

Interpol police are challenged

The Privacy Protection Study Commission, established by Congress last year, has told a privacy advocacy group that it plans to investigate Interpol, the private international police intelligence cooperative.

Officials of the National Commission on Law Enforcement (NCLE) were informed of the decision by John F. Barker, public affairs director of the privacy commission which is located in Washington, D.C.

The NCLE met with the privacy commission to turn over information it has obtained during two years of research into the operations and history of Interpol.

In the 28-page report to the commission, the NCLE charged that Interpol is a threat to the privacy of every man, woman, and child in the U.S.

The report included examples of individuals who had been victimized by false Interpol files, and falsely arrested in Europe, based on what the commission termed politically motivated erroneous and damaging information.

Jeff Friedman, national chairman of the NCLE, stated, "Interpol is a private international police cooperative, which sells its membership to any country that will buy it. It is housed in the U.S. Treasury Building, and has access to local and federal information files which it can distribute to 122 foreign countries, many of which are communist and fascist states." The NCLE report documents that Cuba, Romania

and Yugoslavia are member countries of Interpol.

Friedman explained, "Once these files leave the United States, citizens have no recourse to see or correct them. This circumvents all privacy legislation, and is a grave problem that calls for study by the Privacy Protection Study Commission."

The NCLE supplied information to the privacy commission concerning individuals who have been victimized by false Interpol reports. One case involved an internationally famous writer who claimed Interpol attempted to block publication of his book. The book, according to the NCLE, was "On the Neo-Nazi movement and protection of Nazi war criminals."

Friedman stated, "It is no wonder Interpol would send false data to potential publishers to block publication of this book. Interpol's presidents from 1934-45 were the heads of SS and Gestapo. Richard Heydrich and Ernst Kaltenbrunner, and as late as 1972, Interpol's president was former SS Officer Paul Dickopf, SS no. 327239."

Interpol itself has a history of protecting Nazi war criminals by writing resolutions not to assist in locating them. They claim genocide is a political crime, and they have evolved in politics."

The NCLE has caused four congressional investigations into Interpol, and two Senate bills have been proposed to ban Interpol operations. The California Assembly

Criminal Justice Committee, voted unanimously this month, to carry out an intensive study of Interpol and other private intelligence groups, before voting on AB 2888, a bill which would prohibit California agencies from giving or receiving information to and from Interpol.

Assemblyman Arthur Torres felt the bill was not broad enough to include other private groups, and that further investigation should be done.

The NCLE, whose purpose is to investigate abusive intelligence practices, has offices in 30 cities in the U.S., with related organizations currently in more than 10 countries.

Equality day set for women

A full day of celebration highlighting the achievement of American women is scheduled for the Third Annual Women's Equality Day in Detroit, Thursday, Aug. 26.

Serving as general co-chairpersons for this year's Women's Equality Day festivities are June Ridgway and Alma Stallworth. In a joint statement they said, "In this Bicentennial year it is important that we remember and recognize the ongoing contributions of women to the birth and building of our great nation."

Major events of Women's Equality Day will take place on the Kern Block in downtown Detroit. Featured will be nationally known speakers of particular interest to women, including Ida Lewis, editor and publisher of Encore magazine and Worldwide News, Dr. E. E. Pettigrew, professor of physiology at Michigan State University, U.S. State Department official Janet Dugg, Pennsylvania Secretary of State, C. Delores Tucker and Odessa Kramer, Director of the United Auto Workers' Women's Department.

In addition to the speakers, there will be an array of special programs for and about women, including the presentation of "Women of the Year" awards.

Throughout the day, booths, set up on the Kern Block site, will provide important information and free health tests to participants.

Sponsored by more than 50 women's organizations and the City of Detroit's Human Rights Department and Bicentennial Commission, Women's Equality Day commemorates the passage of female suffrage legislation in America.

Class Reunions

NORTH FARMINGTON

North Farmington High School's class of 1971 will hold its five-year reunion Sept. 10 in Bloomfield House Hall, 2191 South Telegraph.

Betsy Plagens is heading the arrangements committee, and those helping her round up former classmates are Mark Kopp, Connie Crawford, Deb Gorman and Rick Fustling.

Reservations or information are being accepted by Miss Plagens, 2204 Violet, Farmington, 475-5255.

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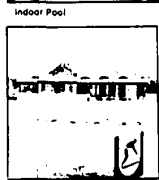
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