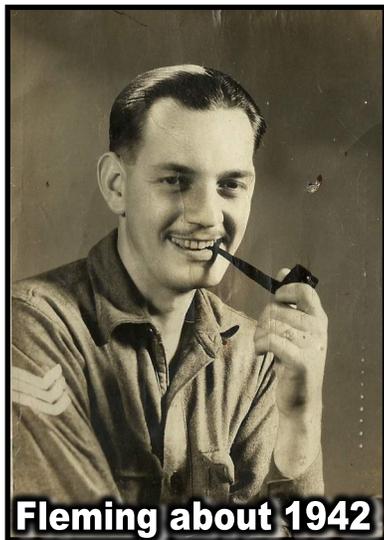


Chief of Police Charles A. Fleming 1979-1986 Member of Bartow Police Department 1955-1986

Chief Fleming was born on Dec. 1, 1920 in Sheffield, Yorkshire, England . He was a World War II veteran of the British Army. Following the war, Fleming joined the Manchester, England Police Department in 1946 working as a constable.

In 1955, Fleming and his family immigrated to the United States and he began his career with the Bartow Police department. In 1958 he received his United States Citizenship.



Fleming about 1942

In a news article dated 1979, Chief Fleming quoted: *"In 1955, the Department consisted of 7 men, and then one day, Charlie Odom, the city Manager at the time, fired half of 'em"*.

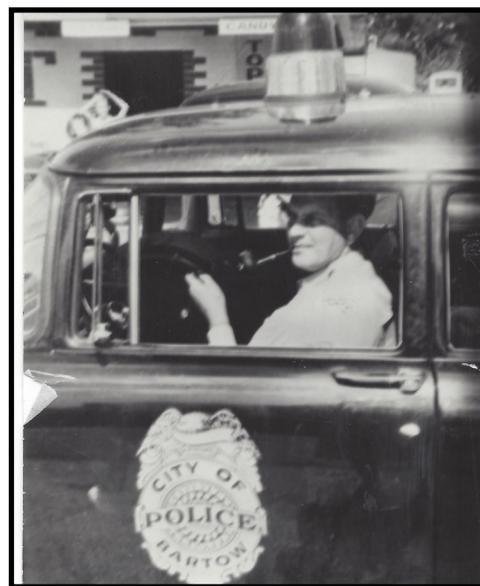
The only police personnel left were Ellie Wilson, Doyle Kight, Dave Glass, Pops Adams (radio Operator) and Fleming.

Police personnel worked 12-hour shifts. Pop Adams was the Radio Operator and kept the records. Fleming's starting rate of pay was \$50 per week,

Fleming was appointed Chief of Police in 1979, following the resignation of Chief Cunningham, whose tenure as Chief was rife with conflict and morale problems. Fleming worked diligently to restore the broken relationships within the department.

Chief Fleming was very popular with the community and well-loved, and remained a life long member of the Polk County Police Chiefs Association. He retired in 1986 at the age of 66.

Fleming passed away in 2012 at the age of 91.



Patrol Officer 1957