



100th Anniversary 1908-2008

1960s

By late 1960, the city had continued its growth by annexing an area approximately one square mile bounded roughly by Century-Imperial and Crenshaw-Prairie, basically known as the Lockhaven area. This brought the city's population to 75,600 and the department to 80 sworn officers. The year 1960 was also a notable year in other areas. This was the beginning of problems of jet aircraft noise over the city while aircraft-produced noise levels exceeded those considered healthy for residential occupants.

The Sixties were also the beginning of one of the most turbulent periods in the history of American law enforcement. The social upheavals along with court decisions changed the day-to-day operations of police work, some to the ultimate betterment of the profession. While Inglewood was spared much of the turmoil of the times, such as campus upheavals and civil rights marches, the most notable single incident was the August, 1965, "Watts Riots." Inglewood being on the outskirts of the riot areas non-the-less mobilized all personnel on 12 hour shifts and California Army National Guard units were bivouached at Hollywood Park and assigned to assist the department. The whole incident pointed out the department's inadequacies and non-preparedness, to what appeared to be future needs of the department. A plan was started to obtain better equipment such as weapons, riot gear and training in areas of riot controls.

During this time of civil disobedience, the department took an active role in redesigning and reorienting police programs, such as a Community Relations Section with a 23 position unit of young men ages 18-21 called Community Service Officers. A police "Agent" program was started which would give regular officers another level of authority and responsibility. Police recruitment was more active with special attention to minority and college trained people. Traffic background orientation stressed radar enforcement and increased patrol functions. By 1971, the Department had grown to 132 sworn officers and 86 civilian employees.



1961. Police Department Group Photograph in front of Police Station.

Dec. 18, 1965. Police Association Annual Christmas Party for children at Fox Theater.



December 18, 1965. Police Association Annual Christmas Party for children. Fox Theater.



May 13, 1968 First Police Open House. Cadet Phil Cadenhead next to scooter.

