

NAACP Counsel Says Police Violence Growing

NAACP General Counsel Thomas Atkins charged last Wednesday that police violence is growing throughout the nation because of racism and a belief by some police officers that they have the authority to execute street justice. The charges were made at a press conference during the NAACP's annual convention in New Orleans.

Though he complained that there are no national statistics to verify the extent of the problem, he said the number of incidents reported to the NAACP's 1,700 branches supported his contention. The reported incidents have

from the Western and Southern states, he said.

According to Atkins, the latest available statistics from the Justice Department on police violence against citizens, estimated that Blacks, who made up 11.5 percent of the population in 1975, accounted for 46 percent of the civilians killed by official police action. He blamed this police violence against civilians on the absence of guidelines on the appropriate use of force within police departments.

"Police across the country in too many cases feel they have the authority to execute

street justice. They make a determination that a person is guilty. They make a determination that a person needs to be punished. Sometimes that punishment results in death," he said.

Meanwhile, at the same news conference, Joseph Madison, director of the NAACP voter registration project, restated the NAACP's opposition to a black presidential candidacy. He called the idea "the biggest hoax that's been pulled on Black folk that I can think of." He stated further that opposition to President Reagan was responsible for the NAACP's registration of more than 850,000 new voters last year.

Hispanics Seen Becoming U.S. Largest Minority

A private population study group reported recently that unless stringent new checks are imposed on immigration, Hispanics will probably surpass Blacks to become the nation's largest minority by the year 2020. The non-profit Population Reference Bureau estimates that Hispanics, with net immigration-legal or not at 1 million a year, could total 47 million, nearly 15 percent of the population, within the next 37 years. Based on current population projections, Black would number just over 44 million at that time, the study said.

The study noted that there are now nine congressmen, one governor and at least three mayors of major cities who are Hispanic.

"Whatever their future numbers, Hispanics already are a growing force in American society," the study said.

It is doubtful, however, that the current immigration rate will continue, because the U.S. Congress is presently debating a bill which would limit immigration to 425,000 persons annually.

The 1980 Census counted 26.5 million Blacks and 14.6 million Hispanics. The predictions for Hispanics to soon outnumber Blacks is based on annual immigration of 1 million, which includes an estimated 500,000 illegal immigrants. With the present decline of the birth rate, immigration now is responsible for nearly half of the country's population growth.

Young worker in serious condition

An 18-year-old Las Vegas man who fell four stories while working on a construction project in Laughlin on Tuesday is listed in serious condition at Valley Hospital. A hospital spokeswoman said Daren Barnes, 2665 S. Bruce St., suffered fractured ribs, a broken right leg and lacerations. The accident occurred Tuesday morning when Barnes fell from scaffolding erected outside the fourth floor of the Riverside Casino, a family member said. Barnes works as a laborer for McCloud's Construction of Las Vegas.

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Vegas man sentenced on robbery charge

A Las Vegas man was sentenced to 16 years in the Nevada State Prison for armed robbery Wednesday. District Judge Jim Brennan sentenced Amador Robles Jr., 505 Wardelle St., who pleaded guilty to one charge of armed robbery,

in exchange for the dismissal of another charge, and of a count of burglary. According to the court record, Robles robbed Winchell's Donut

Shop, 401 N. Eastern Ave. the evening of May 19. The clerk on duty told police officers responding to the alarm he thought he knew what direction the robber had fled. One officer set out after Robles on foot and found him hiding in a flower bed, according to the record. And when the officers confronted him, Robles said, "I needed the money to get back to Houston," according to the record.

POWER AND GAS BILLS CAN BE PAID AT SACDCU

"Moving right along" to increase services to its members and community residents, Sarah Allen Community Development Credit Union became an official agent of the customer services programs for Nevada Power and Southwest Gas Companies in Las Vegas.

Effective August 1, payments for current power and gas bills may be made at the SACDCU office, Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Parties desiring to make use of this convenient payment office must present only current bills. Payments may be made in cash or by check payable to Nevada Power Co. or to

Southwest Gas Co.

By creating this new service for its members and the community, Board President Gene Collins said, "Sarah Allen Community Development Credit Union will continue its efforts to go beyond basic financial services to serve members in more and better ways."

Jimmy Gay In Hospital

James A. (Jimmy) Gay, long-time Las Vegas Mortician at Palm Mortuary and a former resort and casino executive, is hospitalized at the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital after suffering a stroke leaving him partially paralyzed on the left side. He has been in the hospital for more than two weeks.

He told the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice he has been receiving "flowers while he is living" from friends and wellwishers from all over the country including Nevada Governor Richard Bryan.

He also expressed his elation over the success of the recent annual picnic held at the James A. Gay Park for the City-Wide Usher Board.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Nevada Women's Political Caucus will meet on August 9, 1983 at 7:30 PM at the Mardi Gras Inn, 3500 Paradise Road.

This group's primary purpose is to encourage growth and political participation of women at the local, state, and national levels of government. Reservations are not necessary.

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