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Computers against crime

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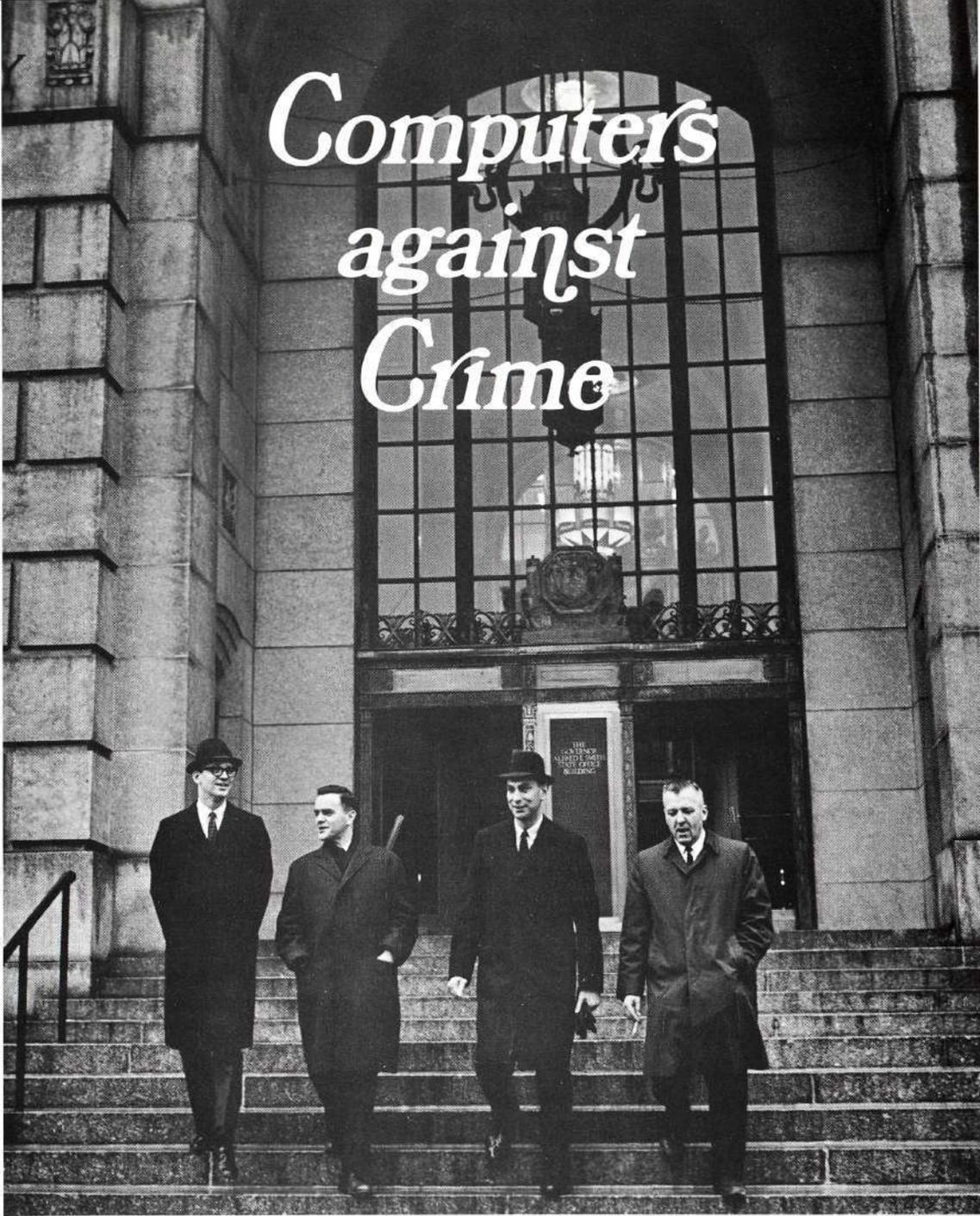
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Computers against Crime



The Touche, Ross staff works in NYSIIS headquarters at The Governor Alfred E. Smith State Office Building. Leaving for lunch are Thomas H. Sheehan; NYSIIS assistant deputy director of Systems Operations, Charles E. Robinson; Sanford S. Ackerman; and NYSIIS deputy director Paul T. Veillette.

Touche, Ross, Bailey & Smart has enlisted in the war on crime. Its objective: to help New York put the computer "in the pocket of every law enforcement official" in the state.

Spearheaded by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, the New York State Identification and In-

telligence System (NYSIIS) under the direction of Dr. Robert R.J. Gallati, is the first system of its kind in the world. It has been cited as "the largest study group at any level of government engaged in the scientific investigation of crime."

NYSIIS is scheduled for launching on a limited

basis in the near future. By April, 1968 its Fingerprint Facsimile Network will include 40 key criminal justice agencies throughout the state. The long-range goal is to establish in Albany a computer-based data bank tied into a sophisticated communications network. NYSIIS is expected to store, retrieve and disseminate pooled information for some 3,600 criminal justice agencies. Input-output equipment located at the agencies served

will permit direct communications with the computer facility.

The key ingredient, so urgent in the apprehension of criminals, is time. Previously, for example, it took 7 to 10 days to transmit a set of arrestee fingerprints to Albany, search the file, and return a criminal history to the submitting agency. With the NYSIIS Facsimile Network, a set of prints will be transmitted and reproduced in approximately

TRB&S Personnel at NYSIIS

More than twenty Touche, Ross management services specialists are working in Albany on the NYSIIS project at the present time. Representing seven different TRB&S offices, these men have worked with the NYSIIS staff, with police officials, and with other agencies for more than two years. The pictures shown here were taken on a typical work day.



Progress at NYSIIS is recorded on a huge wall chart that shows work tasks and their relationship to the overall system design effort.



John W. Bauer, supervisor of the Fingerprint Study Group, (New York) office, Randolph Wilson (San Francisco) review the results of controlled statistical experiment with a fingerprint classifier in the NYSIIS Bureau of Identification.



Alan F. Stevens, (New York) Bart Bolton, Phase Two Supervisor, (Detroit) Kenneth Shaaf, (Milwaukee) and Frank Wagner (Detroit) discuss a tough quality control problem.

14 minutes. It will take another minute to send back a "No Record" form if no arrestee information is on file. Or less than five minutes to return a "Rap Sheet" to the submitting agency if a criminal history is stored in the computer's memory.

But NYSIIS plans extend much beyond the routine processing of police information. Operational techniques and methodology will be studied in depth, new developments and technology an-

alyzed, the resultant research findings shared with the criminal justice community.

NYSIIS represents a new dimension in the science of criminology and citizen protection and security. As NYSIIS Director Dr. Robert R.J. Gallati puts it: "We are confident that the technology of a nation which can send a man whirling through space can mobilize major resources to improve criminal justice administration here on earth."

Toward this end NYSIIS is dedicated.



Thomas H. Sheehan, TRB&S project manager at NYSIIS for the past two years, is a manager in our New York office.



In the computer room Sanford S. Ackerman, the Touche, Ross principal directing this engagement, talks with Dr. Robert R. J. Gallati, director of the NYSIIS project.



In one of the many system design and coordination meetings, Frank Mullen, (Detroit) and Thomas H. Sheehan talk with NYSIIS deputy director Paul T. Veillette.



The development of the NYSIIS criminal justice data base depends on rigorous systems planning and the kind of attention to detail shown here by New York's Peter Loftus and E. Peter Haas, Supervisor of EDP System Design Group, and David De Hetre, St. Louis.