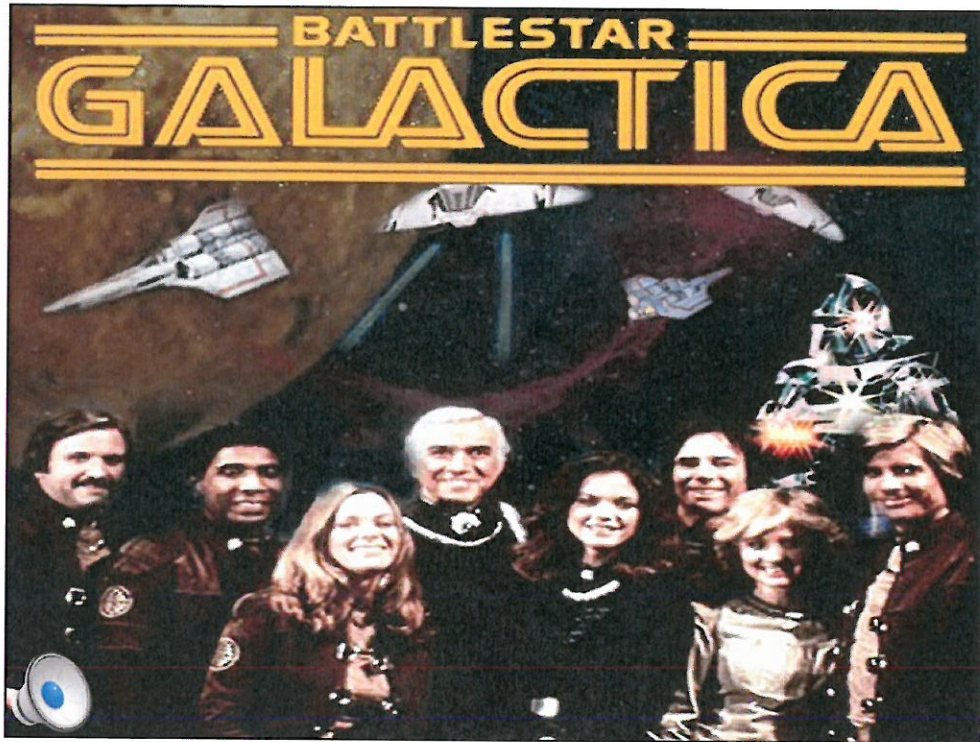




Ladies and gentlemen, it's 1978. The place is America.



This is considered entertainment. (Sad, I know.)



And this is the latest in personal computers. It packs a whopping 4KB of RAM and can be yours for a measly \$1298.

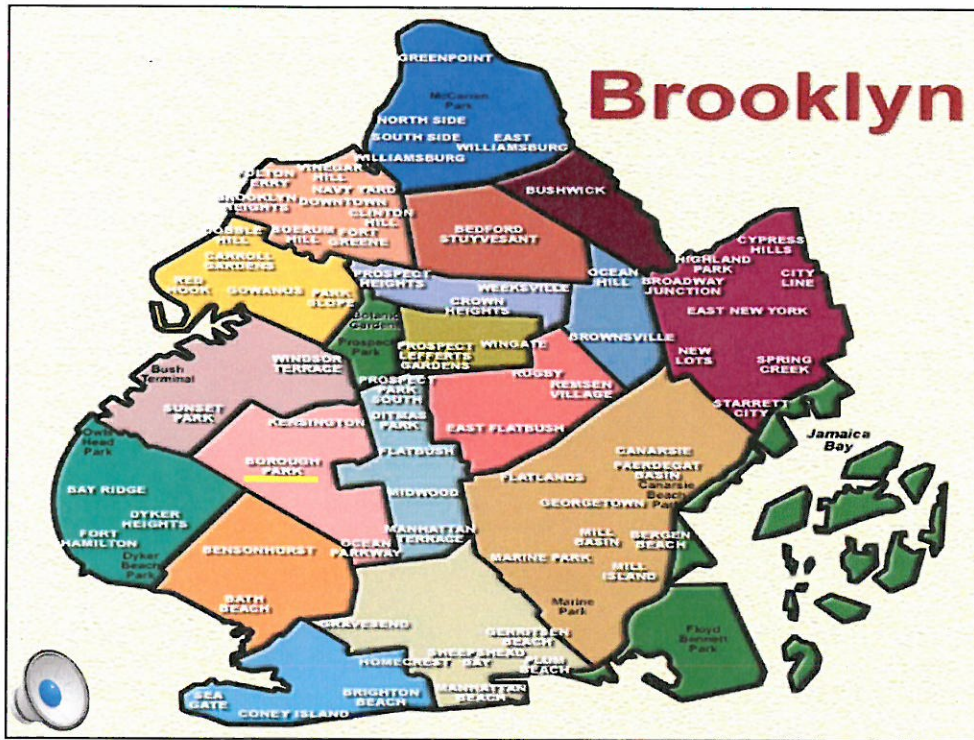
(Steve Jobs, may you rest in peace.)



You are a member of the New York City Police Department. You're serving in the borough of Brooklyn – which, if it wasn't part of New York City, would be the fourth largest city in the USA.

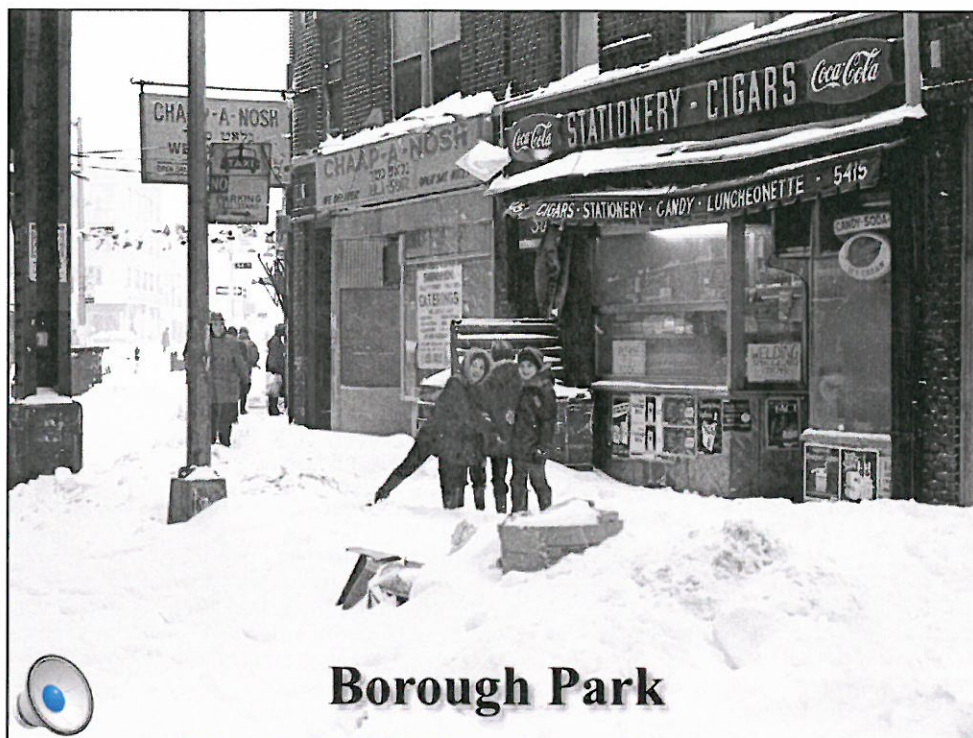
(Anybody from Brooklyn? Anybody from New York? Tell us about it ....)



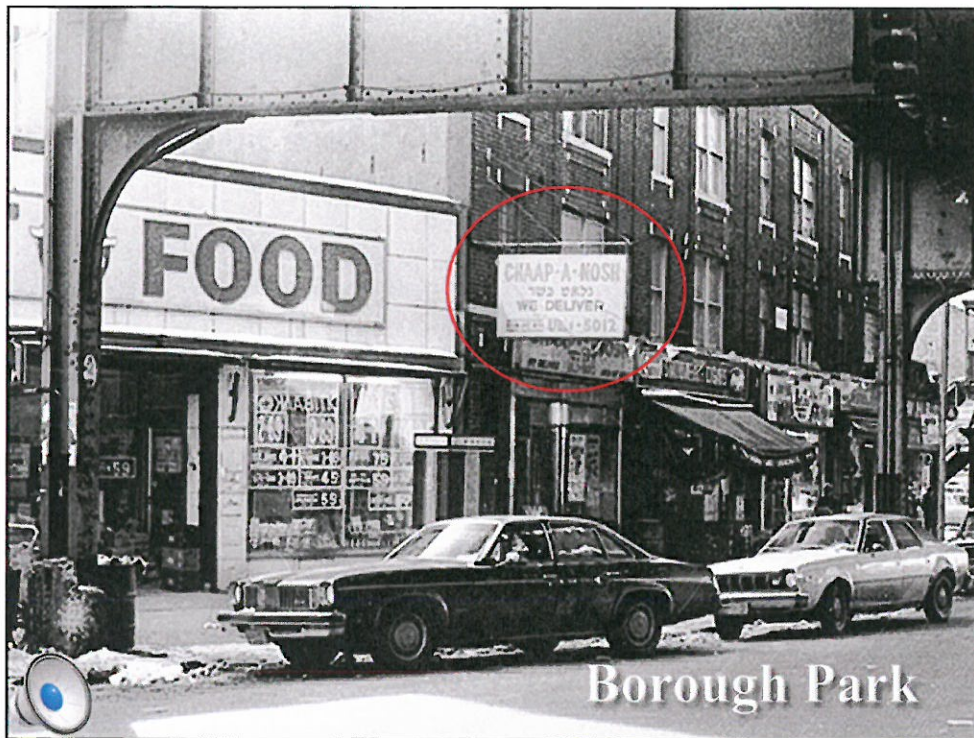


You're currently assigned to the 66 Precinct. The 66 is in Borough Park.

(The police department divides the city into precincts or administrative districts.)



Here are a few pictures of Borough Park. Look them over for a few moments, and tell me what you see.



Did anyone notice this sign, Chaap-a-nosh (CLICK)? What can you tell me about it? Does anyone know what “nosh” means?

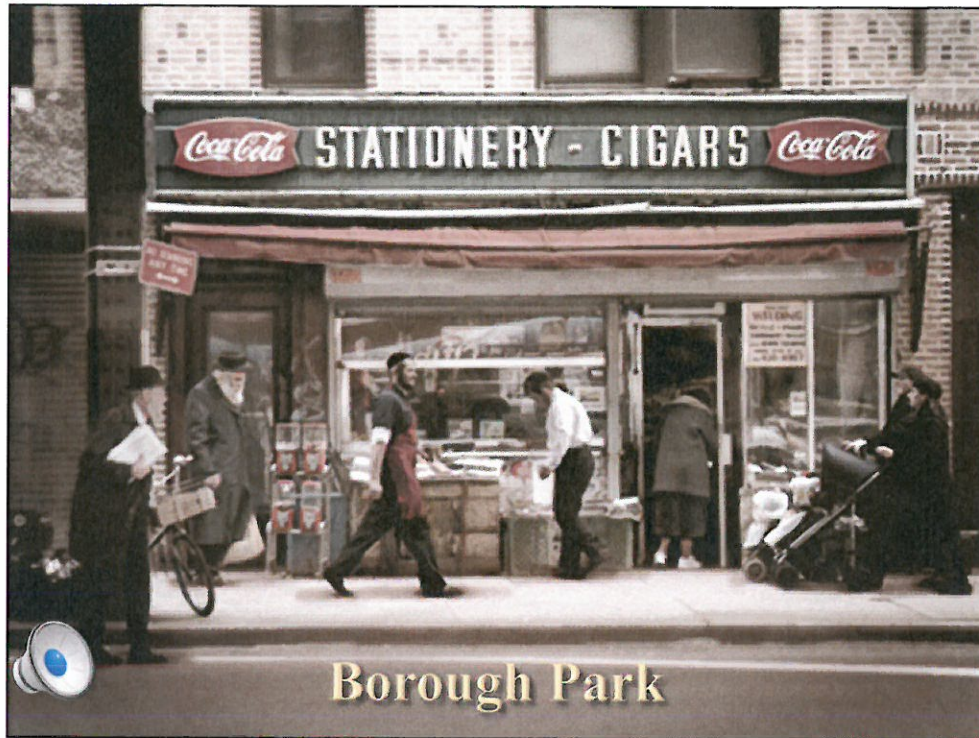
“Nosh” is a word from the Yiddish language that can serve either as a noun or a verb. As a noun, it means “a snack or light meal”. As a verb, it means “to have a snack or light meal”.

And what about the characters beneath Chaap-a-nosh? These are letters of the Yiddish alphabet.

Which ethnic community uses Yiddish as its day-to-day language?

Which one in particular? Yes, ultra-Orthodox Jews.





You'll see lots of Yiddish signs in Borough Park because the overwhelming majority of people living here are ultra-Orthodox Jews, specifically Hasidic Jews.

Before moving on, when we speak of one Hasidic Jew, we use the word "Hasid". And when we speak of one or more, we use "Hasidim".





Here's a Hasidic man with his daughters. How would you describe them?



Up to this point, the police of the 66 and the Hasidim have got on well enough.

But this all changes on December 3. Early that morning, an elderly Hasidic man is murdered on his way home from religious services.

Let's see how this was reported by the New York television stations. (The next slide has a video clip, which will open automatically.)

The police arrive at the murder scene 40 minutes after the body is discovered. News of this travels quickly through the Hasidic community, and later that morning, it stages a protest outside the 66 station house, calling for greater police protection.

Here's a newsclip describing what came of the protest.



Video highlights the fact that the entire Jewish community was able to mass forces extremely quickly.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40gSJ0F0dAA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8Xkoahb964>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJO35II22HA>

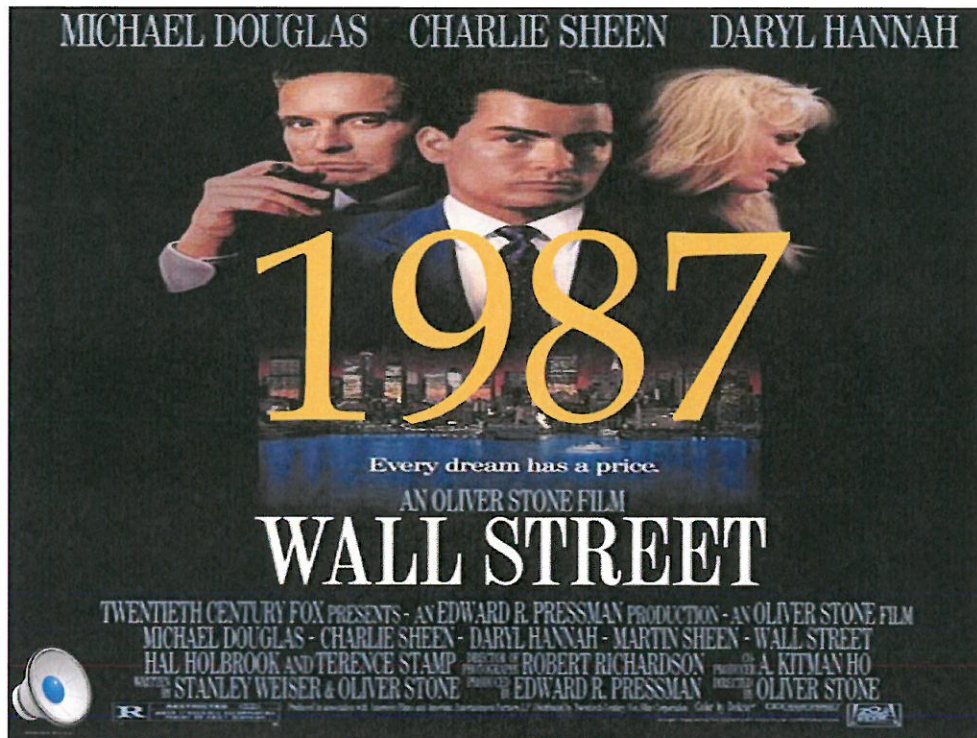




After the riot, it's learned that the police arrived at the murder scene 13 minutes after the crime was reported. That call, however, wasn't made until 27 minutes after the body was discovered.

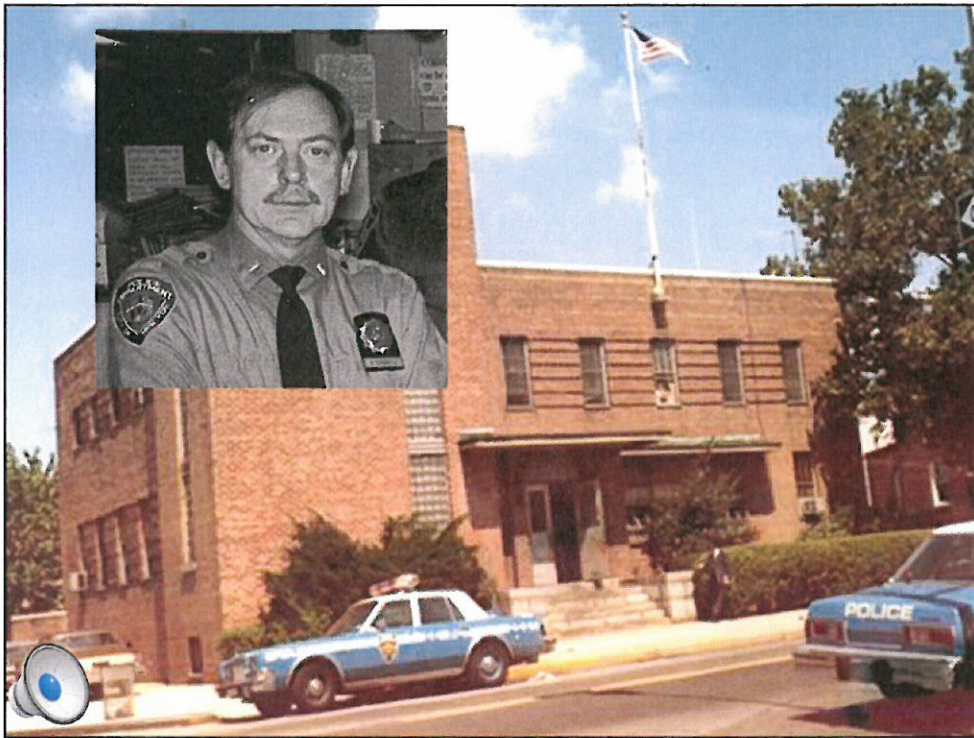
Why?

The Hasid who found the victim didn't speak English, nor did he know how to call the police. So he wandered around the neighborhood—for 27 minutes—before finding someone who could contact the police.



It's now 1987.

Charlie Sheen is young, respected, and firmly rooted in reality.



You are Lance O'Connell, a lieutenant in the NYPD.

You've been working in the 66 Precinct for a year now, and things have changed quite a bit since 1978.





The tensions left by the '78 riot are long gone.

In fact, the police and the Hasidic community now work closely together. To this end, the department has introduced specially-trained community affairs officers who act as liaisons between the police and Hasidim.

You yourself have become acquainted with several Hasidim. In fact, you've even come into the good graces of a very influential rabbi. (Does everyone know what a rabbi is?)

This rabbi is important because he represents a rebbe, or leader of a Hasidic sect. This rabbi visits the commanding officer of the precinct every morning to discuss matters of public safety and to keep the police informed of events within the Hasidic community.



Before coming to the 66, you knew a few things about the Hasidim.

You knew, for instance, that they:

vote as a block in elections,

dress conservatively,

observe hundreds of religious commandments (like abstaining from pork),

and are devoted to their respective rebbes.

Since your transfer, you've had lots of interaction with the Hasidic community. Most often, this has taken the form of commanding security details for Torah processions, such as the one pictured here, and weddings.

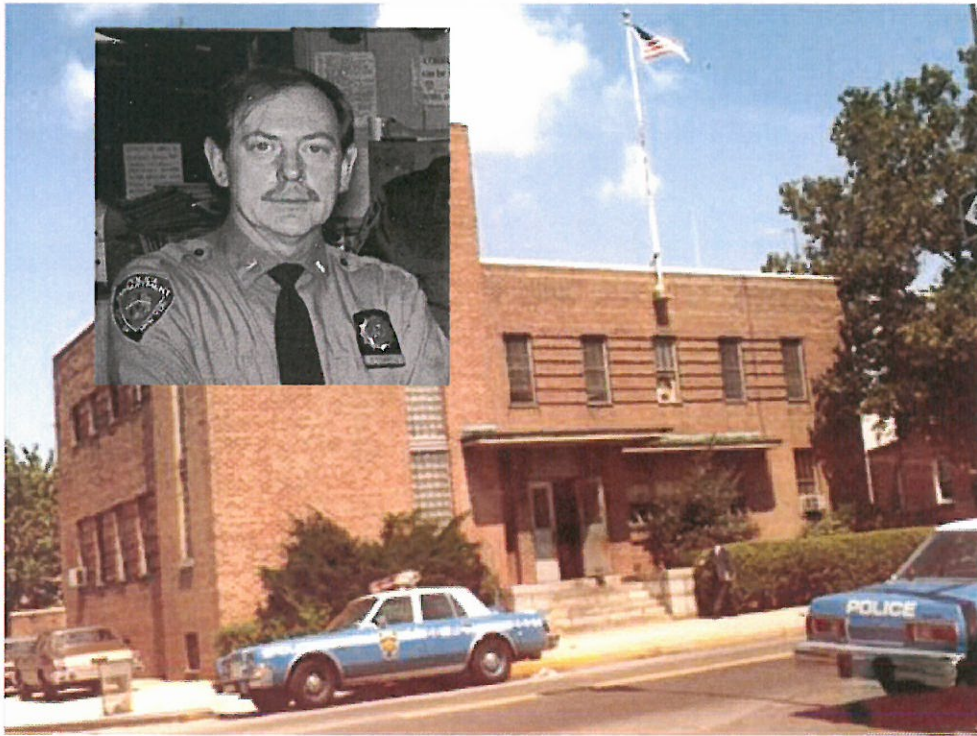
Here's a clip of the sorts of things you observed at the weddings. (The next slide contains a video, which will open automatically)



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piEKgE-Y\\_BQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piEKgE-Y_BQ)

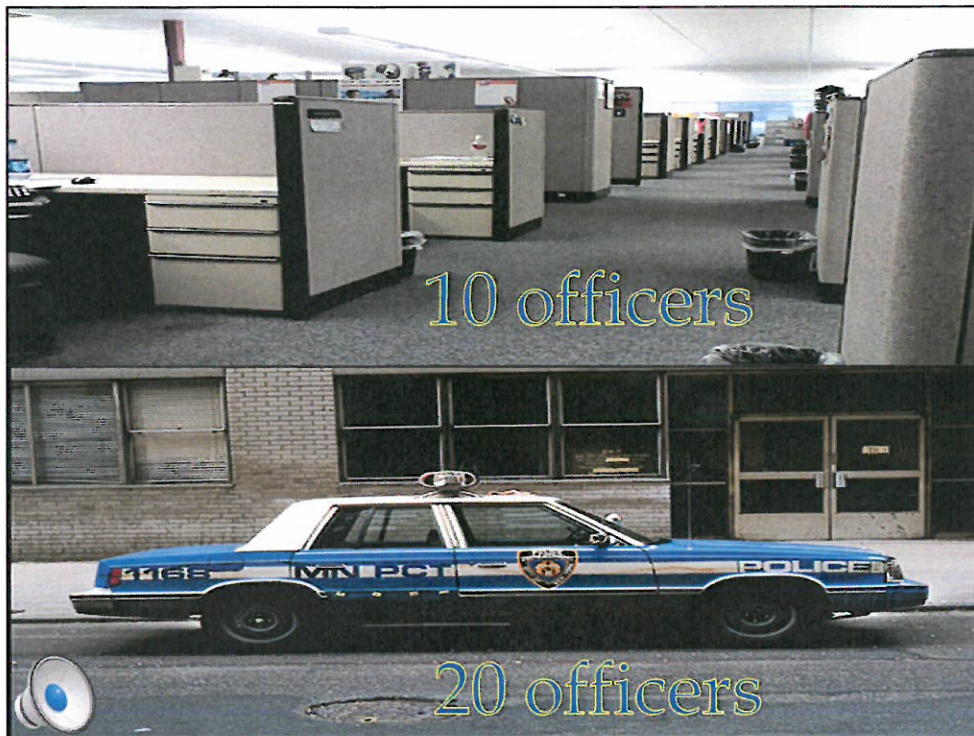
Watch the video- Make sure Marines are engaged and actively watching. See if they notice large cultural differences between a Hasidic Jewish Wedding and a normal American Wedding.





It's now October, and you are at the precinct house, serving as the desk officer.

Today, both the commanding officer and executive officer are away. That leaves the next person in the chain of command, the desk officer, in command of the station and all officers on duty. In other words, folks, you're in charge.



There are 30 officers on duty at the moment.

20 of them are on patrol—either on foot or in radio cars—or performing other duties outside of the station house. Most of these officers are male, though some are female.

The remaining 10 officers are at the station house. These include:

You,  
several detectives,  
officers performing administrative duties,  
a female officer and male officer on their lunch break,  
and...



a female officer providing security at the front door.





Sometime in the early afternoon, a male Hasid is arrested and brought to the station house for allegedly taking part in a group assault on a young black man. (Relations between the black and Hasidic communities are less than friendly.)

Fifteen minutes after the arrest, the officer at the front door comes inside to tell you something:

QuickTime™ and a  
BMP decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

an all-male crowd of Hasidim has gathered outside of the station house.

You leave your desk to see what's going on.

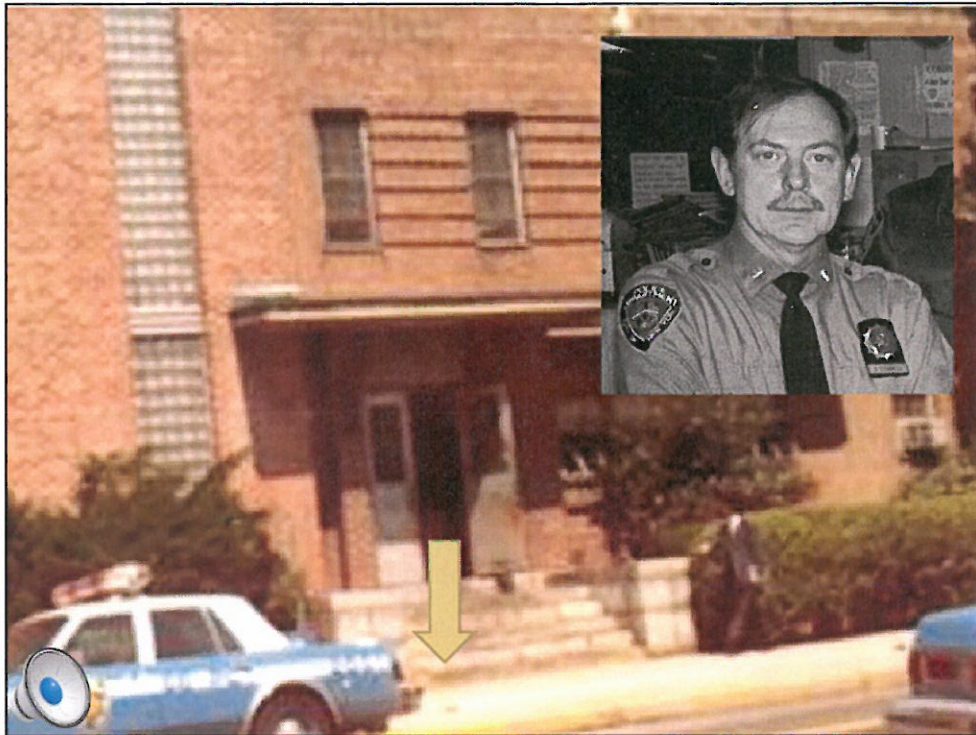
The first thing you notice is that the crowd members don't appear threatening. Many are simply milling about. But others, especially the younger Hasidim, occasionally point to the precinct door and shout to each other in Yiddish.

This doesn't alarm you, but just to be safe, you do two things. First, you call two radio cars back. This includes two male and two female officers, bringing your strength to 14 officers. Second, you inform borough command (the command echelon above yours) of the situation. Borough command's response is that they'll get back you.



Another fifteen minutes later, the crowd grows to approximately 400.





And then the officer standing watch comes in again with more news: a group of Hasidim are standing at the base of the steps leading to the precinct's front doors and want to speak with you.

So you leave your desk and come outside. You notice several familiar faces in the crowd.

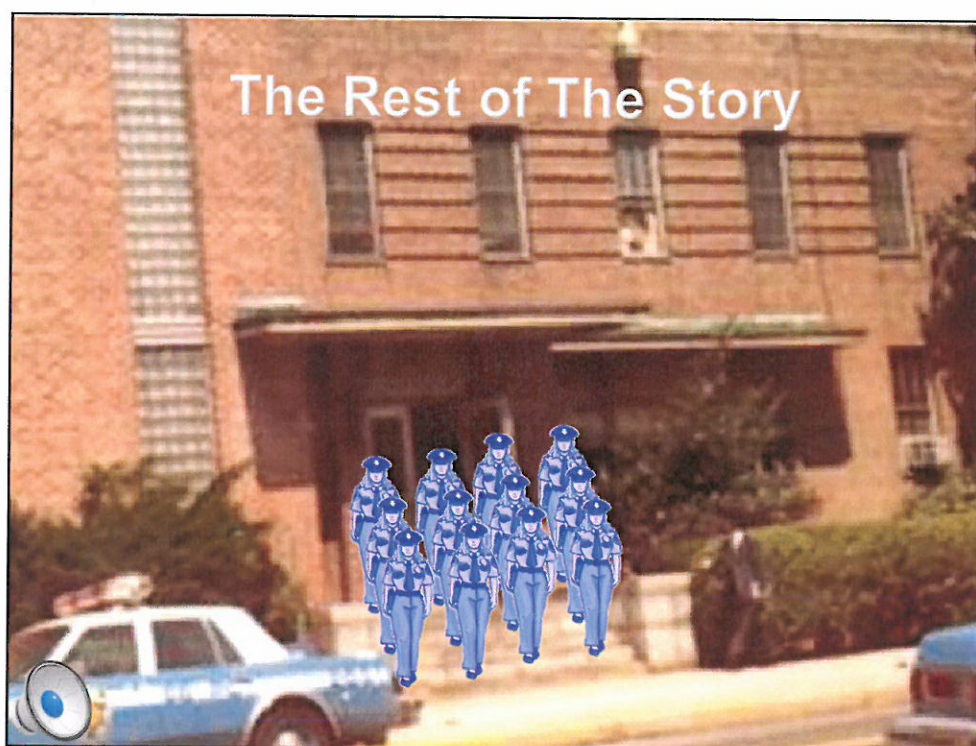
The Hasidim ask about the man who was arrested. You explain that there's nothing to worry about, and that he's only being questioned by detectives. You then kindly ask them to get off the steps, which they do.

15 minutes later, you receive word that the group has returned to the bottom of the steps.

You again leave your desk and go out outside.

You notice that some of the younger Hasidim seem intent on getting inside the station house.

What now, lieutenant? (LET THE MARINES TAKE TIME TO FIGURE IT OUT FOR THEMSELVES).



You order all the female officers in the station house to line up shoulder-to-shoulder at the top of the steps. You then tell them to take a step down together. The Hasidim back up. You give the order again. The Hasidim continue backing up, and don't approach the steps again.

You then return inside and put out a call to any nearby community affairs officers. Then, you resume your work. Around the same time, the rebbe's representative and communality affairs officers sent by borough command arrive on the scene.

Over the next few hours, the crowd disperses peacefully.

#### Explanation:

A male Hasid is forbidden to have physical contact with a woman—whether she is Jewish or not—if she is not his kin. The reason for this is that a woman can be menstruating at any given time, and in ultra-Orthodox practice, this makes her impure. This impurity can be transferred by touch.

Bottom line is that Marines need to be cultural experts. This is a prime example of using cultural intelligence and applying it to the operator.