

# 5 CHICAGO POLICE TIED TO 6 KILLINGS

Reported as Key Suspects in  
Case Involving Narcotics

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CHICAGO, June 20—Five Chicago policemen, one a sergeant, were reported today to be prime suspects in the gang-style slayings of at least six men in connection with the operations of a narcotics ring that included policemen.

The slayings took place between Sept. 6 and Feb. 5. In each case, the victim was shot in the head. Their bodies were found either in the south branch of the Chicago River or in the Sanitary and Ship Canal.

According to reports in two Chicago newspapers, The Sun-Times and The Tribune, the Federal Bureau of Investigation entered the case early this year and reportedly has three witnesses, two once scheduled for assassination, who are prepared to testify against the policemen.

In all cases, the killers were reportedly in city police uniforms and used city squad cars. All the victims were black as are the policemen allegedly involved.

## A Wave of Scandals

The Chicago Police Department has been hit by a wave of scandals in recent months. Earlier this year, a group of Chicago black leaders, headed by Representative Ralph H. Metcalfe, a Democrat, stirred a controversy over allegations of police brutality against blacks. Eight policemen have been arrested within the last nine months on narcotics charges.

A number of city policemen have been indicted by the Federal grand jury for alleged shakedowns of taverns; other indictments are reportedly pending. The first of those to be tried, Patrolman Walter Moore, was sentenced to two years in prison yesterday in Federal District Court after a jury had found him guilty.

It is reported the police department has been kept informed of progress of the F. B. I. investigation into the six gangland murders. F. B. I. and police officials refused comment.

Informed sources said that some of the victims were involved in the narcotics operations and that one or two of the victims were slain as a result of mistaken identity.

The murder victims were identified as Lee Wilson, Jr., 21 years old; Albert Shorter, 47; William A. Thomas, 31; Vernell Lollar, 25; Lieutenant Scott, 37, and Richard Stean, 28.