

3 Policemen Are Shot in Face During Harlem Narcotics Raid

Three undercover agents from the police narcotics squad were wounded by blasts from a shotgun last night as they attempted to arrest a suspect in an East Harlem basement.

One of the agents was hit in the face and neck and seriously wounded. His partners, though wounded, chased the gunman for more than a block and then disarmed and arrested him.

The suspect, who was identified by the police as Clarence Taylor, 57 years old, was injured in the arrest and taken to Harlem Hospital.

At 10:45 P.M., according to the police, the three undercover agents had gone to the brownstone building at 77 East 124th street, at the corner of Park Avenue, with a warrant for Taylor's arrest.

One of the agents, 28-year-old Patrolman Cecil Shand, was assigned to stand guard outside. His partners, Detectives John Pollins, 36, and Thomas Watkins, 29, entered the basement apartment.

Two shots from a 16-gauge shotgun were fired from within the apartment, the police said. Detective Pollins, who was standing in the doorway, caught the full impact of the blast and fell. Detective Watkins was hit with a number of pellets, in-

cluding one that caught him just under his right eye.

The gunman made his way to a rear staircase and climbed to the first floor. He ran out the front and down the stoop, the police said, firing a third shot through the basement windows at Patrolman Shand, who had gone to help the detectives. Mr. Shand was hit in the face.

The suspect then ran west on 124th Street and under the New York Central's tracks on Park Avenue.

Behind him were Patrolman Shand and Detective Watkins. They caught up with him at Madison Avenue and, after a short scuffle, arrested him.

The wounded policemen were taken to the Hospital of Joint Diseases, at Madison and 124th Street, where an emergency operation was performed on Detective Pollins. He was reported to be in poor condition.

The other men were reported in satisfactory condition.

They were visited at the hospital by Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary, Chief Inspector Sanford D. Garelik and Deputy Chief Inspector Ira Bluth, the head of the narcotics bureau. Also at the hospital were two police chaplains, the Rev. William Kalaidjian and the Rev. John Walker.