

Station X Aide Is Retiring

Eli Laakko, 61, a radio operator-technician at the Station X since 1931, retires today after 33 years with the Cincinnati Police Department.

Laakko, who lives at 1543 Corvallis avenue, Roselawn, started his career as a police "radiotrician" in April 1930. He was a plain clothesman in District 4 for one month in 1931.

In June of 1931 he became one of the original seven men assigned to operate Station X when the police radio station first went on round-the-clock operations.

Besides Laakko, there are three of the original seven still on active duty: James L. Hearn, assistant superintendent of police communications; Carl W. Luhn and Wesley Mattox.

Laakko has been a radio technician, repairman, police dispatcher, and inter-city Morse code telegrapher. He says his memorable experiences are "too numerous to enumerate."

Laakko says that he and his wife, Lillie, have planned only as far as a trip to the southwest this summer.