

***Progress is a nice word.  
But change is its motivator,  
and change has its enemies.***

**— Robert F. Kennedy**

## **We Are Tomorrow's Past**

The cover of the December, 1997 issue of *The Gold Shield* listed the Honor Roll of NYPD detectives who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. It was not expected that only nineteen days into the New Year two more names would be added to the list.

One was that of Detective Sean Carrington, who, on January 19, 1998, was killed in a hail of bullets from the semi-automatic pistol of a drug-dealing ex-con. Det. Carrington, the back-up "ghost" in a "buy and bust" narcotics operation in the Bronx, was only 28-years old and as one grieving colleague put it, "gave his life for ten-dollars worth of crack."

A much earlier casualty, who was inadvertently missing from the Police Department's current records, was Detective Michael J. Foley of the 9th Squad, killed in a shoot-out with robbers during the early morning hours of April 10, 1937 at a long-defunct restaurant at Second Avenue and Ninth Streets in Manhattan.

Both detectives left behind grieving families with young daughters, who were willed little but newsprint eulogies to remember their fathers.

The DEA is horrified by the addition of Det. Carrington to its Honor Roll, and sincerely apologizes for the omission of Det. Foley, a death brought to our attention by the sharp-eyed detectives of the current 9th Squad, on whose precinct wall hangs a framed copy of Foley's memorial from the May, 1937 issue of *Spring 3100*, which granted permission for us to reprint it (see page 5).

Note the reference made by then-Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia about a piece of proposed 1937 legislation

known as the "Holley Bill," which the inimitable LaGuardia called "a Magna Charta for punks, pimps, crooks, gangsters, racketeers, and shyster Magistrate's Court lawyers."

Sixty-one years later the struggles between the politicians, the courts, and the police have gotten no less heated: witness the spate of newspaper editorials calling for the abolition of parole, and the outburst by our current Mayor Rudolph Giuliani the day after Carrington's death.

Said the Mayor, "we should be ashamed of ourselves — releasing a murderer from prison so he can murder again. The New York State Assembly should stop blocking the doing away with parole."

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On June 19, 1998, the DEA will host a memorial ceremony honoring all NYPD detectives who died in the line of duty. The ceremony will take place on Staten Island at Camp St. Edward where the DEA has built a Memorial Ball Field and Monument. John Cardinal O'Connor is scheduled to lead the dedication. Space is limited, therefore tickets to this event will not be sold, and attendance will be by invitation only.

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***If you know*** the whereabouts of family members of detectives who have died in the line of duty, please notify Vic Cipullo at DEA Headquarters at (212) 587-1000. The Police Department only keeps track of living pension recipients, however the DEA's Honor Roll dates back to 1892. So if you are aware of any descendants of Honor Roll detectives, please notify Vic as soon as possible.