

# Trosclair Is Named Acting Police Chief

By JACK DEMPSEY

Deputy Police Supt. Presly J. Trosclair will take over as acting superintendent until a new chief is selected, Mayor Moon Landrieu announced today.

The action apparently hinged on a change of mind on Trosclair's part. He was quoted as saying last night he intended to go ahead with the plans to retire today along with Supt. Joseph I. Giarrusso.

Landrieu and Chief Administrative Officer Ben Levy were on hand at Giarrusso's office today as the long-time

superintendent stepped down. GIARRUSSO ANNOUNCED he has accepted a post as assistant to the president of Wil-

son Corp. Asked how long Trosclair would serve, Landrieu said "We don't feel it will be too much longer."

Giarrusso's retirement, said Landrieu, "is a great loss to the city. You don't replace a man like Joe Giarrusso."

THE MAYOR said he feels Giarrusso would have stayed on if the city had been able to give him more support in terms of personnel and equipment "and if we could pay a

superintendent a salary in line with other large cities." He termed Trosclair an "outstanding officer."

Giarrusso, who has been with the department for 24 years, the last 10 as superintendent, was asked what his duties will be with the Robert-

son Corp. "I don't know. I guess I'll have to ask Mr. Robertson," he said jokingly.

ROBERTSON SAID Giarrusso's first assignment will be a trip to Emden and Bremen in Germany. The firm imports and distributes Volkswagens.

There, said Robertson, Giarrusso will study what facilities in line with a proposal to build an auto unloading dock on the Michoud Canal.

Giarrusso said he is stepping down with "mixed feelings, but in the best interest of my family and myself."

He said he feels fortunate to be leaving on good terms with Mayor Landrieu and CAO Levy. He offered them his advice in the choice of a successor.

GIARRUSSO ALSO released a letter he has written to all members of the police department in which he cites "dedication to duty" as the most important quality of an officer.

Speculation on a permanent successor has centered around Maj. Henry M. Morris, chief of detectives; Maj. Anthony Duke, head of the traffic division; Capt. Clarence Giarrusso, the superintendent's brother and chief of the narcotics division; and Louis Sigo, clerk of traffic court and a onetime police major.



DEPUTY SUPT. PRESLEY J. TROSCLAIR JR.



—States-Item photo by Pierre Huot

**A BIG KISS GOOD-BYE** is given to outgoing police superintendent **JOSEPH I. GIARRUSSO** today by Chief Administrative Officer **BEN LEVY** at the superintendent's office at police headquarters.