



SPECIAL BULLETIN



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SUPPLEMENT BULLETIN

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- THIEVES ARE SHOPPING -

With the approach of the Christmas Holiday, longer periods of darkness and increased business activity affords additional opportunities for criminal to commit crimes. Jewelry and clothing salesmen, television, radio and electric appliance stores, trucks loaded with cigarettes, liquor, computer equipment, cameras, electrical appliances, food and warehouses storing these items have a high priority on the "Shopping List" of burglars, thieves and robbers. To curtail this type of criminal activity, the professional police officer will note and take action in situations where:

1. Trucks are observed parked in isolated areas or have more than one person in them.
2. Persons are observed loitering in vehicles adjacent to trucks, loading docks, warehouses, terminal and freight docks.
3. Persons are observed taking packages out of terminal buildings and warehouses, especially after dark.
4. Persons are observed loading and unloading trucks or trailers into cars or vans, or at odd hours.
5. Tractors observed after dark hauling trailers without lights (suggesting the possibility of a stolen trailer hitched to a tractor whose wiring system is not compatible).

Prime targets generally involve easily disposable merchandise that is in particular demand during the Holiday Season. In most property crimes, vehicles are used as a means of transporting merchandise from the scene of the crime.

Specific inquiries should be made in situations where trailer trucks are parked, observed into or being unloaded in garages in residential areas.

When stops are made under suspicious circumstances, and no immediate arrest made, an information report should be prepared and forwarded to the Detective Division.

When preparing information reports, be attentive to all details—phone numbers, license numbers, apartment numbers, vehicle color, truck lettering and numbers, etc. Something meaningless to you may be significant to follow up investigators.