

## 10 top cops demoted

# Nolan shakes up police command

By Philip Wattlely

**A WIDESPREAD SHAKEUP** in command of the Chicago Police Department was announced Monday by acting Supt. Sam Nolan.

Of a total of 19 changes, 7 were promotions, 2 were lateral moves, and the rest were demotions.

All four deputy superintendents and the chief of patrol, who were stripped of their commands last week, were demoted to commanders of districts or departmental units, reverting to their civil service rank of captain.

In announcing the changes at a press conference in Police Headquarters, 1121 S. State St., Nolan insisted they were his idea, and said a copy of the realignment had been sent to the mayor's office.

**THE CHANGES**, effective immediately, include the demotions of the following top-ranking men in the department:

- Capt. Victor Vrdolyak, former deputy superintendent of the Bureau of Investigative Services, reassigned as commander of the Marquette District.

- Capt. Walter Murphy, former head of the Bureau of Inspectional Services, to commander of the Harrison District.

- Capt. Patrick V. Needham, from deputy superintendent of the Bureau of Administrative Services, to commander of the Auto Theft Division.

- Capt. Earl Johnson, former chief of patrol, to commander of the Englewood District.

- Lt. Raleigh Mathis, former deputy superintendent of the Bureau of Community Services, to commander of the Inspection Division.

Asked why he making the shifts in light of his statement last Tuesday that any changes prior to the appointment of a permanent superintendent would be "presumptuous," Nolan explained that Mayor Byrne had "asked me for my thinking."

After discussing his thinking with the mayor and her staff, Nolan said, "They had changes in mind, and they matched mine."

He said the meeting in the mayor's office took place about 2½ weeks ago.

**THE FOLLOWING** police officers were promoted Monday:

- Capt. William Keating, deputy chief of the Patrol Division, to chief of the Criminal Investigation Division.

- Capt. Robert Williams, commander of the Englewood District, to deputy chief of detectives in charge of property crimes.

- Capt. Rudolph Nimocks, watch

commander of the Wentworth District, to citywide homicide commander.

- Capt. Patrick McDonough, commander of the Marquette District, to assistant deputy police superintendent.

- Capt. John J. Hinchy, watch commander of the Prairie Avenue District, to commander of the Intelligence Division.

- Lt. Dennis Nowicki, administrative aid to the first deputy police superintendent, to commander of the Youth Division.

- Lt. Harry Blackburn, of the Neighborhood Relations Division, to director of that division.

Nimocks becomes the first black citywide homicide commander. He replaces Joseph Di Leonardi, who was named last week to succeed Vrdolyak.

**THE TWO LATERAL** moves announced by Nolan were as follows:

- Capt. William McCann, assistant deputy police superintendent, to deputy chief of patrol in charge of the Burnside Area.

- Capt. James R. Reilley, citywide auto theft commander, to commander of research and development.

**THE OTHER FIVE** changes announced by Nolan, all considered demotions, were as follows:

- Capt. Raymond Clark, from chief of detectives to deputy chief of patrol in charge of the Shakespeare Area.

- Capt. Thomas Hanley, director of the Neighborhood Relations Division, to watch commander in the Rogers Park District.

- Capt. William Wilson, commander of the Inspections Division, to the Mass Transit Unit.

- Capt. Aurelio García, Harrison District commander, to Wentworth Area traffic.

- Lt. Dennis Deneen, commander of the Intelligence Division, to commander of the Harrison Area homicide-sex unit.

Department insiders see the demotion of Vrdolyak as the signal of an all-out war between Mayor Byrne and the City Council faction led by the policeman's brother, Ald. Edward Vrdolyak [10th].

**NOLAN INSISTED** that Monday's changes were his "complete responsibility," and added that they would "benefit the Chicago Police Department and the citizens of Chicago."

In announcing the moves, he said he would not be a "dormant" acting superintendent.

If a new superintendent is named, Nolan said, "There could be some more changes." Meanwhile, he said, it would be up to the new command to prove that it is competent.