



PICKET THE TRIB!

STOP! MEDIA DISTORTIONS AND FALSEHOODS LIKE THIS:

San Diego, Saturday, September 15, 1979

* EVENING TRIBUNE

1 DIES IN S. BAY LOW-RIDER FIGHT

THE TRIBUNE'S VERSION:

By DAVE HASEMYER
And FRANK STONE

NATIONAL CITY — A 21-year-old man was fatally stabbed early today in a fight between gang members in two low-rider cars, police said.

The stabbing, which occurred after insults were hurled between occupants of the two cars, was the second in a month involving youths who cruise the streets here in customized cars with lowered axels. The first incident wasn't fatal.

The coroner's office said today that Brad Oral Bailey of 3010 Shelby Drive here died at 2:40 this morning in Paradise Valley Hospital of multiple stab wounds.

Officers said the stabbing occurred in the 3000 block of National City Boulevard,

Investigators said that, after the stabbing, Bailey appeared at the hospital, about a mile from the scene of the incident, but they didn't know whether he made his way there alone, or was driven.

"We just don't know how he got to the hospital," said a detective. "And we don't know who committed the stabbing, because the two cars involved disappeared after the incident."

THE FACTS:

THE STABBING VICTIM, BRAD ORAL BAILEY, WAS NOT A GANG MEMBER. THE STABBING HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH LOWRIDERS ACCORDING TO CHULA VISTA POLICE. THERE WERE NO "CUSTOMIZED CARS WITH LOWERED AXELS" INVOLVED. IN FACT, THERE WERE NO CARS OF ANY KIND INVOLVED. THE STABBING DID NOT HAPPEN IN NATIONAL CITY.

HOW DID BAILEY GET TO THE HOSPITAL? HE WAS TAKEN THERE BY HIS FRIEND, ADRIAN ROBLES. BOTH MEN WERE AT A HOUSE PARTY IN CHULA VISTA WHEN BAILEY WAS STABBED. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 3500 EDGEMERE DRIVE, CHULA VISTA. LATER THAT DAY, ROBLES TURNED HIMSELF IN TO CHULA VISTA POLICE FOR STABBING BAILEY. A TRAGIC INCIDENT, YES. A LOWRIDER MURDER, NO!

WE DEMAND

- 1x A MEETING WITH THE TRIBUNE'S OWNER, HELEN COPLEY
- 2x A PUBLIC APOLOGY TO THE CHICANO COMMUNITY
- 3x A FRONT PAGE RETRACTION OF THE FALSEHOODS

PICKET THE TRIB! STOP THE DISTORTIONS & LIES!

WHEN: 3P.M., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1979

WHERE: 350 CAMINO DE LA REINA, THE UNION-TRIBUNE BLDG., MISSION VALLEY OFF INTERSTATE 8

SPONSOR: 
CCR

COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS (FOR INFO: 474-8195)
1837 HIGHLAND AVE., NATIONAL CITY, CA. 92050



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

Recieved letter addressed to Helen Copley on Sept. 20 1979
from Leticia Jimenez.

Anna Lo Arcibal

STARNEWS

12-16-79

More organized this time

Police back in force on Highland Ave.

By DEBRA TWADDLE

Star-News Staff Writer

A stabbing leads to a shooting leads to a stabbing and as a result, the National City police are back on Highland Ave. in force.

The idea this Friday night was not to make mass arrests like the kind made in the lowrider sweep of September.

ACCORDING TO one of the supervisors of this night's action, Sgt. William Osburn, the last sweep led to mass confusion at the station, when people were brought in faster than they could be handled.

This time, Osburn tells the patrolmen, they will fill out special forms on each arrest so that identities won't be confused.

Beer cans, bottles and any other evidence will be placed in paper bags, sealed, labeled and kept in the arresting officer's car trunk for use in court. There will be no curfew arrests; officers will look for substantial misdemeanors.

"MOST OF them are friendly," Osburn tells his officers, "there's no problem with them."

"There are guns and knives out there, as you know," Osburn tells them. "There has been an increase in threats and activity against police officers, he says.

"If you are making an arrest and a crowd begins to form, put the suspect in the car and move him to a safe location." A transport unit will take

him to the station so officers can stay on the street.

DETECTIVE Chico Gonzalez passes around a picture of a man wanted in the stabbing of another man, apparently the result of gang activity.

The man has distinctive tattoos, and the word is that he will be on the street tonight.

The briefing, reminiscent of a World War II movie, breaks up and the patrolmen head for their cars.

Highland Ave. is crowded, though not as badly as it has been in the past.

"There would be no problem if they could just quit stabbing and shooting and fighting," Osburn says. "Generally (the lowriders) are just a bunch of kids, say 17 to 25, who come

here to find girls."

THERE IS nothing to indicate which ones are just out for a good time and those who are really dangerous, he says.

"Some of the ones who cooperate and joke and are friendly are the ones who have guns and knives."

Two young men and two young women stand on the street while officers question them and search the inside of their car. Everyone is shivering from the cold while the officers pull open beer bottles out of the back.

Both of the young women are minors, as well as one of the young men. They

✓ Please turn to back page, this section

✓ *More organized this time*

NC police are back in force on Highland Ave.

(Continued from Page A-1)

have come from Linda Vista.

"WE JUST came down to cruise around. I just came down to see the cars, just trip, see what's happening, see if there's any parties on the street."

An officer confronts one of the young women, who is 15.

"Do you know it's against the law for you to be in the car with open containers of beer?"

"I do now," she answers.

The young women are sent to a telephone to get someone to pick them up. One of the men is arrested for drunken driving, the other given a citation and released. The lowrider is hitched to a tow truck and hauled away.

"ANYONE WHO is arrested gets

handcuffs. It's a safety measure," Osburn says. The handcuffs are strips of black plastic placed around the crossed wrists, with ridges to prevent them from being pulled loose.

A truck is stopped on Highland for weaving in and out of traffic and having a broken taillight. The two men inside are drinking beer, and the officer asks them to get out.

The truck is searched and the officer discovers a bottle of unmarked pills, red and white.

"What are these?"

"I don't know," one of the men says. "I want to talk to my brother-in-law," apparently an attorney.

SGT. OSBURN says packaged, unmarked pills are considered restricted, dangerous drugs and that possession is a felony. The pills will go through chemical analysis to determine what they are.

There are 20 officers in the field tonight; eight or nine is normal.

Osburn says there were 53 complaints of lowriders last weekend.

"If you get a call of a man with a gun up at Burger King, for example, you can't get there before he's gone," when the streets are full of cruisers, Osburn says. "You just can't get there."

"WHEN THE patrol cars are all on Highland, residential burglaries increase, he says, "but we have to be here because of the violence. When we're not here, then every damn weekend someone gets killed."

An officer pulls 12 bottles of beer and a nearly-empty whiskey bottle from a lowrider.

"Come on, Alfredo, you're not new out here," he says, when Alfredo complains of the arrest.

The patrol cars pull into every open

parking lot on the avenue and the lowriders leave, promptly but calmly. By about midnight, Highland Ave. is nearly deserted.

A MAN with two distinctive tattoos has been picked up. Officers are sure he is the suspect in the stabbing of a week before. The victim was still in critical condition, the last anyone heard.

Sgt. Osburn says the suspect may have been saved from retaliation by the arrest. He was with a man from a rival gang.

Most of the officers head back to the station; the others go downtown, where the bars are nearing closing time.

A doorman in one of the bars is stabbed in the face with a broken bottle; blood is spattered on some of the tables and chairs. He is crying

under the bandages on his face and the ambulance attendants move him as gently as if he were a child.

Nobody stops dancing.

SGT. OSBURN spots a man running on a darkened street and pulls the patrol car up alongside him.

"I'm a full-blooded American Indian," the man says. "This is where the doctor operated on my head. There's no bone there. Do you want to feel it?" Sgt. Osburn declines and since the man seems only frightened — not drunk — sends him on his way.

There are 28 arrests for the night, 22 adults and 6 juveniles. Officers confiscate three knives and a .22-caliber pistol. There are nine felonies altogether.

"We got some good arrests tonight," one officer says.

Uneasy Yearlong Truce Fades Between Lowriders, National City Police

S. D. UNLON
8-25-81

By JESUS RANGEL
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

NATIONAL CITY — A year ago this week the hubbub of flashy lowrider cars cruising up and down Highland Avenue, an activity that had become a regular weekend ritual, came to an end.

An uneasy truce had been reached between many of the drivers and the National City Police Department after four years of tension. Without totally banning the cruisers from the avenue, the police limited access to it.

To the cruisers it not only meant a reduction of the activity on Highland Avenue but also an end to constant hassles with the police. To the police

it meant an end to sporadic violence, stabbings, shootings and vandalism brought about by troublemakers that often had more to do with turf disputes than with low-riding.

This past week, however, the truce seemed to dissolve when a crowd of lowriders meeting at St. Anthony's Hall denounced what they said was a renewed and organized police effort to harass and intimidate cruisers still using Highland Avenue.

Members of the San Diego Lowrider Council, organized two years ago to help ease tensions with police, and a local Chicano rights group plan to demonstrate tonight in front of the City Council Chambers to demand that the council order police to stop ticketing them.

Seeks End To Ticketing Demonstration Tonight

Members of The Committee on Chicano Rights, headed by Herman Baca, say that the matter has grown into a civil rights issue between the police and the entire Chicano community, not just the lowriders, about 90 percent of whom are Chicanos.

The focus of the latest dispute is an increase of 15 percent to 30 percent in the number of tickets for traffic and auto-equipment violations being issued on the street.

Capt. Wayne Fowler said last

week that the increase is because the police are now more aware of state and safety codes that govern auto modifications.

Baca, however, contended that the police are using the modification issue as an excuse to go after Chicanos. He expressed fears that police will next start stopping Chicanos on their way to church, weddings, family outings and parties.

Further aggravating relations is a list police compiled of the names of

about 200 youths who have been stopped at least once on car-modification violations. The list is checked when a cruiser is stopped. A warning is issued for the first violation, a ticket is given on the second. On the third, the offender's car could be impounded.

Fowler said the citations are intended to get the owner to fix his car properly.

Juan Parrino, a community organizer for the committee, however, called the roster a hit list for Chicanos.

"This whole thing has people really scared," he said. "People are seeing it as a real campaign to push Chicanos off of Highland Avenue and out of National City."

He added, "The problem isn't with the lowriders. It's that we're living in a city that's racist. The police have a small-town attitude."

Fowler denied that the increase in the number of tickets is an attempt to harass Chicanos.

"It is because officers are more familiar with the law, and lowriders are driving unsafe cars that could lead to accidents and possibly death," he said. "It became quite apparent that there were problems with many of the cars."

Among the problems were batteries being carried in trunks. "Some have six or seven batteries for operating their hydraulic systems," he said. "Some of them don't know that they could blow up like bombs. There are some very bad electrical connections done by kids in their own back yards."

He added that many suspension systems were modified unsafely, ratios of tires to car weights were incorrect and shock absorbers were eliminated.

Fowler said the police actions are intended to make the streets safer with safer cars. He also said that the actions act as a cure against the proliferation of any more violence along the popular cruising strip.

Since the police cracked down hard on cruisers last year, he said, not one person has been hurt.

"Before, we had one or two people who got killed," he said. "That's got to be a success story."

He added that the curtailment of activity on Highland Avenue has freed the 12 officers on duty Friday and Saturday nights to "protect life and property" — the police's main responsibility.

"Activity calls for police service has been reduced 75 percent," he said. "That means we can put 75 percent more officers where they are needed."

Despite the bad feelings between the two sides, Fowler said police won't continue the overtures they made last year to the lowriders. "If they want to meet to understand the new procedures, we'll explain them," he said. "If again they want to open up completely Highland Avenue, that won't occur."

The cutoff of communication has rankled some lowriders who see the latest dispute being exploited by the Committee on Chicano Rights for the political benefit of Baca and other members.

Two lowriders, who wanted to identify themselves only as Bobby and Jim for fear of being tagged "spoilors," said that during the recent meeting at St. Anthony's Hall, about 50 lowriders walked out after speeches by Baca and other commu-

Bobby said that lowriders had sought help from the organization in the past to spread the word that no drinking and class violence should take place on Highland Avenue. "They weren't willing to support us," he said. "But now they want to get into this because it's a big issue."

Jim complained that the first hour of the St. Anthony's meeting was all right because it dealt with the issue of the lowriders' current problems. "But after that it turned around and got political," he said. "Before the clubs could get together and talk with the cops, but it looks like that's out now."

Despite misgivings about the organization's role, however, both said they plan to picket the City Council Tuesday.

Parrino, however, said the Committee on Chicano Rights has been involved in the issue from the very beginning, even helping organize the car club council in 1979.

He said that the police's attempt to build a rapport with the lowriders was a farce because "there were plenty of rules for lowriders but none for police."

When the council was being organized, he said, the police made moves to individual car clubs in an attempt to prevent its formation. "It was a big blunder on their part," Parrino said. "Several clubs came to us and said that they were really shafted. They said the cops were being two-faced."

Parrino said that the Committee on Chicano Rights plans to try to get local and national Chicano community sup

LA PRENSA
1950 Fifth Ave

SAN DIEGO
San Diego, Ca. 92101
Sept. 21, 1979

CHICANO HARRASEMENT INCREASES IN NATIONAL CITY !

National City, CA....The recent sweeps of Highland Ave. by National City Police, with the tacit approval of the National City Council, have brought fear and apprehension to this community's Mexican American population. Allegedly instigated by the National City Council, the police sweeps have been directed principally at "Chicanos".

Chief of Police Terry Hart, stated that "the main trust of the operations was to curb an

increasing wave of violence occurring in the area which was being used by so called Low-Riders".

Low-Riders as the term is used by Chicano Youths identifies members of legitimate car clubs, who spend their efforts and time decorating, and fixing cars in distinctive ways. As a general rule, the members of these clubs take great pride in their automobiles, which in most cases represent an investment of large sums of money

(\$5000-\$10,000). The car clubs have within their membership individuals ranging in age from 16 to 25, some single and some married. Aside from having their cars as the focus of their organizations the local car clubs hold fund raisers, youth concerts, outings and other social activities.

On Friday Sept. 7th the National City Police department conducted their infamous sweep. Between 120-150 individuals were arrested

for what was termed by many to be chicken arrests, and by others as pure harassment and intimidation. If you happen to be Chicano, you were busted...whether you owned a car or not. Low-Rider had become an euphemism for Chicano. In another era and time, the same type activity had been directed against the Mexican American communities of Los Angeles. At that time however, the popular buzz word was "Pachacho" (read

City Council & Police charged with illegal acts.

Chicanos). The similarities didn't end there. As then, the local media played a substantial role in creating the hysteria and fear directed towards the Mexican American community.

Once again politicians with the support of their local police selected a suitable scapegoat that could be utilized to cover up for their inability to effectively govern their city.

As a result of the community meeting, Herman Baca, the chairman of the CCR, issued a press statement calling for an immediate stop to the police sweeps.

"These sweeps are clearly unconstitutional and a clear selective application of the law", he stated. Baca then went on to announce that they would seek a restraining order against the National City Police Department and the City Council, the Copley press once again bannered the meeting with headline such as "Low-Rider arrests spur Threat of Legal Action" and "Chicanos Rap Low Rider Arrests."

"It is apparent that the nature and character of the reporting changed, in the Copley Press," charged, Mr. Baca. "With our entry into the issue on the side of our people, the Copley Press took on a decisive racist/bigotted approach to its stories."

On Sept. 15th the day after the community meeting, the Tribune carried a banner story titled: "1 Dies in S. Bay Low-Rider Fight" and "Fight Kills S. Bay Low-Rider"

The stories that followed were clearly aimed at destroying the credibility of the Committee on Chicano Rights and to paint the Low-Riders (read Chicanos) as murdering individuals who must be contained at all costs. Written by Dave Hasemyer and Frank Stone,

the stories were in the main total fabrications with out foundation. But they served the purpose of encouraging the police and other vigilante groups to take arms against Chicanos "who are bent on destroying our society." The Union, the following day discredited the Hasemyer-Stone story.

"The Tribune practiced a type of journalism which closely resembles that which created the hysteria, race hatred, and fear during the early 40's", stated Mr. Baca. "The racist manner in which the Copley press has inflamed this issue has offended and disturbed the entire Mexican American Community. Their coverage of this event has done a great disservice to our people."

Because of the seriousness of their acts, the Committee on Chicano Rights has formally sent a letter to Mrs. Helen Copley asking for a retraction, a formal apology, and for a meeting with her and the Committee to discuss the actions of the Copley Press and the way in which it slants the news about the Chicano Community.

Freedom of the Press has its responsibilities and it is our duty to remind Mrs. Copley of these responsibilities", concluded Herman Baca.

As of press time, Mrs. Copley had not responded to the Committee's letter. However La Prensa has learned that the San Diego Juvenile Commission has expressed grave concern over the activities of the National City Police and City Council. At their meeting, this week, the Commission voted to launch an investigation of the Low Rider issue. The Committee has subpoena powers.

PETITION TO THE NATIONAL CITY COUNCIL

We, the undersigned, hereby demand that the National City Council stop the NCPD from illegally harrassing Chicano youth and members of the Chicano Community on Highland Avenue and in National City.

To protect our youth and Community we demand the following immediately be stopped:

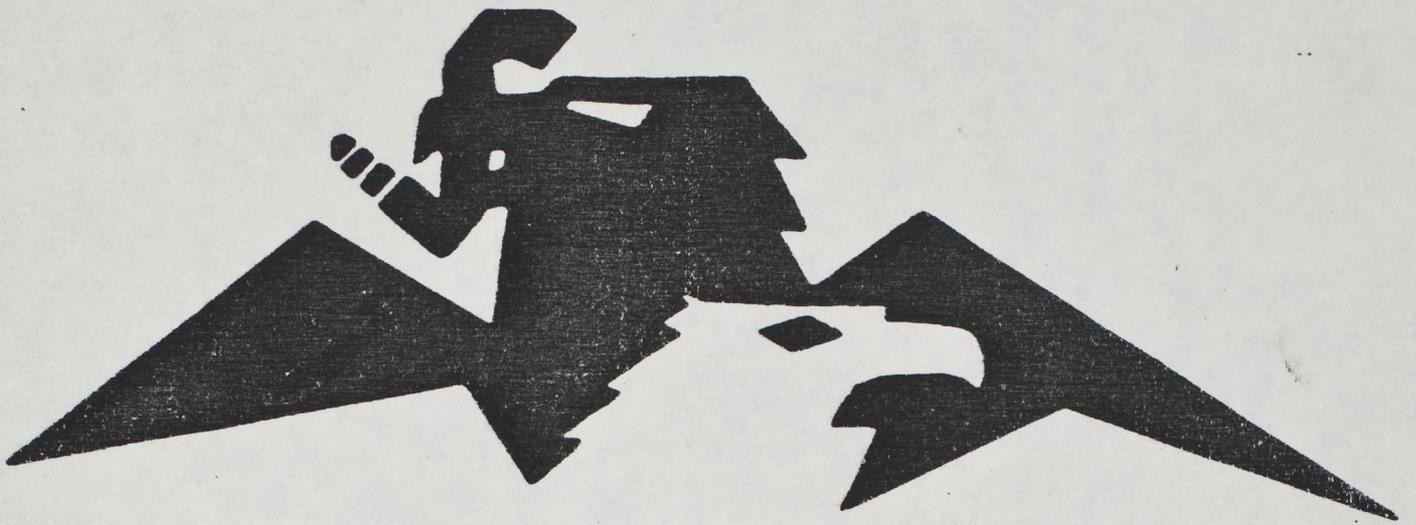
1. The unequal application of the law involving our right to travel and to be free from illegal search and seizure;
2. Racist harrassment;
3. Unwarranted ticketing;
4. Unfair impounding of vehicles.

Raza are continually being harrassed on Highland Avenue and in National City for nothing more than driving their cars or being Chicano in public. These continual abuses are part of a growing racism that could end up in violence. Too many times we've seen uncontrolled police actions result in the deaths of innocent Chicanos.

The San Diego Lowrider Carclub Council and it's sponsor, the Committee on Chicano Rights, asks you to show your concern for the welfare of the Chicano Community and please sign our petition.

Name	Address	Phone Number
I.		
2.		
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I0.		
II.		
I2.		
I3.		
I4.		
I5.		

Please return this petition to the Committee on Chicano Rights (CCR) at 1837 Highland Ave., National City, CA 92050... our phone # is 477-3800



CCCR

Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc.

**LOWRIDER
SWEEPS** HARRASSMENT
DIRECTED TOWARDS CHICANO YOUTH!

JANUARY 1980

In recent months there has been an increase of police harrassment/abuse directed towards Chicano youths. From Phoenix, Arizona to Los Angeles, California, there have been alarming reports of "mass arrests" of Chicano youths riding in customized cars-"lowriders".

On the evening of Sept. 7,1979, the National City Police (with full support of the City Council) implemented its' own program of mass arrests- "lowrider sweeps". Over 160 young persons (majority of them Chicanos) were arrested (and had their cars impounded) for minor violations such as vehicle to low, tail-light out, tires to small, signal lights out of order, ect. Many of the young people reported that the police were just "stopping cars at random" and that many of those pulled-over were not even lowriders "just cars occupied by Chicanos! There were also reports of "police challenging Chicanos to a fight" and told "to get out of town".

The CCR filed formal complaints against the National City Police Dept.,but the city council "refused" to accept the complaints. The CCR (on behalf of some of those arrested) is in the process filing lawsuits against National City for violation of constitutional rights and unequal treatment under the law.

For more information regarding this issue, contact Juan Parino or Carlos Vasquez at (714) 474-8195.

2 Soviet spy ships lurk off coast here

'BOULEVARD NIGHTS' SWEEP ARRESTS 120

By FRANK SAIDANA

NATIONAL CITY — A 15-member special police task force swept Highland Avenue last night, arresting 120 adults and juveniles in a crackdown on a popular pastime in this city — reading "Boulevard Nights" style.

About 80 juveniles and 40 adults were among those arrested between 8 p.m. and 3 a.m. for violations ranging from assault to curfew infractions. The sweep, authorized by the City Council last month, was centered on Highland Avenue, between 2nd and 24th streets, an area police said is listed as an "in spot" in "Low Rider" magazine.

Those arrested, including 12 females, were predominantly Chicanos, rounded up by a task force of nine patrolmen backed by four detectives. Many of the youths own plates of "chick" plates.

Two of the arrests were for carrying concealed weapons — a switchblade knife and a billy club, both felonies.

But the majority of arrests were for infractions of minors drinking beer in public, violation of 11 p.m. curfew laws for 14-year-olds and 10 p.m. curfew laws for 12-year-olds.



The San Diego Union

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 12, 1979

National City Police Vow To Continue Cruising Arrests

By RICARDO CHAVIRA

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

NATIONAL CITY — Amid Mexican Americans' complaints of harassment, National City police yesterday said they will continue their campaign of mass arrests on Highland Avenue until troubles they say are created by weekend cruising cease.

Last weekend police arrested about 170 persons — mainly on liquor and curfew infractions — along

ing whoever did not have identification.

Another youth, who asked that his named not be used, said he was arrested on a curfew violation. "They could have told me to leave, and I would have. I thought it was pretty cold of them to bust me. They're just trying to make us stop coming here," he said.

"We've never told anyone we don't want them to be here. I can't tell someone not to drive through our

(Continued on B-5, Col. 1)

Highland. Police said that was roughly 10 times the number of persons normally arrested on a weekend here.

Assistant police chief Cliff Reed said the formation of a 13-member task force became necessary in recent weeks following increasing incidences of drinking in public, blocking of driveways, littering, fighting and even homicides, the most recent three weeks ago. In that incident, 25-year-old Andrew Limon was stabbed to death after he grabbed a baseball

bat away from another man.

Reed said he and other city officials began monitoring weekend cruising by mostly Chicano "lowriders" following complaints from merchants that the young people blocked public access to their shops and littered parking lots with cans and bottles.

"I would see people driving 10 miles per hour for 10 blocks, just causing traffic jams," said Reed. "You'd have groups of 10 or 15 guys drinking beer on the sidewalks. It

finally reached the point where we had to do something."

Police, admitted Reed, decided the best way to cope with the problem was to enforce ordinances much more vigorously than usual. The sweep went smoothly, with few complaints, said Reed.

However, Liz Guillen, a National City resident, had another story.

"I was driving down Highland on Friday night with a few friends. My car overheated, so I had to stop," she said. Three police units pulled up

behind her. "It seemed like we had held up a bank or something," Guillen said.

"One cop was really trying to get us to do something so that he could bust us. He kept insulting us. When he left," she said, "I told him, 'I'll see you later. He told me, 'Not in National City you won't.'"

A regular on Highland, Carmen Osuna, claimed that police "charged" the Jack-in-the-Box parking lot on the popular street, arrest-

(Continued from B-1)
town. But we can make them obey the law," said Reed.

Guillen said that she feels the arrests are attacks on a chicano cultural expression — lowriding. "The way we look, the way we dress, the way we talk and the cars we drive are the reasons we're stopped. They're trying to take those things away from us," she said. "Next thing you know, they'll say that we can't sit on our front porches."

Reed Replies: "It has nothing to do with race; it has to do with public safety. The kids getting hurt are Mexican Americans. We're

there to protect everybody."

He said Highland would be blocked off from weekend traffic, as was done recently on East Los Angeles' Whittier Boulevard, only as a last resort.

Both Guillen and Osuna promise to return to Highland, cops or not. "That's

our place. We're young and that's where we go to have a good time," said Osuna.

"Yeah, there have been drinking and fights," said Guillen. "But those same things happen with white people at the beaches and at the rock concerts. Why is it only a problem when it involves us?"

HIGHLAND AVENUE PROBLEM

Police Vow To Curb Cruising

The San Diego Union

'Low-Rider' Arrests Spur Threat Of Legal Action

By MICHAEL D. LOPEZ

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

Dozens of local Chicano youths and "low-riders" last night said they will take legal steps against what they say are unconstitutional mass arrests by National City police.

Angered by the 170 arrests made last weekend along Highland Avenue, most for curfew violations or liquor charges, many youths were

accompanied by their parents to the Barrio Logan meeting called by the Committee on Chicano Rights.

"The National City City Council said they were declaring war on low-riders to put an end to gang problems, but the police who are enforcing their will have picked on the wrong targets," said CCR Chairman Herman Baca. "We are in full support of their ideas of stamping out violent crime in the area, but we demand that they stop this lawlessness immediately."

Baca said lawyers for the committee will petition Superior Court for a temporary restraining order against both the National City Police Department and the City Council.

He said several National City business owners will appear at a press conference this morning to voice support for the low-riders and call for an end to the police sweeps.

Many at last night's meeting said they would individually file civil suits against the police.

Assistant Police Chief Cliff Reed said earlier this week that the 13-man task force who conducted last weekend's sweep was formed in response to increasing incidents of blocked driveways, littering, drinking in public, fighting and even homicides.

(Continued on B-3, Col. 6)

Chicanos Rap Lowrider Arrests

Arrests Spur Talk Of Action

(Continued from B-1)

"We cruise because that's our thing, but . . . we don't fight," said Felix Campos, 22, of National City.

Minors who attended the meeting requested that their names not be used, but several said they were stopped only minutes after the 10 p.m. curfew, and were held at police headquarters until after 6 a.m.

"I was arrested at 10:15," one said. "The cops were abusive, they handcuffed me without reading my rights and they didn't even bother to call my folks until after 3:30 in the morning."

Geraldo Guerrero, 20, said he was sitting in his car, talking with friends in a parking lot, when police officers ordered him out of the car, cursed him and ordered him out of National City.

"I told him I was a citizen and I wasn't breaking any law and I asked him to show a little more respect to me," Guerrero said. "So they handcuffed me and then held me at the station for three hours. They let me go without any charges, but I think that's a false arrest."



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL CITY CA.

SEPT 14, 1979

The Committee on Chicano Rights (CCR) announced today that it will be seeking a temporary restraining order to stop the city of National City and its Police Dept. from carrying out any further "sweeps" against Low-riders. The CCR further stated that a class-action lawsuit is being prepared on behalf of five National City families who allege that their children were illegally stopped, detained or arrested by a special National City Police Department task force which carried out mass arrests during the sweeps on Sept. 9, 1979.

"You cannot break the law to enforce the law," stated CCR chairperson Herman Baca. He added that the city of National City is not above the law or the Constitution of the United States. This will be the basis for seeking the restraining order.

According to the CCR the "sweeps" violate guaranteed constitutional rights, specifically the first Amendment (right to assemble), the fourth Amendment (right to travel and be free from illegal search and seizure) and the 14th Amendment (equal protection under the law).

The lawsuit is being prepared by attorney Jan Ronis and will be filed early next week. The temporary restraining order is being requested on the basis that the mass arrest sweeps represent selective law enforcement and a "dual standard" in applying the law.

As a civil and constitutional rights organization the CCR condemns the "sweep arrest" as a Gestapo tactic reminiscent of the treatment

1837 Highland Avenue, National City, CA 92050 (714) 474-8195



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

PRESS RELEASE

Sept 14, 1979

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of the Jewish people in Nazi Germany. The CCR accuses the National City City Council of acting irresponsibly without any regard to the Constitution and criticizes the "rookie" Chief of Police, Terry Hart, of succumbing to the City Council's political pressure instead of following the law.

We call on the City of National City and its Police Dept to respect the Constitution of the United States and stop subjecting the "innocent majority" of the Chicano Community to a wave of brutality and harrassment.

Low Rider Times™

EDITOR: Robert Rodriguez

CCR COMMUNITY STAND-UP SAN DIEGO

By Carol Amezcua

"1 Dies in South Bay Lowrider Fight, End to Boulevard Nights, Cruisin" — these and many other headlines like these have recently been seen in the San Diego newspapers.

Friday night, Sept. 9, as on any other weekend night, lowriders were out cruising. Who's to say whether it was from the L.A. closing or not. The National City Police had a "sweep", arresting anyone they could for anything they could think of on Highland Avenue in National City. After that night it seemed to have clicked with the media, because on TV or in newspapers there was always something on the "Lowrider Violence," always making it sound like the same thing. The Chicano community — and by community I mean young and old alike — were all upset by this weekend "sweep". Everyone's walking around saying they can't do that. It's harassment, illegal, something. But that's it. You, or we the Chicanos, didn't like it, but what can you do about it? What steps can be taken that will help the matter rather than make it worse?

That's when The Committee on Chicano Rights steps in. Formed from a coalition of other organizations 10 years ago, they're here to seek action on Chicano rights. In speaking with Herman

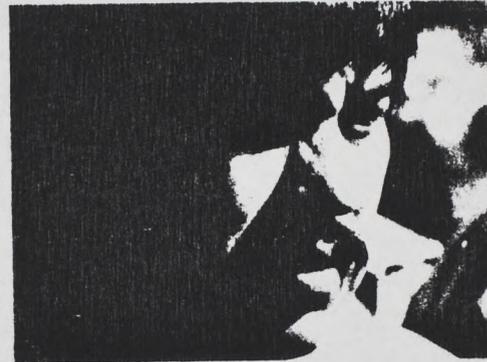
Baca, the committee chairman, I was told by him, "When the law breaks the law to enforce it, you can't just sit there and let it happen. You have to stand up and say NO. It's not right."

For about a year now different members of the CCR have been working with the lowriders here in San Diego to try to help them understand there is something you can do about the wrong, but it must be taken in an organized manner. That's the key word — "organization."

As for the sweeps and bad or false headlines, the CCR pursued legal action. A restraining order was requested on the basis that the mass arrest sweeps represented selective law enforcement. This order was to prohibit any further action, claiming that the City is violating the Constitution: The First Amendment (right to assemble), the Fourth Amendment (right to travel and be free from illegal search and seizure) and the 14th Amendment (equal protection under the law).

Next was a class action lawsuit for illegally stopping or detaining Chicanos on the street by a special task force, causing the City to have to pay for damages.

Political action shouldn't be last. A press conference with the media was held. It's important to explain to society as a whole that Chicano does not



Herman Baca



Committee on Chicano Rights.

mean violence. Harassment or brutality by any law enforcement will not be tolerated.

Actions go on. Sept. 25, 1979 at 3:00 PM, loud shouting and a lot of marching, You got it — a picket in front of the San Diego Union-Tribune Building. Demands were: a meeting with the Tribune's owner, a public apology to the Chicano community, and a front page retraction of the falsehoods. Heading the group was Herman Baca, protesting a Tribune story that had many falsehoods. The turnout was good, reflecting a great response from the community.

Two days prior to that, Lowriders took action among themselves. The motto was "to promote unity between all San Diego Car Clubs and Varrrios." Security was divided up between at-

tending clubs, so that the day stayed very together. Live music and disco was also provided. M.C. that day was George Rodriguez from Korner Kar Club, and Jessie C. of CCR. One of the factors expressed was, there's two ways of getting through to society, either by money or with people. We don't have the money, but we have the people (supporting people).

In asking Herman Baca what he thought the result of these actions would attain, he replied: "Victory! We understood the issue, no need for it, so we stood up and said NO!"

NOTE: This story is written from interviews with CCR members, and from printed data. Special thanks to Herman Baca. ■

SAN DIEGO PROTEST

By Andrew J. Quiñones

On Saturday, September 22, 1979, representative Car Clubs from the San Diego area formally protested unfavorable actions of the National City Police Department who have been harassing low riders cruising the mile and a half length of Highland Avenue.

Various local Car Clubs staged a formal protest in the form of a car caravan from Otto Square Shopping Center, located on National Avenue, to Chicano Park, approximately two or three miles away. The clubs that participated were Life, Classics, New Wave, Clique, City, Brown Image, Korner, and Style.

"Cruising is here, and definitely in the San Diego area," said spokesman for the day's event Ernie Marroquin, also Vice President of "Life" Car Club.

We asked Ernie why he was staging the protest.

"Because I wanted to see the police hassles stopped here in National city, and everywhere in San Diego."

What kind of hassles have you had?

"A couple of weeks ago the National City Police Department arranged a special task force that conducted arrest sweeps and arrested practically everyone in a low rider."

Do you think that today's protest will stop these sweeps from happening again?

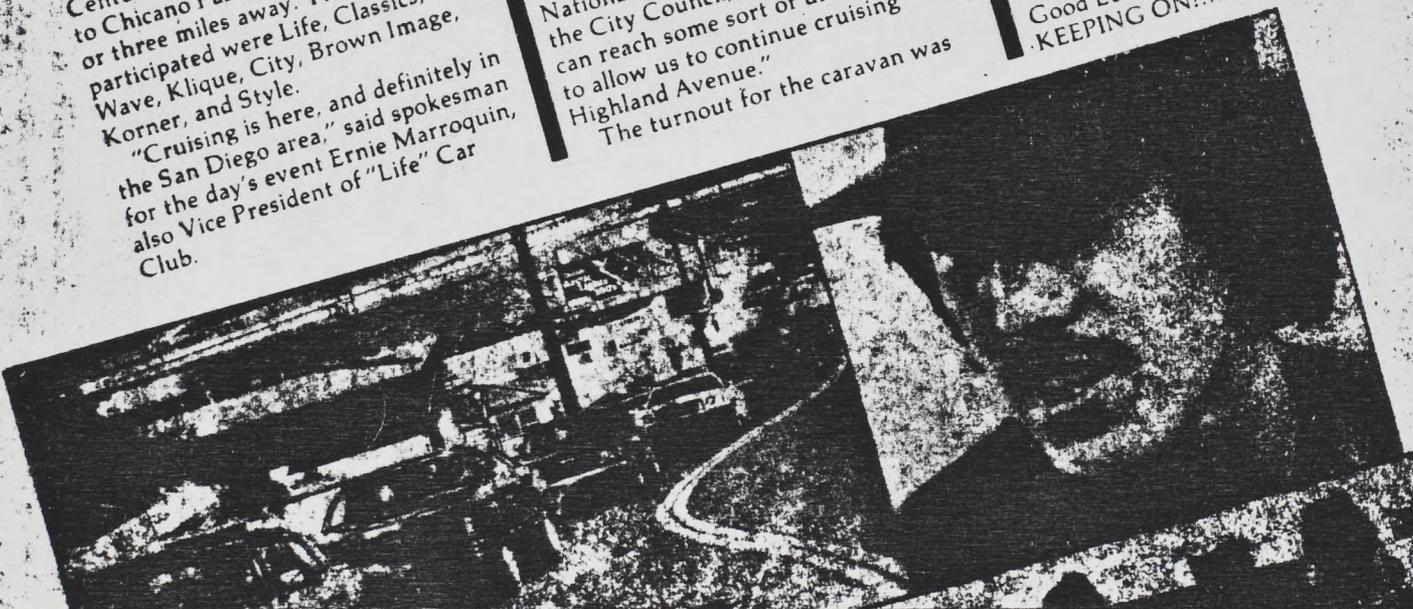
"Well, we want it to be publicly known that we are together, and that we are fighting back. We are going to get all the officers from the different Car Clubs together to meet with the National City Police Department, and the City Council, in hopes that we can reach some sort of understanding to allow us to continue cruising Highland Avenue."

The turnout for the caravan was

30 cars, and the event ran smoothly without any problems. However, whether or not the Car Clubs will continue to pursue this issue, and whether or not the members will be able to continue cruising without harassment, still remains to be seen. The intent of organization is positive, and the San Diego Car Clubs have begun to organize, but they are going to need more support.

Ernie says the Committee on Chicano Rights announced that it would go to court in an attempt to stop police from conducting further mass arrests of low riders. Hopefully these concerted efforts will help alleviate the friction between cruisers and police officers.

We see that their efforts need to be maintained, if they are to achieve any type of change. The protest was a good beginning and we hope their fight will result in a positive end. We know you have a long road ahead, so Good Luck San Diego, and KEEP ON KEEPING ON!!!!



Q-VO

VOL. 1 No. 7

NOVEMBER 1979 \$1.50

WORLD'S GREATEST LOWRIDER HAPPENING

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS

STOP! MEDIA DISTORTIONS AND FALSEHOODS LIKE THIS:

San Diego, Saturday, September 15, 1979

* **EVENING TRIBUNE**

1 DIES IN S. BAY LOW-RIDER FIGHT

THE TRIBUNE'S VERSION:

By **DAVE HASEMYER**

And **FRANK STONE**

NATIONAL CITY — A 21-year-old man was fatally stabbed early today in a fight between gang members in two low-rider cars, police said.

The stabbing, which occurred after insults were hurled between occupants of the two cars, was the second in a month involving youths who cruise the streets here in customized cars with lowered axels. The first incident wasn't fatal.

The coroner's office said today that Brad Oral Bailey of 3010 Shelby Drive here died at 2:40 this morning in Paradise Valley Hospital of multiple stab wounds.

Officers said the stabbing occurred in the 3000 block of National City Boulevard,

Investigators said that, after the stabbing, Bailey appeared at the hospital, about a mile from the scene of the incident, but they didn't know whether he made his way there alone, or was driven.

"We just don't know how he got to the hospital," said a detective. "And we don't know who committed the stabbing, because the two cars involved disappeared after the incident."

THE FACTS:

THE STABBING VICTIM, BRAD ORAL BAILEY, WAS NOT A GANG MEMBER. THE STABBING HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH LOWRIDERS ACCORDING TO CHULA VISTA POLICE. THERE WERE NO "CUSTOMIZED CARS WITH LOWERED AXELS" INVOLVED. IN FACT, THERE WERE NO CARS OF ANY KIND INVOLVED. THE STABBING DID NOT HAPPEN IN NATIONAL CITY.

HOW DID BAILEY GET TO THE HOSPITAL? HE WAS TAKEN THERE BY HIS FRIEND, ADRIAN ROBLES. BOTH MEN WERE AT A HOUSE PARTY IN CHULA VISTA WHEN BAILEY WAS STABBED. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 3500 EDMERE DRIVE, CHULA VISTA. LATER THAT DAY, ROBLES TURNED HIMSELF IN TO CHULA VISTA POLICE FOR STABBING BAILEY. A TRAGIC INCIDENT, YES. A LOWRIDER MURDER, NO!

WE DEMAND

- 1x A MEETING WITH THE TRIBUNE'S OWNER, HELEN COPLEY
- 2x A PUBLIC APOLOGY TO THE CHICANO COMMUNITY
- 3x A FRONT PAGE RETRACTION OF THE FALSEHOODS



PICKET THE TRIB!

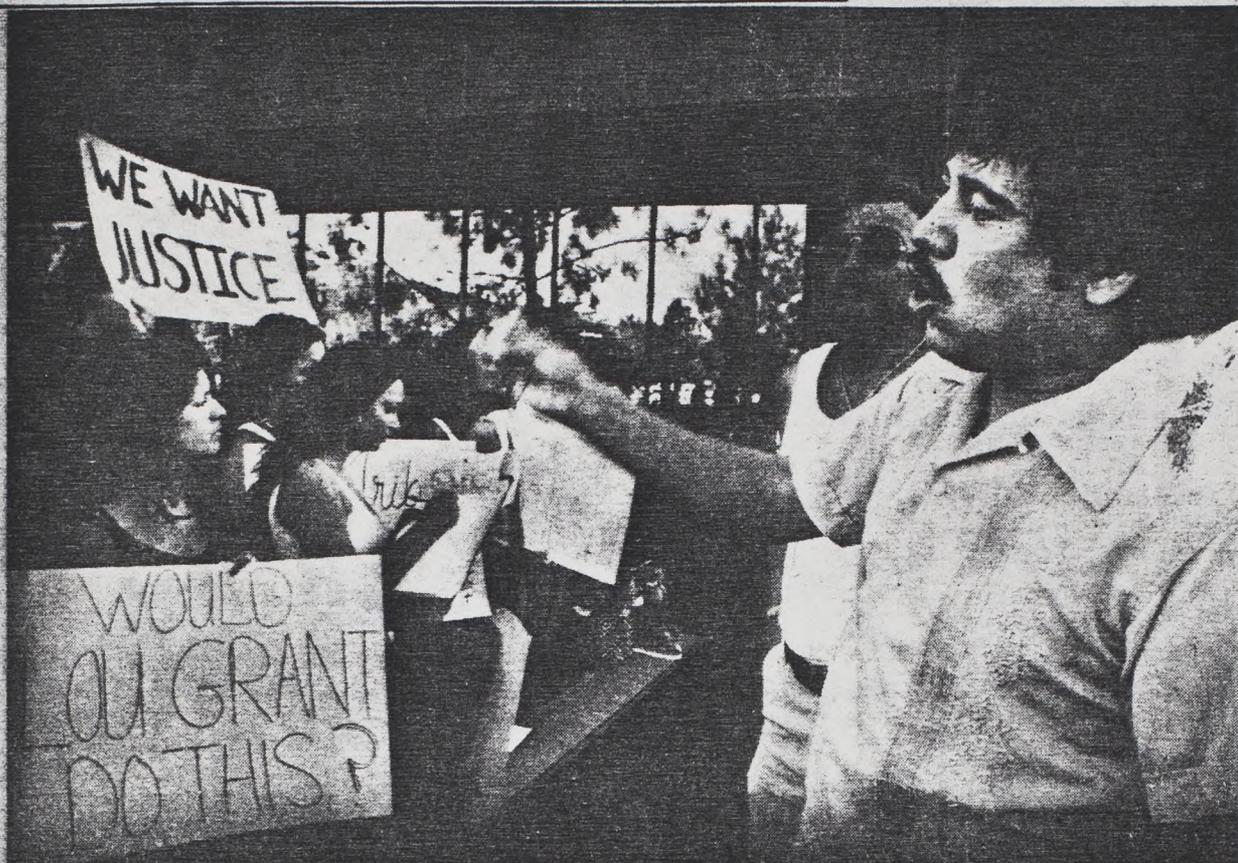
PICKET THE TRIB! STOP THE DISTORTIONS & LIES!

WHEN: 3P.M., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1979
WHERE: 350 CAMINO DE LA REINA, THE UNION-TRIBUNE BLDG., MISSION VALLEY 8
SPONSOR: CCR

COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS (FOR INFO: 474-8195)
1837 HIGHLAND AVE., NATIONAL CITY, CA. 92050



Committee on Chicano Rights



VOCAL PROTEST — Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights, leads

picketing at The Tribune yesterday to protest a news story. — Don Bartletti photo

Chicanos picket paper over story

By **RONALD W. POWELL**
TRIBUNE Staff Writer

Amid chants of "Stop media lies," a group of about 100 Chicano protesters picketed The Tribune yesterday over a recent news story about a stabbing death that authorities originally attributed to "low riders."

Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights Inc., said yesterday's demonstration was sparked by resentment in the Chicano community over what he called "highly irresponsible" reporting of the Sept. 15 stabbing.

"There was little regard for truth in the story, and the people of the Chicano

community are upset," Baca said as placard-carrying protesters circled the sidewalk in front of The Tribune offices at 350 Camino de la Reina.

"Over the weekend we got a large number of calls about the sensationalism and hype around people called low riders," Baca said. "Low rider is the latest word for the Chicano community," following "zoot suiters" and "pachuco" as stereotypical catch phrases, he said.

Although Baca acknowledged that he has not discussed the matter with the National City police, he said The Tribune engaged in "collusion" with authori-

ties in reporting the stabbing death of Brad O. Bailey, a 21-year-old National City man.

However, Walt Miller, Tribune managing editor, disagreed.

"Like all news media, we rely on the police to supply us with information when we cannot be physically present," Miller said. He added that Tribune reporters had placed a half-dozen calls before writing the story and that "in this instance the National City police were wrong."

Miller said the paper printed a follow-up article in the Sept. 17 editions detailing the facts in the case and acknowledging the previous misinformation.

The Tribune also carried a front-page story yesterday explaining the controversy and sent Baca a letter Sept. 21 that invited him to meet with editors, Miller said.

National City police had told The Tribune that Bailey was fatally stabbed dur-

15 between groups of low riders, youths who cruise National City's Highland Avenue in flashy, customized cars.

The police relied on the account of an alleged witness — whom officers later said was "lying"— and told Tribune reporters the stabbing incident had occurred in the 3000 block of Highland Ave.

However, subsequent information showed that the altercation did not involve low riders and that Bailey, who later died at Paradise Valley Hospital, was stabbed in the 3500 block of Edgemore Drive in Chula Vista.

Chicano Group To Sue In 'Lowrider' Dispute

By JESUS RANGEL
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

NATIONAL CITY — The head of a Chicano group last night announced that a class action suit will be filed in an effort to halt what he called the city and Police Department's "selective law enforcement" against lowriders.

Herman Baca, head of the Commission on Chicano Rights, which is filing the suit, said the city is attempting to use law enforcement solutions for what are basically social problems.

He said the crackdown is based on an attitude on the part of the city that any problem with the Chicano community should be dealt with by the police.

The announcement came after City Councilman Jess Van Deventer said he will introduce a resolution to expand the Police Department's Diversion Services, which are involved in monitoring the lowriders.

The resolution was prompted by a survey that he conducted, showing that 91 percent of the city's voters favor the way in which the Police Department is handling the lowriders on Highland Avenue, he said.

Baca charged that the City Council had directed the police to specifically crack down on lowriders on Highland Avenue, and that this has led to unwarranted arrests of "anyone who looks brown."

The suit will be filed after the disposition this month of a claim for \$64,100 in damages against National City by six persons detained in a September crackdown, Baca said. The plaintiffs, represented by the San Diego Legal Aid Society, allege that their civil rights were violated.

Van Deventer said that most people back the department's efforts, but feel that it does not have enough personnel to do a better job.

"Support is out there for the Police Department, let's help them," he added.

Based on the survey and visits to East Los Angeles and other areas, he will suggest in his resolution that the city also use other methods to solve "the lowrider problem."

Van Deventer said that they "are becoming a serious problem because they stop in the street, drink and urinate in public."

Esperanza Garcia, a member of the County Juvenile Justice Commission, said her group has asked the Board of Supervisors to set up a task force that includes the FBI to investigate police handling of the problem.

The commission recently voted to acknowledge that there is a serious problem between National City and lowriders that impinges on civil rights and selective law enforcement.

It directed the chief county admin-

Chicano Group Plans 'Lowrider' Suit

(Continued from B-1)

istrator to report on the request for the task force, which will also include city, state, and county representatives.

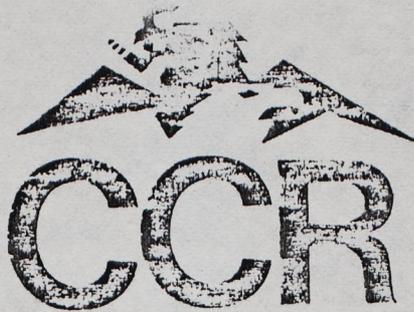
In Van Deventer's survey, questionnaires were mailed to 7,000 of the city's 11,000 registered voters, but the voters were not randomly chosen. Many questionnaires were returned without names, however, and many were from the same household.

"There are certain areas that would not be concerned with the issue, so we took out some names," he said. He would not indicate which areas and names were eliminated.

"It's the only way to get the pulse of the people. I can't take off and talk with everyone."

He said that he personally paid the \$1,000 needed to mail, print and process the questionnaires.

"The survey is a cosmetic, simplistic and dangerous tool to justify the department's blatant violations of civil rights," Baca said. "I took a poll myself that showed the Chicano community was dead set against this type of approach."



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL CITY, CALIF

AUGUST 12, 1981

THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS (CCR) AT THE REQUEST OF THE SAN DIEGO LOWRIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL HAS INVITED THE COMMUNITY TO A PUBLIC HEARING CHARGING THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE WITH HARASSMENT AND ABUSES.

THE CHARGES STEM FROM POLICE ACTIVITIES AIMED AT INDIVIDUALS WHO DRIVE CUSTOMIZED CARS ALONG NATIONAL CITY'S HIGHLAND AVENUE. ACCORDING TO CCR CHAIRMAN, HERMAN BACA, "THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT IS BEING CHARGED WITH THE VIOLATION OF THE 14TH AMENDMENT WHICH GUARANTEES EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW, AND THE 4TH AMENDMENT WHICH GUARANTEES FREEDOM OF TRAVEL AND FREEDOM FROM ILLEGAL SEARCH AND SEIZURES."

"THESE ARE SERIOUS CHARGES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS SINCE THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT DECLARED WAR ON LOWRIDERS...THE PREDOMINANTLY CHICANO DRIVERS OF CUSTOMIZED CARS. THE PURPOSE OF TONIGHT'S MEETING IS TO DEVELOP A PLAN OF ACTION IN THE FACE OF SUCH ACTIVITIES," BACA ADDED. PROPOSED ACTIONS INCLUDE:

- 1.) The circulation of a petition.
- 2.) The establishment of a legal defense fund.
- 3.) An educational program to inform lowriders of their legal rights.
- 4.) The monitoring of police activities on Highland Avenue.
- 5.) Other political actions.

1837 Highland Avenue, National City, CA 92050 (714) 474-8195

ACCORDING TO RIGO REYES, MEMBER OF THE SAN DIEGO LOWRIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL, "SOME LOWRIDERS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO WORK WITH THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION ON HIGHLAND AVENUE FOR THE LAST 2 YEARS ALL TO NO AVAIL."

"THE SITUATION IS NOW VIOLATILE, PEOPLE ARE FED UP AND WE PERCEIVE THAT THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES IS NOTHING LESS THAN A RACIST ATTACK ON THE CHICANO COMMUNITY."

THE CCR CONCLUDED BY STATING, "THAT FORTHCOMING ACTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY MEETING WILL BE ANNOUNCED."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE CCR AT THE FOLLOWING NUMBER-(714) 474-8195, or 1837 Highland Ave, National City, Ca 92050

The San Diego Union

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 13, 1981

Low-Riders Complain Of Harassment

National City Police Accused Of Targetting Chicanos

By CHERYL CLARK

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

NATIONAL CITY — Committee on Chicano Rights Chairman Herman Baca last night told a crowd of about 150 low-riders that National City police are writing cruising tickets in "an organized effort to harass and intimidate" Chicanos.

The low-riders, many of them members of 11 area car clubs, including Custom, New Wave and Ladies Pride, packed St. Anthony's Hall here to complain to the committee, saying police are issuing more tickets and treating low-riders like criminals. They said they have been stopped without cause, threatened with impoundment of their cars, searched without warrant and repeatedly issued tickets simply for sitting in their cars or cruising popular Highland Avenue on weekend evenings.

Ernesto Bravo of the Amigos Car Club said he has received 89 citations since 1977 for various traffic and auto equipment violations, including not having shock absorbers or having a car that rocked too much in the rear.

"Eighty-nine tickets," Baca exclaimed to the crowd. "What do you call this? Good law enforcement? No, this is selective enforcement."

Ladies Pride club member Elsa Sanchez and New Wave member George González agreed that the frequency of citations issued on weekend nights has risen dramatically since summer began. Gonzalez estimated that about 25 persons are ticketed each weekend now, about a 15 percent increase over this time last year.

Baca and the rights group helped to organize the 11 clubs two years ago into a Car Club Council to try to ease tensions between area cruisers and National City police. But the council's efforts have not worked, said council member Rigo Reyes.

Police, residents and merchants have complained frequently that the low-riders often are drunk, urinate in public, litter, stall the normal flow of traffic and fight, frequently causing serious injuries to other Chicanos.

But Baca said such complaints are false. "This is a bigoted, racist city," he charged. "It is an organized effort to harass and intimidate" Chicano drivers of customized cars simply because they are visible.

"And the police don't like you to be visible ... with your flashy metallic mirrors on your cars."

Baca added that if the police win what he called "National City's war on low-riders," police will begin harassing Chicanos as they drive to wedding parties, to church or to the shopping center.

National City Police Chief Terry Hart earlier yesterday denied that law enforcement officials are in any way involved in a campaign to harass chicano youth. But he acknowledged that police have issued between 15 and 30 percent more citations for cruising and auto equipment violations in recent months because officers are more familiar with the law.

"We've stepped up the enforcement program over the last year because many of our officers have taken training classes to become more aware of state codes and regulations for safety equipment on cars," Hart said. He added that frequently, citations against low-riders for unsafe equipment were dismissed in court because the citations failed to use proper state codes to precisely define an unsafe aspect of a car.

Now, he said, National City police are more aware of legal standards set for the ratio of tire size to car weight, steering wheel size, hydraulic systems, shock absorbers and other car parts that low-riders frequently modify or eliminate. He said that the codes are there because incorrect equipment could result in car accidents or human injuries.



LA PRENSA SAN DIEGO

August 14, 1981

Bilingual Newspaper

Lowriders Complain of Police Harrassement

Lowrider -- Familia

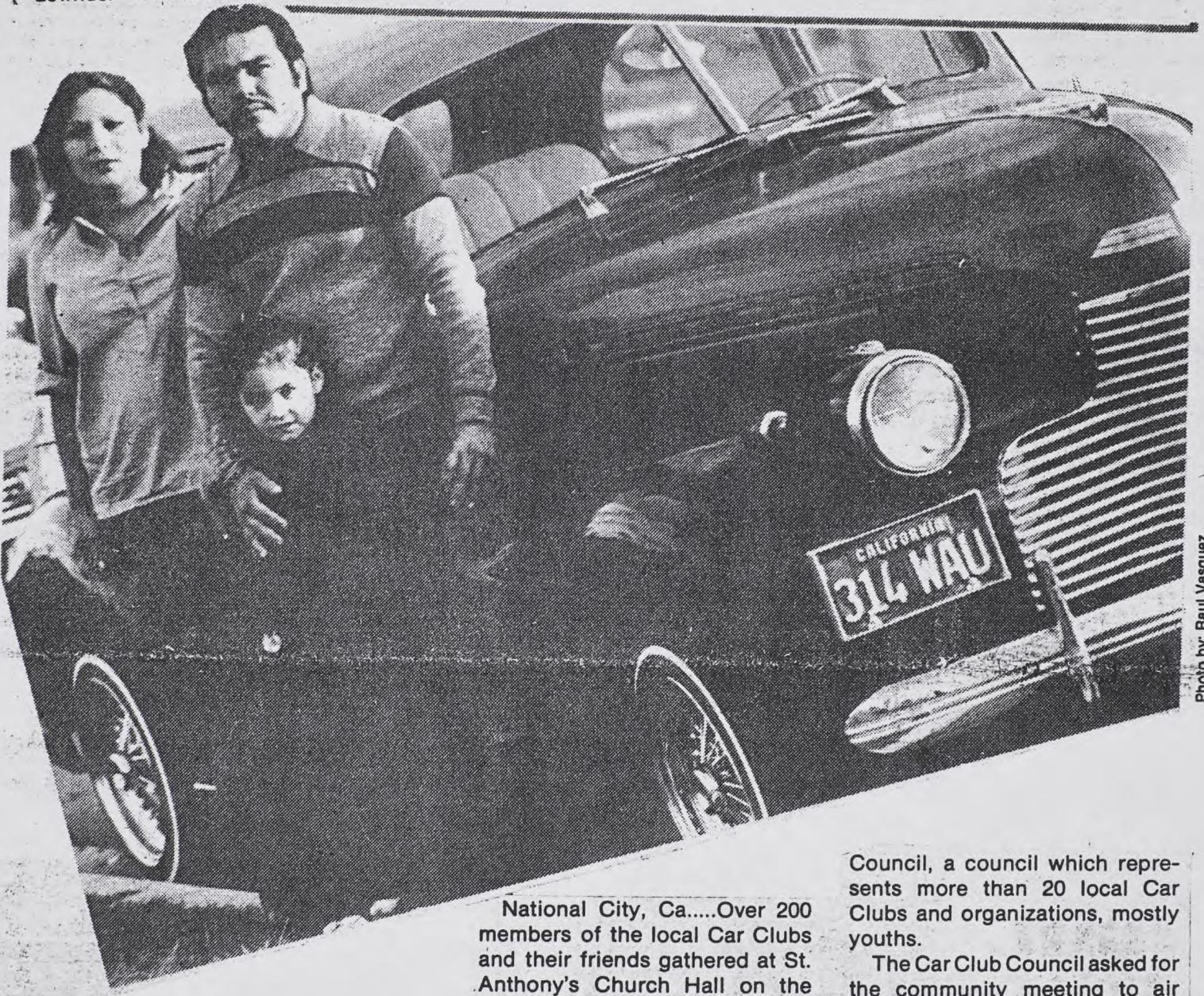


Photo by: Raul Vasquez

National City, Ca.....Over 200 members of the local Car Clubs and their friends gathered at St. Anthony's Church Hall on the West side Wednesday night to complain about National City Police Department harrassement.

The community meeting was sponsored by the Committee on Chicano Rights on request of the San Diego Lowriders Car Clubs

Council, a council which represents more than 20 local Car Clubs and organizations, mostly youths.

The Car Club Council asked for the community meeting to air charges stemming from police activites aimed at individuals who drive customized cars on National City Streets, principally Chicanos.

"I have received over 89 tickets in the last six months mostly on

minor items such as my car being to low, rims to large, wire exposed etc. etc.", stated one young Chicano.

"We were stopped on Highland by the Police", said another member," and the police took our names, and told us that a "list" was being made....every time we were spotted we would be given a ticket, for some reason or another".

"We are being stopped day and night and every day of the week, it matters not what we are doing. Many of us are married with children. We use our cars to buy groceries, go to the doctor, to work....but it makes no difference as soon as they see our customized cars, we are stopped and given a ticket for some irrelevant reason. If they cited every car for the same reason, there would not be a single car in National City that would escape from receiving a ticket", indicated another club member.

"What you see here," said Herman Baca, Chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights, "is a systematic denial of the 14th Amendment of our Constitution which guarantees equal protection under the law, and 14th Amendment which guarantees

con't on page 5

con't from page 1

POLICE HARRASSEMENT

freedom of travel and freedom from illegal search and seizures".

Baca pointed out that "it is only Chicanos that are being stoppedthe main selection mechanism to determined who gets a ticket is whether they are driving a customized car and whether they are Chicanos. This is without question, a gross violation of our civil rights. Once again the National City Police, which complains of being undermanned, under-paid, and overworked has singled out the Mexican American population of this city to harrass, intimidate, and abuse".

"The car clubs have tried to work with the National City Police in the past," indicated Juan Parrino, community organizer.

"The members of the clubs have told me that they have tried to cooperate with the, having meetings, and working to resolve issues which are in conflict with common practices. They even held car shows co-sponsored with the police and held other fund raising events to help the children and poor people. But now they are pulling out. They have been betrayed and the cops have been betrayed and the cops have acted in bad faith. The Lowriders won't work with them any longer.

Rigo Reyes, of the San Diego Low Rider Car Club Council indicated that "Lowriders have attempted to work with the National City Police to resolve the the last 2 years....all to no avail. The situation is now begining to get violent. Some are fed up and we see that the police activities as nothing less than racist motivated attacks on the Chicano community".

"One of the results of this community meeting", said Baca, "is a petition which will be sent to the City Council, demanding that the illegal harrassing of Chicano youth and members of the Chicano community immediately be stopped. The petition which will also be circulated throughout National City will demand that the unequal application of the law be stopped, cession of all illegal search and seizures, racist harrasment and unwarranted ticketing be immediately stopped."

National City Star-News

EDITION

Thursday Edition

PUBLISHED THURSDAYS AND SUNDAYS

More news of National City than any other newspaper in the world

99TH YEAR NO. 67

National City, California, Thursday, August 20, 1981

25¢ Per Copy

Lowriders plan picket over tickets

By JACKIE McGRATH

Star-News Staff Writer

Some members of lowrider car clubs have been avoiding Highland Ave. like the plague this summer, fearing the overhead lights of a police squad car.

But some say they still have been unable to avoid tickets, primarily for equipment violations such as having car batteries in the trunk to run the hydraulics that drop or raise the car frame.

NATIONAL CITY police this summer have been using a new enforcement program. One tool of that program is a list they've compiled of about 200 youths who have been stopped at least once since June on equipment violations.

"It was enough that they blocked off Highland," complained Phyllis Wise, member of the Specials car club, of the increased number of citations police are writing this summer.

Many youths believe the increased tickets and police actions in general are designed to harass lowriders and Chicanos.

Sunday picket signs were being passed out in Chicano Park for a protest of what the Lowrider Car Council and the Committee on Chicano Rights say is police harassment.

FLIERS BEING circulated this week urge lowriders to "defend your constitutional rights" by joining in a "peaceful, nonviolent picket" in front of City Hall next Tuesday night at 6.

That would be just before the scheduled City Council meeting.

The decision to picket City Hall followed a meeting last week at St.

Anthony's hall in Old Town National City, where youths protested police action.

ONE OF the youths who has been trying to stay off Highland this summer, anticipating problems with police, is Daniel Villasenor of New Wave car club.

"It's like we're hiding from something and I don't think it should be that way," he says of his fear of bringing his car onto Highland.

Villasenor and several others complain of the list put together by police. The first time a youth is stopped on an equipment violation, he's given a warning. The second time a ticket.

And he's told that the third time he's stopped on the same violation, his car likely will be impounded.

VILLASENOR ON July 3 received a ticket near Plaza Blvd. and Palm Ave. for several violations on equipment typical to lowrider cars including illegal battery storage.

He was given a warning earlier in the summer. He said when the officer ticketed him, he was told if he was seen in National City again that night, his car would be towed away and he would be arrested.

"It just scared me, because I didn't want to be arrested," he said.

He believes most of the names on the list the officer pulled out and checked are Hispanic.

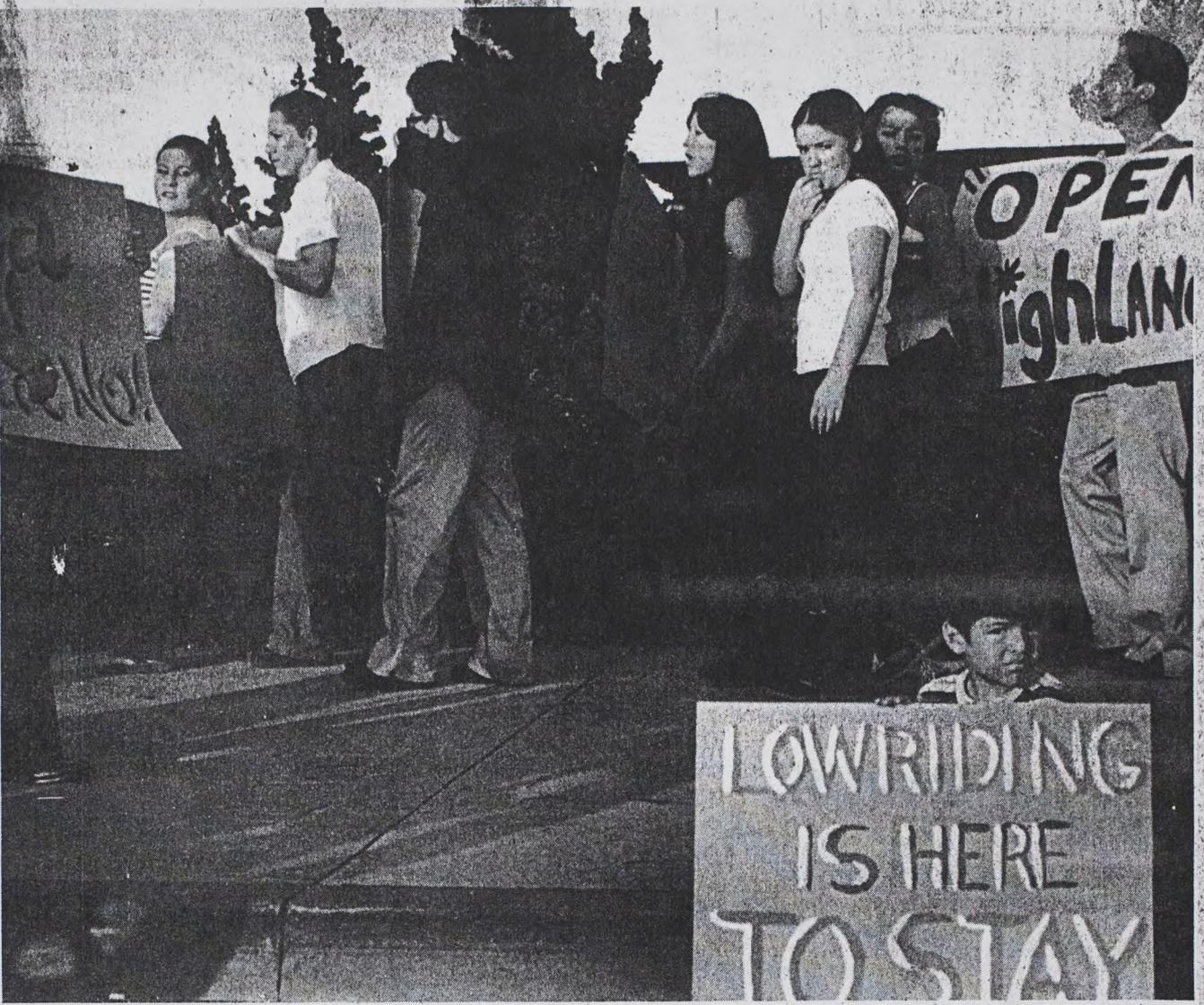
"If it's not harassment, I don't know what you'd call it," he said.

But he also said, "I don't cruise Highland. We're trying to keep our cars off the street as much as possible."

WISE, who lives in National City, said she used to hold car club meetings at her home. But she said she quit when her friends started getting tickets on their way out of town after the meeting.

George Gonzalez, also of New Wave, said that last summer persons stopped,

✓ Please turn to back page, this section



Star-News photo

LOWRIDERS CLAIMED POLICE HARASSMENT AND EXCESSIVE TICKET WRITING
They also asked that Highland Ave. be reopened

✓ Police target of complaints

Lowriders protest to council

(Continued from Page A-1)

Committee on Chicano Rights, told the youths crowded outside City Hall this week that police are "selectively applying the law in a racist manner."

He said of city officials, "It's our hope that they pay heed to the very large number of people who came here tonight."

Baca pledged that "other tactics" will be used to stop what he says is police harassment if the council won't listen to the demands.

He said those tactics could include a lawsuit against National City. He also said the committee's attorneys would advise the lowriders of their legal rights on Highland.

THE PROTESTERS demanded that police get rid of what Juan Parrino of the Committee on Chicano Rights labels a "hit list." The list was compiled with about 200 names and license plate numbers of youths stopped, on car equipment violations. police stop ordering people out of town.

Rigoberto Reyes told councilmen, "We feel it's not the 1850s anymore. It's 1981. We're still being treated like second-class citizens."

George Rodriguez, president of Korner car club, said of police, "I think they ought to be sent back to the academy to learn their manners" and complained of officers talking like "drill sergeants" to youths.

THE DEMONSTRATION drew considerable media attention. Mayor Kile Morgan later commented, "If all the press would stay away, this wouldn't even have happened."

He said a youth meeting, held recently at St. Anthony's Hall and emphasizing the same protests, wouldn't have occurred either except for media attention.

The picketing was filmed not only by TV cameras but also by police, perched atop the blood plasma center across the street from City Hall.

Capt. T. Wayne Fowler said the event was filmed to use as evidence should any trouble have occurred. He said if the demonstration remained peaceful, the film probably would be erased.

IT WAS peaceful. A few hours earlier, at about 3:40 p.m., a male placed a phone call warning that a bomb was planted in City Hall.

Most City Hall employees got the rest of the afternoon off as much of the building was evacuated while police searched for a bomb. None was found. Nothing the caller said linked the threat with the demonstration.

Police also didn't use the legal review of the state penal code sections they compiled in preparation for the demonstration.

The review included penal code sections defining riots, terrorism and unlawful assembly and several

offenses such as refusing to disperse when told to do so.

COUNCILMAN Louis Camacho, asked later for his views on the activity on Highland, asked about the lowriders, "Do you believe they're doing right? I see what they do. They impede traffic. If I impede traffic, they can write me a ticket."

Asked if he supports current police actions, Camacho said of the lowriders, "As long as they violate the law, yes."

Asked his opinion, Kile Morgan said, "The mayor of the city don't tell the police who to arrest."

He said both the lowriders and the business and property owners on Highland Ave. have rights.

"You can't push your rights and take someone else's away from them. There's a fine line there somewhere. What can you do when you can't even get the fire department up and down the street?"

A RECURRING complaint, before police began closing down Highland last summer, was that the street became too congested with slow-moving cruising traffic.

Motorists trying to negotiate "the boulevard" to get from one place to another complained of delays.

"A little city like this isn't prepared for something like this," Morgan said of the weekend influx of lowriders the city had previously.

"If they're violating the law, they're gonna have to live with the laws."

National City Star-News

EDITION

Thursday Edition

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More news of National City than any other newspaper in the world

99TH YEAR NO. 69

National City, California, Thursday, August 27, 1981

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Tickets, Highland Ave. closing protested

Lowriders picket at City Hall

By JACKIE McGRATH

Star-News Staff Writer

"Open Highland now," "no more tickets" and "Chicano power" were among the slogans chanted by about 250 lowriders and their supporters as they carried picket signs outside National City Hall this week.

About an hour of picketing outside was followed by a packed City Council meeting, during which lowriders complained about the ticket writing and closing of Highland Ave. carried out by police.

"WE ARE tired of being harassed on Highland Ave.," one car club member told councilmen, who remained silent through the protests voiced during the meeting.

The car club member urged officials to halt the police activity, saying, "It should be stopped now, not later. Now. Before an innocent Chicano gets killed on Highland."

Police have said their enforcement activities are what has prevented more violence on Highland Ave. The most recent violence on Highland occurred when a 25-year-old man was beaten with a baseball bat in early July at 24th St. and Highland.

But assaults and less serious offenses such as drinking in public on Highland show up much less frequently on crime reports now that



The San Diego Union

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26, 1981

Hundreds Protest 'Harassment' Of Chicano Low-Riders

By JESUS RANGEL
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

NATIONAL CITY — Carrying placards that read "National City Racist" and "We Want Justice," between 300 and 350 "low-riders" and their supporters picketed outside City Hall last night to protest what they call increased harassment by police along Highland Avenue.

The noisy demonstration later moved into the City Council chambers, where about 50 protesters appealed to the council to curtail the police. As they left the chambers the protesters clapped their hands and chanted "Raza si, chotas no," meaning Chicanos yes, police no.

The demonstrators complained that by stopping the low-riders, of which about 90 percent are Chicanos, the police were violating their civil rights.

They complained that for about a year they had a mutual understanding with the police that limited cruising would be permitted if violence, drinking and other infractions were stopped.

But they said police have again started stopping the cruisers for no reason.

Capt. Wayne Fowler said last week that the 15 to 30 percent increase in tickets is because police are more aware of what constitutes illegal modification of cars. He said many low-riders are driving unsafe cars because of modified suspensions, missing shock absorbers and other changes.

Herman Baca, head of the Committee on Chicano Rights, said police are using the modifications as an excuse to violate the constitutional rights of Chicanos. The picketing was organized by the committee and the San Diego Low-Rider Car Club Council, which represents about 11 car clubs.

"No one is going to trample on our constitutional rights," Baca told the low-riders outside City Hall. "We have a right to assemble anywhere."

To the applause of those assembled he said that "if they're going to break the law, let them stop every car and we'll see how long they can keep it up."

He added that the Police Department's policy is based on racism because it is being used selectively against the Chicano community.

He added that the issue is no longer between the police and low-riders but with the entire Chicano community.

Several options were proposed by Baca to combat the police.

They include a petition against the stopping of low-riders, the establishment of a legal defense fund, an education program to inform low-riders of their legal rights, and increased monitoring by citizens of police on Highland Avenue.

Steven Contreras, a member of the Custom Car Club, said that when he drives his low-rider vehicle on Highland he has been stopped. "But when I drive my old pickup which I use for work, they don't pull me over," he said.

Jose Aleman, also of the Custom Car Club, said police are often rude to the low-riders and try to make them lose their tempers so they do something stupid and can be arrested.

R.C. Casper of National City urged the council to issue permits to the low-riders so they can "cruise once a week or a month" without problems.

The council had no comment on the charges or Casper's suggestion. But Mayor Kile Morgan instructed the city manager to inform police of the complaints.

City Hall was closed at 4 p.m. yesterday after a caller said there was a bomb in the building. A search was conducted and no bomb was found. Police said they had no evidence that the threat was connected with the demonstration.

THE TRIBUNE

Wednesday, August 26, 1981

Low-riders claim police have hit list

By Paul Van Nostrand

Tribune Staff Writer

While more than 300 of their comrades demonstrated outside, a series of car club members urged National City council members last night to help stop what they called police harassment of low-riders.

"It is unfair for us taxpayers to pay the city to harass us," said Jorge Gonzalez, a car club member and National City resident. "As a result of this harassment, our Chicano community is being deprived of access to our streets."

Other speakers called for abolishment of a police "hit list" which they said officers use to record stops of low-riders and previous violations and asked that police be ordered to stop demanding that low-riders, especially along Highland Avenue, "get out of town."

The noisy but orderly pickets outside City Hall on National City Boulevard were supported by members of the Committee on Chicano Rights and the San Diego Low Rider Car Club Council.

No extra police activity was apparent and City Attorney Donald McLean said none was needed.

"They've demonstrated here before but they don't make trouble," he said.

After listening to the complaints of the car club members, Mayor Kile Morgan directed the city manager to "advise the police department" of the charges made by the speakers.

Relationships between low-riders and National City police have simmered for several years, with occasional flareups. Relative quiet has reigned for the past year after police practically closed Highland Avenue to cruising by the flashy and often expensive-

ly customized cars.

Police Chief Terry Hart said a recent upswing in ticketing by officers for car and equipment violations is a result of better police awareness of vehicle and equipment modification regulations.

Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights, said police are using the modification issue as an excuse to harass Chicanos.

City Hall employees were sent home early yesterday after a telephoned bomb threat was received shortly before 4 p.m. A police search failed to turn up any explosive and officials said they doubted there was any connection between the threat and the demonstration more than two hours later.

✓ Lowriders plan picket over police actions

(Continued from Page A-1)

for example, for having tinted glass over their car license plate would simply be asked to take off the glass.

But this summer, he said, someone stopped for the same reason would be ordered to open the car doors and the trunk for a thorough check.

POLICE CHIEF Terry Hart said of about 200 or 250 youths put on the list when they were warned about equipment violations, about 40 since have gotten tickets.

Only about six youths cited later had cars impounded, Hart said.

Hart wrote to South Bay Municipal Court Presiding Judge Ernest Borunda, and the letter was forwarded to the district attorney's office in June, telling court officials of police plans to warn, ticket, then impound.

In the letter, Hart listed laws legitimizing the action. He also wrote about what commonly makes the cars "unsafe for normal driving conditions."

"For example, he says, storing car batteries in the trunk increases the

danger of explosions or corrosion. And he says cops have seen tires go flat as the car is slowly turning a corner because the tires and rims aren't balanced.

HE SAID the number of tickets probably has increased 15% to 30% this summer over last, mostly because police have taken training courses and learned the definitions of the various violations.

Before 1980, he said, many violations weren't clearly defined under state law.

Courts, he said, traditionally had thrown out cases of "unsafe vehicle" citations in the past because of the lack of precise definitions.

Hart repeated what was said at the beginning of last summer when police began forcing Highland Ave.'s Friday night traffic to detour at several intersections.

"Why should National City have to suffer the onslaught of so many people from so many places outside of this city because of weekend cruising?"

He said more than half the cruisers come from outside the city.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

DEMONSTRATION/PROTEST

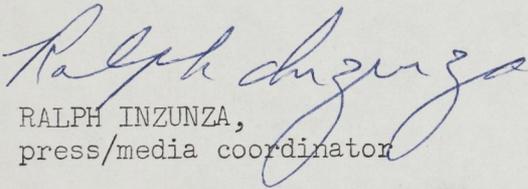
PRESS CONFERENCE

AUG. 20, 1981

THE CCR AND THE SAN DIEGO LOWRIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL WISHES TO INFORM YOU OF A DEMONSTRATION TO TAKE PLACE ON AUGUST 25, 1981, IN FRONT OF THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT AND CITY HALL TO PROTEST THE HARASSMENT AND ABUSES ON HIGHLAND AVE. BY THE POLICE.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CCR AND THE SAN DIEGO LOWRIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL WILL BE SPEAKING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL THAT NIGHT TO PRESENT THEIR DEMANDS. WE EXPECT 500 to 700 PEOPLE AND SINCE OUR SECURITY WILL CLOSELY MONITOR THIS EVENT PLEASE ASK FOR ME SO THAT I MAY FACILITATE YOUR ASSIGNMENT FOR THAT NIGHT.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL ME. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.


RALPH INZUNZA,
press/media coordinator



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL CITY, CALIF.

AUGUST 25, 1981

THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS, THE SAN DIEGO LOW RIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL AND HUNDREDS OF PERSONS AT A PICKET DEMONSTRATION BEFORE THE NATIONAL CITY ADMINISTRATION CENTER TONIGHT CHARGED CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART WITH PURPOSELY "BREAKING THE LAW" AND VIOLATING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION THROUGH ITS SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST THE CHICANO COMMUNITY ON HIGHLAND AVENUE. ACCORDING TO C.C.R. SPOKESPERSON HERMAN BACA, "AS A RIGHTS ORGANIZATION WE FIND IT APPALLING THAT THE NATIONAL CITY COUNCIL IS PERMITTING THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE TO HAVE 'HIT LISTS', TO THREATEN TO RUN PEOPLE OUT OF TOWN AND TO VIOLATE THE CHICANO COMMUNITY RIGHT TO ASSEMBLE (1ST AMENDMENT), ITS RIGHT TO TRAVEL, TO BE FREE FROM ILLEGAL SEARCH AND SEIZURE (4TH AMENDMENT) AND TO HAVE THE LAW APPLIED EQUALLY (14TH AMENDMENT)". FURTHERMORE, WE CHALLENGE THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT ALLEGATIONS THAT THE ISSUE IS LAW BREAKING. "ONE PERSON OR EVEN A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WHO BREAK THE LAW DOES NOT JUSTIFY AN ENTIRE COMMUNITY BEING TERRORIZED". "IT IS OUR POSITION AND ALSO THE POSITION OF THE SAN DIEGO LOW RIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL THAT IF AN INDIVIDUAL BREAKS THE LAW THAT PERSON SHOULD BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY UNDER THE LAW WHETHER HE IS A PRIVATE CITIZEN OR A POLICEMAN".

(OVER)

SPEAKING IN REGARDS TO NATIONAL CITY'S 50% CHICANO POPULATION JORGE GONZALEZ, A NATIONAL CITY RESIDENT AND A MEMBER OF THE NEW WAVE CAR CLUB, STATED THAT "IT IS UNFAIR FOR US TAXPAYERS TO PAY THE CITY TO HARASS US." GONZALEZ ADDED, "AS A RESULT OF THIS CONTINUOUS HARASSMENT ' OUR CHICANO COMMUNITY IS DEPRIVED OF LEGAL ACCESS TO OUR PUBLIC STREETS WHEN WE GO TO WORK, VIST, ETC."

SPEAKING BEFORE THE NATIONAL CITY COUNCIL FIVE SPOKESPERSONS FROM THE SAN DIEGO LOW RIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL DEMANDED THAT:

- (1) ELIMINATE THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT "HIT LISTS".
- (2) STOP THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S THREATS OF DEMANDING THAT PERSONS GET OUT OF TOWN.
- (3) ISSUE A PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT THE CHICANO COMMUNITY'S CIVIL AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WILL BE PROTECTED.
- (4) THAT UNWARRANTED TICKETING AND UNFAIR IMPOUNDING OF VEHICLES BY THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL END.

IN CONCLUDING BACA STATED THAT "POLICIES BASED ON RACE OR ETHNIC BACKGROUND ARE RACIST, ILLEGAL, UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND WILL BE CHALLENGED BOTH LEGALLY AND POLITICALLY BY THE CHICANO COMMUNITY".

'BOULEVARD NIGHTS'
SWEEP ARRESTS 120

OVER

HITCHHIKER WINS CASE

S.D. Union
9-11-79

Identification Law Held Illegal

By BILL OTT

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

Hitchhiker Edward C. Lawson literally thumbed up a significant victory here yesterday when a federal judge ruled unconstitutional a California law allowing police to demand identification from a person on the street.

After studying recent rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court on similar ordinances elsewhere, U.S. District Judge Leland C. Nielsen handed down an opinion invalidating a section of the California Penal Code that has made it a misdemeanor for anyone to refuse to identify himself to a police officer in a situation where public safety demands such identification.

Lawson, a 32-year-old freelance theatrical producer, had claimed in a lawsuit here that he had frequent such encounters with officers as he hitchhiked through the area, much to the violation of his civil rights.

In pressing his lawsuit against the San Diego and Chula Vista police departments, the San Diego County

Sheriff's Department and California Highway Patrol, Lawson argued his own case.

However, Lawson lost his bid for financial damages based on 14 such police stops. He had sought \$5,000 in compensatory damages, plus \$5,000 in punitive damages for each of the stops by officers seeking his identification.

Nielsen, while holding the state law unconstitutional because it is overbroad, rejected Lawson's request for financial damages, noting that the officers who had stopped him during his journeys here did so in good faith and under the belief they were acting within the law.

Lawson, when contacted in San Francisco yesterday and advised of the development, said: "This is the first I've heard of it. For one, the ruling is fairly what we expected. Obviously, I concur and applaud the decision."

On loss of damages, Lawson said: "Obviously, we have some differences over financial remuneration. Our position is, even though the law was valid at the time I was stopped, the

officers exceeded the legal scope of the law."

Lawson went on to say that he sought financial damages because, "in our society, the single greatest item of respect is money. We tried to invoke that as a lever."

He said he was "singularly underwhelmed" by his victory, one accomplished without attorney, adding that it "terrifies me" because it "is more of a reflection of the shortcomings of my adversaries than as a plaudit to myself."

The ordinance that was challenged is Section 647e of the penal code which made it a misdemeanor for anyone "who loiters or wanders upon the streets or from place to place without apparent reason or business and who refuses to identify himself and to account for his presence when requested by any peace officer to do so, if the surrounding circumstances are such as to indicate to a reasonable man that the public safety demands such identification."

Lawson said he expects that Nielsen's ruling will be appealed.

Council resolution aims at low-riders' activity

The National City Council has declared war on low-riders and weekend cruising on Highland Ave.

At the request of councilmen Lou Camacho and George Waters Tuesday night the council unanimously approved a resolution assuring Police Chief Terry Hart that the council would support the police in using the necessary measures to alleviate the problem.

CAMACHO and Waters said low-riders — the name attached to post-adolescents known for cruising around city streets in custom-built cars lowered inches closer to the ground — are creating disturbances on Highland Ave.

The two councilmen cited public intoxication and harassment of passersby as two of the main complaints against the cruisers.

"I would not let my wife walk down Highland Ave. at night on Friday or Saturday," Camacho told the council. "And it's a damn shame we're letting something like this (group) dictate to our city."

Although Mayor Kile Morgan and Councilman Mike Dalla expressed reluctance about voting for the resolution — saying that it would do no good — both voted in favor of the motion.

MORGAN said he did not want to give Police Chief Terry Hart the impression that the council was telling him how to run the police department and that a vote might carry that impression.

Camacho said the intent of the

motion was to give the police an indication of how the council felt about the matter and that it was a move in support of the police.

City Attorney Don McLean said police department heads had recently brought to his attention the fact that certain of the laws approved by the City Council may not be jailable offenses because of a technical wording in the local code.

He said he is researching that problem in the hope of clarifying when a police officer is proper in arresting and imprisoning a suspect.

ST22news

F-23-79

Crack down nets 120 arrests

'Boulevard' cruising plagues Highland

By **DEBRA TWADDLE**
Star-News Staff Writer

South Bay residents may be surprised that Highland Ave., National City, has become known by another name.

According to Al Silva, manager of a 7-11 store on 8th and Highland, the street is called "the Boulevard" because of low-riders who cruise it on weekends.

A **POLICE** sweep of the street last Friday night resulted in 120 arrests, culminating several weeks of complaints from residents and businesses along Highland Ave. and on intersecting streets.

"During the day, National City's not a bad town," Silva said, "but it changes at night."

Because of the cars cruising up and down Highland and the congregations of young people on the streets, Silva said he doesn't see older people on the streets after dark.

"The average person won't stop into the store at night," he said, because of

gangs of low-riders in the parking lot, drinking, talking and fighting.

"They sort of swarm," he said, adding that since it is private property police can't do anything about it until they are called. "They run them off and 10 minutes later they're back again," he said.

"**DRUNKS HAVE** threatened to blow my head off," Silva said. He said he has never been hurt, but another man quit recently because he was beaten up while leaving the store after work.

Silva said shoplifting is a problem with the gangs. One common technique is for two people to come into the store and pick up six-packs of beer. One runs out the door while the other is at the counter paying for his purchase, he said.

"Last weekend was excellent," Silva said referring to the police crack-down on the low-riders resulting in 120 arrests, but he also said he thinks there may be trouble because of the arrests. "They'll get angry," he said of the low-riders.

AARON AMBULANCE driver Craig Taylor is concerned with the low-riders because they interfere with his work.

It once took him four minutes to cross Highland Ave., he said, because of the traffic and because the low-riders refused to let him pass.

"Time is always the most important thing when you are responding to an emergency," he said. Taylor added that many times low-riders will hem in the ambulance and begin driving as slow as 10 miles an hour.

"We get on the public address system and tell them to get out of the way, but then they want to start a fight," he said.

CITY COUNCILMAN George Waters, who owns a business on Highland, said the problem exists all over National City, and "public complaints say it's about time to do something about it."

He said about 95% of those who cruise Highland are from out of town, coming from Los Angeles, San Diego, Oceanside and other California and

Mexico towns.

"Two years of this cruising up and down is long enough," he said.

"It's an unsafe condition," he said. He and Councilman Louie Camacho asked the City Council to amend an ordinance which allows arrests, fines and up to 30 days in jail for some low-riding offenses.

"Anyone who comes into this town should conduct themselves in a law-abiding manner," he said. "We have little trouble with local low-riders, but young people have to realize they have to abide by the laws of the city."

WATERS SAID most public complaints involve low-riders throwing beer bottles, eggs and mustard at passing cars, tying up traffic, using foul language, fighting, and spraying graffiti as well as congregating in front of places of business and in parking lots.

"It seems to be a game," he said, "and the build-up of public opinion against it has been getting stronger."

By FRANK SALDANA

TRIBUNE Staff Writer

NATIONAL CITY — A 13-member special police task force swept Highland Avenue last night, arresting 120 adults and juveniles in a crackdown on a popular pastime in this city — cruising "Boulevard Nights" style.

About 80 juveniles and 40 adults were among those arrested between 8 p.m. and 3 a.m. for violations ranging from assault to curfew infractions. The sweep, authorized by the City Council last month, was centered on Highland Avenue, between 2nd and 30th streets, an area police said is listed as an "in spot" in "Low Rider" magazine.

Those arrested, including 12 females, were predominantly Chicanos, rounded up by a task force of nine patrolmen backed by four detectives. Many of the youths complained of "chicken citations."

Two of the arrests were for carrying concealed weapons — a switchblade knife and a billy club, both felonies.

But the majority of arrests were for infractions — minors drinking beer in public, violation of 11 p.m. curfew, moving violations or faulty vehicle equipment, like hydraulic lifts, which are considered unsafe. Eight low-rider cars were impounded.

Uniformed officers joined parades of cruisers and leaned heavy on young people who were parked and drinking in the Plaza Shopping Center or hanging around the car wash at 2nd Street and Highland Avenue.

"It's not the locals who cause us problems, but the outsiders," said Lt. William A. Nosal, the watch commander who supervised last night's attempt at curtailing cruising.

See ARREST, A-5

E.T. 9-8-79

★ Arrest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The main thrust of the operation, police said, was to "curb an increasing wave of violence plaguing the area, and to prevent 'rumbles' that have occurred in recent weeks — knifings and shootings.

"Just last week we had a kid stabbed. He was lucky, he survived," the lieutenant said.

The closest thing to a rumble last night occurred around midnight when patrolmen noticed a larger-than-average group gathering at the car wash.

"As (police) closed in, those individuals fled the area," Nosal said. "We recovered several knives, chains, clubs and other weapons which were dropped to the ground as the officers closed in."

Authorization for last night's sweep came in August when the City Council passed a resolution by Councilmen Lou Camacho and George Waters to support the police in dealing with what some residents have referred to as a weekend nuisance.

The council made it clear they didn't want Highland Avenue to become National City's version of Whittier Boulevard in East Los Angeles.

Police Chief Terry Hart put the special force together and, although a smaller force patrolled the area earlier in the week, last night was the first full-scale crackdown.

By 1 a.m., Highland Avenue was almost deserted except for a few low riders still at the Jack-in-the-Box and at Roberto's. Those parked in front of Heath's Funeral Home and at the car wash along the 1½-mile strip had disappeared.

But at police headquarters, the jail which normally holds only 24 prisoners, was jammed. The 12 females taken into custody were detained in office spaces.

Meanwhile a parade of parents, friends and a few curious congregated at the front counter.

Inside the dispatcher's office the telephone rang incessantly.

"Yes, you can come in and take your son home," a

weary desk officer said. "What do you mean 'why was my son arrested?' Don't you know he's a juvenile and he was out after 11 p.m.? Yes, he's here waiting."

But there was still the processing that had to be completed first, reports to be prepared and van loads of youths over 18 hauled to county jail. Chula Vista's jail van was borrowed for the operation.

Early today, the lieutenant complimented his men on keeping their cool and hopefully making an impression on the kids.

"Only time will tell," Nosal said. "I think the word will get out. We just don't want to go to the extreme they did in LA."

Police last week barricaded Whittier Boulevard and low riders in that area promised to find another place to cruise.

"I just hope they're not thinking of our city," Nosal said. "You know, the last issue of 'Low Rider' magazine said Highland Avenue was the in place.

"We'll just have to see."

San Diego, Saturday, September 8, 1979

NATIONAL CITY CRACKDOWN

S.D. U-2002
9-9-79

'Low-Rider' Sweep Nets 120 Suspects

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

NATIONAL CITY — Police, in a crackdown on the "low riders" cruising Highland Avenue, arrested 120 persons, mostly junior and senior high school students, during a seven-hour sweep Friday night and yesterday morning.

The National City City Council, in the wake of numerous complaints from the businesses in the area and the community at large, last month authorized a crackdown on the autos that continually cruise the boulevard.

National City Police Sgt. C.A. Furr reported that 80 juveniles and 40 adults, many of them Chicanos from Chula Vista and San Diego, were arrested for a variety of offenses ranging from curfew violations to assault.

Police said the adults were taken to the county jail, while the juveniles either were taken to Juvenile Hall or released in the custody of their parents.

Highland Boulevard, particularly between 2nd and 30th avenues, is a hangout for low riders and considered an "in spot" by readers of Low Rider magazine, officers said.

"It's the only good, long, cruising boulevard (in the county) and it's right in the middle of things," said Officer Ken Thomas. "And we have the best-looking women, they say."

Thomas said most of the arrests were alcohol-related — consumption of alcohol by minors or carrying open containers of alcohol in cars. A number of youths were cited for violating the 11 p.m. curfew. Two arrests were for carrying concealed weapons, a switch-blade knife and a billy club. Among the other charges were traffic violations.

Officers said the City Council authorized the crackdown on the cruisers because of "an increasing wave of violence, including a homicide," along Highland Avenue in recent months.

★ ★ ★ Gonzales calls police sweep 'racist, terror'

San Diego mayoral candidate Raul Gonzalez denounced the police sweep of Highland Ave. last weekend, calling the action a "campaign of terror."

Gonzalez, running for mayor under the Socialist banner, said the mass arrests along a 20-block-long stretch of Highland Ave. were racist and intimidating to the entire Chicano population of San Diego County.

"THE RACIST sweep and arrests last Friday and Saturday nights could have been seen in South Africa, Iran or Nicaragua under Somoza," Gonzalez said.

National City police cracked down on youths who cruise the thoroughfare by saturating the area with a special police task force designed to eliminate crime and cruising. About 170 youths were arrested on various charges.

The police action came as a result of a city council vote last month in which the council directed Police Chief Terry Hart to handle the problem in the best way he could. The council did not offer suggestions.

COUNCILMEN Louie Camacho and George Waters made and seconded the motion respectively after citing problems such as rowdiness, drunkenness, loitering, noise and littering along Highland Ave. on weekend nights.

A campaign aide to Gonzalez, Steve Warshell, said the candidate, his campaign staff and "legal observers" will be on hand Saturday night to monitor the actions of the police.

"We'll be there observing," Warshell said. "We're not planning to interfere with the police. We're not planning any kind of illegal actions."

Warshell said the legal observers will include students from area law schools and "perhaps the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union), although we haven't made any definite plans on that yet."

WARSELL said he does not think the phrase "campaign of terror" is hysterical as used concerning the recent arrests.

"In all of San Diego County," Warshell said, "there is a sentiment against people of Latino descent. The Border Patrol is one of the worst offenders. This is only a part of a campaign of terror against Chicano youths."

"You don't see the police up at the beaches cleaning up that area, but there are probably more drugs there than any place else in the county, but those beach people are white."

It was pointed out to Warshell that a 1978 drug sweep by San Diego police through Ocean Beach resulted in scores of drug-related arrests, and that a stretch of road in Pacific Beach frequented by young, mostly white "beach people" was closed down because of noise and other complaints. Warshell was asked if Gonzalez would call those actions racist.

"No, of course not," he said, "but we're against those, too."

WARSELL said as mayor of San Diego, Gonzalez would not have any decision-making power in National City, and that his interest in the Highland Ave. police sweep went beyond political campaigning.

"I think you'll realize Gonzalez feels strongly about this because he's a Chicano himself," Warshell said. "There is a tradition in the Chicano movement that leaders band together in things of this nature."

The move by the local city council to urge the police to take action was prompted by complaints from merchants, who have at times found litter strewn about their businesses and graffiti sprayed on their walls. Warshell said these things are not caused

✓ Please turn to back page, this section

✓ Blvd. sweep called 'terror'

(Continued from Page A-1)

by the youths on Highland Ave., and that the businessmen are getting increased revenue from the youths driving back and forth.

"I would say a lot of those businesses are getting a lot more sales from this (activity)," Warshell said. "I don't think the so-called problem with the businessmen is the problem."

GONZALEZ said Monday in a press release the police were not trying to curb crime, but were instead simply trying to stop the youths from cruising. "The sweep was an act of racist arrogance, aimed at stopping low-riding, which is a part of the culture of the Chicano community," Gonzalez said.

The fact that one of the makers of the city council resolution against the cruisers (Camacho) is himself Mexican-American did not merit much sympathy from the Gonzalez organization.

"I think it's important for the American people to realize," Warshell said, "that the people who run this country are not minorities. We think the move was wrong, even if he is a Chicano. I think he made a very bad decision on this."

STORNEW
9-3-78

National City Police Vow To Continue Cruising Arrests

By RICARDO CHAVIRA

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

NATIONAL CITY — Amid Mexican Americans' complaints of harassment, National City police yesterday said they will continue their campaign of mass arrests on Highland Avenue until troubles they say are created by weekend cruising cease.

Last weekend police arrested about 170 persons — mainly on liquor and curfew infractions — along

Highland. Police said that was roughly 10 times the number of persons normally arrested on a weekend here.

Assistant police chief Cliff Reed said the formation of a 13-member task force became necessary in recent weeks following increasing incidences of drinking in public, blocking of driveways, littering, fighting and even homicides, the most recent three weeks ago. In that incident, 25-year-old Andrew Limon was stabbed to death after he grabbed a baseball

bat away from another man.

Reed said he and other city officials began monitoring weekend cruising by mostly Chicano "lowriders" following complaints from merchants that the young people blocked public access to their shops and littered parking lots with cans and bottles.

"I would see people driving 10 miles per hour for 10 blocks, just causing traffic jams," said Reed. "You'd have groups of 10 or 15 guys drinking beer on the sidewalks. It

finally reached the point where we had to do something."

Police, admitted Reed, decided the best way to cope with the problem was to enforce ordinances much more vigorously than usual. The sweep went smoothly, with few complaints, said Reed.

However, Liz Guillen, a National City resident, had another story.

"I was driving down Highland on Friday night with a few friends. My car overheated, so I had to stop," she said. Three police units pulled up

behind her. "It seemed like we had held up a bank or something," Guillen said.

"One cop was really trying to get us to do something so that he could bust us. He kept insulting us. When he left," she said, "I told him, 'I'll see you later. He told me, 'Not in National City you won't.'"

A regular on Highland, Carmen Osuna, claimed that police "charged" the Jack-in-the-Box parking lot on the popular street, arrest-

ing whoever did not have identification.

Another youth, who asked that his named not be used, said he was arrested on a curfew violation. "They could have told me to leave, and I would have. I thought it was pretty cold of them to bust me. They're just trying to make us stop coming here," he said.

"We've never told anyone we don't want them to be here. I can't tell someone not to drive through our (Continued on B-5, Col. 1)

HIGHLAND AVENUE PROBLEM

Police Vow To Curb Cruising

(Continued from B-1) town. But we can make them obey the law," said Reed.

Guillen said that she feels the arrests are attacks on a chicano cultural expression — lowriding. "The way we look, the way we dress, the way we talk and the cars we drive are the reasons we're stopped. They're trying to take those things away from us," she said. "Next thing you know, they'll say that we can't sit on our front porches."

Reed Replies: "It has nothing to do with race; it has to do with public safety. The kids getting hurt are Mexican Americans. We're

there to protect everybody."

He said Highland would be blocked off from weekend traffic, as was done recently on East Los Angeles' Whittier Boulevard, only as a last resort.

Both Guillen and Osuna promise to return to Highland, cops or not. "That's

our place. We're young and that's where we go to have a good time," said Osuna.

"Yeah, there have been drinking and fights," said Guillen. "But those same things happen with white people at the beaches and at the rock concerts. Why is it only a problem when it involves us?"

The San Diego Union

9-14-79

'Low-Rider' Arrests Spur Threat Of Legal Action

By MICHAEL D. LOPEZ
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

Dozens of local Chicano youths and "low-riders" last night said they will take legal steps against what they say are unconstitutional mass arrests by National City police.

Angered by the 170 arrests made last weekend along Highland Avenue, most for curfew violations or liquor charges, many youths were

accompanied by their parents to the Barrio Logan meeting called by the Committee on Chicano Rights.

"The National City City Council said they were declaring war on low-riders to put an end to gang problems, but the police who are enforcing their will have picked on the wrong targets," said CCR Chairman Herman Baca. "We are in full support of their ideas of stamping out violent crime in the area, but we demand that they stop this lawlessness immediately."

Baca said lawyers for the committee will petition Superior Court for a temporary restraining order against both the National City Police Department and the City Council.

He said several National City business owners will appear at a press conference this morning to voice support for the low-riders and call for an end to the police sweeps.

Many at last night's meeting said they would individually file civil suits against the police.

Assistant Police Chief Cliff Reed said earlier this week that the 13-man task force who conducted last weekend's sweep was formed in response to increasing incidents of blocked driveways, littering, drinking in public, fighting and even homicides.

(Continued on B-3, Col. 6)

Chicanos Rap Lowrider Arrests

Arrests Spur Talk Of Action

(Continued from B-1)

"We cruise because that's our thing, but . . . we don't fight," said Felix Campos, 22, of National City.

Minors who attended the meeting requested that their names not be used, but several said they were stopped only minutes after the 10 p.m. curfew, and were held at police headquarters until after 6 a.m.

"I was arrested at 10:15," one said. "The cops were abusive, they handcuffed me without reading my rights and they didn't even bother to call my folks until after 3:30 in the morning."

Geraldo Guerrero, 20, said he was sitting in his car, talking with friends in a parking lot, when police officers ordered him out of the car, cursed him and ordered him out of National City.

"I told him I was a citizen and I wasn't breaking any law and I asked him to show a little more respect to me," Guerrero said. "So they handcuffed me and they held me at the station for three hours. They let me go without any charges, but I think that's a false arrest."

4 Border Patrolmen Indicted On Charges Of Assaulting Aliens

By BILL OTT

Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

Four border patrolmen were charged yesterday with assaulting and mistreating aliens in a federal grand jury indictment that authorities believe carries "explosive potential" in the ranks of officers who patrol the international border here.

The indictment, which U.S. Attorney Michael H. Walsh said will pit border patrolmen against one another, accuses border patrolmen Jeffery Otherson, Bruce Brown, Dirk Dick and Daniel R. Charest of conspiracy to defraud the government by interfering with lawful government functions and depriving aliens of their civil rights in a series of incidents involving beatings.

In addition, Charest is charged with perjury before the grand jury in his denial of knowledge about sexual remarks allegedly made about a woman alien.

Not guilty pleas were entered for the four when they were arraigned yesterday afternoon before U.S. Magistrate J. Edward Harris, who set bond at \$10,000 each and scheduled a trial-setting hearing for Oct. 1.

Leonel J. Castillo, commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, said the four agents have been suspended for 10 days while the indictment is under review.

Richard Bevans, president of the National Border Patrol Council, said yesterday an attorney from the American Federation of Government Employees in Washington will meet the four defendants to discuss defense of their case.

Walsh indicated he personally will prosecute the case and said "the government's case will be based almost entirely on the testimony of border patrol agents who witnessed the conduct charged."

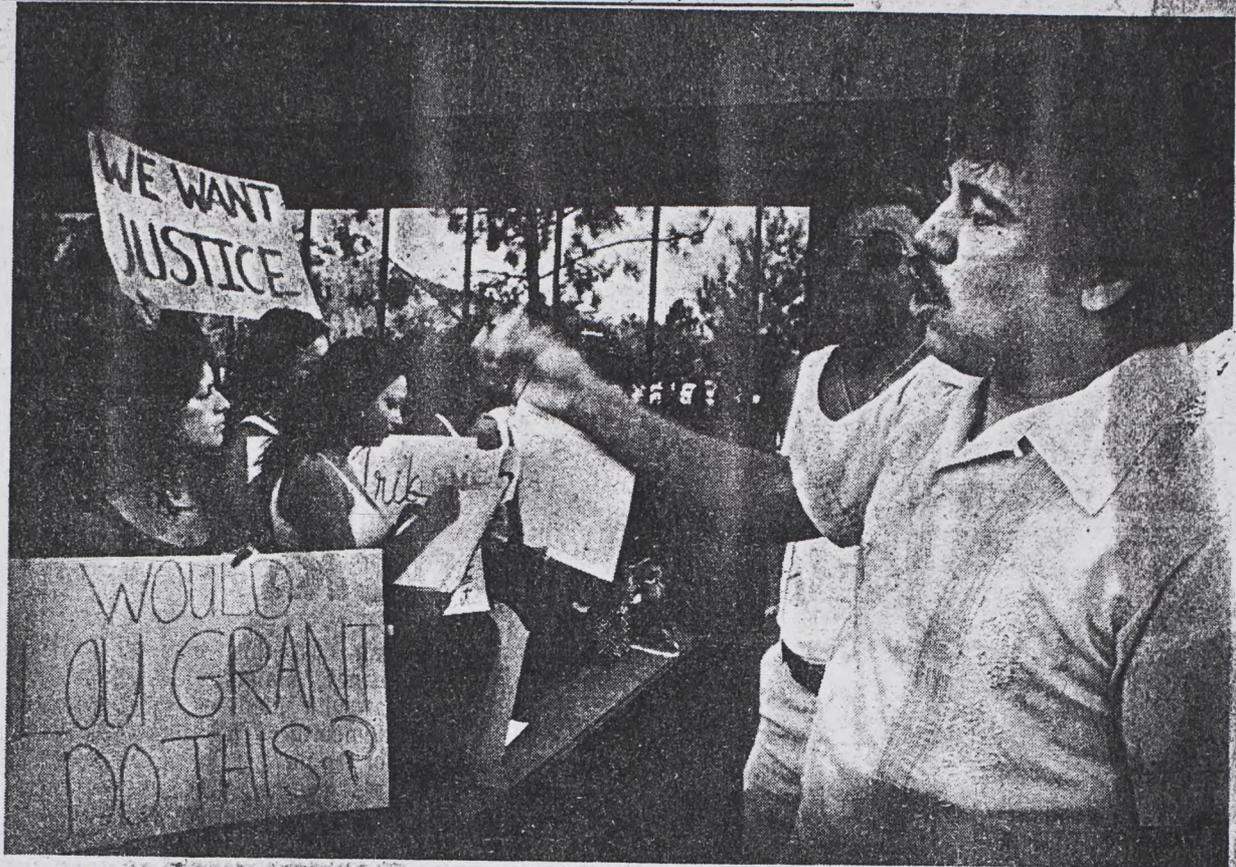
The indictment had been anticipated for several weeks. Although investigation had been under way since June, the development follows statements by five staff attorneys of Federal Defenders that the U.S. attorney's office has been lax in looking into complaints of brutality against aliens.

Walsh was hotly critical yesterday of the July 26 statements by the Federal Defenders attorneys, saying their comments had necessitated withdrawal of an undercover aide who had been planted in Border Patrol ranks, equipped with electronic gear to record agents' conversations.

"We feared for his safety," Walsh said. "The remarks that were made in public, and the response I had to make could have put the spotlight on him. It threatened the security of an investigation."

Donald Cameron, chief of the Border Patrol sector here, said morale

(Continued on A-5, Col. 2)



VOCAL PROTEST — Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights, leads

picketing at The Tribune yesterday to protest a news story. — Don Bartletti photo

Chicanos picket paper over story

By **RONALD W. POWELL**
TRIBUNE Staff Writer

Amid chants of "Stop media lies," a group of about 100 Chicano protesters picketed The Tribune yesterday over a recent news story about a stabbing death that authorities originally attributed to "low riders."

Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights Inc., said yesterday's demonstration was sparked by resentment in the Chicano community over what he called "highly irresponsible" reporting of the Sept. 15 stabbing.

"There was little regard for truth in the story, and the people of the Chicano

community are upset," Baca said as placard-carrying protesters circled the sidewalk in front of The Tribune offices at 350 Camino de la Reina.

"Over the weekend we got a large number of calls about the sensationalism and hype around people called low riders," Baca said. "Low rider is the latest word for the Chicano community," following "zoot suiters" and "pachuco" as stereotypical catch phrases, he said.

Although Baca acknowledged that he has not discussed the matter with the National City police, he said The Tribune engaged in "collusion" with authori-

ties in reporting the stabbing death of Brad O. Bailey, a 21-year-old National City man.

However, Walt Miller, Tribune managing editor, disagreed.

"Like all news media, we rely on the police to supply us with information when we cannot be physically present," Miller said. He added that Tribune reporters had placed a half-dozen calls before writing the story and that "in this instance the National City police were wrong."

Miller said the paper printed a follow-up article in the Sept. 17 editions detailing the facts in the case and acknowledging the previous misinformation.

The Tribune also carried a front-page story yesterday explaining the controversy and sent Baca a letter Sept. 21 that invited him to meet with editors, Miller said.

National City police had told The Tribune that Bailey was fatally stabbed during a 1:45 a.m. fight Sept.

15 between groups of low riders, youths who cruise National City's Highland Avenue in flashy, customized cars.

The police relied on the account of an alleged witness — whom officers later said was "lying" — and told Tribune reporters the stabbing incident had occurred in the 3000 block of Highland Ave.

However, subsequent information showed that the altercation did not involve low riders and that Bailey, who later died at Paradise Valley Hospital, was stabbed in the 3500 block of Edgemore Drive in Chula Vista.

Grand Jury Indicts Patrolmen

(Continued from A-1)

among the 450 officers had improved in recent weeks, "but with what has happened now, morale may slip some."

It also was disclosed yesterday that Darrell Brewer, a former trainee border patrolman, had testified before the grand jury concerning alleged mistreatment of aliens by Dick and others.

The indictment said Dick, allegedly knowing that Brewer had testified, purportedly told another agent who had appeared before the grand jury: "You know about Brewer, that S.O.B. If he was here, he would be dead," or words to that effect.

Cameron said the former trainee had been dismissed because he could not meet the academic requirement of speaking Spanish. He said Brewer is now working in the Midwest with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, but declined to give further details.

The four border patrolmen indicted are accused of trying to "conceal and cover up unjustified assaults,

beatings, strikings, kickings and mistreatment of illegal aliens."

In a July 3 incident, Otherson is alleged to have spoken with another agent who had apprehended an unknown male alien, who purportedly had made an obscene gesture at a Border Patrol aircraft. Otherson allegedly suggested taking the alien to see "Bruce" near the San Ysidro Port of Entry.

En route, Otherson reportedly remarked to the agent with him: "I don't know if I should be bringing you up here. You're a trainee . . ."

At the scene, Otherson purportedly talked with Bruce Brown about the alien making the obscene gesture. The indictment alleges Brown grabbed the alien, stood him up outside the transport van and questioned him. The indictment says further that Brown and Otherson discussed hitting the alien with an open hand so as not to leave marks.

Brown, according to the indictment, hit the alien with his open hand several times, then placed the alien's hand on the floorboard of the

van and repeatedly with a night stick. Otherson is alleged to have hit the alien in the stomach with his fist.

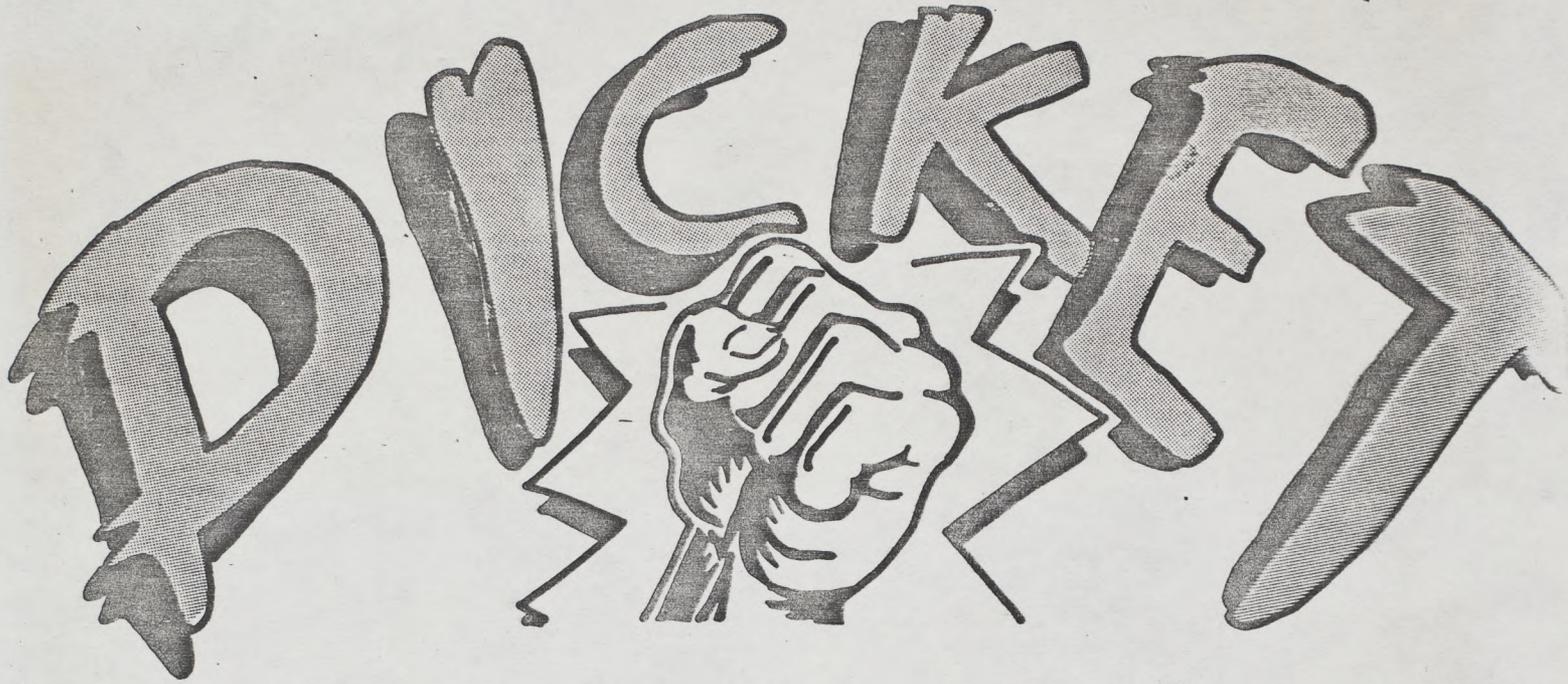
The alien then was taken to the transport van. En route, Otherson is alleged to have said to the trainee: "It is necessary to find it necessary to do this because the system doesn't do these a—— . . ."

The indictment also says Otherson struck the alien with his open hand and with his fist. On July 4, Charest allegedly hit the alien in the face. Brown is alleged to have hit the alien with his fist, and Otherson allegedly hit the alien with his fist and kicked another

On the same day, Otherson and Bro

Defend Your Constitutional Rights

JOIN THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS &
THE SAN DIEGO LOWRIDER CAR CLUB COUNCIL
IN A PEACEFUL, NON-VIOLENT...



6 P.M. TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1981

IN FRONT OF THE

NATIONAL CITY CIVIC CENTER

AT THE INTERSECTION OF

NATIONAL CITY BLVD. AND CIVIC CENTER DR.

All individuals, families and community organizations are asked to join the CCR and the Lowrider Council to protest the harassment of lowriders and other Chicanos by the National City Police Department. A petition signed by community members and residents of National City will be presented to the City Council. YOU CAN HELP TO STOP THE RACIST ATTACK ON THE CHICANO PEOPLE!

FOR INFORMATION: COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS (714) 474-8195

Dear Manager or Business Owner:

Lowriders and Highland Ave. have been a source of controversy in National City for the past several years, most notably in the summer months when the "boulevard" has its highest turnout.

Rather than simply quote a few merchants for their opinions, the Star News would like to compile an informal survey of the opinions of as many Highland Ave. businesses as possible.

Could you please answer the following questions as frankly as possible. Names will be withheld upon request from news stories, but please include your name for future reference:

Name _____

Name, address, and phone no. of business _____

1) During the past two months, National City police have been meeting with car club members, trying to build a rapport with them, and basically allowing them to "cruise" if violence, alcohol, littering, and vandalism do not pose major problems.

Do you think cruising should be allowed?

Strongly favor (allowing cruising to continue) _____

Favor _____ Indifferent _____

Do not Favor _____ Strongly Opposed _____

Reasons and Comments:

2) This past Friday night, the police department, citing a large amount of drinking (alcohol) on Highland, blockaded several intersections, virtually shutting the street down after 10:30 p.m. Do you support the closing of the street? Support it and believe it should be closed every Friday night until cruising activity is stopped _____

Support closing the street when major problems of drinking and/or violence and other crimes occur _____

Indifferent _____

Opposed to the closing of Highland Ave. at any time _____

Choose 1

Choose 1

Reasons and Comments:

3) Last fall, the police, during two nights, arrested approximately 170 youths on or near Highland, following the city council's directive to "clean up" the street. Do you favor large scale arrests in an effort to rid the street of cruising?

Strongly favor large scale arrests _____ Favor _____
Indifferent _____ Do not favor _____
Strongly opposed _____

Reasons and Comments:

4) Overall, do you believe Friday night's cruising helps or hinders your Friday night business?

It helps business _____ It has no effect on business _____
It hinders business _____
The business is closed Friday nights _____

5) During the past year, has there been damage done to your business which you could attribute to Friday night activity?

No _____ Yes _____. If so, please give the type of damage (broken windows, furnishings, graffiti, or other vandalism) and if there is a cost involved, please include it:

6) Specifically, during the past two months, have you had damages to your business attributable to Friday night activity?

No _____ Yes _____ (if so, answer with type and monetary amounts as above.)

7) How would you rate the police department's actions in responding to cruising and other activity on Highland on Friday nights?

Excellent _____ Very Good _____ Good _____
Indifferent _____ Fair _____ Poor _____
Very Poor _____

choose!

choose!

choose!

Reasons and Comments:

8) During the past two months, have you noticed an increase or decrease in these areas (Write increase, decrease, no change, don't know, or not applicable):

- a) Littering _____
- b) Drinking of Alcoholic Beverages in or near your business where drinking is not allowed _____
- c) Urinating in public _____
- d) Fights and other violence _____
- e) Other (please specify) _____

Reasons and Comments:

Thanks much for your cooperation. A reporter will come back for your survey within the next few days.

Sincerely,

Jackie McGrath

Star News

?????????

Any other comments:



COMMUNITY MEETING



Photo by: Raul Zaques

Stop The Attacks On Lowriders & The Chicano People

6:30 P.M.
Miércoles
12 de Agosto 1981

Salón de Iglesia de
San Antonio
National City

El Comité Pro-derechos Chicanos, a petición del Cónsul de "Low Riders" de San Diego, invita a la comunidad a un juicio público donde se acusará al Departamento Policiaco de National City de abusos y procedimientos opresivos contra la comunidad. ¡Vengan, escuchen y decidan por sí mismos! Protejan sus derechos civiles y constitucionales.

The CCR at the request of the San Diego Lowrider Car Club Council invites the community to a public hearing charging the National City Police with harassment and abuses. Come, listen and decide for yourself! Protect your civil and constitutional rights!

6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 12, 1981

Saint Anthony's
Church Hall
National City

“¡Ya Basta Con La Migra!”

JUNTA DE LA COMUNIDAD

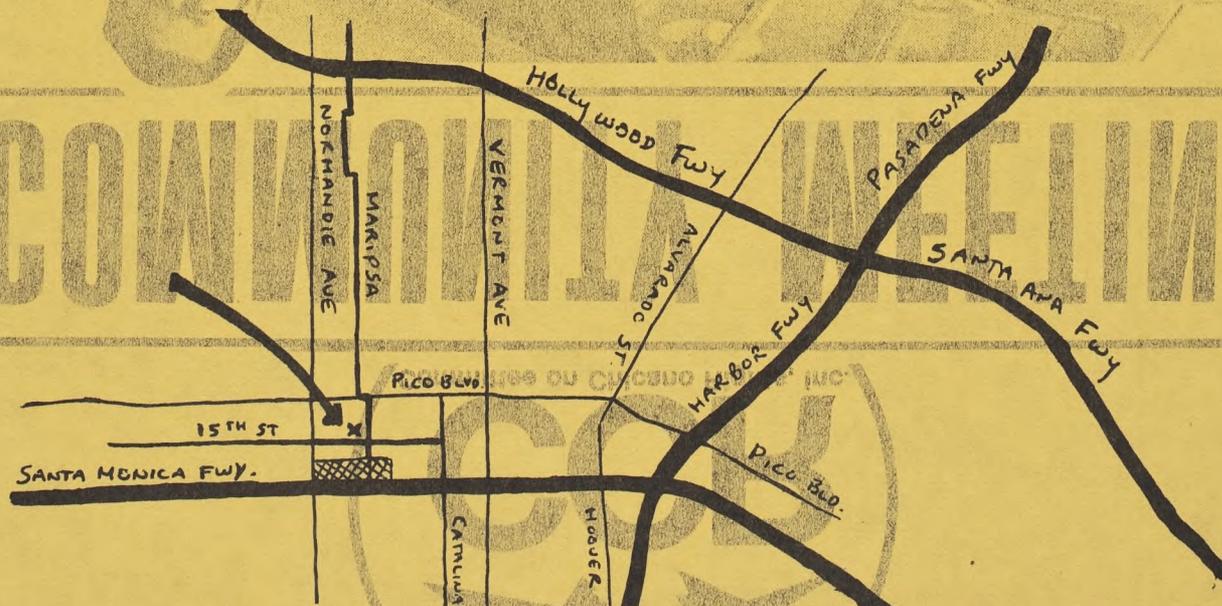
**Conferencia
Nacional
Chicana
de Inmigración**



**Orador: HERMAN BACA,
Comite-Derechos
Chicanos**



....
JUEVES -15 de Mayo de 1980
7:00 PM



**EN LA ESCUELA DE SAN TOMAS
ESQUINA DE PICO Y MARIPOSA**

**-LABOR
DONATED-**

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(512) 223-4926

Corporate Headquarters

444 E. William
Suite 104
San Jose 95112
(408) 293-3453

January 26, 1981

Dear David

Your letter and slides are being sent down to Larry Gonzales in the Los Angeles office. You may contact him there for further information.

Sincerely,

Esther Moreno



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

Sonny Madrid
Editor
Lowrider Magazine
444 E. William St.
San Jose, CA. 95112

NEWS RELEASE

Here's some information on a recent Lowrider event in San Diego.

In San Diego twelve individual car clubs have organized to promote unity between the car clubs and barrios of San Diego County. The members are: Amigos, Brown Image, City, Classics, Custom, Korner, Ladies Pride, Life, New Wave, Oldies, Specials, and San Diego. They are sponsored by the Committee on Chicano Rights — a non-profit, non-government funded grass roots organization dedicated to protecting the civil, constitutional and human rights of La Raza.

This year was the second year that the car club council had a party and distributed free presents to kids. Here's how they did it.

First the car clubs had a disco dance at El Centro Cultural de la Raza — San Diego's Chicano Cultural Center. Instead of charging money the admission was a toy — a game, a doll, a truck or something like that.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

The dance was on December 19, 1980 and it was a real success — over 300 toys were collected.

So on January 10, 1981 for Dia de los Reyes the San Diego Lowrider Car Club Council had a gift-giving party with free toys, piñatas and a lowrider car show inside El Centro Cultural de la Raza.

Everything was beautiful as you can see from the slides and newspaper clippings.

Hope that you can find some space in your magazine to let the people know what's happening in San Diego! ¡QUE VIVA LA RAZA!

The photographer Raul Jaquez requests that his slides be used only to illustrate any article on the Dia de los Reyes party.

He requests also that the slides be returned after use — a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included. GRACIAS

LowRider's Car Show & Children's Benefit



Practicing her swing for the piñata

Pat Malendez "Specials" Chicana Car Club

The San Diego LowRider Car Club Council will host a custom car show and gift giving party for over 250 needy children at El Centro Cultural de la Raza from 1:00pm to 3:00pm on Saturday, January 10, 1981.

The event commemorates "Dia de los Reyes" (Day of the Kings). In Mexico gifts are traditionally exchanged on this day (January 6). The holiday is based on the Biblical account of the offerings of the three wisemen or kings to the infant Jesus.

The children will spend the afternoon looking at lowriders, breaking pinatas, enjoying snacks and finally receiving presents distributed by the three co-chairmen of the LowRiders Council, **Hector Erlbez, Jorge**

Gonzalez, and Jesse Ramirez. The Council collected over 300 toys by co-sponsoring a dance at El Centro Cultural (Balboa Park's Chicano Cultural Center) in December, charging one new toy as the admission price. The Council has since selected 250 worthy children from throughout San Diego to receive the gifts. Last year the group organized a similar event and distributed 250 gifts locally and in Tijuana.

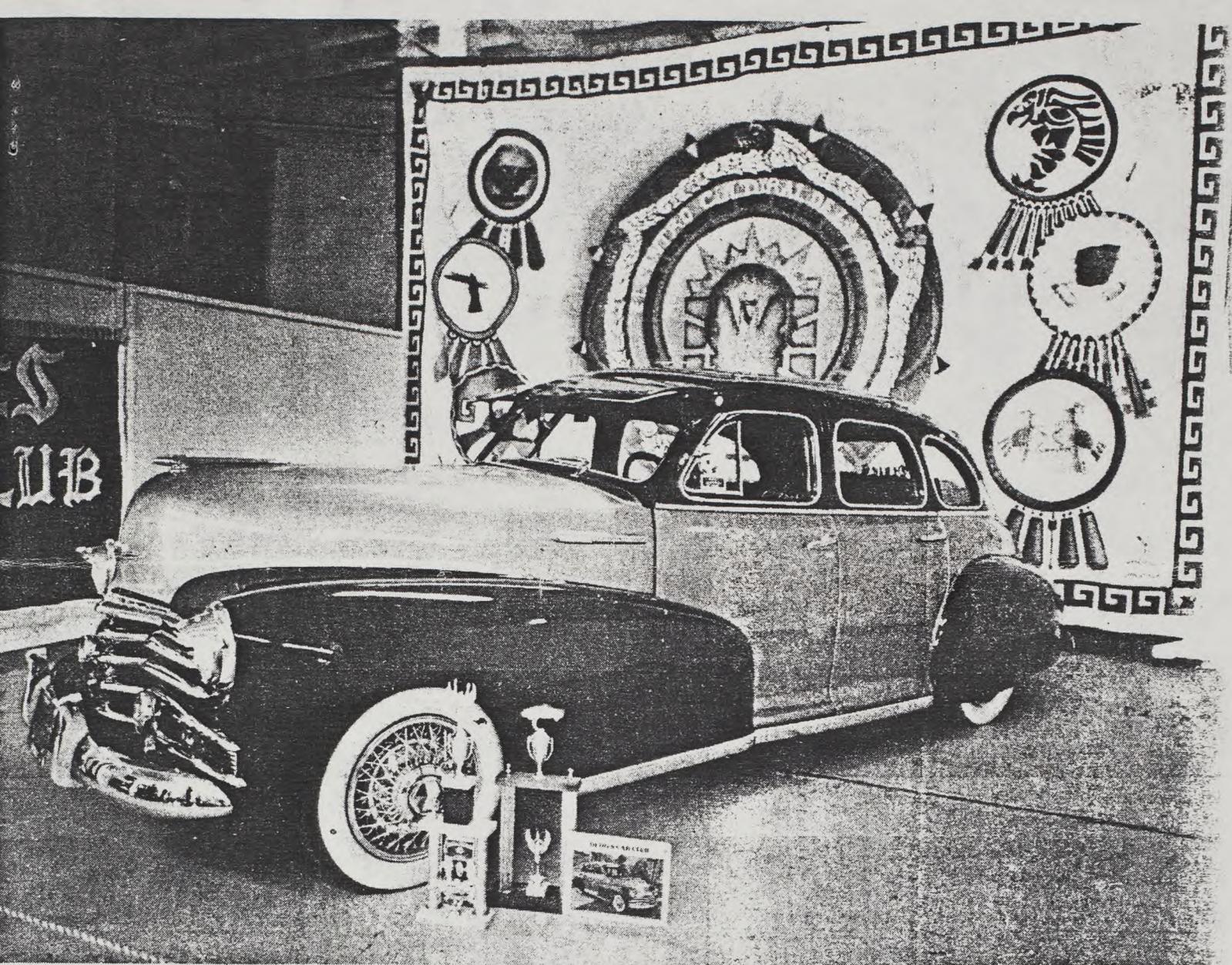
The event will also include a display of customized car know as "low-riders". Each of the twelve car clubs in the LowRider Council will exhibit one of their best show cars. There will also be a display of trophies, car club insignia and other materials relating to the Council.

The San Diego LowRider Car Club Council was organized in 1979 when individual car clubs recognized the need to promote unity between the car clubs and barrios of San Diego County. The group has sponsored the gift giving party for two years, as well as, dances, picnics and other get-togethers. The members are: **Amigos, Brown Image, City, Classics, Custom, Komer, Ladies Pride, Life, New Wave, Oldies, Specials, and San Diego.**

The group is sponsored by the Committee On Chicano Rights, a non-profit, non-government funded grass roots organization dedicated to protecting the civil, constitutional and human rights of La Raza.



Pedro Alvarado (left) shows his 77 Mark V Continental. With him Elsa Sanchez, "Ladies Pride" Car Club and Roberto Garza, "City" Car Club.



— Staff Photos by Bob Ivins

'Day Of Kings': Cars And Smiles

This gleaming masterpiece of restoration was shown yesterday at a car show hosted by the San Diego LowRider Car Club Council at El Centro Cultural de la Raza in Balboa Park.

The 1947 Chevrolet is owned by Jesse Ramirez, vice president of the Oldies Car Club. The mural in the background was painted by Sam Llamas, a San Diego artist.

At right, Teresa Hernandez holds Andrea, 2, who is beaming over her new teddy bear. More than 250 children received gifts donated by the LowRider Club to commemorate "Dia de los Reyes" (Day of the Kings), a time when gifts are traditionally exchanged in Mexico.



THE SAN DIEGO UNION

Sunday, January 11, 1981



Lowriders fete children

The San Diego Lowrider Car Club Council helped more than 200 needy children celebrate Mexico's El Dia de Los Reyes (Day of Kings) over the weekend with a party in Balboa Park's Pepper Grove, outside El Centro Cultural de la Raza.

There was no lack of enthusiasm among the youngsters as they scrambled for prizes from a broken pinata under threatening skies, or lined up to receive special gifts.

— Bob Ivins photo



Photo by: Raul Jaquez

LowRider Car Club Council distributes presents at their second annual gift giving party. (L to R) Jesse Ramirez, Oldies Car Club; Jorge Gonzalez, New Wave Car Club; Veronica Enrique, Director of El Centro Cultural de la Raza; Hector Erbeez, City Car Club and Howard Hollman of the Committee on Chicano Rights.