

Pay-offs to police detailed

City detective describes '72 gambling bribe

By THEODORE W. HENDRICKS

A Baltimore police Vice Squad detective who worked under cover testified yesterday that pay-offs to protect gamblers were so brazen within the Police Department in 1972 that he was handed \$80 as a bribe while waiting in a courtroom.

Sgt. Llewellyn M. Dykes, who reported pay-offs to FBI and police supervisors during the recent corruption probe, said the money was handed to him while he waited to testify in another case in Central District Police Court.

According to Sergeant Dykes, the money was to be split with another member of the Vice Squad to protect a gambling operation operated in East Baltimore by Louis (Shag) Harris, 58, who pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in January and was sentenced to a 6-month prison term.

Sergeant Dykes testified yesterday on the second day of the trial of two fellow members of the Vice Squad who are charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice by taking pay-offs to protect Harris's gambling business from Vice Squad raids.

Defendants are Francis C. Robey, 32, suspended as a Vice Squad detective, and Vincent J. DiCarlo, 51, a retired detective.

The case is being tried before a jury in Federal Court under Judge Herbert F. Murray and will be continued today.

Sergeant Dykes said that he was waiting in the courtroom
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on September 7, 1972, when Detective Robey approached him and handed him \$80 in cash. They were seated in the special benches reserved for policemen, he said.

The witness said Detective Robey told him the money came from the Harris organization and that he "had picked it up myself" from Harris's bar, the Kozy Korner Tavern, in the 700 block Bartlett avenue.

According to Sergeant Dykes, Detective Robey told him that half the cash was to be given to Clarence S. Emmons, a former Vice Squad detective who pleaded guilty to conspiracy and was sentenced to three years in prison.

Sergeant Dykes said he recorded the serial numbers of the bills and gave \$40 to Emmons and turned the rest of the money over to police and FBI supervisors in the case.

On another occasion, Sergeant Dykes testified, he watched a house in the 800 block East North avenue during a gambling investigation and saw Mr. DiCarlo leave the premises.

Mr. DiCarlo drove around

the corner where he and his partner, Emmons, hailed him, the sergeant testified. Mr. DiCarlo offered to arrange a meeting with Harris and said "it would be worth \$40 a month."

Thereafter, the witness said, there were many conversations in the Vice Squad headquarters room about who would pick up the money from Harris and what to do when payments were late.

At another time, Sergeant Dykes testified, he was given a \$40 pay-off by Robey in the basement parking garage of the old Police Department headquarters. The money came from the Harris group, he was told, according to the testimony.

Sergeant Dykes said that he once tried to arrest a man on Gay street after obtaining a gambling warrant and was puzzled when he found no gambling evidence on him.

The man was puzzled too, the sergeant said. He told the police sergeant he "knew in advance" that Sergeant Dykes had an arrest warrant, but he did not think he would be arrested because Harris was paying off police.