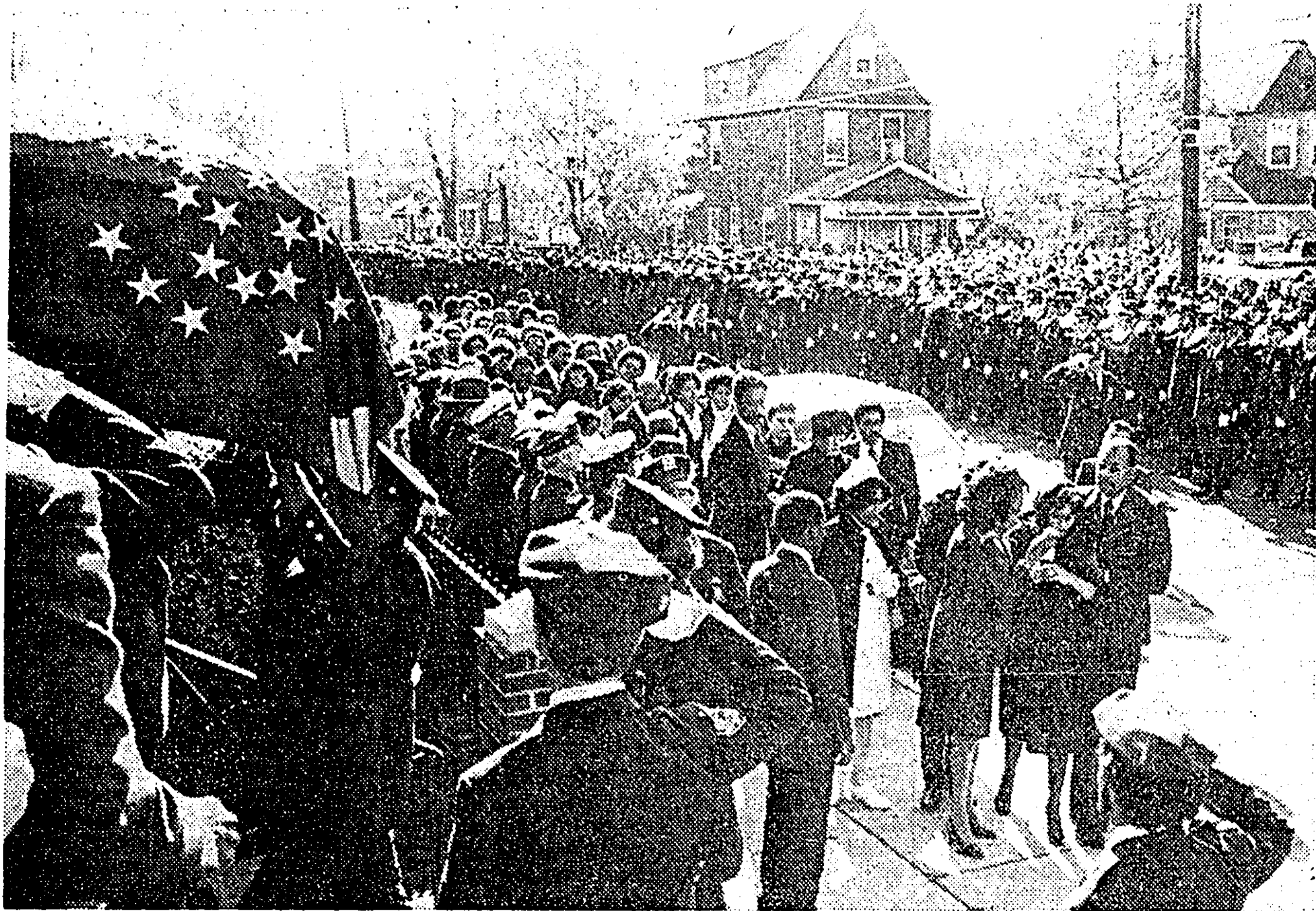




The New York Times / Edward Hausner

INSPECTOR'S FUNERAL FOR COMRADE: Thousands of police officers attended funeral for Detective Horace Lee Ford in Queens. Officer died of wounds suffered foiling bank robbery while moonlighting as a teller. Article, page 27.

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Nancy Ford, the widow of slain police officer, being comforted as she arrived for funeral in Jamaica, Queens

2,500 Officers at Funeral for Slain Queens Detective

More than 2,500 police officers, some from as far away as Philadelphia and Buffalo, went to Queens yesterday to pay homage to a fellow officer who was slain in a gun battle Monday.

Mayor Koch, Police Commissioner Robert J. McGuire, Samuel DeMilia, president of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, and William Ward, president of the Guardians, joined officers from New York and other cities to pay final respects to the family of the slain officer, Detective Horace Lee Ford at an inspector's funeral held at the Bethany Baptist Church in Jamaica.

Detective Ford, 39 years old, was the third New York City police officer to be killed this year. He was shot in the Flush-

ing, Queens, bank branch where he worked part-time as a teller by a man who had attempted to rob the bank.

According to witnesses at the bank, the Manufacturers Hanover Trust branch at 41-01 Kissena Boulevard, when the would-be robber, David Robinson, 29, drew a revolver, Detective Ford drew his own gun and ordered the man to "freeze." Mr. Robinson motioned with his revolver and Detective Ford fired, fatally wounding Mr. Robinson. The assailant returned the fire, hitting Detective Ford in the abdomen and leg. He died three hours later while undergoing surgery at Booth Memorial Hospital.

"This is the fourth funeral I have attended since taking office," Commis-

sioner McGuire said. "I keep wondering whether it will get harder or easier to attend."

A 12-year veteran of the force, Detective Ford had been assigned to the Street Crime Unit. While with the unit, he made over 200 arrests and received 18 departmental commendations.

"Detective Ford loved New York enough to give his life for it," said William G. Kalaidjian, chaplain of the Police Department, during the services. "When he witnessed a crime, he took action."

Detective Ford is survived by his wife, Nancy, and a 17-year-old daughter, Melody. His body will be flown to his hometown, Fairmont, N.C., for a funeral service on Sunday.