

Attack on Police Was 'Well-Planned'

A "well planned" assassination was responsible for sniper fire which killed one policeman and wounded two others, Police Supt. Clarence B. Giarrusso says.

Police Cadet Alfred Harrell, 19, was shot to death late Sunday near Central Lockup while talking with Lt. Horace Perez, who received an ankle wound.

Moments later, Patrolman Edwin C. Hosli Sr. of the Tactical Unit's K-9 Corps was seriously wounded when shot in the back while investigating a burglary at a warehouse at 1065 S. Gayoso.

HARRELL, WHO carried no weapon, was shot once in the chest. He died shortly afterward in Charity Hospital.

Giarrusso said yesterday that "there are overtones of a militant group" in the attack on Harrell and Perez but added that the evidence "could also lead to something else." There appears to be some relation between the two attacks, he said.

The investigation will be broad, Giarrusso said. The assailants might be "militants or also passive people—nuts."

Hosli, who was answering a burglar alarm along with Officer Harold Blapert, was felled as he was preparing to release his dog from the police car at about 11:10 p.m. He is in serious condition at Charity Hospital.

GIARRUSSO SAID a person who burglarized the Gayoso Street warehouse was cut or wounded and "lost a great deal of blood." Blood stains were found inside and outside the building, he said.

"The evidence would seem to indicate a sniper wanted to kill one or more policemen," Giarrusso said. There may have been "one or more snipers," he added.

In light of the lack of evidence, Giarrusso called on the public to furnish police with information.

HARRELL, A GRADUATE of St. Augustine High School, joined the force Sept. 8, 1971. He was assigned to central lockup. He was a student at Loyola University.

Harrell's killing was the first violent death of a New

Orleans policeman while on duty — other than in a traffic accident — since 1969.

The most serious aspect of the shooting is that "a talented, ambitious and promising lad was senselessly killed" and that Hosli lies injured in a hospital bed, Giarrusso said.

Hosli, married and the father of four children, joined the force May 23, 1963. Most of his career has been with the tactical unit's K-9 section.

FUNERAL SERVICES for Harrell are scheduled tomorrow at 10 a.m. at Central Congregational Church, 2401 Bienville, with the Rev. William T. Green, pastor, and a police academy chaplain officiating.

Interment will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery under the direction of the Good Citizen's Funeral Home, 2612 Melpomene St.

Harrell leaves his widow, the former Angel Merrell; a son, Alfred Ephren Harrell III; his father, Alfred Ephren Harrell Sr.; his mother, Mrs. Glenna Leslie Burgess; a stepfather, Albert R. Burgess; three brothers, Alton, Glenn, and Stephen Harrell; and a sister, Stephanie Harrell.