

# LEGAL DEFENSE FUND COMMITTEE

POST OFFICE BOX 1081  
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647

March 6, 1979

Eduardo Murga, Chairperson  
Tony Gallegos, G.I. Forum  
Haline Overby, NALC  
Robert Griego, IMAGE  
Frank Galaz, LULAC  
Sally Martinez, IWY Delegate  
Francisca Flores, Comicion Femenil  
Ben Rodriguez, G.I. Forum  
Jerry Jaramillo, G.I. Forum  
Alfonso Tafoya, KABC  
Rochelle Ramirez  
Fred Rodriguez, PMAA  
Frank Quevedo, PMAA  
Ralph Ramirez, CLU  
Max Avalos, UFW  
Raoul Nunez  
Martita Cuellar  
Fernando Garcia  
Rey Munoz, Labor Rep.  
Henry Lozano, Congressional Aide  
Irene Tovar  
Gil Guzman  
Al Ramirez  
Manuel Lopez, Esq.  
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Efren Baron, LCLAA  
Ruben Treviso, GRI  
Domingo Rodriguez, IMAGE  
Tomas Archuleta, IMAGE  
Larry Amaya, G.I. Forum  
Jesse McClendon, NAACP  
Partial List

Mr. Herman Baca  
Chairman  
Committee on Chicano  
Rights  
National City

Estimado Hermano Baca

Confirming our discussion  
of March 1, 1979, I, re-  
presenting the LDFC, would  
sincerely appreciate the op-  
portunity to address the  
Chicano Community in the  
San Diego area.

I and other LDFC members  
will be in San Diego on  
Thursday March 8. If we  
can have media coverage,  
all the better. Muchisimas  
gracias. y ¡hasta la vista!

Atentamente,  
Su servidor  
Ed Murga

# LEGAL DEFENSE FUND COMMITTEE

POST OFFICE BOX 1081  
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647

April 27, 1979

Eduardo Morga, Chairperson  
~~Tony Gallegos, G.I. Forum~~  
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Mr. Herman Baca  
Executive Director  
Committee on Chicano Rights  
1837 Highland Avenue  
National City, CA 92050

Estimado Hermano Baca:

This is an invitation for you and some friends de San Diego to attend an event on Friday May 4, 1979. Information is enclosed.

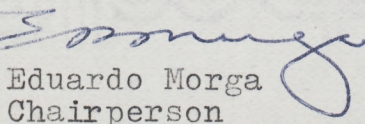
It is planned for you to speak a few minutes regarding the CCR's important work in the border area.

Herman, it looks very much like the grass root folks, and equally important, los corbatones tambien, have awakened as never before, over the issue of los abusos policiacos contra la gente del pueblo. It's a grand feeling to see it happening. Here in Orange county and L. A. County, there are so, so many abuses, it's sickening. Yet, at the same time, I genuinely believe that those neanderthal police brutes have provided the spark we've lacked for so long.

In the last month, Luis Rodriguez and I have made good contacts with The Coalition Against Police Abuse, Padres Y Madres Para La Justicia, Carlos Montes Defense Committee, The Anaheim Peoples Park Committee. These groups represent Wilmington, San Pedro, Long Beach, Whittier, Pacoima, East Los, Anaheim, etc.

This is a wonderful opportunity for your group to tell us about your problems with the undocumented, etc., and to establish contacts on a more formal basis. This is an opportunity you shouldn't miss.

Sinceramente,

  
Eduardo Morga  
Chairperson

Encl: a/s

P.S. Add mecha to the above groups, too

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The Legal Defense Fund Committee is a public, non-profit organization which has been established to help defray legal costs of legal matters not now being addressed by traditional government and privately funded legal defense organizations. Among projects this committee supports are recent recommendations of the American Bar Association pertaining to pre-trial publicity in capital cases. This recommendation states that the sixth amendment right of the accused to a fair trial and the first amendment right to a free press are not placed in conflict by a stipulation that law enforcement officials be prohibited from revealing the following information:

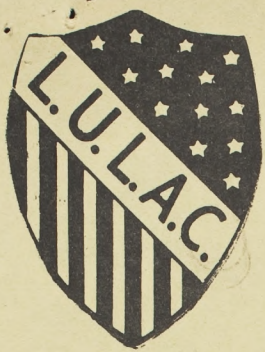
1. The existence and content of confessions
2. Details about previous convictions
3. Speculations on the character of the accused and similar data

This information, being revealed, would constitute prejudicial, pre-trial publicity. The Legal Defense Fund Committee advocated these recommendations and all other similar avenues toward the goal of equal justice for those accused of criminal actions, especially those without the resources to afford competent counsel. This committee's objective is to raise funds for defense purposes, to monitor criminal proceedings in our community, and similar legal activities to protect constitutional rights.

Committee membership is comprised of prominent individuals associated with national and local community organizations. Contributions are solicited of all individuals supportive of committee goals and objectives. Make contributions payable to:

Legal Defense Fund  
P.O. Box 1081  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Contributions are tax deductible under IRS 501.(c) (3).



LEGAL DEFENSE FUND COMMITTEE

P. O. BOX 1081

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA 92647

EDWARD P. MORGA



"LET US BE THE VOICE OF OUR PEOPLE ..."

\*\*\*\*\*

CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA

\*\*\*\*\* DANCE \* BUFFET \* REFRESHMENTS \* \*\*\*\*\*

FRIDAY, MAY 4TH

6 to 1 AM DANCE 9 to 1 AM

PRICE: \$ 25.00 PER PERSON \$250.00 PER TABLE 10 PER TABLE

MUSIC BY: CONJUNTO SERENATA

ST. SAVA HALL, 1640 SO. SAN GABRIEL BLVD. CORNER OF VALLEY BLVD. & SAN GABRIEL

\*SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: MR. DAVID WEINER, LEGAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY, SACRAMENTO, CAL.

\*\*\*\*\* MAIN SPECIAL GUESTS WILL BE PRESENT \*\*\*\*\*

RSVP\*\*

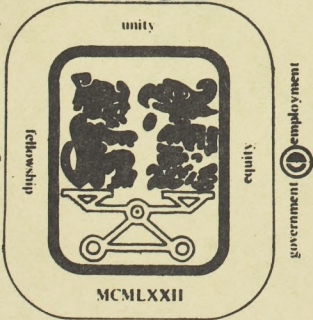
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (213) 949-1545 OR (213) 921-2563 OR (213) 337-7354

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\*\*\* SPONSORS \*\*\* (Partial List)

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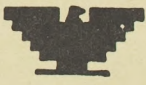
IMAGE



MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

LEGAL DEFENSE FOUNDATION
P.O. BOX 1081
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA. 92647

Guest in



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CHANGING WORLD

## Banner Days for Crime Thanks to Courts, Laws

By John Pinkerman

Two news stories of Dec. 22, 1978, were sad but prophetic.

One story concerned the killing with handguns of two California Highway Patrol officers near Sacramento.

The other story concerned a State Supreme Court decision overturning a law that provided a mandatory prison term for anyone who committed a violent crime with a gun.

There even was a third story whose headline read "Grand Jury Finds Police Used Undue Force."

California is a nutty state and we all know that, but it also is becoming an increasingly dangerous state in which to live. Unfortunately, much of the blame for this can be attached to Gov. Brown, the Supreme Court led by liberal Chief Justice Rose Bird, the courts in their incredible handling of criminal cases and the special interest groups, particularly those associated with black, Mexican-American and other minority groups.

The man and woman who killed the two CHP officers in "execution" fashion had every reason to believe that even if caught, they never would reach the gas chamber or even a sentence that would put them behind bars for the rest of their lives. They also could feel assured that some technicality would bring the Supreme Court to reverse their conviction and that their cheating of justice would go on for many years — at taxpayer expense.

The Supreme Court, in reversing the law on mandatory prison sentences for felons committing violent crimes with guns, said such a mandate would take discretion from judges who might like to impose a probation rather than a prison sentence.

The excessive leeway judges have

today is the very reason crime is so rampant in California and the Supreme Court could not have been more wrong in its reasoning.

Superior Court judges sitting in criminal court occasionally wonder why they see the same criminals back in front of them so often. There are three reasons and one involves themselves.

First, sentences are much too mild, even including the probation that the Supreme Court wants to make available to gunmen.

Second, parole boards are more attuned to the interests of the criminals than to the victims of crimes or the public in general. The urge they feel to set a jailbird loose is why the criminal court judges see the same criminals so often.

Probation, of course, is a joke. The probation officers insist they are overworked; that they cannot keep track of the ex-felons charged to them. Their protests notwithstanding, it would cost far less to keep closer watch on men released from prison than it does to put them through court time and time again.

What all this adds up to is that the permissiveness that characterizes Gov. Brown's way of doing things and the other aspects of official California life have created a disrespect for the law. This disrespect permits minority groups to pelt policemen with rocks, bottles or other weapons, then scream to high heaven — with the courts as sympathetic listeners — when the police take appropriate action to halt violence.

This same disrespect of the law as promoted tacitly by the Supreme Court and all the other courts on down is what cost the two CHP men their lives.

These are sad days for California, and hopes for the future are bleak.

# Tony Castro

# HERALD



## Little Change

Sunny through tomorrow. Little temperature change. Highs both days near 66. Overnight lows in mid 40s. Details: A-12.

Vol. CVIII, No. 267 Phone: 748-1212 Classified: 748-4111 Home Delivery: 748-1222 1111 South

Americans of Mexican descent died in large numbers in defense of their country. They earned Congressional Medals of Honor in disproportionately high numbers.

"We are more American than the other Americans," Tony Gallegos, past national president of the American G. I. Forum, often tells me.

A: Our ideals are marvelous. Liberty and justice for all. Yet it has a procedure that just about undermines it all. That must be painful and embarrassing for that great lady. The legal system states.

# Two CHP Mystery Slayings

## 2 suspects charged in murders

## Woman hunted in slayings Dallas Brutality Conference Displays Chicano Unity

## Q & A

### 'Injustice for All'

#### In Our Courtrooms,

Q: What are the major failings of our adversary judicial system?

A: The most important factor in the adversary system is winning, not getting information or seeking truth. It is a system where anything goes to win. This battle system gives the advantage to wealth, power, and to the weight of viciousness. In the end, the strongest wins, and that does not spell equal justice.

Q: Does the adversary ethic help destroy justice?

A: The adversary ethic has nothing to do with justice. Truth is incidental and justice is accidental. Attorneys are skilled and trained to collude with a client who they know is guilty.

Q: Does justice benefit those who have money, more than those who don't?

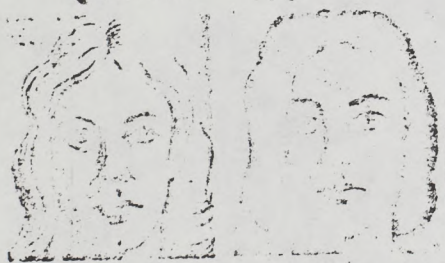
A: Money has a great advantage in our justice system. What is involved is the ability to hire better attorneys and, most important, the ability to hold out longer. The procedure of paying your lawyer long enough over a five-year period is a means of winning, and a disadvantage to those who can't afford justice.

By SCOTT REEVES Staff Writer

WOODLAND — Luis V. Rodriguez and Margaret Klaess were formally charged Tuesday in Yolo County Municipal Court with the slaying Friday of two California Highway Patrol officers.

Murder of an on-duty peace officer is a special circumstance punishable by death under a 1977 law. Each defendant charged with two counts of murder.

The arrests resulted from composite drawings of suspects carried by the news media and information developed by the sheriff's department, officers said.



Composite drawings of suspects

California Correctional Officers Association official Ken Brown said the holiday weekend had delayed the reward offer and that his group wasn't suggesting that the wrong people had been arrested. But he added:

"They haven't been found

#### Growing Outrage

Victims' police attacks have been a source for growing outrage among

Chicanos. (104 cases of alleged brutality were opened in the federal prosecutor's office for the Western District of Texas alone since January of 1978. Fifty-five of the victims have Spanish surnames.)

## Police Abuse: Some incidents

- Santos Rodriguez of Dallas, Texas, a twelve-year-old Chicano boy, was stopped by police officer Darrel Cain for questioning about a service station robbery. As he sat in the seat of the squad car, the policeman put a loaded gun to the head of the boy and "Russian Roulette" style, shot and killed him.

guilty yet. As I understand it, there's some question about the involvement of one of those parties."

He said he was referring to news reports that the defendants did not match composite drawings that were used in their arrests.

The reward brings the total offered in the case to \$18,500. The other offers, from the state and two employee groups, were announced Friday.

Rodriguez' attorney, public defender Rudolph Binsch, said he had been contacted by Rodriguez' father, who lives in the Los Angeles area. Binsch said he was told that a defense committee is being formed and has contacted several prominent defense attorneys, including Bugliosi.

San Diego County to San Diego County

He has been arrested on

A memorial service for the two Please Turn to Page 20, Col. 5

inter asked her: "Tell me, Miss Martinez, in the cosmic view, where do Right here in the god of U.S.A."