

# Informed Sources

## LAPD budget request

### City Council questions LAPD priorities

Tom Thompson

A minor range war is brewing downtown over the police budget as the City Council prepares to tackle Mayor Tom Bradley's record \$986.4-million "austere" budget.

The council, or at least some members of the council, appear to have finally decided to stand up to Chief Ed Davis' budget demands, which have seen the police establishment become the city's biggest growth industry. L.A.'s police budget constitutes more than 33% of the total budget and has increased three fold in the last ten years from a modest \$83.3

million in 1966 to more than \$332 million in the current proposed budget.

Mayor Bradley has thus far been reluctant to wield his blue pencil where the police are concerned. Despite his announcement that as many as 250 city employees may have to be laid off, and vital services cut back, Davis' budget has been increased another \$22 million.

At the heart of the battle will be the manner in which the police department under Davis has chosen to utilize its personnel. Davis has been roundly criticized for his zeal in assigning large numbers of officers to rock concerts, for placing undercover narcotics agents on high school campuses, for his apparent preoccupation with gays and their activities, and intelligence activities aimed at left-of-center political persons.

The initial break in the official wall of indifference over police priorities occurred after the Pink Floyd busts where more than 500 concert goers were arrested for possession of marijuana. Councilperson David Cunningham roundly criticized the department for failing to provide foot patrols in his district while victimless crimes receive such attention. Cunningham's protest was followed in March by a letter sent by Councilperson Peggy Stevenson to Police Commission President

Samuel Williams. Stevenson asked the commission to establish a "general policy for (police) deployment."

Stevenson set the tone of the impending city council attack on Davis' priorities when she stated, "When laws are broken, it is the responsibility of the department to enforce them. However, laws are being broken everywhere in the city and unequal distribution of police resources seems clear. I question our ability to enforce these laws when it is alleged that as many as six undercover agents spend hours drinking beer and encouraging gay advances."



## Reagan logic

NANCY REAGAN: ... (Ronald and I) do see things pretty much alike. CBS: The death penalty?

NANCY REAGAN: I'm in favor of the death penalty. CBS: Why?

NANCY REAGAN: Because I think it saves lives. I think people are alive today because of the death penalty. CBS: Abortion?

NANCY REAGAN: I...I can't get over the point of it being that you're killing somebody. I...I can't get beyond that.

(CBS "60 Minutes" 12/14/75)  
—LNS

## Covert actions

### CIA plans increases

(ZNS) - The Central Intelligence Agency—despite recent disclosures of extensive illegal activities abroad—is reportedly planning not only to step-up its covert interventions in foreign countries, but also to continue actively supporting right wing dictatorships.

THE CHICAGO SUN TIMES quotes former C.I.A. Director William Colby as saying the agency has plans to drastically increase its secret foreign interventions over the next decade because of what Colby terms "Totalitarian Developments" abroad.

Colby, according to the

newspaper, estimated that operations—which now are for a mere three percent rise in the 1980's to take 1 percent of the agency's budget.

Colby, in an unusually candid statement, also indicated C.I.A. will continue to support wing authoritarian dictatorships, saying he sees no "scenario" certain alliances.

THE SUN TIMES says a justified supporting right dictators by saying that authoritarian state could be democratic in the future, with the communists, the offers no hope.

## Bremer cover-up

### Ex-FBI agent makes charge

(ZNS) - Former F.B.I. Agent William Turner, after conducting his own investigation into the shooting of Governor George Wallace, charges that a shadowy outfit called "Transcontinental International Press Service" or TIPS, may have planted false evidence in the apartment of Arthur Bremer, Wallace's would-be assassin.

Turner makes this charge in a new book entitled "Government By Gunplay", an anthology of political assassination articles edited by Boston writer Sid Blumenthal.

According to Turner, (quote) "TIPS had all the earmarks of being a cover of some kind." He

says that Bremer's former lady stated that a TIPS representative was in Bremer's apartment before police and F.B.I. sealed off apartment the day Wallace shot.

Turner states that the only record he has ever uncovered concerning TIPS was its accreditation by Los Angeles to cover the Pentagon Papers. Turner says TIPS apparently disbanded in 1972.

Turner asks: "Was there connection between the appearance of TIPS at Bremer's apartment and Charles Colson's instructions to E. Howard Hughes to fly to Milwaukee immediately after Wallace was shot?"

## Hi Ho, Silver... US runaway shops run again

Ed McCaughan & Peter Baird

MEXICALI, MEX. (PNS) — The Mexican border's once-greener labor pastures have turned as arid as the Baja desert for U.S. companies. And Mexican workers, who seemed to benefit as scores of U.S. businesses pulled up stakes in the mid-60's to settle across the border, are now joining the Americans they once displaced in unemployment lines.

The U.S. "runaway" shops are on the move again.

At least a million Americans, says the AFL-CIO, have lost their jobs in the past decade to runaway shops seeking cheap labor in underdeveloped regions like Mexico, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Puerto Rico and U.S. Indian reservations.

Now, as Mexico's once "unspoiled workforce" has been organized into unions, more than 20,000 workers have recently been left jobless as one U.S. plant after another has shut down its assembly lines.

cost of labor. Newly organized Mexican workers have won substantial wage hikes in the past few years.

U.S. runaway shops first rode the crest of a wave into Mexico in 1965 when the Mexican government, beset by 40 to 50 percent unemployment rates in some border cities, designed a "Border Industrialization Program" (BIP) attractive to U.S. businesses then facing rising competition from European and Japanese industry.

The BIP allowed entirely foreign-owned companies to set up

The advantage for the companies was obvious: minimum wages of Mexico's northern states in the mid-60s ranged from \$3.42-\$5.52 per day—less than a fifth the average salary of U.S. factory workers.

For the Mexican government the BIP seemed a sure way to solve the unemployment crisis. But in fact, though nearly 80,000 jobs were created, the unemployment rate along the border actually nearly doubled between 1960 and 1970. The assembly shops had expanded the size of the available workforce by hiring mainly young women—many of whom were not previously job-seekers—and by attracting ever greater numbers of migrants from Mexico's interior.

For the 70,000 men and women hired by the assembly plants, the jobs in the shiny new factories seemed at first glamorous compared to their former lives as housewives, domestics, or field hands. Companies worked hard to foster organizational loyalties by sponsoring soccer teams and beauty contests.

But the initial glamour of the long and tedious assembly-line work quickly wore off. Single mothers—who made up 35 percent of the female workforce in Nogales—had access to only one child care center. Most other border cities had none at all to supplant the expense of baby sitters.

Faced with staggering inflation and low wages, many such isolated workers began to organize unions. Over the past few years, strikes have erupted along the border in companies like Videocraft, Sarkes-Tarzan, Transiron and Mattel. Along with wage battles, some of the strikes have protested corruption among labor bosses of the government-controlled Confederation of Mexican Workers.

Continued on Page 18

## "We've made them rich. They can't just tell us to get lost now."

In the small town of Nogales, Sonora, for example, nearly a fifth of the total workforce has been laid off, while in the Baja California towns of Mexicali and Tijuana, more than 40 assembly plants have closed down. Mattel Toys' subsidiary in Mexicali alone left 3,000 workers in the streets when Mexel picked up and moved on.

Many plant managers along the 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexican border blame the current exodus on the U.S. recession. The market for their products—bras, pocket computers, war toys—has dropped off, they say.

But the key factor is the rising

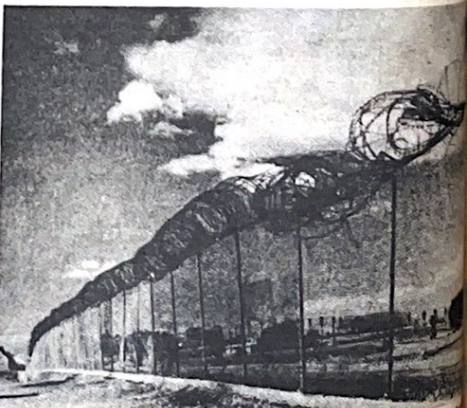
labor-heavy assembly shops within a 12-mile strip south of the border, pay Mexican workers a fraction of the U.S. wage rate and contribute virtually no taxes or import duties to the Mexican government.

U.S. garment and electronics companies like Motorola, Levi-Strauss and Hughes Aircraft soon stormed the border area. By 1967 there were 72 authorized U.S. plants there. By 1972 there were 273. By late 1974, the number had ballooned to 665.

In a few short years Mexico became the largest assembler of U.S. components processed abroad and reexported to the U.S.



Woman sewing in a Mexican factory where runaway shops exploit workers. NACLA/LNS



2000-mile international border used to divide U.S. and Mexican workers. NACLA/LNS



# Hoover warned of Kennedy plot

## CIA agent's letter revealed

Jeff Cohen & Don Freed

A former United States Government intelligence agent has delivered a notarized affidavit to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence swearing that Lee Harvey Oswald was a pawn in a high-level right-wing conspiracy to murder President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

Independent investigators — for the Boston-based Assassination Information Bureau and the Citizens Committee of Inquiry in Washington, D.C. — have seen the sworn statement of former CIA operative Richard Case Nagell alleging that FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had advance warning of a plot on the life of President Kennedy.

Nagell's affidavit was taken in Southern California on November 11, 1975, one day short of the 12th anniversary of President Kennedy's murder in Dallas, and the same date as the release by the Senate Select Committee of their report on CIA involvement in

— "I am willing to undergo a polygraph examination relative to any and all statements made herein."

The Church Committee's possession of this document is revealed at a time when informed Washington sources are predicting a renewed barrage of charges implicating Communist Cuban Premier Fidel Castro in the murder of the President in Dallas.

But the conspiracy of which Nagell claims to have had prior knowledge was right-wing in nature. The former agent states that "Some right-wingers were using (Oswald) by feeding his ego." In September, 1963, Oswald

investigations that covered several Latin American nations. Nagell is positive, though, of the importance of inquiries he conducted on "dissident," right-wing Cuban-exiles, who had apparently moved out of control of their CIA handlers. Through his investigations, Nagell became reacquainted with Lee Harvey Oswald. Nagell discovered that Oswald was being manipulated and set-up by two rightist Cubans. "They made him think he was a big man, important," Nagell is quoted as saying.

In a 1967 letter to Senator Richard Russell, Nagell outlined what he had learned while assigned to keep an eye on Oswald. Independent investigators have seen the letter which was received and acknowledged by the late Senator Russell, a Warren Commission member who later vigorously rejected that body's lone-assassination conclusion. The letter to Senator Russell reads:

Dear Senator Russell:

Mr. Oswald and his activities came under my scrutiny during 1962 and 1963. My inquiries, coupled with data furnished me by reliable sources, ascertained the following:

Mr. Oswald had no significant connection with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. He had no significant contact or relationship with so-called pro-Castro elements, though he was led to believe he had such. This conspiracy was neither Communist inspired nor was it instigated by any foreign government.

In the summer of 1963 I received instructions to initiate certain action against Mr. Oswald, who was the indispensable tool in the conspiracy, and thereafter depart the United States, legally. Although I did neither, I did dispatch a letter via registered mail to the FBI Director.

I made every reasonable effort under the existing circumstances to testify before the Warren Commission. I even sent letters to the Chief, Secret Service Division, and Mr. J. L. Rankin, then General Counsel for the Commission.

Richard C. Nagell 1-3-67

told Nagell, "We will kill him (JFK) before the month is out." Nagell had met Oswald in Japan in 1958, and says he found him to be intelligent and earnest: "When Oswald said he was going to do something, you knew he meant it."

Nagell has long been considered a mysterious and, perhaps, crucial figure in the murky events surrounding the assassination of JFK. Nagell's intelligence career grew out of his Korean War exploits. He reached the rank of captain at the youthful age of 22, and was decorated with a Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts. Nagell began his career as an Army Intelligence Officer, but was



The assassination of Lee Harvey Oswald by Jack Ruby eliminated any possibility of resolving the exact nature of Oswald's participation in the Assassination of JFK.

foreign assassination plots. A copy of the veteran agent's statement, in the possession of independent intelligence researchers, reveals that Nagell has given the following information to Senator Church's Committee:

— "In September, 1963, I dispatched a letter via registered mail addressed to Mr. John E. Hoover . . .

— "I advised Mr. Hoover of a conspiracy (although I did not use the word 'conspiracy') involving Lee Harvey Oswald to murder the Chief Executive . . . I indicated that the attempt would take place during the latter part of September (1963)."

In Sept. 1963, Oswald told Nagell, "We will kill him (JFK) before the month is out."

— "I furnished a complete and accurate physical description of Mr. Oswald, listing his true name, two of his aliases, his residence address and other pertinent facts about him.

— "I disclosed sufficient data about the conspiracy (citing an overt act which constituted a violation of federal law) to warrant an immediate investigation if not the arrest of Mr. Oswald . . .

recruited in 1955 by the CIA to spy on U.S. Army intelligence for the Agency. By 1959, Nagell had become a paid CIA-contact in the burgeoning field of "Domestic Intelligence."

From August 1962, through September 1963, Richard Nagell functioned as a full-fledged agent for the CIA, or so he thought. He states that he is no longer sure who was receiving his reports on in-

The mystery man has always maintained that his link to the plot "stemmed from my cognizance of the conspiracy rather than my participation in it." Nagell's attempts to prevent the assassination tend to support his claim of non-participation.

Whatever his reason for seeking sanctuary in jail, Nagell got more than he bargained for. With no record except for heroism-in-battle, the CIA-man expected a

short internment for discharging a firearm on federally-insured property. Instead, he was awarded the maximum, ten-year sentence for entering a bank with intent to rob. In a 42-page, mostly handwritten legal brief, Nagell chronicles the rigors of his political imprisonment.

As for his "intent to rob," Nagell cites the vice-president of the bank who "thought it was a joke." While (Continued on Page 6)

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