

**"Marriage"**  
 Matrimony would never be entered into without a full recognition of its enduring obligations on both sides.—Mary Baker Eddy

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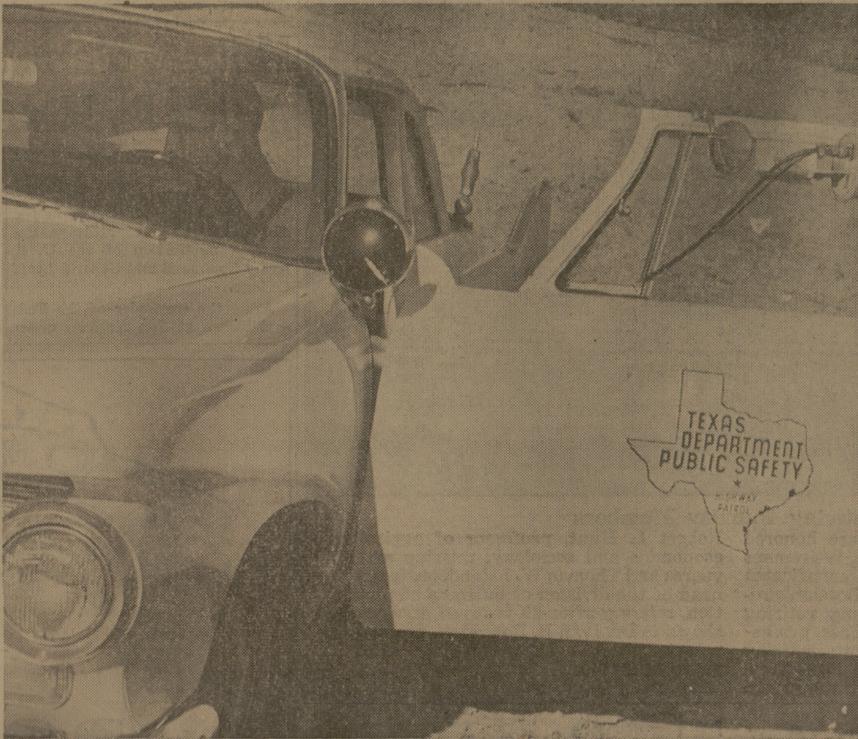
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Wynn Williams In Unit 6240 ... checks speed of oncoming car with radar

# Active Highway Patrol Chops Chances Of Traffic Tragedy

By **RONNIE BOOKMAN**  
 Battalion News Editor

He is a tall man with a wide grin, a brown uniform and a badge. For six days a week Highway Patrolman Wynn Williams spends over 12 grueling hours a day at the wheel of his car.

His car, white with two whip aerials, an outline of the State of Texas painted on the doors and sporting a red spotlight, is as impressive as his work record. Williams made over 830 arrests and gave more than 2,400 warnings to erring motorists during the past year.

He motioned me to get in and I began seeing firsthand how the Highway Patrol performed its mission in Brazos County.

The mission? Simple, to keep people from killing themselves, or others, while they are driving.

"The trouble is, most people figure they are never going to be involved in an accident," Williams said as we began to head east from Bryan on State Highway 21. "They think traffic safety is fine for everyone else. It's hard to make them realize that one little bit of

carelessness is all that is needed," he added.

I asked him what his general plan of operation was for the day.

"We patrol the roads where we have the most accidents," he said. "First we'll go east and then later on we'll work west of town."

I now turned my attention to the box on the seat between us. It had a meter and several knobs and switches on its face.

The radar sets used by the Patrol are responsible for 30 to 50 per cent of all their speeding arrests, I had learned earlier.

"Radar has done more to slow people down than just about anything else," Sgt. O. L. Luther of the Bryan office had told me before I left with Williams.

There are two radar sets operated by Sgt. Luther's men. One is the familiar type, usually mounted on a tripod, that utilizes a "radar" car and a "catch" car. The other kind is contained in one car and can pick up vehicles going in either direction. All the driver of the patrol car has to do is turn around and catch the speeder.

the new, compact type of unit. The main part fit on the front seat with the antenna attached to the driver's side window and the cigarette lighter socket supplying the power.

It wasn't long before we had our first customer. The patrolman whipped his automobile to the side of the road and as the oncoming vehicle broke the radar beam the needle on the speed indicator registered 80.

Although by the time Williams turned the car around to give chase the speeder had slowed to the legal limit, he had been clocked.

Unfair?

"When you realize that speed is the number one killer on the highways, it doesn't seem quite so unfair," the lanky patrolman said. Day turned to night and then morning. It was past 3 a.m. when Williams let me out of the car. He had shown me how he and others like him help prevent what the Department of Public Safety motorcade: the killing of another human being or of one's self through the operation of a motor vehicle—usually the result of negligence or wanton carelessness.

Williams' car was equipped with

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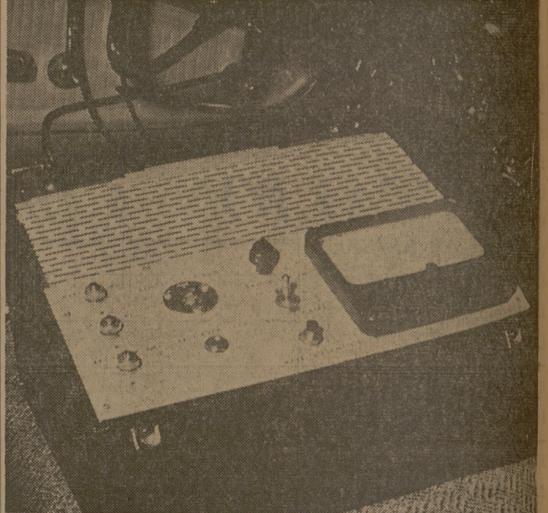


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