

BURGLARIES DOWN, LARCENY UP IN SEATTLE SCHOOLS

With burglaries declining in Seattle Public Schools, probably due to the increased risk, the larceny rate has not declined. Some burglars have switched to making daylight hauls, often identifying themselves as repair or maintenance personnel, or parents, reports security supervisor Charles O'Toole.

Topping the list of the security department's personal hardware is the Pageboy Communication unit. The district's voice transmitter atop Queen Anne Hill makes it possible for 30 such units to be contacted up to a distance of ten miles by an operator in the Administration Center. Security personnel can be alerted immediately to any disorder in any school, and they can alert the Center to a crisis situation within a school where they might be stationed.

In six schools, citizen radio bands make possible instant two-way communication from any part of the building to its main office, should trouble suddenly erupt.

Each of the recent years has seen a number of bomb threats made against school buildings -- eight a month on the average. The Seattle School District has made it clear that it intends to prosecute those who make such threats, hoax or otherwise, and the number of threats has declined somewhat. Last year, however, live bombs were found in four school buildings, and on a single day, threats were made against five buildings. For-

tunately, however, despite two bomb explosions, no student has yet been injured in a blast or evacuation drill.

The problem which concerns the district most today is the number of attacks upon individuals. Last year, Seattle newspapers carried warnings from the Seattle School Board that it would not fail to suspend or prosecute anyone, student and non-

student alike, who found guilty of attacking another individual. But yet, this year about 100 students can be expected to report an attack upon his person. This is the type of crime which locally and nationally is the most difficult to control and the attacker identified or apprehended whether the crime occurs upon the streets, within a school building, or in an individual's home.

Bill Russell Heads Team

Former player now coach Bill Russell in the National Basketball Association has been elected first vice chairman of Operation PUSH -- People United to Save Humanity. Other new

directors of the civil rights group are Betty Shabazz, widow of Malcolm X, and Rachel Robinson, widow of baseball great Jackie Robinson, former head of PUSH.

"Oh, say...." Nixon sees

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (NNS) Soul singer Ethel Ennis has a fan -- President Nixon. While some did not like the soulful style she introduced as the inaugural rendition of the national anthem, the President, she said, definitely did.

"The President told me he liked it. I think he was sincere. I know it was different, but I didn't do it for that reason. I added a few notes to make it more meaningful . . . to give it a little more warmth," she explained.

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Detroit Police recruit blacks

Detroit, Mich. (NBNS) -- Recruiting outside the city will be tried to reach the goal of a 45 percent black police force in Detroit by the year 1980. The city's population is about 50 percent black but the police force is 85 percent white.

New Orleans blacks

NEW ORLEANS, LA. -- (NBNS) -- Terming a city council district plan in the city as stacked against Blacks, the U. S. Justice Department advised the Council to try again. This left councilmen with the option of appealing the Justice Department ruling or redrawing the district to correct the attempt at gerrymandering.

The district lines for the seven-member council council "was not fair as far as the racial makeup was concerned," said a Justice Department spokesman. In an old story, New Orleans has nearly a 50 percent black population but no representation on the council.