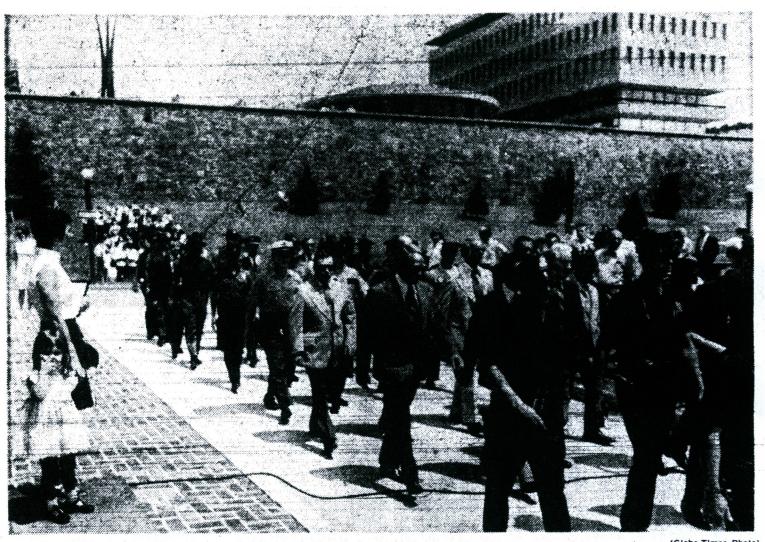
Wagner, Mary and Claps, Frank. "Fahy Bridge Dedicated." *Bethlehem Globe-Times* (Bethlehem, PA). 7 July 1973: 1,5. Microfilm.



MOTHER AND DAUGHTER, Mrs. Susan Fahy and Sharon, watch squad of police march by after ceremonies dedicating the former New St. Bridge to Sharon's father, slain Bethlehem Patrolman Philip J. Fahy. A bronze plaque now stands on the northeast corner of the bridge in honor of his memory.

## Fahy Bridge Dedicated

By MARY WAGNER and FRANK CLAPS Globe-Times Staff Writers

There were tears in the eyes of Bethlehem policemen this afternoon when three-year-old Sharon Fahy unveiled the plaque honoring a father she never knew.

The child was the focus of 500 spectators who assembled for ceremonies officially opening the Philip J. Fahy Memorial Bridge, formerly the New Street Bridge.

Fahy died of gunshot wounds in August of 1969, the second Bethlehem policeman ever struck down in the line of duty.

The dedication began as a squad of more than 60 area police led by a color guard marched to the site on the north end of the new bridge.

The invocation was given by the Rev. William Hoffner of St. Joseph's Church, Limeport. He married Philip and Susan Fahy.

He said Fahy's death was an "example of tragedy" which

should make us "aware of the value of humanity."

Bethlehem Mayor H. Gordon Payrow introduced the representative sent by Pennsylvania Gov. Milton J. Shapp. Lt. Col. William Cooper, Eastern Region Commander, Pennsylvania State Police, said police work is the "only profession which really asks a man to give up his very life to protect the people."

"The day will come," he assured those police present.
"when we will assume our

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PHILIP J. FAHY

## Fahy Bridge Is Dedicated

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rightful role throughout nation."

In his letter, Shapp said renaming the bridge was a great scheduled over a month ago, but tribute to police. He added he postponed when completion of tive William C. Rybak, city hoped it would "memorialize all the span was delayed by bad public safety director Ronald H. other valiant police who have weather. given their lives in the line of duty."

Patrolman Angelo Augustino, coordinator of the ceremonies, Heights, gave the invocation at a Co.; PennDOT district engineer thanked those legislators present luncheon at Hotel Bethlehem. introduced and were renamed the bridge.

He presented framed copies of House Bill 1926, passed in July Police Chief John DiDonato, Det. Charles Donchez, Star Lodge 20, Fraternal Order of Police president; Mr. and Mrs. John Fahy, parents of the slain policeman, Mrs. Susan Fahy and her daughter.

Augustino's voice shook with emotion as he announced that Sharon would unveil the plaque.

There were also tears in the eyes of some of the spectators as the Fahy family, including Allentown, State Sen. Jeanette young sister, Rosemary, gathered at the site on the northeast corner of the bridge.

After Sharon pulled away the purple and black covering, the Rev. Vincent Cronin gave the benediction.

A luncheon followed at Hotel

Bethlehem.

summer band.

The dedication was originally a city native.

Police department chaplain, George Joseph. the Rev. Richard Guiliano of Sacred Heart Church of Miller Roman of the No. 1 Construction

ultimately responsible for the 29, 1969, investigating a routine councilmen Paul Calvo, Paul passage of the bill which traffic incident. A three - year Marcincin and Robert Snyder. veteran of the force. Fahy had planned to quit and begin college tives from the state FOP plus at the time of the shooting. He local chapters were also present. of last year, to Mayor Payrow, had been married for only a Cong. Fred B. Rooney sent a year, and his daughter was born telegram in May of the next year.

Suspect Bebley C. Wells Jr. other commitments. was wounded in the gunfire. He Work began on converting the

days later.

Among state officials attending Thomas J. Maloney of Beth-day period due to a buckling lehem, and James Ritter of steel supporter.

Reibman, Northampton County, Music was provided by the former secretary of the Pennthe East Hills Junior High School sylvania Department of Transportation Robert Bartlett,

> Also, former state representa-Drew, Lehigh County Dist. Atty.

Also in attendance were Al J. A. Victor Cesare; city council Fahy was 26 when shot Aug. president Charles Donches and

In addition, the representa-

expresssing inability to attend because of

pleaded guilty Nov. 16, 1970, and two-lane New St. bridge into a was given a life sentence four four-lane facility Dec. 4, 1968. The western span was comlocal pleted May 29, 1970. But just the over a month later, the entire ceremonies were State Reps. bridge was closed for a three-

> After more complications over steelwork. construction began again in March, 1971. At that time, PennDOT requested a two-year postponement of the December, 1971, opening date. Six months was cut from that request by the state Public

Utilities Commission.