thefts by shop staff was produced, and copies of a condensed version of the report in booklet form were circulated to organisations and shopkeepers throughout the Force Area. At the same time, Crime Prevention Officers urged traders to act on the recommendations wherever possible and offered expert guidance where required. During the same month the Home Office distributed a booklet to all local housing authorities advising on the incorporation of Crime Prevention measures in design and construction and members of the Department gave guidance on practical aspects.

"Lock It Up" was the slogan for a spring campaign to combat thefts from cars. Thousands of posters and leaflets were printed and distributed throughout the Force Area, in particular where thefts were prevalent.

Cash handling security was tackled in May when a check list of questions on the making up of wages and the security of cash was prepared and copies circulated to the larger firms in the Force Area. The check list was retained by the firm to whom it was sent, and in an accompanying letter observations on the list were asked for and many favourable replies were received.

During the summer, efforts were made to encourage everyday security. Questions on housing, cars and property were included on a personal anti-theft card and distributed to the public.

In July and August, "Operation Lay-By" was mounted using the Force exhibition caravan in lay-bys on the main holiday routes into Devon and Cornwall on Friday/Saturday nights. Officers combined forces with the Public Relations Department to safeguard holidaymakers from crime, and accidents caused by driver fatigue. Motorists were advised by signs placed at strategic points on main roads to pull into the lay-by where the caravan was situated, and brochures containing literature on the themes of the operation were distributed. The response from holidaymakers was most encouraging and the operation will be repeated in the summer of 1975.

During the year there have been several burglaries in country mansions in the Force Area, and in September arrangements were made for master lists of such mansions in Divisions to be prepared and forms delivered to the occupiers inviting them to seek the assistance of Crime Prevention Officers to inspect their properties and advise on security. This scheme met with a good measure of success, as many requests for security surveys were made.

Following the steep increase in burglary which is referred to earlier in this part of the Report, a two-month campaign was launched in December entitled "Combat Crime". At a press and television conference at Headquarters arrangements were made with BBC Plymouth for radio broadcasts to be made twice each weekday between 0730 hours and 0830 hours. These broadcasts provided an opportunity for the police to appeal to the public in relation to burglaries which had occurred in the preceding 24 hours, and at the same time enabled some Crime Prevention advice and campaign information to be given. In addition to extensive publicity, teams of Officers made random calls on householders to encourage greater public assistance in defeating the burglar and offer elementary advice. Judging by the amount of information received from the public and the number of requests made for visits by Crime Prevention Officers, the campaign has so far been a success.

In the month of December a start was made on sending letters to all auctioneers and valuers in the Force Area. In the letter attention was drawn to burglaries and thefts of property from premises open to public viewing prior to the date of sale, and Crime Prevention advice on how to combat these offences and in particular the availability of Crime Prevention Officers to advise on matters of security.

During the course of the year Crime Prevention Officers have visited many schools in the Force Area and have given talks on Crime Prevention. The film "Never Go With Strangers" has been widely shown to schoolchildren.

The press and television authorities have given their assistance to the Department over the year, and the opportunity is taken to express appreciation for their valuable co-operation.

END

7 tables/minutes