

terspaced with the suspect's feelings that the devil had possessed him. The arresting officers eventually called the Chilliwack RCMP Detachment to attempt to relate some of the information being uttered by their suspect to actual offences that may have been committed in the past. The murder he claimed to have committed in Chilliwack did not appear to correspond to anything outstanding. However, the robbery he disclosed details of appeared to relate to one which had occurred several months earlier at Wallace Jewellers.

Two investigators from Chilliwack went to Delta the next day to conduct a further investigation. They were fully briefed upon arrival of all the comments the suspect had made since being arrested the previous evening. Based on what they learned from the Delta officers, the suspect was arrested for the robbery at Wallace Jewellers and escorted back to Chilliwack to allow further investigation into possible connection of the suspect to that offence, or any other offences in their jurisdiction. During the 48 hours that followed, the suspect was very co-operative. This amicable mood, the investigators learned later, was out of character.

The suspect was originally from Drumheller, Alberta, the son of a Justice of the Peace. As he grew up, he had been suspected by many police departments in that province of committing a number of offences, primarily break-ins and safe attacks. However, he had managed to carry out his criminal activities undetected for the most part, and when attempts were made to interview him about unsolved crimes, he flatly rejected such overtures. In October, 1976, he and an associate were apprehended trying to break into a fur store in Lethbridge. He was released on bail pending trial. He was eventually convicted and given a four year jail sen-

ence. He remained in custody until 1980, and for the next couple of years maintained no permanent address, as he roamed through Alberta and British Columbia. During that period of time, he was stopped only once by police on a routine traffic matter.

In the interviews by the Chilliwack investigators that following his arrest, the suspect recounted a long list of offences he had committed prior to going to jail in 1977 on the Lethbridge charge, and since being released from custody in 1980. For the most part, especially after being released from jail, he committed the crimes solo. Chilliwack was a popular target for his criminal activities but other parts of the province and Alberta were also victimized. He admitted responsibility for all the jewellery store robberies to which he had been linked after the Wallace Jewellery store robbery occurred. In addition, he added a fourth robbery to the list, that occurred in Calgary during August, 1981. He also claimed responsibility for a number of break-ins to other jewellery stores, many of which included successful safe attacks. In total, these attacks on jewellery stores netted him in excess of \$1 million.

Gun stores were another popular target for his exploits. Several hundred handguns were stolen during break-ins he committed in Kamloops, Nelson and Lethbridge. Two bank robberies in Chilliwack at the same bank, two years apart, were also his doing. The second incident occurred in January, 1977, while he was out on bail for the attempted break-in at Lethbridge. The bank manager grabbed him from the rear in an effort to disarm him and foil the robbery. This effort failed and resulted in the manager being shot four times. The suspect believed that he had killed his victim. He was only informed otherwise during the post-arrest inter-