



NACIO GETS it in the neck. photo by Hoffman

PIGS PRESS PRESS, PRESS PRESS BACK

As a result of the past two weeks in Berkeley, the pigs have one more enemy in their fight to control the people. The mass media.

Such upstanding news sources as AP, UPI, THE SF CHRON AND EXAMINER, and even the Berkeley GAZETTE, (will they ever learn?) have been hassled, beaten, busted, had a few cameras smashed, and even wounded by shotguns.

The pigs have made worse mistakes . . . but few have had so much on-the-scene coverage.

Beaten and busted on Tuesday, May 20th, was Nacio Jan Brown, a photographer for Associated Press and the GOOD TIMES of San Francisco.

Nacio tells his story: "I was standing on the corner of Channing Way and Telegraph about 2:15 and a couple of cops told me to move. I walked about 50 feet down the street, but in the doorway of Fraser's two or three of them grabbed me, slammed me up and over a patrol car, and went through my pockets."

"I told them I had my BPD-issued press pass in my front pocket, and one of them answered me: 'We don't want to see nuthin', mother-fucker!'"

The pigs then threw Nacio into a wagon, and when it was full, into a bus, headed for Santa Rita.

At the "rehabilitation center", Nacio's camera gear was taken from him; when he was bailed out at 2 am the following morning, his film was exposed, and one roll was twisted up in his camera.

Nacio also found out that the pigs were out to get his ass as soon as he showed up on the street again.

Friday, May 23rd, he was grabbed and dragged towards the wagon with a club at his neck; the only thing that saved him was the 20 or so photographers and reporters within fifteen feet of the scene. The pigs decided that they'd already made enough mistakes with the press for the week, and let him go.

Among those wounded Thursday, May 15th, by shotgun blasts, were Ron Alexander (AP and BARB) and reporters from the LA TIMES and the SF CHRON. On the way to the first aid station to have his wounds dressed, Alexander then had his film of the day's happenings ripped off by a car-load of CHP.

Tuesday, May 20th, Berkeley GAZETTE reporter August Maggie was beaten up rather badly and left on Shattuck Avenue by some

pigs.

Friday, May 23rd, several newsmen were hassled on Telegraph at Bancroft, while photographing busts. Reverend Jack Holper of UPI had a camera smashed, as did Fran Ortiz from the SF EXAMINER. UPI-man Steve Ginesi received a club in the ribs, along with Louis de la Torres from AP.

Dig? the pigs are hinting to the straight press that it is better not to photograph pigs doing their thing.

Or to write about it. No one will give two cents for CHRON-reporter Tim Findley's ass if he is ever busted in Alameda County again. ("I Was A Prisoner In Santa Rita", SF Chronicle, Sat. May 24th).

Controlling the press need not extend as far as guns and clubs in Berkeley, either. Daily press passes were issued for from May 15th through May 25th, by the Berkeley Police Dept. and Sheriff Madigan.

They were "confiscated" on the street anytime a pig felt like it. AP, RAMPARTS, Black Star, and a camera team for an Italian TV network had their passes ripped off in one sweep by Alameda Sheriffs.

Martin Gladstone of the Daily Cal had to split the action on Shattuck last week when his pass was "confiscated" in the midst of the action.

Not that the passes are worth that much under close scrutiny, BARB assistant editor Jon Jakobson put his press pass, his best suit, and his best foot forward last week on Shattuck Avenue, and returned with the shit beat out of him.

The BARB and other members of the Underground Press have been putting up with such treatment ever since they began; but it's relatively "new" to the straight press.

The coverage on Berkeley has been too "radical" for the pigs' pigs; a few editors and networks won't make their deals with the pig big-wheels, so the man is trying to control the press Chicago Convention style.

HELP!

Nacio Jan Brown, a movement photographer in the Bay Area, needs witnesses to his bust on Tuesday, May 20th, in front of Fraser's on the Ave at about 2:15. Any witnesses who saw the incident are urged to call 848-4044 and leave their name and phone number so he may contact them.