

CCOPI FACT SHEET

When Chief of Police William H. Parker appeared before the United States Commission on Civil Rights, he made the reported remark:

Some of these people (he had been talking about Mexican Americans and Latin Americans here) have been here before we were, but some of them are not far removed from the wild tribes of Mexico.

To quote James Wilson of Pennsylvania one of our Republics Founding Fathers and a leading nationalist, probably the most knowledgeable advocate of the constitution and later a distinguished associate justice of the Supreme Court, Wilson said:

In talking about sovereignty, my position is that sovereignty resides in the people. They have not parted with it; they have only dispensed such portions of power as were conceived necessary for the public welfare. This constitution stands upon this principle. This supreme power resides in the people, as the fountain of government. And it is ... the inherent and unalienable right of the people.

As advocates of freedom of choice for the American citizen our country has survived, now is the time for we, the community to pursue the goals of individual rights in a democratic government. The community is calling for a march and rally to expose the sheriffs insensitive policies in the Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs and L.A. County area.

C C O P I
(CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON POLICE ISSUES)

PURPOSE: TO DEMONSTRATE OUR UNITY AGAINST SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT
OPPRESSION ON THE PICO RIVERA AREA.

- GOALS:**
- I. CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
 - II. CIVIL REVIEW BOARD
 - III. COMMUNITY POLICE SCREENING BOARD

The problem of conflict between the Mexican-American community and law enforcement agencies is only symptomatic of much broader social problems seen in the historical and contemporary American scene. These problems are related to class discrimination, racism and an American culture pre-occupied with violence as a simple, direct answer to sensitive, complex, social problems. The suggestion that the United States is a violent society has proven to be a fact as evidenced by the "most comprehensive, authoritative study," of violence ever published. *The National Commission on the "Causes and Prevention of Violence" study, chaired by Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower explores this thesis.

Lack of sensitivity by a dominate racist culture has placed internal instability and repressive force on the largest minority in the Southwest. **A classic example of these forces can easily be found in contemporary Los Angeles police understanding and deployment theories. Theories show a lack of knowledge of the problem, an inadequate application of force to a problem, rather than an application to remedy local social problems in the Mexican-American communities.

The sheriffs that killed Ruben Salazar August 29, 1970 are the same type of sheriffs who killed the "proven innocent" David Aguayo of Jardin barrio in Pico Rivera December 17, 1971. These sheriffs are also the same people who killed three "proven innocent" Mexican nationals in a Los Angeles motel on July, 1971. To add to these injustices the U.S.

* U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Titled the Mexican-American and Justice in the Southwest 1970.

**Ando Sangrando by Armando Morales.

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Commission on Civil Rights in March 1970 stated "the commission heard of only one instance in which an attempt had been made to prosecute an officer for an assault," which is another authoritative example of injustice of Mexican Americans.

The sheriffs have an elite squadron of police organized specifically for gestapo-type tactics to quell community unrest. They are called the "swat squad."

The sheriffs department also have a community relations program. In reality they also infiltrate groups and organizations who speak out against the sheriffs department. *A case involving a professional Mexican-American infiltrator and agitator, Eustacio (Frank) Martinez, who infiltrated MAYO (Mexican-American Youth Organization) in Texas, and the National Chicano Moratorium in California in November 1970. Martinez was an agent for the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Enforcement Division of the U.S. Treasury Department. The Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Enforcement Division added insult and injury to concerned organizations involved in Democratic petitioning of Mexican-American injustices in America.

The sheriffs who attacked the Mexican-American community at the 1970 National Chicano Moratorium, and the students at Isla Vista at the University of Santa Barbara (which resulted in the dismissal of the commanding sheriff officer for animalistic and brutal methods as reported by his own officers) are the same type of sheriffs who committed all the crimes mentioned above. These sheriffs have been patrolling the streets of Pico Rivera and Santa Fe Springs for approximately the last 25 years. The sheriffs will continue political oppressions ie. (freedom of speech, petition and assembly) until we, the community stop them by demanding that the city councils of Pico Rivera and Santa Fe Springs break their contracts with the sheriffs department.

*Regeneracion Vo. II, No. 2, 1972

Los Angeles County
 Sheriff's Department
 Peter J. Pitchess Sheriffs
 FISCAL YEAR 1971-72
 STATISTICAL SUMMARY

NORWALK STATION

	<u>Traffic Accidents</u>	<u>Traffic Citations</u>
Total; 1971-72	514	9594
Total; 1970-71	566	8306
Percent change	-9	+16
<u>CASES HANDLED</u>	<u>Adults Arrested</u>	<u>Juveniles Arrested</u>
71-72 Fiscal Year 6009	1872	1072
70-71 Fiscal Year 6771	1688	1028
Percent -11	+12	+4

There has been an increase in "traffic citation," but decrease in "cases handled" in our community. As a result more patrolling and ticketing of our community rather than actual law and order protection from major crimes has taken place. (Major crimes in America have increased. President's Commission of Crime and Violence 1973). So again more harassment is evident in the form of financial pressure in a community that is already overburdened with property taxes that exceed those of Beverly Hills. What is happening? We have a 16% increase in traffic citations and no substantial increase in population in Pico Rivera. There is an 11% decrease in cases handled. Less law and more crimes facing American society, let alone Pico Rivera. This must stop!!

COST BREAKDOWN
For Sheriffs Contracts
and Miscellaneous Information

	<u>SANTA FE SPRINGS</u>	<u>PICO RIVERA</u>
Amount of Revenue Sharing	\$397,000	\$217,000
Cost of Contract with Sheriff	\$666,816/yr.	\$800,000-1,000,000/yr.
Number of Patrol Cars		3 in morn., 7 in day, 8 at night 1 helicopter
Population	15,000	54,170
Cost/Yr./Individual	\$43.02	\$16.61
Area in sq. miles	8.8	8.4
%spent on law enforcement	11.5%	
Patrol cars per sq. mile		1 patrol car

Through this breakdown, it can be seen that the cost of the Sheriffs Department is excessive. The taxpayer in both Santa Fe Springs and Pico Rivera pays too much for the services they are receiving. There will be also a 5% increase on salaries beginning July 1, 1973. Information gathered from "Pico Rivera Balks Over Sheriff Midyear Hike" L.A. Times March 1973, by Keith Takahashi, Times staff writeer, adds more credibility to an already shakey sheriff and community relations in Pico Rivera.

The cost of a two-man car on a 24 hour schedule, seven days a week is \$280,514. Twenty-nine cities have already protested the rates charged for patrol cars. This information was again gathered from an article in the Los Angeles Times, March 21, 1973, titled "29 Cities Ask Cut in

Cost of Sheriff Fees."

It is feasible and economically advantageous to start a community based police force by:

1. Revenue sharing monies will defer the cost of local governments (state and Local Assistance Act of 1972).
2. All law enforcement officers receive the same police academy training; therefore it is not necessary to contract with Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department. The quality and training of a police officer does not decrease if it is a city controlled police department.
3. There will be direct citizen input and control concerning civilian problems.

The population of Pico Rivera is approximately 55,128 according to OEO 1972 Census statistics. The important facts are the rising amounts of Mexican Americans moving into the Pico Rivera area. Today the Mexican-American population is 61.6% or 3/5ths of the population which is about 33,964 Mexican Americans.

They are also larger statistically in family size. The average family size is 4.3 in Pico Rivera. The average Mexican American family size is 5.7. Anglos have almost reached zero population growth with the average family size being only 2.9 per family. What does all this really mean? These statistics are important to historical and contemporary sheriff deployment theories. They are used to determine police deployment in our community.