



SOMETHING NEW has been added to the "riot control" arsenal of the police department in Daly City, just south of San Francisco — a nightstick hollowed out to contain a canister of MACE, an eye irritant now used on demonstrators.

# In East Palo Alto Sheriff Wars on Poor

Steve Lerman

East Palo Alto has discovered the Enemy does not always fight with billy clubs, tear gas, and shotguns. Fact is, sometimes the Man's so kind and LBJ-like, you forget he's on the other side. Take our kindly county sheriff, Earl B. Whitmore. Just a few days ago the sheriff decided it

was time to dispense some sweetness and light throughout our ghetto. He decided to surprise the community with a gift, but the press got wind of it, and we read that during "national and emergency situations" we will be protected by a "reserve unit" of armed, uniformed patriots "filling their sense of civic responsibility."

East Palo Alto's Municipal Council reacted to the riot force proposal with equal disdain. Ten minutes before the council met, the sheriff had his flunkies hand deliver a letter attempting to butter up the council to counteract the P and F press release (see below) and other community feedback. The sheriff apologized for springing his plans via the press without consulting the council.

The council, made up mostly of moderate blacks, issued a short statement rejecting the riot squad. They also admonished the sheriff for bypassing the community. As one councilman put it, "We'll take care of our own community. He's not going to tell us what to do." (Whatever happened to Uncle Tom?)

During the meeting the council heard recommendations from the P and F dominated audience that East Palo Alto do its own policing and that cops be kept under surveillance to discourage from becoming trigger-happy.

The kindly sherriff sulked: "As far as I'm concerned, that's the end of it (the plan). It's final. I'm not volunteering any more services for the East Palo Alto community." Is that a promise?

## McCarthy

FOR PRESIDENT

To Members of the Peace and Freedom Party:

Do you want to vote for peace and freedom on June 5th in the primary?

Do you want to vote against the war policies of Lyndon B. Johnson and for a candidate - the only candidate - Senator Eugene McCarthy, who advocates peace and freedom in Vietnam and the USA?

There's only one way. You'll have to be registered as a Democrat, at least for the primary. Don't lose your chance to vote against the war! Don't throw away your vote for peace!

We know how many of you feel about the Democratic Party. Many of us agree with you. It is impossible to defend the leadership of the Democratic Party.

Under a false cloak of humanitarianism, the Johnson administration has let our cities become uninhabitable; systematically deprived millions of black and brown citizens of their rights while piously preaching equality; build a military juggernaut which is running amuck, destroyed the small independent farmer, surrendered our great public universities to the barons of industry and brutally ravished small, underdeveloped nations with ruthless efficiency which has appaled and alienated most of the people of the world.

How can you vote for peace and freedom on June 5th? By re-registering in the Democratic Party long enough to help us dump Johnson in the California primary. This can be accomplished by electing a slate of delegates to the Democratic

National Convention who will be pledged to support a candidate opposing Johnson's war policies.

After the June primary, you can return to the Peace and Freedom Party knowing that you did what you could to help fight the only meaningful battle on the political horizon at this moment.

Even with your help we may not win. But your children and mine never will forgive us if we don't try. And let's not be too pessimistic. Remember they said the Peace and Freedom Party couldn't do it either.

Fraternally,

*Simon Casady*  
Simon Casady.

This advertisement was placed by the Stanford Committee for McCarthy, P.O. Box 1846, Stanford, 94305. Telephone: 327-3634.

## local news

### San Mateo County

#### District 4

(Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood City, Woodside)

Three interesting guest speakers and a long, dull discussion of the district policy statement were the ingredients of the Feb. 18 meeting. The policy statement is an excellent piece of work by John Glancy and his committee, but the discussion of it plank by plank, often involving nitpicking type alterations, chewed up nearly two hours of meeting time.

Jim Vann of the state steering committee offered some bright spots in his remarks. The push for getting the vote for 18 year olds will be emphasized at the upcoming state convention. He also discussed the growing Mexican-American support for P and F. He told the members that if P and F is to spread, all must invest financially to support the movement.

Claire Huddleston discussed the recent Woodside High School narcotics citations. She has been circulating material informing the students of their legal rights. Pressure is being brought upon the Redwood City Tribune by a group of parents to have the paper change its policy of printing the names of minors cited on minor charges. Also the parents and Mrs. Huddleston feel that teacher-student rapport is undermined when the schools are used for interrogation.

David Ransom, candidate of Congress from San Mateo discussed his background, particularly his research into the military-industrial complex as it affects the Bay Area. His manner is brash, but it bespeaks a certain tenacity which might serve him well in the heat of campaign debates. Mr. McCloskey likes to debate and is good at it. Mr. Ransom gave the impression that he might match him.

The next district meeting will convene at 8 pm March 28 at Washington School, Redwood City to discuss the state platform.

-Eileen Gray.

#### District 6

EAST PALO ALTO Peace and Freedom Movement met March 3 to select state delegates, discuss local action projects and determine how to vote as a district for the state platform. Results of our actions: delegates are John Stidd, Larry Tesler and alternate Renata Cormier. We will publicize voting places and dates in the next Liberator so all members can vote on the state platform if they wish without felling the need to go to a meeting or convention to do so. Local actions discussed were the sheriff's riot squad plan (details elsewhere in this issue), a counter action to unethical sales-people working in the community and publicizing our stands on issues. Sylvia Fontaine reported on the Model Cities Grant Application preliminary work. Members are urged to attend the Model Cities, Municipal Council and school board meetings to learn about activities in the community.

Contact Glends Jones, 2163 Dumbarton, E.O.A. (322-7188) if you want to be active in our group or for information about EPA Peace and Freedom.

### P F M Reacts

"Sheriff Whitmore's plan for a part-time riot squad in East Palo Alto is a declaration of war on the people and will create new burdens and problems in the community," Glenda Jones, Chairwoman of the East Palo Alto Peace and Freedom Movement, stated today.

The plan proposed by the San Mateo County sheriff would establish a uniformed and armed unit of local residents to serve in "national or emergency" situations.

"A reserve unit under the command of the sheriff rather than volunteers controlled by the people will lead to an increased use of police violence," said Mrs. Jones. "Last summer the volunteer squads organized by the community's Black Community Relations Association were successful in patrolling trouble spots and minimizing outside police harassment."

"The sheriff's plan is a direct contradiction of the recommendations of the report released this week by the President's Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders. The disturbances of last summer in our country were not sparked by isolated incidents of police brutality, but were a direct result of a series of confrontations between police and citizens. There seems to be a nationwide policy of police chiefs and urban leaders to escalate the use of police and military violence in our black communities in the coming months," she said.

Mrs. Jones, a resident of East Palo Alto and candidate for the 26th Assembly District, noted the plan also contradicts the recommendations of East Palo Alto members on a planning committee for the current Model Cities Grant Application.

The committee issued a preliminary report this week charging that "The existing system doesn't work in the community and the need was expressed to change the whole law enforcement system in East Palo Alto. The Sheriff's Department isn't doing the job..." The committee called for "local control of law enforcement" supervised and supported by the residents.

"In view of this it is arrogant of the sheriff to attempt to impose his will on the community without consultation," Mrs. Jones remarked. "Is this his first move in his campaign for Congress?"

The Peace and Freedom Club in East Palo Alto has adopted in recent months a platform plank on police-community relations, calling for local hiring and control of officers, a citizens review board, local residence requirement and adoption of a policy that police should not carry lethal weapons on routine patrol.

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