

30-year veteran Davenport named new chief of police

By DAN McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

Cambridge/Somerville

The new Cambridge police chief, Capt. Leo F. Davenport, 53, a veteran of 30 years on the department and present head of the detective bureau, will be sworn into office Monday.

Davenport's appointment as chief was announced yesterday by City Manager James L. Sullivan.

The city manager said his decision was based on the results of a three-part examination conducted by the Civil Service Commission. He said it included a written and oral examination, plus interviews, two of which were conducted by Boston Police Comr. Joseph Jordan and Lloyd McDonald of the Harvard Law School.

Davenport finished first in the examination and Capt. Lawrence J. Brutti, head of the day uniform division, finished second.

Davenport was appointed to the department in 1947, was promoted to sergeant in 1956, and to lieutenant in 1966. He was assigned to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation on promotion to lieutenant and was director of the Auto Theft Bureau for several years.

He was promoted to captain on Jan. 29, 1975.

He is an Army veteran of World War II, having served as a first sergeant in Europe from 1940 to 1945. Davenport also is an associate of the Mass Bay Community College as an instructor in law enforcement.

He is married to the former E. Jane Taddeo. They have a son, Keith, 30, and a daughter, Mrs. Jane Wolf of Cambridge.

When informed of his appointment, Davenport said:

"It's the completion of a man's life-long endeavor in his chosen profession and I hope to prove myself worthy of the challenge."

Sullivan said he had interviewed both Davenport and Brutti, and in addition to the results of the examinations, he made his judgment on the interviews and the records of both men while on the department.

"CAPT. DAVENPORT has been with the Cambridge Police Department for 30 years, and he is a life-long resident of Cambridge," Sullivan said.

"He came up through the ranks of the department and is currently in charge of the most sensitive area in the department, the detective bureau and vice control.

"He has a knowledge of the city and the department that should serve him in good stead. The job of police chief in Cambridge is not an easy one, but I know Davenport will put all his energy into improving the operation of the department and in making the community a safer place in which to work and live," the manager said.

"I believe it is necessary for the city, and I think with the appointment of Davenport as chief we have a unique opportunity to hire a police commissioner if the city council approves it."

THE CITY MANAGER said a police commissioner would complement Chief Davenport's skill and provide for a unified management of the police department.

"The chief would be in charge of all the men in terms of their functions and duties, and the commissioner would administer and establish the policies to be carried out by the chief," Sullivan said.

Davenport will replace Capt. Nicholas E. Fratto who has served as acting chief since the death of Police Chief Francis A. Pisani in November of 1975.

Sullivan said he intends to have Acting Chief Fratto assigned to the city solicitor's office.



Leo F. Davenport . . . new
Cambridge Police Chief

"He will report directly to me," Sullivan said. "He will be in charge of the investigation and surveillance into activities in Central Square.

"That issue was raised at the city council meeting last week, and it seems of sufficient concern to have special attention paid to it by a man of Chief Fratto's experience and skills.

"I'm sure Capt. Fratto will be of great value to Chief Davenport as he assumes the burdens of his new office."

The city manager was referring to reports discussed by the city council that a Combat Zone type atmosphere is moving into the Central Square area.

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800 students challenged

By **LEAH FLETCHER**

Staff Writer

As the future leaders of America, youth have a responsibility to participate actively in the political process.

This was the message to 800 students from 19 Boston public schools, who crammed Faneuil Hall yesterday to hear Atty. Gen. Francis X. Bellotti and comedian and human rights activist Dick Gregory.

"You can't bring about change unless you

are willing to participate," Bellotti said, urging agents for social change.

But, before they can effect change, he explained, they must be equipped with two weapons. "You need passion and commitment to change, but you just can't react and wait for change to hang in there," said Bellotti.

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Cambridge May 9, 19 77.

I, Leo F. Davenport, do solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and will support the constitution thereof.

So help me God.

I, Leo F. Davenport, do solemnly swear and affirm that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Chief of Police, according to the best of my abilities and understanding, agreeably, to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of this Commonwealth.

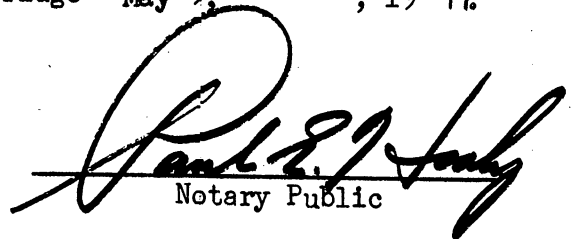
So help me God.


Leo F. Davenport

Middlesex, SS.

Cambridge May 9, 19 77.

Sworn to before me


Notary Public

A-131

Oath of office for
Leo F. Davenport a
Cambridge Chief of Police.

- May 9, 1977