

City Newsletter



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Prepared by the Office of the City Manager

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Dedication of the City Hall Annex Planned

The move to the new City Hall Annex by the Water Department, Finance & Records, Planning and Public Works Departments was accomplished with barely a ripple on December 16, 1967.

Dedication of the new annex will take place on Saturday morning, January 20, 1968. Officials from cities in the Monterey Bay area and county, state and Federal dignitaries are being invited to attend. All other friends and neighbors who can attend are also cordially invited.

Riot Control

The Police Department has studied some of the preliminary conclusions by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders which is the commission appointed by the President to study the causes and cures of civil disorder problems.

Some of the commission's recommendations are:

- 1) Local police must have adequate training in riot control, including training in working in unison by squads and larger groups of officers.
- 2) Local police must be fully and properly equipped for riot control duties at all times.
- 3) Police equipment must include protective equipment for the officer and especially non-lethal weapons such as chemical agents and riot batons so that several alternative control methods may be utilized.

For Santa Cruz the threat of the larger scale civil disorder problems, although not as probable as in many communities, is possible when considering the broad spectrum of causes leading to riotous conditions. Among these are the street congregation and disorderly conduct by large numbers of youths in beach communities; street demonstrations by groups for personal or political reasons; demonstrations on campuses turning into unlawful assemblies or riots; social or sport event spectators succumbing to mass hysteria due to emotional factors often present at these events; and finally the requirement to assist neighboring agencies with similar problems under mutual aid agreements.

With these considerations in mind, coupled with police studies and observations over the past months, the police department has gradually built up its capacity to handle and control the larger scale disturbances and riotous conditions. They have increased the amount of officers in formal riot control training programs; increased the frequency of the training and reviewed and