

I'LL BE WATCHING YOU — INSIDE THE POLICE 1980-83

Andy Summers

Taschen 3947

Policeman's pot shots.

I'll Be Watching You is a weighty coffee-table book of black-and-white photographs taken (mostly) by Summers during his final three years with The Police. Being the guitarist in the band obviously gave him Access All Areas (and being in the right place at the right time is 90 per cent of what music photography is about anyway),

and there's an abundance of candid and posed photos of The Police at work, rest and play in studios, airports, hotels, streets, venues and on the road across the globe, plus a lot (too many) of street and city scenes and other travelogue subjects. Too few photos, however, are particularly striking or intriguing, fewer still are genuinely engaging, and – for someone who has had his photographs exhibited in galleries – there's not much evidence of real photographic artistry. The diary-style accompaniment is throwaway and rarely informative.

Were this book half as big, half as thick, half its £25 price and gave at least some 'who, what, where, when', it might be worth a punt for Police fans.



Paul Henderson