

For a Young Police Reporter,

A Grim and Final Irony

Long Beach

William B. Hunter, 32-year-old police reporter for the Long Beach Independent-Press Telegram, was sitting at a desk in the press room of the City

Public Safety Building early yesterday when two detectives walked in.

Hunter was leaning back in a relaxed position, his feet propped up on the desk. It had been a quiet night, and

he had been reading a book to help pass the time.

He looked up as the detectives, Creighton A. Wiggins, 29, and Errol F. Greenlead, 30, both friends of his, walked into the press room.

Wiggins was taking his coat off when his police revolver apparently caught on the material of the coat and was knocked to the floor.

He reached down, scooped it up and was shoving it back

into his holster when he said it went off accidentally.

The bullet slammed into Hunter's body, piercing his chest near the heart.

Hunter died almost instantly.

He had been with the Independent for five years and only recently was awarded the California Publishers Association's First-Place State Honors for spot news writing for a special entitled "Three

Days in Dallas," an eye-witness account of the three days that followed the assassination of President Kennedy.
United Press