

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1193641-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 2  
Page 71 ~ b6; b7C;  
Page 192 ~ b6; b7C;

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X   Deleted Page(s)     X
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X   For this Page       X
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# Memorandum



To : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44A-LA-119954) Date 3/26/91

From : SA [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

Subject: LAURENCE M. POWELL, ET AL, OFFICERS, LOS ANGELES,  
CALIFORNIA POLICE DEPARTMENT; RODNEY GLENN KING,  
AKA-VICTIM;  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Due to the volume of paper being processed in this case, the following sub files should be opened:

302's - A  
Investigation by outside agencies - B  
Medical records - C  
News clippings - D  
Public correspondence - E  
TED J. BRISENO - F1  
STACEY C. KOON - F2  
LAURENCE M. POWELL - F3  
TIMOTHY EDWARD WIND - F4  
Police interviews FD-302's - G

This memo is to remain attached to the top file cover in each respective file.

44A-LA-119954

[REDACTED]  
(2)

SUB A - FD302's  
B - Investigation by Outside Agencies  
C - Medical Records  
D - News Clippings  
E - Public Correspondence  
F1- Ted J. Briseno  
F2- Stacey C. Koon  
F3- Laurence M. Powell  
F4- Timothy Wind  
G - Police Interviews FD302's  
H - Financial Matters  
I - Subpoenas  
J - Grand Jury Transcripts  
K - Garrity FD302's

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b7C

# Memorandum



To : SAC, Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954)

Date 3/20/91

From : SA

b6  
b7C

Subject : LAURENCE M. POWELL, ET AL, OFFICERS, LOS ANGELES,  
CALIFORNIA POLICE DEPARTMENT; RODNEY GLENN KING,  
AKA - VICTIM  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Due to the volume of paper being processed in this case, the following sub files should be opened.

302's ✓  
Investigation by outside agencies <sup>B</sup>  
Medical records <sup>C</sup>  
News clippings <sup>V</sup>  
Public concerns <sup>C</sup>

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44A-LA-119954 sub E-1

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MAR 20 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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44A-LA-119954-E-2

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]



[REDACTED]  
LOS. ANGELES .CA 90018  
MARCH 12. 1991

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
1100 WILSHIRE BLVD.  
WEST WOOD, CALIFORNIA 90024

TO THE DIRECTOR OF KING INVESTIGATION

WHAT I FEEL IS THAT THEY  
SHOULDN'T BEAT THEM  
TO DEATH SO THEY SHOULD  
BE THROWN OUT OF  
THE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
BECAUSE THEY ARE NO  
GOOD NO MATTER WHAT  
COLOR ARE THEY SO  
THEY SHOULD GIVE THEM  
TIME IN THE COUNTY  
JAIL FOR POLICE  
BRUTALITY THAT WAS  
JUST LIKE 187 MURDER  
SO THEY SHOULD DO  
THAT TO THE COPS WHO  
BEAT HIM UP THAT NOT  
FAR JUST SPENDING  
THAT NOT FAR TO GET  
BEAT HIM UP FOR THAT.

Thank you

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Susan Miller Dorsey King

3037 FARMDALE AVENUE

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90016

LOS ANGELES, CA 90018



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b7C

Flower  
USA

For U.S. addresses only

AP-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
1100 WILSHIRE BLVD.  
WEST WOOD, CALIFORNIA 90024

always been known that police officers often  
harass minorities especially teenagers. I as a  
teenager feel that this is not right. Our ancestors  
went through a lot of suffering so that we could  
get a chance to live like we should as equals, but  
it seems like all that wasn't enough.

So now that this has happened, How are  
we suppose to look up to police officers as people  
who protect us when basically all they are doing is  
hurting us.

Sincerely Yours

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address]

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44-47-11995-1E-3

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAR 13 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

b6  
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Los Angeles Calif 90018  
March 12, 1991

Federal Bureau  
of Investigation  
11000 Wilshire Blvd  
Westwood, CA 90024

Dear FBI

I am writing this letter regarding the incident with Rodney King. I was really upset to hear about the brutality that was placed on that poor helpless black man.

I thought the police were suppose to "protect and serve", at least that's what they say. However all I ever see them doing is harassing and abusing people. What am I suppose to think? Right now all I think is that the police officers are just racist men and women who feel that just because they have a badge they are better than me. Also I what am I to do? Am I suppose to call the police when I'm in trouble, but how can I do that if I'm scared of them?

To me this incident just provoked the racist feelings that blacks felt in the past. I thought all of that was over, but it seems more like it is starting up again. So how is it going to be now? Is it going to be Blacks against whites or is it going to be minorities against police officers?

Police officers don't have a good reputation anyway. This just made it worse. It has

44A-LA-119957-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 13 1991	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

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March 6, 1991

Dear Mrs. Lawler:  
We hope you give this case all  
you've got!!! Here in Colorado,  
many of us are waiting and hoping for  
the full convictions of the many officers  
involved in this case!!

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b7C

P.S. Please don't disappoint us.

PO Box   
Marina del Rey, CA 90295

b6  
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Mr. Tom Bradley  
Mayor of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Bradley:

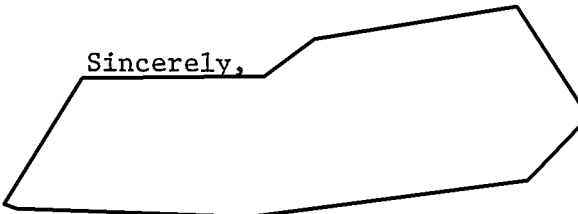
I am writing to express my horror, disgust, and overwhelming feeling of dread in regard to the incident I watched on the news involving the Los Angeles Police Department and Rodney King. At best, the police officers behavior resembles Ku Klux Klan activity. With so many gang problems in Los Angeles, we cannot, should not and will not accept similar gang-like behavior from the police department. I am sickened by this appalling behavior and saddened that the public now has to wonder if THEY are safe from the police.

I would like to see all officers involved permanently lose their jobs and SERVE JAIL TIME. They clearly broke the law. If a civilian beat an officer that brutally, the civilian would most certainly be in jail.

THE PUBLIC WILL NOT AND CAN NOT TOLERATE AND BE SUBJECT TO POLICE GANG-LIKE TACTICS!!!!!!!!!!

TAKE ACTION.....POLITICAL STATEMENTS WON'T MAKE THIS PROBLEM GO AWAY!!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely,



b6  
b7C

P.S PLEASE CONSIDER FIRING THE POLICE CHIEF GATES!!!!!! WE NEED SOMEONE WHO WILL CLEAN UP THE RANKS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

XC: FBI  
Governor Pete Wilson  
President George Bush  
District Attorney's Office - *Los Angeles*

44A-LA-119957E-5

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MAR 13 1991	
FBI — LOS ANGEL <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 40px; height: 15px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	

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b7C

Agent-in-Charge, FBI:

I was so revolted by the experience of Rodney King who was brutalized by the L.A. Police recently that I immediately thought to myself that you should become involved because of your great prestige and honorable reputation.

The Los Angeles Police Dept. I am convinced is rampant with criminal behavior towards citizens. What happened to Rodney King is not an isolated experience.

You see, I was also assaulted beaten and kicked with the connivance of L.A. Policeman [redacted]

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I had to flee the Downtown area in confusion and terror on [redacted] The incident was reported to the proper authorities but nothing was ever done about it.

My attorney advised me to forget the whole thing and just to avoid going downtown. He said it would be very costly for me in money and time - also very dangerous because the Police cover up for each other at any cost.

I will always be willing to take a lie detector test as to the facts of my experience.

I am a retired [redacted] year old man just seeking peace of mind. In my old age perhaps I will expire with this contempt for Police, and it is a sorrow to me because I had been reared to respect them.

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Thank you for your attention



44A-LA-119254-E6

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MAR 13 1991		
FBI — LOS ANGELES		

[redacted]

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[REDACTED]

7 March 1991

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Los Angeles, California 90016

Federal Bureau of Investigations  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, California 90024

City Hall ( Tom Bradley, Mayor )  
200 N. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Los Angeles Police Department ( Community Relations Dept.)  
150 N. Los Angeles St.  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Commission on Civil Rights  
3660 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, California 90012

American Civil Liberties Union  
633 Shatto Pl.  
Los Angeles, California 90005

The Brotherhood Crusade  
200 E. Slauson Ave.  
Los Angeles, California 90011

California Highway Patrol ( Southern Division )  
411 N. Central Ave. Suite # 410  
Glendale, California 91203

Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (Community Relations)  
111 N. Hill  
Los Angeles, California 90012

44A-LA-119957E7

SEARCHED	[REDACTED]	b6
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MAR 13 1991		
FBI - LOS ANGELES		



I am writing this letter to express my outrage regarding the 3 March 1991 beating of Rodney Glen King at the hands of Los Angeles Police Department Officers and other Civil Servant "bystanders."

It is my understanding that the role of the Los Angeles Police Department is to " Protect and Serve " the community. This leads me to five basic questions:

1. Who was the LAPD protecting and serving ?
2. What was the LAPD protecting and serving ?
3. When was the LAPD protecting and serving ?
4. Where were they protecting and serving ?
5. Why were they protecting and serving ?

If any of these five questions results in a justifiable and valid answer (keeping in mind the brutalization of a human being) by the LAPD, please let the world know. I have come to the realization that we (people) are violent by nature; not because of the injustices bestowed upon us by others. Nevertheless, I call for the immediate resignation of Police Chief, Daryl Gates, and pray that we (people) set the scales of justice in its' proper place.

"If God be for us, who can be against us ?" ROMANS:8

I stand in respect for Rodney Glen King and Family.

[Redacted Signature]

March 6, 1991

Agent in charge Lawrence Lawler  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
11000 Wilshire Blvd - suite 1700  
Los Angeles, California - 90024

Dear Mr. Lawler:

As a man who did not become an agent due to the lack of a Law degree or CPA degree after the War, and regret it to this day; I am writing to you with the sincere hope your office will investigate and prosecute the dispicable and cowardly police officers who beat the black young man a few days ago.

As a veteran of the Air Forces I am appalled at the inhuman treatment given a citizen of these United States.

I am a white man...an older white man at that, and yet I want to strip away the years and take on the HYENA'S that beat a man while he was down with night sticks and kicked him in the head.

What brave men these are. What sub humans are they is a better term.

It is the duty of our Federal Government anyone..regardless of there station in life..for what they did.

44A-LA-11955-1E-8

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RAY	13 1991	
FBI — LOS ANGELES		

SHAME

SHAME

SHAME

★ THE SOLDIERS OF IRAQ GET BETTER TREATMENT THAN  
OUR OWN CITIZENS.

THE RAGE WITHIN ME AT THIS INHUMAN SPECTACLE  
IS SINCERE AS IT MUST BE FOR A MILLION OTHER  
PEOPLE LIVING IN THE BLESSED CALIFORNIA.....

NOT MISSISSIPPI

Please do what you can as I know in my heart  
you will.

Sincerely

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address Line 1]

[Redacted Address Line 2]

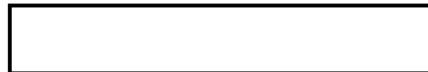
[Redacted Address Line 3]

Sherman Oaks, California - 91423

[Redacted Address Line 4]

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President b7C



Encino, Ca. 91436



March 11, 1991

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U.S. Dept. of Justice  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

**THE RODNEY KING INCIDENT**

Dear Sir or Madame:

The King Incident is deplorable. The scene bespeaks South Africa now, Mississippi and a Klu Klux Klan rally before the lynching. First you beat 'em then you hang 'um.

That young man could have been one of the 30% of the African-American fighting force in the Gulf War. He could have been my son.

There is something seriously wrong with the Los Angeles Police Department and some changes need to be made. Gates and his gang of hoodlums have got to go. It's time for a new order, a new day. **"TO PROTECT AND SERVE"** is a joke. There is no respect for the citizens and visa versa.

Too many times in the recent past have these so-called **"aberrations"** occurred. This vigilante/racist mentality has got to go. The policy starts at the top and its pervasive. The prosecution of the 3 "officers" who were doing the actual beating is not enough. The policy is obviously condoned from the hierarchy, it's happened too many times. **GATES MUST GO!**

I'm sure this letter will not be seen or read by the person to whom its addressed but as a concerned citizen I must speak my mind on this issue.

44-1A-LA-11995-166  
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SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_  
MAR 15 1991  
Los Angeles, CA 90001 FBI - LOS ANGELES

March 8, 1991

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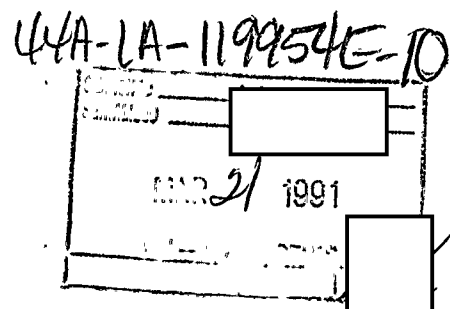
[REDACTED]  
FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA 92708

THIS LETTER IS IN REGARD TO THE CIVILIAN VIDEO TAPING OF THE POLICE BRUTALITY AGAINST MR. RODNEY KING ON SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 1991 AT 12:53 AM IN LAKEVIEW TERRACE. I BELIEVE THAT THOSE HORRIBLE POLICEMEN (WHO SHOULD NOT EVEN BE CALLED POLICEMEN) SHOULD BE CASTRATED. JUST FIRING THEM (WITHOUT PENSION) IS TOO GOOD FOR THEM FOR THE UNTHINKABLE BEATINGS THEY GAVE TO MR. KING. THEY TREATED HIM AS THOUGH HE WAS AN ANIMAL. WE DON'T EVEN KICK OUR MAD DOGS IN THE STREETS! THIS MAN IS A HUMAN BEING AND WAS BEATEN BEYOND ANY REASONING. HE WAS NOT OFFERING ANY RESISTANCE. THERE IS NOT A THING IN THIS WORLD HE COULD HAVE DONE SO BAD AS TO WARRANT THIS KIND OF POLICE BRUTALITY. THIS HAS MADE ME AND ALL MY FAMILY SICK TO OUR STOMACHS. OUR BROTHER IS A POLICEMAN AND WE ARE CLOSER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT THAN MOST PEOPLE, AND HAVE MORE RESPECT FOR THE LAW THAN MOST, BUT THIS IS DISGUSTING!

FROM ALL EVIDENCE OF OUR PRISONERS RETURNING FROM WAR IN IRAQ, NONE OF THEM SUFFERED ANYTHING SUCH AS RODNEY KING SUFFERED AT THE HANDS OF THESE SO-CALLED COPS!! THIS SHOWED NO REGARD FOR THIS HUMAN LIFE. I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED HAD MR. KING DIED. YOU'D BETTER THANK GOD THAT HE DIDN'T. WE, THE WHOLE NATION, ARE ENRAGED BY THIS ATROCITY! THESE MEN SHOULD BE SUSPENDED FROM WORK-NOT PUT IN DESK JOBS. THEY SHOULD BE CHARGED FOR ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPONS AND PUT IN JAIL.

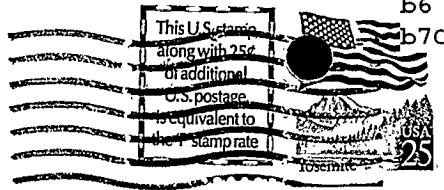
WE ARE SENDING COPIES OF THIS LETTER TO CHIEF DARYL GATES, COMMISSIONER MELANIE LOMAX, MAYOR TOM BRADLEY, SENATOR JOHN SEYMORE, CONGRESSMAN CHRISTOPHER COX, CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR PETE WILSON, ATTORNEY BOB REMZER, THE FBI, LA COUNTY SHERIFF FOR LAKEVIEW TERRACE, AND PRESIDENT BUSH.

b6  
b7C





Fountain Vly, Ca  
92708



complaint Desk  
FBI 117

11000 Wilshire Bl  
Los Angeles, Ca 90024

March 8, 1991

Los Angeles Police Department  
150 North Los Angeles Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Rodney King: Victim of L.A. Police brutality

Sir:

My name is [redacted] and I live in Ventura County. I am white  
caucasian.

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As long as I am alive and a citizen of America I will protest any unfair treatment (that I am aware of) being targeted at another human being.

The video on Sunday evening showing six officers armed with guns, sticks, and a stun gun beating an unarmed man who had obviously already submitted to arrest has enraged me. The man who was lying prostrate on the ground, except for a few times when he attempted to raise himself to his knees, had already lost his right to defend himself. The moment those officers pointed six guns at this man they had all the control they needed.

To my utter astonishment I saw at least 10-11 other officers watching this scene at close range. They did not lift a voice or raise a hand in protest of this treatment. It was as if they were used to this sort of thing. How else would you interpret such nonchalance? Those officers who were onlookers are just as guilty as if they had done it themselves. Their indifference suggests to me that their leader, Daryl Gates has condoned this practice in the past. They seemed to know that they could get away with it - except for the video. Thank God for that young man's courage to submit it.

Those officers by directing their blows to the sensitive areas e.g. the ankle bones, shins, ribs, and face leads me to believe that their intent was to hurt this man and to make him suffer.

This man certainly has been made to suffer both emotional and physical damage. However, in the midst of this violent episode there is something positive. First, the very fact that over 80,000 people from all over the country have lifted their voices in protest and more are coming in. America you still have a conscious. We do care about others. We are not desensitized to violence. We are not submitting to fear. We are not shirking our responsibility. Second, we are going to find out the strength or weakness of our justice system. We are going to find out if justice really is for all or not.

Respectfully,

[redacted]  
Thousand Oaks

cc: ✓ FBI  
ACLU  
Mayor Tom Bradley  
L.A. Times

44A-LA-119954E-11

SEARCHED	[redacted]
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
MAR 21 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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[REDACTED]  
Los Angeles, CA 90018  
March 11, 1991

b6  
b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
1100 Wilshire Blvd  
Westwood, CA 90024  
March 11, 1991

To the Rodney King Investigation Director

I am a student at Susan Miller Dorsey High School.  
I am writing because I am very concerned about the Rodney King incident which occurred on March 3. I think brutally beating Rodney King was unnecessary. Even if Rodney was resisting arrest. The police officers had no business beating him up like they did. There were 11 police officers on the scene of the crime. Somebody could have been generous and broke it up. Police officers also say that he was going 115mph in a 3 year old Hyundai Excel which is not capable of reaching such speeds. There have been other cases of police brutality. I would like to know have those cases of police brutality been investigated?

Thank you for your time and consideration.  
Please respond.

Sincerely

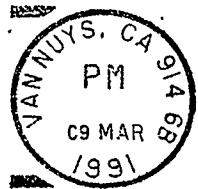
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[REDACTED]

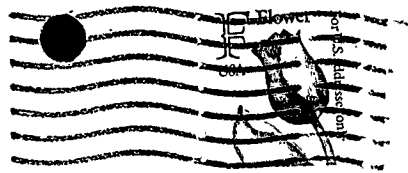
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SERIALIZED [REDACTED] b7C  
MAR 14 1991  
FBI - LOS ANGELES [REDACTED]

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
Thousand Oaks, Ca. 91362



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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
Complaint Desk

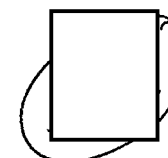
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1 - Addressee  
① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954)(AP-1)



(2)

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44A-LA-119954-E-12/a



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

11000 Wilshire Boulevard #1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
March 18, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Los Angeles, California 90018

b6  
b7C

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This letter is in response to your letter, dated March 11, 1991, in which you express your views on the Rodney King incident, and also ask whether or not we have investigated other cases of police brutality. The answers you are requesting is, yes. Title 18, Section 242 of the United States Code provides that whoever, under collar of any law, willfully subjects any inhabitant of any state to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunity secured or protected by the constitution or laws of the United States, or to different punishments, pains or penalties, on account of such inhabitant being an alien, or by reason of his color, or race, shall be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if death results shall be subject to imprisonment for any term of years or for life. Therefore, any time an individual believes that a law enforcement officer, who is an individual who is acting under the "collar of law", has subjected him, or her, to different "punishments, or pains", on account of his or her race, then that person is free to file a civil rights complaint with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This office has conducted many civil rights investigations in the past, although very few have received the notoriety of the Rodney King incident.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE G. LAWLER  
Special Agent in Charge

By: [REDACTED]

Supervisory Special Agent

b6  
b7C

It just is not served it will be  
Redd. red. It can not order. want  
remain, some or later. lots will  
break out severely.

Sincerely yours,



b6  
b7C

44A-6A-119934E-13

FBI - LOS ANGELES	
1001	29
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INDEXED	FILED

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P.O. Box 4574  
Inglewood, CA 90304  
March 3, 1991

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Building  
1000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Westwood, CA 9024

Dear F.B.I.:

I am writing to you concerning  
the incident that occurred last year  
I weeks ago involving killing King! I  
refuse to remain silent about an  
issue as serious as this!

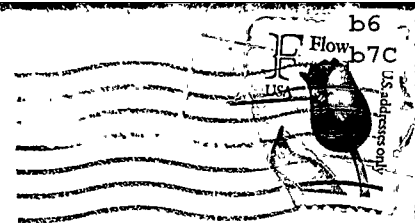
The officers involved in this incident  
I understand have been placed upon desk  
jails. That is not satisfying in my eyes,  
not at all. Police brutality has gone a little  
too far this time. Shooting a man with  
a tear gas more than once is unnecessary!  
These officers should be removed from  
the police force and held as criminals  
in the court of law!

I seriously suspect a case of  
lawson here, "What happened to justice."

Mr. [REDACTED]

P.O. BOX [REDACTED]

Inglewood, CA 90309



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Building  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Westwood, C.A. 90024

AP-1

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Flow

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US addresses only

44A-LA-119954-E-14

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 12 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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March 15, 1991

b6  
b7c

[Redacted]  
Sunland, CA 91040

DEAR AGENT,

We are outraged! The BRUTAL beating of Mr. King by the LAPD is another assault on the sensibilities of the citizens of our city which must finally be addressed by us. We must act to stem the escalating violence amongst those entrusted with the protection of us against us.

Chief Gates asserts that this is an isolated case. One need only to visit the L.A. County Jail and note the number of brutalized inmates. So many that a special housing module exists for those with crutches or casts. Not all are the victims of Police Brutality however the numbers have increased which are. My personal experiences with LAPD Officers have perceptively deteriorated from cordial yet professional to outright abusive and I attribute that demeanor to the Chief and his obvious disdain for 'Civilians',

Chief Gates MUST BE RETIRED otherwise this behavior will be validated once again. He has routinely given tacit approval to this extreme behavior by his men (and they are HIS men), therefore his mere presence represents further confirmation that this violence by the LAPD is acceptable.

Finally, it is frightening to think that only four of possibly twenty-one officers are being criminally prosecuted. Where is the accountability for the other officers? Does this mean that help from an officer is arbitrarily available? Certainly race is a determination. I'm white and still scared of those I pay taxes to protect and serve me and my family. I can not imagine the fear of a minority family. Please investigate Chief Gates and his abuser of office. We want him and the officers (ALL of them) ousted as they are a disease festering in a once proud police department.

Sincerely,

b6  
b7c



Sunland CA 91040



APL



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
"RODNEY KING" INV. UNIT.  
11000 WILSHIRE BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

14 MAR 91

Dear Sir,

In reference to the brutality inflicted upon Mr. Rodney King, it became an emotional trauma watching the incident. The spectacle of police officers beating a helpless individual was more than I could stand, and is evidence of the inhuman treatment that police officers have been inflicting on African Americans for too long!

Without this direct appalling evidence, I doubt if Mr. King's wounds and condition would have been enough to cause a stir in the community. Mr. King would have been arrested for resisting arrest and assaulting police officers. And, it would have been deemed justifiable force. The officers would have even received accommodations for putting another criminal out of circulation.

However, the brutal attack, police officers beating a human being without mercy or regard to consequences, was witnessed and made a record of for all the world to behold. It is my firm belief that if this brutal beating had not been recorded, there would have been insufficient evidence to charge the police officers. I believe that this "establishment would have white washed" this incident if the video had not been taken. I also believe that If Mr. Rodney King had resisted arrest, he would have been shot dead!

I know that if this "establishment" does not properly prosecute and punish the officers involved in this brutal beating, that a message will have been sent that African Americans must be responsible for our own safety and justice. If this is the case, then we should convert our tax dollars to means of self protection.

We are at the crossroads of determining the responsibility of police protection and accountability. The African American male is already an endangered species and will no longer tolerate the kind of brutality inflicted upon Mr. King.

Must the African American fight a "hot" war in these United States to secure the freedom that we have just helped win for nations in the Gulf? Must we take matters into our own hands? Are African Americans to be a part of this nation of United States? Or, must we rechannel our resources and energies into forming our own states within these states?

In conclusion, sir, if I or any member of my family were brutalized as was Mr. Rodney King, I would have to be very satisfied that they were properly prosecuted and punished. Mr. King is a Brother... ~~what is to be done about~~ the brutality inflicted upon him by police officers?

I demand a satisfactory and equitable answer from the "establishment"! I demand justice for Mr. Rodney King from the "establishment"! We are at a crossroads! What message is the "establishment" going to give to me... to the nation... to the world??

Sincerely,



SANTA ANA, CA 92704

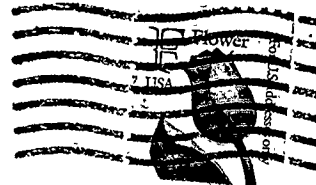
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
901 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST  
SANTA ANA, CA 92712

[REDACTED]  
March 20, 1991

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Mayor Tom Bradley  
City Hall  
200 N. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Mayor Bradley:

Although I live in Ontario, I work in the downtown area. I would like to express my utter disgust with the way the few officers of the Los Angeles Police Department acted in the arrest of Mr. Rodney King. All decent human beings are nauseated by this abuse of police authority. I could go on with a long harangue about how revolting this type of activity is and that under no circumstances should this be condoned, covered-up, or go unpunished. Instead I'll quote my 4-year old daughter's observation of the incident: "They are hitting him when he is sick. That's not fair!?!".

All officers involved in this ugly incident should be severely dealt with and the Los Angeles Police Department should be purged of this disease - starting from the top!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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c.c. L.A. Police Commission, Attn.: Ms. [REDACTED]  
L.A. County Board of Supervisors  
L.A. City Council, Attn.: Ms. [REDACTED]  
Federal Bureau Of Investigation - L.A. Office

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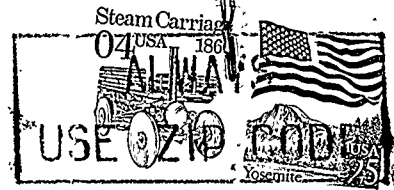
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Federal Bureau Of Investigation  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
L.A., CA 90024

AP 1



Routing Slip  
FD-4 (Rev. 5-31-84)

Date 3/19/91

To: ☐ Director

Att: \_\_\_\_\_

FILE # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ SAC 

Title \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ASAC

☒ Supv. APL

☐ Agent

☐ OSM

☐ Rotor # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Steno

☐ Typist

☐ M

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

Room \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledge

☐ For Information

☐ Return assignment card

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☐ Open case

☐ Return with explanation

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☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Search and return

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☐ Expedite

☐ File

☐ Send to \_\_\_\_\_

*I believe this is yours!*

\_\_\_\_\_ See reverse side



SAG/

Office

#3

☆ U.S.G.P.O.: 1988 - 202-042/85016

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3/25/91

Dear sir:

I read in the L. A. Times that you told Chief Daryl Gates that you would investigate and question the Foothill officers in "a very sensitive way."

Are you going to a tea party or are you investigating police brutality? You should not PAY ANY ATTENTION to <sup>the</sup> Chief except perhaps investigate him too. I am inclosing a copy of all the remarks that this guy has made throughout the last 13 years and now is ~~saying~~ saying that he opposes "some bureaucrat who made that decision." This last remark should also go into the record along with all of his other quotes.

Just do your job and forget about Gates. There is much police brutality in Los Angeles, you will find out. You can bet on that. The Foothill Division is the worst but they all do it. I do hope you will also investigate the brutal arrest and treatment (who are now suing) in Pacific Palisades <sup>ago</sup> some months where 15 or 20 black and Hispanics were butalized by police for no reason at all except they were playing in a predominantly white area. NONE OF THE KIDS WERE GANG MEMBERS. They were beaten up and told racial slurs. PLEASE INVESTIGATE THIS VICIOUS BRUTALITY CASE! Thank you.

TO HISPANIC CITIZENS

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	
APR 2 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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## QUOTES FROM CHIEF GATES

*Since he became Los Angeles' 49th police chief in 1978, Daryl F. Gates has made a number of controversial statements that have offended, in varying degrees, blacks, Jews, Latinos, women, casual drug users and even the State Department.*

■ **1978:** He had been in office barely one month when he remarked to a Latino audience that some Latino officers were not promoted within the LAPD because they were "lazy." Gates said that he was only trying to encourage Latino officers to work harder and attain leadership positions.

■ **1979:** Gates casually commented at a news conference in England that if President Jimmy Carter could not rescue the 52 American captives in Iran, Gates could by sending in his SWAT squad. A short time later, "the State Department called and said, 'Chief, we'd appreciate it if you'd mind your own business,'" according to Gates. The chief said he was only trying to be witty.

■ **1980:** At a closed dinner meeting of deputy district attorneys, Gates called KABC-TV anchorwoman Christine Lund "an Aryan broad." Gates later apologized, saying the comment was meant "in jest" and was "in the spirit of a raucous evening."

■ **1982:** Gates angered many Jews by releasing an in-house report that suggested that the Soviet Union was sending criminals disguised as Jewish immigrants to Los Angeles to disrupt the 1984 Olympics. Gates went out of his way to make peace with Jewish leaders, saying that the report was purely speculative and that he had never expected the media to publicize it.

In an interview, Gates said he had instructed his staff to investigate "a hunch" he had about why so many blacks die from police use of the carotid chokehold, which cuts off the blood supply to the brain. "We may be finding that in some blacks when it [the carotid chokehold] is applied, the veins or arteries do not open up as fast as they do on normal people." The remark, Gates said, was no more than a careless choice of words.

■ **1984:** The City Council approved a ballot measure that would increase the city's power to discipline and fire department heads, such as Gates. Then the chief alleged that this would permit undue political influence by council members on the police and the rest of the city departments. Then in a statement that angered some council members, Gates said he was going to "rummage around in my mind" to cite examples of how council members ask the police to do "all kinds of things that are inappropriate."

■ **1988:** In an interview, Gates conceded that he is more "patient and sensitive" in his dealings with people. But, he added, "I can still be an arrogant bastard. I've grown harder and softer."

■ **1989:** In a videotaped message to LAPD officers, Gates used the term "pantywaists" to describe officers who opposed his Halloween deployment plan that was intended to prevent a recurrence of the near-riot that occurred in Hollywood the previous year.

■ **1990:** At a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the first anniversary of the Bush Administration's war on drugs, Gates said "casual drug users ought to be taken out and shot." His statement was aimed at those "who blast some pot on a casual basis and the damned hypocrites who go out and party on the weekends and snort cocaine."

Gates said Mayor Tom Bradley had written a "dumb letter" calling for an investigation of possible police improprieties in the defense of four officers charged with vandalism during a drug raid two years ago near 39th Street and Dalton Ave.

■ **1991:** In an angry statement after the shooting of rookie policewoman Tina Kerbrat, Gates referred to Kerbrat's killer as "an El Salvadoran drunk—a drunk who doesn't belong here."

In response to an outpouring of anger from Los Angeles residents over the videotape that captures LAPD officers repeatedly striking defenseless Rodney G. King, Gates offered an apology to King, but further enraged people when he added that he would apologize "in spite of the fact that [King's] on parole and a convicted robber."



Associated Press

Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy

the following directive: "I urge all Communist Party members . . . to yield second place to none in the fight to rid our country of the fascist poison of McCarthyism."

Yet the American people took up the chant of "McCarthyism" and allowed the deceivers to bewitch them into believing that the senator was an evil demagogue.

Sen. McCarthy has been vindicated as is evident by the collapse of communism throughout the world.

FREDERICK D. MULLEN  
Upland

"I feel it unfair to place joke commentaries such as Scruton's satirical piece of fluff about "poor Joseph McCarthy" on the Op-Ed pages. Such amusements belong in the comics. This one, which attempted to whitewash an alcoholic who lied and produced false evidence against the hero of D-Day, would look great next to Beetle Bailey. It is a joke, isn't it?"

JOSEPH LUCAS  
Los Angeles

## Hunting

"My first reaction on reading the article about me ("Souvenirs From the Safari Queen of Burbank," by Linda Blandford, Commentary, Nov. 28) was "at least they spelled my name right," but the passing of a couple of weeks has allowed for more reasoned reflection.

I can live with Ms. Blandford's physical description of myself and of the profession of taxidermy. What saddens me is the depiction of sport hunting as "bucolic live-by shootings."

I would submit the following points for consideration: In order for you to stay alive today, something else had to die—be it a tomato, an unborn chicken or a deer. Secondly, licensed hunting for sport has ever caused the endangerment or extinction of a single species. I challenge non-hunters to match hunters' financial contributions toward wildlife conservation.

INGE DOUGHERTY  
Burbank

## Bias Charges Against LAPD

"I read with disdain the article about alleged bias against Latino advancement in the Los Angeles Police Department (Part A, Dec. 19). Is there discrimination? Based on the numbers you published, bias would appear to be a very real problem. However, there are issues not addressed in the article; issues that are behind the numbers.

Promotion within the LAPD is very arduous and stressful. A vast majority do not succeed in being promoted. To be one of the lucky few, the process requires months of intense study, long periods of time not being able to handle affairs of family life, and a burning desire to succeed.

The promotion system that I have been accustomed to for many years is a fair system. Affirmative action guidelines set by the city are in use. To have groups of individuals obtain promotion through

## Energy Policy

"I want to applaud The Times for its three editorials critical of the lack of a national energy policy (Dec. 9-11). As the events of the last several months show, it is clear the United States is not adequately prepared to absorb the impact of an energy crisis.

As chairman of the County and Cities of Los Angeles Energy Commission, I can only reiterate that most elected officials and our energy agencies have not done enough to plan ahead. As a result, the American public is in many ways more vulnerable today than it was in the 1970s.

Today, for example, alternative energy sources can produce substantial amounts of power which is non-polluting—and at a price competitive with foreign oil. In the past five years, the cost of solar power has been slashed dramatically, from 24 cents to eight cents per kilowatt hour. Similarly, geothermal and wind power is little, if any, more expensive than imported oil and one-half the cost of newly commissioned nuclear power.

Los Angeles-based Luz International Limited is the world's largest solar energy company. It has 13 solar facilities currently in operation or planned, which, by 1993, will serve more than 1 million people. With some foresight, we could meet the needs of 30 million Californians within the next generation.

Public and private utilities ought to be investigating closely the long-term benefits of alternative energy. I think the utilities will discover it makes good economic, environmental and political sense today to support renewable energy—and, by doing so, America's energy independence as well.

JERRY B. EPSTEIN  
Marina del Rey

birth that is indeed wrong.

To obtain promotion through the test of knowledge, performance, excellence and commitment is right. To circumvent the basic premise, promotion for those who are the most qualified, is the invitation to a system of unqualified liabilities.

MICHAEL W. MINES  
Los Angeles

"For the past 19 years I have chosen to work the streets. I am sure that if I had studied, I could have been promoted. But I didn't, and that was my own choosing. There are many men and women on this job who became police officers for one reason, to be police officers. To fight crime. Isn't that what the job is all about?"

CRAIG BUSHEY  
Arcadia

"Chief Daryl Gates says he will not comply with the directives of the state Department of Fair Employment and Housing (Metro, Dec. 20). So what else is new?"

This guy has been thumbing his nose for years at the mayor, the City Council and his supposed superiors, the Police Commission. He has won every time.

The main reason, of course, is that the aforementioned persons and boards have no backbone when it comes to dealing with this irascible chief.

However, it is another matter when he has to confront a powerful, nonpartisan state commission. Chief Gates will learn that he cannot bully it as he has done so successfully with city officials for years.

JOHN R. MENDEZ  
Los Angeles

## Los Angeles Times

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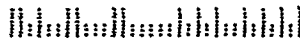
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AP-1



Special Agent Lawrence E. Lawler  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Dept. of Justice  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90024



October 12, 1978

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## ASSESSMENT OF PRESENT STATE OF POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

During the month of September, Community Relations Section members continued to research and gather information on the current attitudes of the minority community toward this Department.

This part of the interviews concerned sworn personnel. They were asked about their views and appreciation of the problems which previous interviews in the Black community had established. These problems concern police attitude and behavior described by community residents as insensitive, degrading, antagonistic, and tension-causing.

In most instances, officers interviewed unanimously agreed that a problem does exist in the nature of police discourtesy and improper use of tactics. Their responses were not so unanimous regarding the extent of the problem or whether it exists City-wide or is more predominant in minority communities.

Varied opinions were offered regarding the cause of the problem.

One opinion cited the inability of certain officers to thoroughly understand their job functions; i.e., being able to distinguish the "good" guys from the "bad" guys or criminals as opposed to considering alternatives available. It was felt that more

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flexibility is needed in approaching and handling certain potentially volatile situations. In situations of this nature, there is often a lack of understanding of what the Department means by "good, aggressive police work." This approach might be illustrated by the officer who believes that being aggressive means writing field interviews on 15-20 persons per night without any rationally founded probable cause in the hope of coming up with "something" that will lead to an arrest.

Another possible source of the "problem" was a reluctance on the part of supervisors and administrators at all levels to confront officers on the issue of courtesy. Also mentioned was a reluctance by some sergeants, lieutenants, and in certain cases captains to "grab the bull by the horns" in those incidents in which poor judgment or improper tactics by officers are suspected for fear of "lowering morale" or lessening the supervisors' popularity, especially when those incidents involve an officer with the reputation of being an "aggressive, hard-charging officer." Supervisors fear they may dampen the officer's enthusiasm or reduce his effectiveness. In a few cases, there are those officers who feel discourtesy is synonymous with aggressiveness. They've been told by some of their peers, "don't take any chances, keep the upper hand, and don't give anybody a break."

Another aspect of the problem involves officers who are actually convinced that they're doing an outstanding job in spite of a

continuous pattern of improper conduct, tactics, etc. Example: an officer makes what he feels is a "good" arrest and is encouraged by his peers and his sergeant who tells him that it was good, aggressive police work. Later, however, when his tactics are reviewed by his team leader or captain, he is told he was wrong. At this point he is understandably confused and possibly a little suspicious that the Captain is not being totally objective with him.

One Captain opined that certain officers have a basic lack of self-confidence, both physically and mentally, in their ability to handle potentially explosive situations. This possibly contributes to the premature use of force without considering other alternatives. Also there exists in some situations the feeling that to back down would be a reflection on their manhood or would threaten their authority.

Lengthy Assignments in Same Area: "It was pointed out that lengthy assignments in areas considered "war zones" (greater ratio of assaults); i.e., 77th, Southwest, Southeast, sometimes contribute to the gradual development of a frustrated, cynical approach that tends to lessen officer's efficiency. More frequent administrative reviews of packages of officers assigned to these areas for many years, who willingly travel 50-60 miles to work the a.m. watch and who accumulate numerous not-sustained complaints involving the use of force or resulting in an altercation. However, a long-term assignment to these types of areas is not necessarily

a contributing factor to the problem. Many officers have worked these areas for extended periods and have a record free of complaints and have consistently been rated as outstanding officers. Other officers have been told that you're not doing good, aggressive police work until you accumulate several "beefs" in your package.

In certain areas recent changes have been made by area administrators - designed to insure a greater adherence by officers to rules governing their conduct in these areas. Everyone that was interviewed agreed that the need for stronger supervision at the sergeant level is one of the major areas of concern.

The following solutions were included among those suggested and/or approved by the persons that were interviewed:

1. Stronger supervision at the sergeant level.
2. Greater control at the watch commander level (return to Lieutenant as the watch commander) to be able to better monitor the activities of field officers.
3. Strong commitment at all Department levels for proper treatment of public beginning with Chief. This area must be viewed as being just as important as; i.e., rise in crime, influx of illegal aliens, etc.

4. Monitoring of officers with large numbers of not-sustained complaints, especially those with lengthy assignments in certain areas and to use administrative transfers as solution to problem.
5. The use of improper tactics, altercations, discourtesy, etc., type incidents (sustained) as training aids in roll-call training (to include penalties) as well as a review of bad or out of policy shootings. (Perhaps rap sheet should include more details - yet remain anonymous to facilitate better training.)

In some areas, the current policy dictates that when a shooting occurs, it is reviewed by an Area Commander with the concerned officer(s) before the Shooting Board reviews it, after the Shooting Board has reviewed it, during the officer(s) suspension (if one has been adjudicated), 2 weeks after the suspension ends with a follow-up check at the next rating period. It was suggested that a similar approach should be taken toward discourtesy complaints.

Other suggestions included:

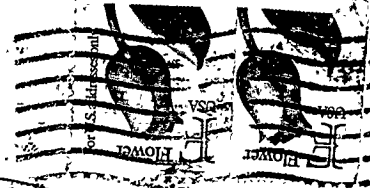
1. Greater scrutiny of crime and arrest reports involving altercations (probably at team level).

One source felt that even though the problem of discourtesy or treatment of the public is highlighted and emphasized at Bureau-level meetings, there is a tendency for the captains to return to their Areas and re-concern themselves only with problems; i.e.,



reducing crime rather than Chief Gates' administrative felonies.

2. A greater emphasis should be placed on sensitivity training at the recruit phase as well as in-service training at the Academy.



Special Agent



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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
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think a person tends to remember the isolated happening that might be something that was inadequate and unpleasant or verged on the improper . . ."

Routine destruction of evidence by the LAPD can occur before the trial, making cases harder to prove even if the ultimate verdict is not changed.

"I had a murder case where before the trial the investigating officer ordered the destruction of the gun—the murder weapon," recalled Judge M. Ross Bigelow. "He said he guessed he made a mistake."

"The man was found guilty without it," Bigelow added. "Luckily ballistics were not of vital significance."

Superior Judge Thomas T. Johnson recalled another murder case in which the bullet which killed the victim was destroyed before trial.

"Most of it (destroyed evidence) is clothing, pieces of paper, mundane things," Johnson said. "It is pretty hard to understand why somebody would destroy a bullet. They (each side) can read into it what might not be there."

Johnson said that was not his only case in which the LAPD had destroyed evidence.

"I don't think in any of those cases there was any malice," he said. "It was really a function of carelessness or possibly of too much volume of work. I don't remember anything like that happening with the sheriff's department."

Judge Caldecott painfully recalled a case in which a murder



Times photo by Bruce Cox

County sheriff's deputies question motorists in Altadena in search for clues to slaying of housewife.

occurred across the street from a party attended by about 40 people.

"The police produced only two witnesses, and they had not seen the murder," Caldecott said. "I feel confident some one of the 40 people at that party could have identified the defendants had they been asked."

"I acquitted because I didn't feel I could convict on the testimony of someone who did not see the murder," Caldecott said. "The quality of the investigation was so poor that four murderers walked free."

## THE PARADOX OF POLICEMEN POLICING POLICEMEN

**Embarrassing the Department Could Well Cost an Officer His Job,  
While a Firearms Infraction Might Bring Only a Slap on the Wrist**

**BY DALE FETHERLING and MICHAEL A. LEVETT**

*Times Staff Writers*

It was a quiet Sunday morning in south Los Angeles, the kind when time can drag for a policeman on patrol.

So, heeding his partner's order, the rookie plucked a copy of The Times from a lawn. The pair then drove off to read the sports pages, unaware that a citizen had seen the theft.

But justice was swift and sure.

The two were brought before a police Board of Rights—akin to a court-martial—and were found guilty. The rookie, who had spent a spotless 10 months in the Los Angeles Police Department, was ordered fired; his partner was suspended for 44 working days.

Chief Edward M. Davis later reduced the rookie's penalty to a 33-day suspension, equal to a pay loss of \$2,277 for taking a 50-cent paper.

Had the rookie been a civilian, this case of very petty theft never would have gone to court.

But as an officer, he committed the kind of sin that the police disciplinary system treats most harshly: acts reflecting ill on LAPD or on an officer's credibility.

A single drag on a marijuana cigarette, for example, usually costs a policeman his job; a civilian would pay no more than a \$100 fine.

On the other hand, most violations of LAPD's shooting policy in the last two years have been punished by no more than a 10-day suspension; striking a handcuffed suspect often brings only a few days off, and, unlike a civilian, a policeman is almost never criminally prosecuted for such violent offenses.

Such are the paradoxes inherent in the system of police policing police.

Affronts to image often are dealt with more severely than harm or potential harm to persons. And punishments meted

out are commonly at odds with what the courts might prescribe.

This disciplinary system may be the main reason Los Angeles has perhaps the most corruption-free police department of any large city.

But, isolated from civilian control or even scrutiny, the process is a mix of administrative machinery and personal attitudes that has brought it many critics among the public and the police.

"Policemen think we're too tough," Comdr. Thomas McTighe, head of LAPD's Internal Affairs Division, said, "and people on the outside think we're too easy. So we're in the middle, and I guess that's commendable."

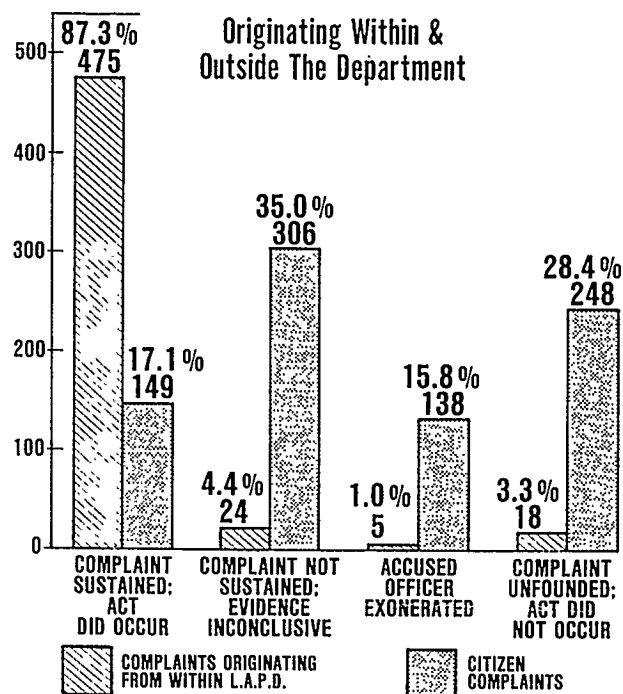
Commendable perhaps, but not always satisfactory.

Some city councilmen are calling for change, and the civilian Police Commission, which sets LAPD policy, is in the midst of a major inquiry into how the disciplinary system works.

Many persons, especially among minority groups, believe the system works poorly. They complain they are abused by policemen and then their complaints are given lip service.

"I don't think there's a whole lot of faith in the system," said Bobby Black, senior attorney for the Greater Watts Justice Center, and others echoed the thought.

## DISPOSITIONS OF COMPLAINTS



Marie Funk, who heads the American Civil Liberties Union's Police Practices Complaint Center in Venice, estimates that, judging by calls of inquiry, fewer than one in 10 complaints is actually filed with the police.

But there's no doubt that LAPD puts major effort into its complaint process.

Last year the department received 1,444 complaints (five fewer than in 1975) and estimates it spent more than 60,000 man-hours investigating them.

About 35% of the allegations—generally the more serious or "notorious" ones—were investigated by the 80-member Internal Affairs Division. The rest were investigated by the

divisions to which the accused officers were assigned.

That in itself is a matter of controversy.

Lawyers for legal services groups in Watts and East Los Angeles, for example, urge citizens to file any complaints at LAPD's Parker Center headquarters, not at station houses.

Albert de Blanc Jr., a former LAPD sergeant and now a public defender, agrees that sergeants at any of the 17 police divisions can by their manner of questioning discourage, disqualify or downgrade complaints.

"You have the question of integrity at the divisional level: whether the sergeant is willing to take the complaint against someone who may be a friend of his.

"This is a real problem, not a theoretical one," De Blanc said.

Once a complaint is filed by whichever route (and complaints can also be filed with the mayor, council members or the Police Commission), the Internal Affairs Division reviews it and assigns it to the accused's division or to the Internal Affairs Division for investigation. (Inquiries into police shootings, however, are handled under a different LAPD procedure.)

About 40% of the complaints are filed by members of LAPD, largely for such offenses as failure to complete required forms, insubordination and the like.

In the subsequent inquiry, investigators engage in what McTighe calls "a search for the truth. We don't care where the chips fall."

Indeed, many informed persons credit the Internal Affairs Division with doing quality investigations.

But some critics point out as well that the city has a financial stake in protecting policemen because it can be held responsible for their on-duty acts. Internal Affairs Division reports, thus, can play a part in civil suits against the city.

"I don't see how you can be totally objective when in fact one of your functions is to obtain the best evidence you can for the city," said Tom A. Stanley, a lawyer with the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice, an East Los Angeles group.

The two functions "conflict dramatically," lawyer Black of the Greater Watts Justice Center added. "When the Internal Affairs Division interviews someone, they're constantly looking for evidence to justify the officer's conduct."

It is a charge the division denies. "Our primary purpose is the disciplinary process and that's what we're interested in," Capt. John Cleghorn, the division's chief investigator, said.

After the investigation—which may involve methods such as surveillance or lie-detector tests—the complaint is classified as "sustained," "not sustained," "unfounded" or "exonerated."

"Sustained" means the alleged act did occur and was misconduct. "Exonerated" means the act occurred but was justified and proper. Complaints are classified as "unfounded" when investigation discloses that the act complained of did not take place. And "not sustained" is the label used when the evidence is inconclusive.

Overall, 44% of the adjudicated complaints were sustained in 1976.

More than 87% of those complaints originating within LAPD were sustained; for citizen complaints, however, the rate was 17.1%.

"The differences in sustainment ratios for various offenses

are striking," Dr. Linda Wallen of the USC School of Public Administration wrote after research into 20 years of the Internal Affairs Division's performance.

Intoxication and insubordination, for example, were among those charges most likely to be sustained because conclusive evidence is rather easily had. Other complaints of the type usually filed by LAPD members, such as neglect of duty, also are commonly sustained because they are subject to proof or disproof.

"The picture is very different," Dr. Wallen continued, "for excessive force," a complaint almost always lodged by a citizen.

The average sustainment rate over the 20-year period was 6.3% on excessive-force complaints, she found.

Last year, Internal Affairs Division figures show, 8 of 67 excessive-force complaints, or 11.9%, were sustained. Seven of those eight officers found guilty received suspensions of fewer than 22 days; the other one was fired.

Some reasons for the relatively low sustainment rate on such complaints are obvious. Often there are no witnesses to the alleged offense, complainants aren't familiar with the law or with LAPD procedures, and what is "excessive" is, of course, a value judgment.

But there may be other factors as well.

Some outside observers say the testimony of civilian witnesses is discounted and that it is hard, if not impossible, to sustain an excessive-force complaint unless one officer testifies against another.

LAPD officials say that is not true, but they admit officers stick together.

"I think there is a reluctance on the part of one officer to testify against another where there is question of the degree of force," Comdr. McTighe said. This, he added, is because street-wise policemen have a different perspective from that of citizens at large on how much force is needed and when.

Although "acquiescing," or not reporting a fellow officer's infraction, is itself an offense, the compulsion not to point a finger at a partner can be strong.

In one case, for example, a police helicopter was flying over a predominantly black high school when the students allegedly made obscene gestures.

One of the crew members responded with an obscene racial slur over the helicopter's loudspeaker. The school principal as well as most everyone in the vicinity heard the epithet.

Despite the abundant witnesses, the partner did not report his comrade's conduct. As a result, when others did complain, both officers were punished with 10-day suspensions as well as loss of flight status and the hefty salary bonus it carries.

Besides the comradeship that can impede investigation of a citizen complaint, there may also be a tendency to give a fellow officer an edge.

"Probably, the department is as good as it is because of the desire to be a model of rectitude," one high official close to the LAPD said. "There's also a tremendous emphasis on honesty—anyone suspected of taking one dime or associating with a Mafia type is severely punished.

"I don't think they feel quite the same way about pulling out a weapon and frightening somebody or grabbing somebody."

"I think dishonesty is dealt with very harshly and it should

be," Police Commission Vice President Stephen Reinhardt said.

But he added, "An area to be considered is whether generally the types of penalties fit the offenses and whether offenses related to personal conduct are treated disproportionately compared to, for instance, excessive force."

One way in which the officer can be given the edge is in defining the complaint.

The difference, for example, between "improper tactics" and "excessive force" is a subjective one. But improper tactics is a less serious complaint and, if sustained, brings lighter penalties. Concern for morale, some believe, often dictates relatively light punishment in so-called brutality cases.

Protecting your own is part of the credo of professionalism, USC's Dr. Wallen explains. She compares policemen to surgeons who see themselves as taking risks in the operating room for the public good.

Like them, policemen usually punish severely only gross malpractice; much on-the-job conduct is treated with some leniency because of the risks and dangers involved.

"Frequently in excessive-force cases, the punishment isn't heavy," De Blanc, the former LAPD sergeant, said, "because the morale of the department is at stake." If officers were seriously restricted in use of force, some would feel inhibited in carrying out their jobs, he said.

"This sort of thing," Dr. Wallen said in an interview, "doesn't need to be told by the chief. It's part of the (police) heritage."

A study of two years of LAPD discipline shows something of how "image" offenses are dealt with compared to more violent misconduct.

Although the explanation of offenses released by the Internal Affairs Division is very brief, it appears that improper tactics in controlling an arrestee—kicking or choking him, for instance—often is punished by a suspension of two to five days.

An off-duty officer who solicits a prostitute, though, is fired.

An officer who when off-duty used his position to gain entry to a television show got the same punishment (loss of four regular days off) as an off-duty officer who "unnecessarily pointed gun at and kicked citizen."

An officer who improperly discharged his shotgun at a vehicle received a 10-day suspension, the same as another man whose argument with his estranged wife brought policemen running and who lied about the dispute to his supervisor.

A five-day suspension was given to a married policeman who "cohabited" with another woman, but an off-duty officer who "unnecessarily displayed" his gun and accidentally fired it got the same punishment.

If the risks and stresses of the job tend to unite policemen and color their discipline, it is true also that another common bond can be dislike and distrust of the Internal Affairs Division.

In fact, an officer's feelings toward that division have been compared to what some citizens feel about LAPD: antagonism and an expectation of unfair treatment.

Internal Affairs Division investigators are referred to as "headhunters," and although it is denied by the leadership, there is a common belief that the division's staff members win promotions by the number of fellow officers they "get." There

is also a feeling that a policeman's reputation within the department will affect what, if any, punishment he receives.

In addition, an officer may feel he is in double jeopardy—liable criminally as well as to the Internal Affairs Division.

In fact, the Police Protective League, the policeman's union, has—much as the ACLU might do for criminal suspects—pushed successfully for a "Policeman's Bill of Rights." That state law, enacted last year, limits the use of lie detectors and locker searches in internal discipline and allows the officer a representative of his choice during questioning.

Particularly upsetting to the league are the Internal Affairs Division's efforts to regulate officers' off-duty activity. These complaints, often grouped under the general heading of "conduct unbecoming an officer," numbered 312 last year, second only to "improper tactics" (460).

However, about 51% of the complaints of conduct unbecoming an officer were sustained, compared to 20% of the improper tactics charges.

"Let's give the guilty bastard his trial and then hang him" is too often the attitude of the Internal Affairs Division, said Jerry Trent, an LAPD lieutenant who is also chairman of the protective league's legal committee.

"The department," he added, "is very protective of its image and if it has to sink an officer to protect its image, it will."

Trent, who once served the usual two-year stint as an Internal Affairs Division investigator, was particularly critical of charges brought against officers for converting an on-duty contact to an off-duty relationship, such as an officer who dates a woman he met on the job. He cited also cases in which the Internal Affairs Division had staked out the apartment of an officer's girlfriend to see if he stayed the night.

"The crux of the situation," Trent said, "is that if the department is in some way embarrassed, then disciplinary action will follow. It's left to their (Internal Affairs Division's) interpretation of what embarrasses the department.

"If some old lady or religious person makes a complaint, the department theoretically could be embarrassed."

Some members of the Police Commission also feel the division gives too much emphasis to officers' off-duty lives, particularly their sex lives.

"If it concerns an individual's private love life and he (the officer) has a girlfriend, whether he's married or not, it shouldn't really be a subject of concern except to those persons involved," Commissioner Reinhardt said.

The fear, or at least healthy respect, that LAPD officers have for the Internal Affairs Division is a source of pride as well as apprehension.

"We have a code of conduct that is second to none," one captain, not a member of the division, said with pride. "One manipulated (traffic) ticket can cost you your job. That's how stringent we are."

One ranking official said: "If you steal a paper clip in this department, they'll have your head."

A rank-and-file officer gave an illustration. Once he was passing through an intersection in his squad car when he spied a wallet in the street.

He stopped, got out and found more than \$100 in it. He looked at the money longingly. But then he paused, suspecting an Internal Affairs "plant."

"I looked around to see if Internal Affairs Division had a camera on me," he recalled. He later turned the money in.

"I guess," he says, now in recognition of Internal Affairs' omnipresence, "that it does hang over my head."

After receiving the results of an investigation, the accused's commanding officer recommends to Internal Affairs whether the complaint should be sustained. Internal Affairs is the final arbiter of that.

---

*The police 'don't like to be interfered with  
by a bunch of people who have never been  
on the streets . . .'*

---

But the accused's commanding officer suggests a punishment in sustained cases, and that recommendation goes up the chain of command until, in many cases, it reaches the chief.

(In serious cases, or when the accused demands it, a Board of Rights will be convened to hear the case and recommend a penalty.)

Internal Affairs officials stress that each case is considered on its own merits and in view "of the totality of circumstances."

But another important ingredient in penalty-setting is what's called "anticipated reaction"—anticipating how the next echelon will regard the prescribed punishment.

Close observers say this means Chief Davis' imprint is clearly on the LAPD disciplinary system. (He can revise any penalty except in Board of Rights cases, where he can only lessen, not increase, punishments.)

Marijuana use, for example, is dealt with severely. The protective league's Trent said he could recall only one case in which an officer found guilty was not fired—and he was suspended for six months.

By contrast, others point out, drunk driving when off duty usually brings a 10-day suspension.

The chief, one intimate said, "has very, very strong feelings about pot or any other form of narcotic." That fact helps explain why marijuana use is punished so heavily but abuse of alcohol is not, he said.

Davis is known as a hard-liner on sex-related complaints, too. "They are dealt with severely," conceded Capt. Cleghorn of Internal Affairs.

The department's stance on cohabitation reportedly has mellowed in recent years.

But Internal Affairs still investigates cases in which the illicit relation becomes publicly known and involves some untoward behavior, such as the presence of juveniles or an unruly argument to which policemen are called.

The key, Internal Affairs officials say, is whether the department or the officer is put in a bad light by the tryst.

Presently, the police disciplinary process operates largely unto itself.

The police, one official close to the department said, "don't like to be interfered with by a bunch of people who have

never been out in the street or gone down dark alleys."

Board of Rights hearings, although often open to the public, are not announced in advance. A monthly "rap sheet" published by Internal Affairs gives officers' ranks but not their names and its description of the offenses is so terse as to be misleading.

Investigative reports are confidential and Internal Affairs refuses to make public the names of officers against whom multiple complaints have been sustained.

"It's an age-old police problem: peer association to the exclusion of the community," said one lawyer, questioning whether the police should be essentially the sole arbiters of their own conduct.

"Each branch of the municipal government—executive, legislature, and judiciary—has potential ability to hold police accountable for disciplinary actions and policy," wrote Dr. Wallen in her study of LAPD, "but none of them effectively do so."

In the courts, for example, officers are rarely prosecuted for on-duty offenses, and civil suits, though increasing, are still long, costly and rarely affect the officer directly.

However, there are efforts toward greater accountability.

The Police Commission, which is trying to reassert its authority on a number of fronts, is studying the discipline process. Some commissioners are known to be open to the idea that serious complaints against policemen be investigated by the District Attorney.

City Councilman David Cunningham, agreeing with that idea, suggests that the commission could set up an appeals board, such as exists for zoning cases, to hear appeals from Internal Affairs rulings.

Other groups, such as the Coalition Against Police Abuse and the ACLU's Police Practices Complaint Center, prefer that a civilian review board hear and decide complaints.

While such proposals are debated, the Police Commission expects to put its mark on the disciplinary system in another way as well.

Chief Davis is to retire in January. The commission, which will pick his successor, intends that the new chief be particularly progressive on matters of discipline and shootings.

As for the case of the stolen newspaper, the stiff 33-day suspension handed the rookie was considered harsh by fellow officers in LAPD's Southwest Division.

But the young officer "was naturally elated" that he wasn't being fired, an LAPD memo said later, and at roll call he volunteered a testimonial to the police disciplinary process.

High-ranking officers appeared at roll call to explain how the system worked and to answer questions.

"The overall effect," the memo added, "has been outstanding. The disciplined officer gave assurances that he will never be the subject of discipline again. His commanding officer feels that this is a firm commitment, that the officer will render commendatory service . . . and that the department's disciplinary system is most judicious."

## LORE AND LEGEND OF ED DAVIS

### LAPD's 'Vince Lombardi' Is a Product of a Special Time and Mood in History

BY JERRY COHEN

Times Staff Writer

Los Angeles County Sheriff Peter John Pitchess sat in his handsome pecan-paneled office, reflecting on his friend and fellow raconteur, Los Angeles Police Chief Edward Michael Davis:

"Ed kids me. He introduces me as his 'godfather.' He says everything he's learned, he learned from me. I'm responsible for everything he does right. Or everything he does wrong."

Then the sheriff chuckled heartily, remembering an evening about a year-and-a-half ago in Washington, where he and the chief were attending a conference.

As they were socializing with "other law enforcement people," said the sheriff, the chief turned to him and asked:

"Godfather, tell me this: What do you think I should run for?"

The following dialogue, according to the sheriff, ensued:

Pitchess—What do you mean, what should you run for?

Davis—Should I run for mayor, or should I run for governor, or should I run for senator?

Pitchess—If you're serious, I think you ought to run for God.

Davis—Well, I've thought of that.

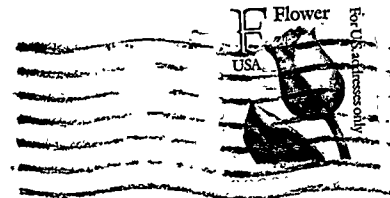
"Ed has an ego, doesn't he?" Pitchess asked roguishly.

When Pitchess' tale was relayed to him, Davis laughed. But he shook his head, drew deeply on his pipe and took good-humored exception:

"Oh, that's one of Pete's little fabrications. He's in the other camp, you know. Younger's."

Atty. Gen. Evelle J. Younger is seeking the same Republican gubernatorial nomination to which the chief aspires.





Special Agent  AP-1  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles 90024

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3-20-91



FYI



Still holds true  
today

b6  
b7C

March 28, 1991

[Redacted]

Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110

Dear [Redacted]:

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-19

AP-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 1 1991	

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[Redacted]  
Bainbridge Island, Wa.  
98110  
March 6, 1991

Director William S. Sessions  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
10 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20535

Re: Rodney King/  
LA Police

Dear Director Sessions:

The recent incident concerning  
the above named, captured on video  
and exposed on TV, has been of  
great concern to me. There are  
so many alleged incidents of  
police roughing and brutality  
in various communities —  
now that one has been  
exposed, I urge that all

possible moral measures be taken by the FBI to discourage such behavior in the future. It makes a travesty of American justice and morality, and breeds cynicism.

My husband and I are white, well off and have access to wonderful legal help. I feel quite safe - our local policeman aren't known as brutes. However, when we visit relatives in LA, we are very aware the police force has a reputation among LA citizens as going beyond accepted limits - we do not feel as safe - memories of living in Philadelphia during Frank Rizzo's debacle as Police Chief return and it is frightening.

Please do all you can to promote morality among law enforcement officials. Thank you -

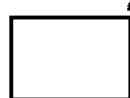


Bainbridge Island, Wa. 98110

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b7C

This is an old  
article but still  
holds true today.

3-27-91



Management condones  
excess force by not  
taking appropriate  
disciplinary action.  
Usually when it  
does take action, the  
recipient officers are  
minorities.



b6  
b7c

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
Cleveland, Ohio 44120

b6  
b7C

06-Mar-1991 Wed 09:05

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Los Angeles, California

Your spokesman, Jim Neilson said that the bureau had decided to investigate the incident as a possible civil rights violation may have occurred in the bestial beating of a Black man (ex-convict Rodney Glenn King) at the hands of a score of white police early Sunday morning. There's no doubt about it. It IS a Civil Rights violation and a crime against humanity! I am absolutely horrified!

This is any human's **WORST** nightmare and what Black people in this country have lived through for 400+ years. You know it! I am the mother of three sons and we are Black. To think that any of my sons could be subject to this treatment anywhere in the world is unspeakable.

This is the same behavior practiced by gangs and each and every one of the men that participated in this inhumane assault should be imprisoned... as well as those that watched and did nothing.

Tracking the perpetrators is easy. They called in on their radios to say they were responding, the initiators and the "assistance" givers. Deal with them! and deal with them to the fullest extent of the law. The names of some of the witnesses [redacted] and [redacted] are already known. I hope nothing happens to them.

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**BLOOD** is on the hands of every man involved in this matter! Too bad we are not in a country where justice could be swift and appropriate. Other reports coming from Los Angeles about similar incidents now suddenly seem valid now that it's gone national and has been documented. Please don't stop until all of these people are truly punished so that other "law enforcement" people everywhere will know that this cannot and will not be condoned.

Watching the paper for what happens, I remain

Yours truly,

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[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED

LA-119957-E  
APR 8 1991

FBI — LOS ANGELES  
[redacted]



[redacted]  
[redacted]  
March 11, 1991

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Building  
1100 Wilshire Blvd  
Westwood, CA 90027.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is [redacted]

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[redacted] I am a 16 year old african american female. I'm writing this to you about the situation with the Rodney King incident. I am appalled and ashamed that people cannot see that this is pure racism. I mean, you have 10-15 caucasians beating a "black" male. The man was unarmed, and beaten with black leather, billy clubs, and meat cleavers. From the time this happened during the beating was from 12:53-12:56 PM, probably more to be exact. This is just so sad. I bet if Rodney King was a "white" male this issue would have never happened. I hope that Rodney King gets what he ask for and that the police that was involved receive whats coming to them.

FROM A CONCERNED STUDENT

44-11-LA-1998-1521

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 8 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[redacted]

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[redacted]  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90016  
March 11, 1991

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b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Building  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Westwood, Ca. 90024

Dear F.B.I.:

I am writing this letter concerning the incident about Mr. Rodney King. When I learned of this I was outraged. How could anyone sane continue to beat a person that can't defend himself. First, he was tied up and second he didn't do anything serious enough to be asked to get out of the car. If he was only speeding all they had to do was give him a ticket and be on their way. Everyone was so wrapped up in that war no one was paying attention to what was going on in our country. I never really liked the L.A. police anyway because they pull people (blacks) over for no apparent reason. But I gave them respect. Now, I have no respect for them. Not all are bad but most are. Yes, I am black and a junior in high school who is concerned about the safety and well being of people especially minorities. And I pray that Rodney King and those police officers get what they deserve.

Also about Darryl Gates, I agree he should step down. I've heard that he is prejudiced. I also agree with what my teacher said, "He must not be concerned because he put those police officers behind the desk". If I were him I would have put them on suspension.

One last thing, the police logo "to protect and serve" most don't deserve to have it on their cars.

Sincerely,

[redacted]  
[redacted]

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44-1172A - 11995-122

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 8 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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March 19, 1991

RE: Statement made by Daryl Gates on Channel 7 News at 6:00 A.M.  
this morning.

Gates remarked: "Perhaps this (referring to the beating of Rodney King) will be a vehicle that will get him going down a better road." I am aghast at this statement. Is Gates suggesting that the beating which his officers inflicted on Rodney King on Sunday 03-02-91 ought to teach him a lesson? Is Daryl Gates proposing brutality as a principle for "straightening" out a perpetrator of crime? Would Gates recommend this method for correcting his officer's behavior? God forbid if I had had my own skull fractured in as many places to teach me a lesson in behavior! Many of us including Daryl Gates would not have any brains left.

So far every statement made by Gates regarding this episode has implicated him further.

Respectfully

[Redacted signature block]

Thousand Oaks, CA

Copies: L.A. Times  
Mayor Tom Bradley  
ACLU  
FBI ✓

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b7C

44A-LA-119954-23

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	
APR 8 1991	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

Date: 28 March 1991

To: FBI  
11000 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90024  
Special Attn: Civil Rights Matters

From: [redacted]  
Hacienda Heights, Ca. 91745  
[redacted] (home)  
[redacted] (work)  
SS# [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Dear sir:

I am writing this letter to expose the racism and brutality I have witnessed while I was a police officer in the Los Angeles Police Department. I joined the LAPD in [redacted] and was assigned to [redacted] after graduation from the Los Angeles Police Academy. [redacted] during that time.

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#### RACISM IN THE LAPD

Racism is rampant in the LAPD, especially in the San Fernando Valley Divisions. Many officers wish to work with white police officers in the "white populated" divisions, such as in the Valley divisions. Most white officers also prefer to work away from heavy minority areas and prefer to work in heavy Caucasian populated areas such as West Valley Division, North Hollywood, Van Nuys Division, Foothill Division, and Devonshire Division. [redacted] one black police officer and about two or three Hispanic police officers [redacted]

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In the Police Academy, we were all taught the proper use of force. However the class on race relations was a total failure. Nothing was learned from the black captain who taught the class for two days. No meaningful communication occurred between the black captain and all police recruits in the class. When the black officer asked who in the class knew racial innuendoes and stereotypes, several recruits overwhelmed him by mentioning several stereotypes about blacks and the class laughed at all of them.

44A-LA-119954-E-24

SEARCHED	[redacted]
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FILED	[redacted]
APR 8 1991	
[redacted]	

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One of [redacted] told me when he worked in Central Division, he concluded blacks were stupid and blacks did not deserve his services or protection as a police officer. He preferred to work in white or Hispanic areas only. He also looked down on officers working in black areas (such as Southwest Division or 77th Division) as less intelligent.

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Another of [redacted] used to be a nice area until the illegal aliens came and fucked it up".

Another [redacted] said to me, "You don't find very many niggers in North Hollywood, mostly whites and Hispanics. So if you see a nigger in a white area, you've got probable cause to stop him."

One of [redacted] at the time) loved to imitate blacks in a degrading and disrespectful manner in front of other white police officers. He would move his body like a black person and try to talk like a black person. No blacks were around when he did this.

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Another one of [redacted] years veteran on the LAPD at that time) told me, "the best way to get along with a nigger is to jive 'em, just jive 'em."

Another one of [redacted] indicated to me there are "blacks" whom he respected, and there are "niggers", who were lazy and whom he disliked. He indicated some "nigger" attempted to [redacted] one time. He also indicated that illegal aliens (Hispanics) get up very early in the morning hurrying in the streets to go to work. But niggers are lazy and you never see them up early in the morning hurrying for work.

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I heard one of the watch commanders [redacted] use the word nigger when referring to a black suspect in a conversation with other white officers.

Racial jokes are a favorite past-time with LAPD officers. There are more racist jokes in the LAPD than in any other non-law enforcement profession and most jokes are about blacks.

One officer [redacted] (name unknown) in a [redacted] suspension for [redacted] in a black family home in front of other officers and the black family. Also the same officer [redacted] inside the home in front of other officers. He [redacted] for using the word "nigger" on the police radio. [redacted] He told us racist jokes for 3 long hours.

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The most bigoted police officers work in Foothill, Devonshire, West Valley, North Hollywood and Van Nuys Divisions. Most officers have to work in assigned areas while on probation. After probation they can request to work in almost any division. As stated earlier, most prefer not to work in heavy minority areas.

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] Not everyone was a  
racist. [redacted] and several  
[redacted] but the rest  
were. [redacted]

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b6  
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b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I need not mention the recently expressed outrage by Hispanic and black officers on the LAPD's lack of promotion for Hispanics and blacks. Promotions for blacks and Hispanics are still stymied by white officers who sit as gods on promotion boards. D. Gates and his white ruling top brass cronies always have and always will deny racism is the reason for not promoting minorities.

The main justification used by Gates and his crony top brass is that hiring should be based on competence rather than race. However true and just that sounds, this is the main excuse used for denying promotions to minorities and hiring minorities.

As a reminder, the LAPD was forced by the Federal Government in a law suit in 1980 or 1981 to hire certain percentages of Hispanics, blacks and women. I do not know the contents of the law suit, but it certainly was justified. I heard D. Gates on TV was severely opposed to the idea but reluctantly had to accept it.

#### BRUTALITY IN THE LAPD

I witnessed a few incidents of brutality from [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and some other unknown officer, perpetrated the excessive use of force in two separate cases.

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There is an untold philosophy which fellow officers' behavior follow in brutality incidents. I witnessed that most police officers often tolerate their partner's brutal beating of a suspect because:

a. They are friends or have good working relationships and they do not want to change it over the roughing up of a worthless criminal.

b. No one believes the suspect or even witnesses over the officers in brutality cases unless it's on a movie camera.

c. If you rat on your buddy for using excessive force, you may lose one or more of the friends you work with or you may become an outcast (thrown out of the brotherhood or click).

d. You also may not get backup on an urgent radio call that you may seriously need from the officer(s) you ratted on.

e. If a supervisor is at the scene and if the supervisor allows brutality to occur and does nothing, most officers will also do nothing to prevent the brutality or stop it from continuing because they feel it is the supervising sergeant's job at the scene to do it. By stopping a brutal incident, a police officer may get in trouble with the supervisor and transgressing his authority.

#### SUMMARY

If the minority quotas forced on the LAPD by a Federal law suit around 1980 or 1981 had not taken place, I am positive there would be more and worst cases of police brutality by white officers on minorities, more civil rights violations of minorities and race riots and public outrage directed against the LAPD. This would be especially true in the San Fernando Valley Divisions.

Firing Daryl Gates will not solve the racism/brutality problem either. Gates will simply be replaced by some deputy chief who thinks just like Gates unless the candidate truly will not tolerate racism and brutality. Chief Gates and his cronies have never and will never admit there is widespread racism in the LAPD, especially in the San Fernando Valley Divisions. If he did, it would reflect failure on Daryl Gates' part for the last 13 years. The LAPD top brass has a cowboy mentality which looks the other way when police officers use excessive force and violate the civil rights of minorities. They often get away with it due to lack of witnesses and the automatic credibility bestowed on police officers by the courts. This cowboy mentality and racism is an LAPD tradition and is pervasive throughout the LAPD, especially in the San Fernando Valley Divisions. LAPD officers



who become involved in police brutality always file false police reports on the incident and/or justify whatever force they used, no matter how excessive, on their reports.

A recruit can be taught all the proper and complete procedures on the use of force, but you can't change the heart and racist nature of a bigot at the Police Academy. A bigot officer chooses NOT to follow proper procedures in the use of force. This is why Daryl Gates' intent to take police training and procedures brick by brick to reevaluate them is a waste of time. A bigot officer will do whatever he wants inspite of proper rules taught at the Police Academy. Therefore Gates offers no real solution to the traditional problem of racism and police brutality.

Ways to prove police brutality should be improved. One would practically have to carry a camera at all times to prove brutality. In most cases, only the officer is believed, not the victim of the brutality. Not even witnesses are believed in most cases over the police officer(s).

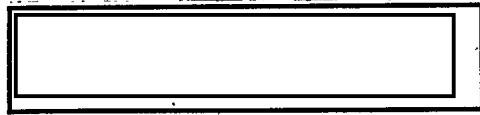
Former Police Chief Ed Davis, surprisingly, gave one good solution to the problem: Pass a law that which would make it a felony for any fellow police officer to stand idly by and watch while some other police officer brutally beat a suspect unnecessarily. Make it an LAPD directive to take disciplinary action against police officers who use racial slurs at minorities at any time on the job. This may provide a system of checks and balances which may solve the racist and brutality problem. The bottom line is: Since we live in a democracy, it's OK if a police officer wants to be a racist, but the officer should not be allowed to violate the civil rights of anyone as a result of his racism. People who think they will wipe out racism inside an individual are sadly mistaken and will always live in a fairy tale world. The solution is for LAPD management to make sure no results of a person's racist nature comes out on the job, such as violence and yelling racial slurs at suspects. Gates and his cronies have never provided any directives to accomplish this and have always looked the other way.

The LAPD may be one of the best police departments in the world, but racism and brutality go along with that image. I do not want to contribute any taxpayer money for racist and brutality lawsuits brought on by racist and brutal police officers (Rodney King's \$80 million + lawsuit for example) How many more of these lawsuits can Los Angeles afford before it goes broke?

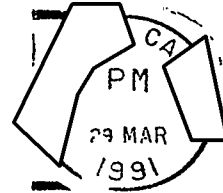
Yours truly,



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FBI

11000 Wilshire Blvd Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90024

Special Attn:  
Civil Rights Matters

AP-1

Here's an idea. Send postcards to all houses near stations reported as being brutal, saying that King was brutally beaten and asking for testimony in Spanish and (the postcard) in English. Maybe you could get the entire San Fernando Valley but that would take a few years. Maybe not.

Could just drive to area, notice address on start of street in area you want to mail, then drive to end of block you want to mail (I mean street, to the end of the area you want to mail) and write that address down. Say

[redacted] 11000-20000 then have postcards printed out to

[redacted] 11000 to [redacted] 20000

And do for entire area you'd like to encourage testimony.

And also put your address and phone number on the postcards.

44A-LA-119954E-25

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

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# Officers Claimed Self-Defense in Beating of King

By RICHARD A. SERRANO  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

The two Los Angeles police officers seen on a videotape repeatedly beating Rodney G. King wrote in their original arrest report that they used their batons only to defend themselves against King and just struck him "several times in the arm and leg areas to incapacitate him."

The officers also claimed that an hour after the beating, King became "semi-cooperative" and stated he then remembered fighting with officers.

A copy of the five-page report, obtained Friday by The Times, was prepared by Officers Laurence M. Powell and Timothy E. Wind. It states for the first time in the officers' own words what they claim occurred during the March 3 arrest.

But the report was written before the officers knew that the

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King, 25, struggled  
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## LAPD Officers Reportedly Taunted King in Hospital

**Investigation:** They told victim that they hit 'home' off him, according to grand jury transcript.

RICHARD A. SERRANO  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Jeering at Rodney G. King in a hospital emergency room, Los Angeles police officers

lanie Singer testified, "because of the damage-causing effort it can have." The

## King Beating

By RONALD L. SOBLE  
and LESLIE BERGER

### THE TIMES POLL

## Majority Says Police Brutality Is Common

Scores of FBI agents were involved in the exercise, forming two-member teams with the intent of contacting all 246 officers assigned to the division, which patrols the northeast San Fernando Valley.

William M. Baker, assistant FBI director in charge of the criminal investigative division in Washington, said the fast-paced and sweeping investigation was "unusual, but the beating was different."

Another Justice Department source familiar with the investigation said, "Usually, the FBI is working with state and local law enforcement and now it's like adversaries investigating the people they work with on everything."

bearing with bullet wounds and deep lacerations on their legs and backs.

"They look like they've been beaten with barbed wire," said David C. a U.S. Army medic.

Refugees crowded workers' complex at typhoid and the area. water and national Red

ado is be- used against of the people," said one man, "Win one kill Saddam?"

"Please, help us," one woman pleaded. "Let this be an appeal from families that are starving."

In one of the first looks deep into war-ravaged southern Iraq, a Times correspondent drove Monday from the Kuwait border to near the limit of the U.S.-held zone, close to the Euphrates River

**AIR ATTACKS CHARGED**  
Kurdish rebels report Iraqi raids on cities. A12

and about 20 miles southeast of the strategic city of Nasiriyah.

The six-lane Highway 1 is littered with the remains of scores of burned-out trucks and tanks, and

# Officers Plead Not Guilty in King Beating

held his baton up in the air.

Davis recalled that one of the police officers made a racial slur about King, who is black. The police could not recall the exact statement made by the officer.

Only this night from the 241

only because King did not respond to his commands after he was shot with an electric Taser stun gun.

But Edwards, the other hospital nurse, testified that King did not react because the Taser's rays never struck his body. She said a

school police were providing back-up, one officer asked the dispatcher, "Can you... ah... go get 'ah' Foothill (LAPD) behind us please?"

The dispatcher said she was

### Activist

At one point, she said, King appeared to be charging Koon when the sergeant began firing the Taser gun.

"He was either falling forward, lunging forward or moving in a direction toward the sergeant," she

had a chance to seek legal advice, according to the Los Angeles Police Protective League. None were questioned at the Foothill station Tuesday.

Refusal of officers to speak with those subordinating the police beating, because

Times staff writer  
Andrea For...  
Timnck...  
to this st...

## New Officers Graduate

Emergency...  
dom nurses at Pacifica Hospital in  
un Valley, described how some of  
he officers sarcastically referred  
to King's beating as though it were  
baseball game.

The nurses said the taunting

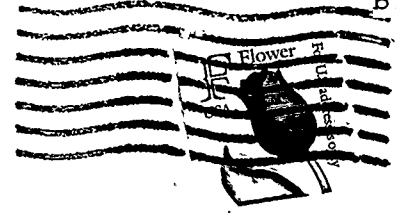
Times says tips are darks

at 50,000 Lo/TS

Articles from Los Angeles times and possibly some Daily News.  
Feel free to photocopy and pass out.



Van Nuys, CA 91401



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FBI  
11000 Wilshire  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

AP-1

[REDACTED]  
LOS ANGELES CA 90019

Jacobal Buman  
of Investigation  
Jacobal Building  
1100 Wilshire Blvd.  
Westwood CA 90024

Duan Sir / Maddam,

I truly believe the beating that Rodney King received by those officers on TV was appalling. No one in or out of this world expects that. The officers responsible should be fired and severely punished. I also believe Rodney should sue the officers, the police department, the city and the state. This is a shameful display of police brutality and we not show yet show the physical of the past is this not America the land of the free and the home of the brave. I hope this matter will be carefully looked into. I hope justice will be served.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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44A-LA-119257-E26

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	
APR 8 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

April 3, 1991

[Redacted]

Kirkland, Washington 98033

Dear [Redacted]

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

1 - Seattle - Enclosure  
ReBucal 3/28/91 from [Redacted], OPA, to  
SA [Redacted]

1 - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E27

SEARCHED	[Redacted]
SERIALIZED	[Redacted]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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March 14, 1991

Dear F.B.I. Director Sessions,

It might do you well to rethink your position concerning a national investigation into police brutality, as uncovered by the fog-thick, brain damaged, and crippled Mr. King in Los Angeles.

If a Police Chief (Hakes) turns loose law enforcement officers of that calibre, truly an investigation is needed; Mr. Hakes is wholly responsible for the tone of his department.

I am sick about beatings & the Gulf atrocities while such behavior occurs here in the United States.

I am completely furious over what goes on in this country regarding minorities.

Once I was subject to verbal abuse from an officer over a minor infraction. His assistant assured me that "mistakes happen".

Probably I would have been hospitalized if I were black and he had been operating alone.

This outrage will not lessen - people

feel demeaned by a policy of brutality that is allowed to exist. They would be out of film if they tried to film it all.

It needs to be investigated nationally and it needs badges pulled, pensions cut-off, and personnel ousted. And it needs to happen now.

Heads are or will be rolling on this one and whether or not they stop at your door will be determined as to how you handle this outrage.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Kirkland, Wa. 98033

b6  
b7C

April 3, 1991

Mrs. [redacted]  
[redacted]

Pekin, Illinois 61554

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Dear Mrs. [redacted]:

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over issues that have been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

If you have information about a specific incident involving a possible violation of Federal law within our investigative jurisdiction, you should contact the FBI office nearest you, the telephone number of which appears on the inside cover of most local directories.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted signature block]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

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- 1 - Springfield - Enclosure  
① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-28

AP-1

SEARCHED	[redacted]
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[redacted]

Pekin, Illinois 61354

March 20, 199.

Dear FBI Director Wm. Sessions -

I understand that a number of black & Hispanic Representatives have demanded that you start investigating the incidence of police brutality. I laud their efforts, & I urge you to do all you can to initiate this investigation. But, I am asking that you not stop with brutality against blacks & Hispanics. We pro-life picketers & rescuers, peacefully protesting the terrible sin of murder of our unborn babies, have been the subject of police brutality all across the country. And we have had almost no success in the courts, in bringing the survivors of police brutality to justice, because Christians are considered a minority. Now that police brutality has become a racial issue, perhaps justice can be served.

I am asking that your efforts to investigate this, also include the pro-life cause.

Sincerely,

Mrs. [redacted]

April 3, 1991

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]

Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina 28480

Dear Mr. [redacted]:

Your recent communication to the Director of the FBI has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

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I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - Charlotte - Enclosure  
1 - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-29

APR 11 1991

FBI - LOS ANGELES

AP-1

SEARCHED	[redacted]
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APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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Director, FBI, Washington, D.C. — MAR 7, 91

Dear Sir:

Ref.: Los Angeles Police Brutality  
MARCH 3, 1991  
as Seen on TV.

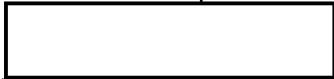
I Request that you Investigate and  
Carry to TRIAL the ones who participated  
in this Police Brutality.

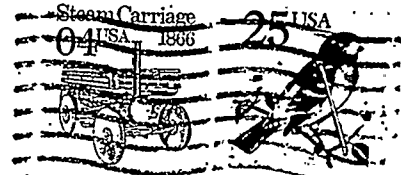
This type of Brutality must not  
continue in the United States  
Thank you.



Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480

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Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480



Director  
F.B.I.  
Washington, D.C.

20005

April 3, 1991

Ms. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]:

Your recent correspondence to the Director of the FBI has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - Baltimore - Enclosures (3)  
① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosures (3)

44A-LA-119954E-30

SEARCHED	[REDACTED]
SERIALIZED	[REDACTED]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

AP-1

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Silver Sp., Md. 20902

March 11, 1991

Chief  
Federal Bureau of  
Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Being an agency that is responsible for seeing that justice prevails throughout the country, I am referring this case to your office.

I do hope you will look into the situation and, if appropriate, have the Chief of Police and all of the policemen who participated in the brutal attack on Mr. King fired and jailed for the crime they have committed. Los Angeles, California, is known for police brutality. They have disgraced this country.

Attention is invited to the inclosures and I'm sure you will acquiesce.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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b7C

Incls.



[Redacted]  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

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b7c

March 10, 1991

Police Chief

Los Angeles, CA

Dear Sir:

This letter is to point out the injustice shown Mr. King, March 3, 1991 which made your state, city and Police Department look horrible in the eyes of the world. Your officers demonstrated to the world what a despicable, unjust, vile, barbaric and inhumane Police Department exists in Los Angeles, California.

Your police officers continued to beat, kick, and brutalize this gentleman after he had been handcuffed, and proved no threat to any of the officers. It is obvious that the Police Department has been guilty of police brutality and sadistic treatment to individuals but were able to be exonerated because there was never, or so the Police Department stated, sufficient evidence to find them guilty. However, this time it is a clear-cut case and there is evidence that your officers used undue force and barbaric tactics on Mr. King, resulting in his body being crushed and of being beaten until he almost died.

The officers involved in the uncalled for beating and all of those observing this despicable action should be fined, tried, and jailed, because the video pictures attest to the fact that they are guilty. When Carol Simpson gave the news March 9, she stated that one of the officers had been suspended previously without pay because of being accused of police brutality.

I called California and was informed that these brutal police officers were only taken off street duty and were given inside duty. This seems to be compensating them for their lawless, ugly crime. They should be suspended without pay and when found guilty, which they should be, from the video tape, FIRED AND JAILED.

All of you should be role models and pacesetters but instead your actions reveal those of coward, lawless, sadistic, barbaric madmen, who cause riots, demonstrations, and are not capable of administering justice to anyone. Police brutality is one of the main issues that caused the Watts riot some years ago and this incident might cause another.

I am sure Saddam Hussan, as heartless as he is, would not have inflicted such brutal treatment on American soldiers, who are supposed to be his enemies, the way those so called police officers treated Mr. King for a small infraction of speeding, which is the charge against him. I didn't see one soldier return from the Persian Gulf battered and bruised the way Mr. King was, and I watched intently as the aircrafts landed at various installations. I also read everything I could find regarding their treatment while in the Persian Gulf and none of them looked as badly or were treated as severely as Mr. King was here in his own country.

*Indiff*

While Secretary James Baker is in the Middle East trying to negotiate peace terms between the Palestinians and ~~Arabs~~ your police officers are creating unrest, chaos, pandemonium and deplorable acts of violence here in the United States. You and your police officers have disgraced this Nation in the eyes of the world.

I am a law abiding citizen and I have taught my two sons to always obey the law. Now I presume you understand the reason so many young adults call the police officers, who are supposed to protect citizens "PIGS" for their action on March 3 proved precisely what they are.

All medical expenses should be paid by the city of Los Angeles and Mr. King should be compensated for the undeserving, unwarranted, and uncalled for suffering he is enduring and will for a considerable length of time. In fact, he will never be the same. I might add, that every station on TV that gives the news, told this despicable story regarding this poor, defenseless man who became a victim of LOS ANGELES, CA, POLICE BRUTALITY.

The gentleman who took the pictures with the video should be applauded. He did a magnificent job and I know you and your officers regret it.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

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CC: Honorable Thomas Bradley - Mayor  
Honorable Pete Wilson - Governor  
Chief - Federal Bureau of Investigation/  
Honorable George Bush, President & Commander in Chief  
NAACP

## L.A. Cops

In the most poignant moment of his recent address to Congress on the war in the Gulf, President Bush described the scene we had seen on television: four Iraqi soldiers emerging from their bunker, "broken, tears streaming from their eyes, fearing the worst."

And "then there was this American soldier. Remember what he said? He said: 'It's okay. You're all right now. You're all right now.'"

That scene, said the triumphant president, says a lot about America.

It does indeed. But so does another tableau we saw on our TV screens last week: a handcuffed, black man being beaten senseless by a gang of white police officers. The contrast between those two scenes—one on a battlefield, the other in Los Angeles—is a useful description of the gap between the American ideal and the American reality.

I had hoped that Daryl F. Gates, Los Angeles' chief of police, might have been moved by the president's remarks to try to rid his city of the police brutality, which is its continuing disgrace. Instead, his resort was to PR games.

Listen to him. The assault (videotaped by an alert citizen) was an aberration, he says. Race wasn't a factor; it just happened that Rodney King was black and that the 15 cops involved were white. The three officers photographed clubbing and kicking their victim (while a dozen more, including a supervising sergeant, stood watching) may have been guilty of "excessive force," but the 25-year-old King "created" the incident.

Of course he did. By doing 115 mph in a Hyundai its manufacturer says never reached 100 in company tests, by resisting arrest while face down on the pavement with his hands cuffed behind him and—who knows?—perhaps by being provocatively black.

The chief finds the whole affair unfortunate but principally, it seems, because of danger that his entire 8,300-member force might be "tarred" by the brutality of a few club-happy cops. Neither his words nor his actions suggest outrage that the things black people have been saying about L.A. cops have turned out to be graphically, documentably true.

That's the thing that provokes anger not just in Los Angeles but across the land. The savagery recorded by Holliday's new video camera would have been enough to cause heads to roll even if the L.A. police department had, to that point, been a model of decorum. Given the long history of racial allegations against members of the department, and the chief's apparent inability to curb his men, the head that should roll now sits squarely on the stiff neck of Chief Gates.

That's not to say that all the brutality

is the responsibility of the chief. The 41-year veteran was around, but not chief of police, when police brutishness triggered the 1965 riot that made Watts a household word. But he was chief when he authorized the use of the choke hold, which led to the deaths of 15 detainees, a dozen of them black. It was during his watch that complaints of police overreaction (ranging from beating to racial slurs to baseless arrests) reached the staggering total of some 350 a week. The city is paying out some \$3.5 million to \$5 million a year in police-abuse settlements, according to a spokesman for the Southern California ACLU.

Indeed, it is likely that official toleration of these outrages—both by Gates and by Mayor Tom Bradley, himself an ex-policeman—is the main reason it continues. Any number of bad police departments (including the Prince George's County force) have cleaned up their acts after the appointment of chiefs who made clear that they would not tolerate police brutality.

To listen to some residents of Los Angeles, the major difference between the recent beating and scores—perhaps hundreds—of others is that this one was videotaped and, therefore, undeniable. Even so, it took from Sunday to Thursday for the chief to announce that all 15 of the officers would be investigated by the department and to ask that criminal charges be filed against the three who took turns clubbing and kicking the handcuffed man.

All these things ought to be done, of course. But doing them grudgingly, under duress, as Gates is doing, serves only to minimize their effect. The impression is that Gates cares less about the brutality that persists in his department than about the damage to his public relations.

But what happened in Los Angeles goes beyond PR, even beyond the criminal conduct of a handful of police officers sworn to uphold the law. It goes to the fundamental question of what America is and aspires to be.

Neither the poignancy of the Gulf scene described by the president, nor the shame of the scene recorded by Holliday's camera, had anything to do with the qualities of the two terrified men at the center of the TV screen: one an enemy soldier, the other a suspected speeder and convicted robber. What moved us was the behavior of those who acted on our behalf. In one case, they made us proud to be Americans; in the other, they called into question our fundamental humanity.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our elation over what happened in the Gulf could be matched by our outrage over what continues to happen here at home?

Sperry, 4/12

April 3, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Pueblo, Colorado 81003

b6  
b7C

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Your recent letter to the FBI has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

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b7C

- 1 - Denver - Enclosure  
(1) - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-31

AP-1

SEARCHED	[REDACTED]
SERIALIZED	[REDACTED]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

b6  
b7C

[redacted]  
Pueblo, CO 81003  
[redacted]

March 7, 1991

FBI  
Washington, DC 20535

LA's Proud Police Force

Dear FBI:..

We have seen repeatedly the video of the most recent beating by your LA police force. Words cannot describe the feelings of America about this. You no doubt are getting the message loud and clear from everywhere, as you rightly should.

If you don't force the chief to resign, and charge every cop at the scene with a serious charge, even you should be removed from office. This is the worst brutality I have ever seen.

Those wielding the clubs and kicking the man should be sentenced to many years in prison. Those cops who stood by and watched & did nothing to stop it should be charged as accomplices. As this has happened a number of times in the recent past. This chief is obviously condoning such action and should be removed from office without delay. The whole bunch are a total disgrace to humanity, let alone to their uniforms. This is precisely the reasons the public feels the way they do about cops.

Laying on the ground avoiding any contact with the cops are full proof the man was resisting arrest! The bastards should be damned glad I wasn't armed and a witness to their actions. You may be assured many of them would be dead at the scene.

Very Sincerely,

b6  
b7C

[redacted signature]  
[redacted]  
Mayor Bradley  
Cal Gov.  
Dept of Justice/civil rights  
FBI/DC  
White house

April 3, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Your recent letter to the FBI and others has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

1 - Newark - Enclosure

1 - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E32

AP-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[REDACTED]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816  
[REDACTED] FAX

9 Mar 91

American Civil Liberties Union  
Amnesty International  
Ms. Elizabeth Dole, Int'l Red Cross  
United Nations Human Rights Commission  
Federal Bureau Of Investigation

re: Government violations of Human Rights in LA, Iraq, & NJ

Dear Protectors of Human Rights:

"We the people, in order to form a more perfect union" with many honorable friends and family on Police Forces and in Armed Forces and in order to restore universal respect for human rights, law and order do hereby petition the government to redress of 3 recent greiviances, namely:

- 1) inhuman beatings & excessive force by LAPD
- 2) abridged freedom of press & erroneous force in Iraq
- 3) abridged freedom of speech in East Brunswick, NJ.

1) We petition immediate dismissal of all Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) members present at the brutal beating of Mr. R. G. King and petition the FBI to expedite swift justice.

Policemen watching/approving the criminal assault and obviously "cruel and unusual punishment" (regardless of unproven allegations) by at least 3 of fellow LAPD represents a scandalous neglect of duty, law, order and Constitutional right of due process.

People sworn to duty to uphold human rights, such as Police Forces and Armed Forces derive their authority, power and force from right, not might, i.e. from the informed consent of the governed who demand justice. Clearly we the people consent to Peace thru Justice i.e. thee & me in equality and equal protection of Mr. R. G. King, as innocent until proven guilty beyond reasonable doubt. We the people must doubt that justice can be served by these 15-20 LAPD who put themselves above the law, refused to enforce it and are incapable of proving their innocense or future trust.

We also petition due honor and praise and thanks for Mr. George Holliday. There can be no holiday from justice especially when citizens have founded fears so as not to get involved or to just say "let George do it." God bless/spread George Holliday's courage, information displayed and trust in fair & free press.

2) We the people petition restoration of freedom of the press abridged during the recent war alleged to restore freedom in Mideast.. We petition immediate access for the press, Amnesty International, and International Red Cross to obtain a quick and accurate "body count" because each body counts, whether friend or foe. Large discrepancies of numbers need correction.

We the people reject the US Army Commander's claim "we're not in the body count business" and assert carpet bombing of Persian rugs, women and children that killed over 7,000 civilians violates the certain, self-evident truth that the Gift of Life is inalienable.

Using "smart bombs" and dumb "Intelligence" that turned hundreds of women and children (alleged to be in "command and control") into ashes on Ash Wednesday is neither a just war or holy war to Americans or to Arabs. We petition an account of DoD deficiencies and errors so as to be corrected rather than repeated.

We the people admire the President's use of the earlier reports by Amnesty International of human rights violations by Iraq and petition the US government via Amnesty International to secure comparable respect and attention to saving human life and human rights in this country also, and to assist the Red Cross in Iraq to be sure every wounded body is healed and to re-affirm that every body counts because of the certain, self-evident truth that each Gift of Life from the Creator is inalienable, i.e. nontransferrable.

"Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people," (UN Declaration of Human Rights)

We the people also petition redress from the United Nations, under Article 8 of UN Declaration of Human Rights so that

"any man (woman & child) and any nation that seeks peace--and hates war--and is willing to fight the good fight against hunger, and disease, and ignorance and misery will find the United States of America by their side, willing to walk with them--walk with them every step of the way." (President L.B. Johnson 17Sec63)

3) We the people petition to restore fairness and freedom of speech in the East Brunswick Township Council during the assigned public portion. We petition that when and if a reasonable time limit must be imposed, that it be fairly and uniformly imposed on each and every speaker, who may otherwise be granted additional times on later agenda in the nonpublic portion of the Council meetings.

We seek to redress the arbitrary and capricious allowance of over 15 minutes for one government worker to speak for herself and her job and the unprecedented abridgement of free speech of a taxpayer speaking against erroneous / excessive force in Iraq and inadequate force in US against Japan's convicted dumping of info displays. Freedom of speech evidently was abridged by the Council's partisan GOP politics because longer, prior speeches by the same speaker critical of the other party were unabridged & praised.

Respectfully yours [redacted]

b6  
b7C



April 3, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, California 90032

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

b6  
b7C

① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-33

SEARCHED	[REDACTED]
SERIALIZED	[REDACTED]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

AP-1

b6  
b7C

Page 1

0000000000  
3-12-91

To Whom it may Concern

Dear Sir, (Sirs?)

The incident in Los Angeles recently involving the L.A. Police is not (Not) an isolated "aberration".

As a Latino who has been seen accosted by police & stopped for "suspicion" I can attest to this.

My father & their fathers were replete with the stories & remembrances of past "incidents".

My relatives did not conjure these things to frighten us - just the facts they relate broken arms and spirits if they cannot be proven to you.

I'm talking about the L.A. Police leaning on people to incite a fight.

The video recently taken, ironically, plays better for the police than for minorities. This is what "WE" will get.

Resistance or Not.

Now A few days after "the incident"  
I was stopped for going 45 mi. in a  
35 mi. zone but left off with a "warning"  
What does this tell me leniency? Why?

~~I have~~ It has, If you read the  
L.A. Times, a long while since the Mayor  
and the Police Chief have had a running  
feud. Just read back.

The people being hired by the L.A.  
police are former military Vets (as the  
ones who stopped me on "suspicion") This  
is not healthy for a community.

My name is [redacted]

b6  
b7c

L.A. CA. 90032

Unblemished Military and civilian record  
No thanks to the L.A. Police who tried  
several times to put me on "the blotter"

The police can really insult you.  
P.S. What would the report read (police)  
had this video not occurred. — Make up  
your own answers. Leave it to your imagination  
— Don't tell L.A. Police about my letter I want to  
stay HAPPY [redacted]

b6  
b7c

April 3, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19150

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

1 - Philadelphia - Enclosure

① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-34

APR 11 1991

FBI - LOS ANGELES

SEARCHED [REDACTED]  
SERIALIZED [REDACTED]

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b7C

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b7C

b6  
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Philadelphia, Pa. 19150

Attention!  
Mr. F. B. I. Director.  
Mr. Session.

Why I am writing about  
that horrible 'polices' 'brutality'.  
just how they beat that  
negro man in L.A. for no  
reasons at all. they talk about  
democracy in this 'country'. why  
hell kind of democracy do negroes  
get in this racist country. we  
are treated as 'second' 'class'  
citizens. I can write a book  
about how negroes were & still  
are treated in this country. every  
war 'negroes' fight for this  
country. the world war #1.  
world war #2 Korean war  
Vietnam war. I now sandia  
'Arabia' war. we negroes  
demand that those 'coward' dogs  
be punished to the full extent.  
no mercy for them in court  
none what so ever.  
all of these 'polices' departments  
in United States are 'corrupted'  
& police brutality exist.

I am a navy veteran of  
world war #2. I was  
stationed at Pearl Harbor main  
yard from [redacted] to [redacted]

[redacted] it was  
hell over there. race riots  
among white & negroes sailors.  
please see to it that so called  
"polices" get what they deserve.  
Coward "dogs".

Sincerely

[redacted]

ex U.S. Navy  
world war #2

April 3, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Mill Valley, California 94941

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Your recent letter to the FBI has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours

[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - San Francisco - Enclosure  
1 - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-35

AP-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[REDACTED]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

b6  
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b6  
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b6  
b7C

March 15, 1991

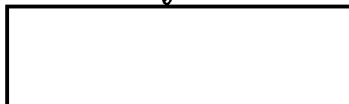
F.B.I.  
Washington, D.C.

I am writing about the recent news that the F.B.I. is doing an in-depth investigation into police brutality as a result of the savage and long beating on the unarmed and unresisting man in L.A. I understand that the three officers doing the beating are being charged for it. I strongly believe that all the officers witnessing this crime and not taking action to stop it were also guilty and are also criminals and need to be charged.

In addition, I am looking forward to your in-depth investigation in that many police brutality cases involving injuries suffered by unarmed and unresisting Christians who were brutally attacked with torture and restraining devices meant for animals, when their civil rights were denied them and they were arrested in connection with Operation Rescue. Hundreds, maybe thousands of these cases have been shelved by the justice dept. of our "free" land. These crimes were also video taped, filmed and televised. You should have little trouble in your investigation finding all the evidence you need including pictures of the offending officers.

I look forward to seeing action taken in all these police brutality cases and will follow this matter closely.

Thank you.



HILL VALLEY, CA 94941

b6  
b7C

A response is requested from you to my letter.



April 3, 1991

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]  
Huntington Beach, California 92648

Dear Mr. [redacted]:

Your recent letter to the Director of the FBI has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles (44A-IA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-IA-119954-E-36

SEARCHED	[redacted]
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

AP-1

b6  
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b7C

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED]  
Huntington Beach CA 92648

Mr. William Webster  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
10th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20535

March 13, 1991

Dear Mr. Webster;

I am writing to urge a thorough investigation of a Los Angeles City police force. The well publicized beating of a motorist by members of the force appears to confirm a pattern of abuse of human rights that has been apparant under the leadership of Sherrif Bradley Gates.

Sincerely,

b6  
b7C

CC Hon Tom Bradley  
Sherrif Brad Gates

[REDACTED] Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
[REDACTED] California 92715 • [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

April 3, 1991

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Greenport, New York 11944

b6  
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]:

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

If [redacted] who you mentioned, wishes to lodge a complaint involving a Federal violation within the FBI's investigative jurisdiction, he can contact the FBI office nearest him, the telephone number of which appears on the inside cover of most local directories.

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b7C

Sincerely yours

[redacted signature box]

b6  
b7C

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - New York - Enclosure  
(1) - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-37

SEARCHED	[redacted]
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

b6  
b7C

AP-1

## Direction

A nigger saw a more yellow  
dirty cowardly act committed by  
a bunch of cur in my life.  
Am talking about the L.A.  
beating.

The whole [redacted] on film &  
if you dont come to a quick conviction  
then your blind & stupid

That guy that they were hammering  
is a big boy. If he fought chols  
cur one on one fair fight he would  
knock the living fucker out  
of each one.

Now let me tell you what's going  
to happen old boy, riots across  
the whole country. Convict the  
cur of that too. The blacks arn't  
going to sit back & let that happen.  
The whole world seen that. That  
something SADDAM would have done.  
If you want to know why &

b6  
b7c

sound so bitter is ~~because a~~  
~~situation happened to~~ [redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted] It wasn't brutal at all.

If you want to know more send  
one of your flunkys here &  
could tell him a few unjust  
things that happened.

[redacted]

b6  
b7C

April 3, 1991

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80933

Dear Mr. [redacted]:

The copy of your letter to Mayor Tom Bradley, which you sent to Director Sessions, has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public, and I want to thank you for also sharing with us your personal experience with the law in 1972.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

1 - Denver - Enclosure

(1) - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-38

AP-1

SEARCHED	[redacted]
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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b6  
b7C

b6  
b7C

7 Mar 91

Mayor Bradley,

I am typing this letter to you because of the recent video-taping and exposure of your police beating a motorist, a Mr. Rodney King.

I had a somewhat similar experience, but I was spared the 'beating frenzy' that befell Mr. King.

In 1972, I was employed and based [redacted] My employment was [redacted]

b6  
b7C

I cannot recall the exact date, [redacted]

b6  
b7C

I believe I was about the first [redacted] a taxi,

[redacted]  
the only reason that I didn't get the full 'L.A. frenzy welcome'.

[redacted]  
noticed a police cruiser was exactly [redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted] I also noticed that  
both officers were looking at me and were laughing. I told the  
[redacted]

[redacted] was illuminated with  
red lights. I did notice that the cruiser had fallen back, but  
I did not notice the cruiser had pulled immediately behind us.

b6  
b7C

[redacted]  
After what seemed like hours, I heard shouting from the back of  
the [redacted] I could not discern the words, but figured the  
[redacted] chewed out royally. Little did I know that  
I was the center of attention. What was being shouted was, "Get  
out of the car, Mex! Get out with your goddamned hands up!"

b6  
b7C

I [redacted] was jerked  
out of [redacted] by an officer who had grabbed my hair. I was  
forced to a building wall next to [redacted]

b6  
b7C

All during this time I was being called "Spik, Mex, and Greaseball".  
I demanded an explanation for this and was open-hand cuffed  
across my face. I could not believe this was happening to me.

Mayor Bradley

I shouted a demand to know what was happening to me and by whose authority.

At this point, I was told that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I was further slapped across my face and kicked on my leg. I always thought my leg was kicked in a misplaced kick to my groin, but now I believe the officer must have hit me with his club.

b6  
b7C

A crowd started to gather to watch, I advised the 'crazy' that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The 'crazy' pushed my face into the building and kicked my legs to increase the spread-eagle stance I was put into. I could barely breathe, and could taste the blood from my split lips; my leg was killing me.

b6  
b7C

All the time this was happening, [REDACTED] The other officer was crouched behind the cruiser door with a pistol pointed at me. That officer never said a word.

b6  
b7C

The 'crazy' would not let me get my wallet from my suit jacket, so he removed my wallet himself. In doing so, he also ripped part of my suit jacket pocket. He then looked at the [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

At this point the 'crazy' told me he had another call and that I was damned lucky the [REDACTED] wasn't pressing for my arrest.

After this the two officers just got into their car as if nothing had happened. I'm running around like a rat trying to collect all my papers that the 'crazy' had thrown on the sidewalk and were being blown away by a prevailing wind. I did not collect all my papers, but ran in front of the cruiser to stop it to get the identification of it so I could take some type of legal action fro this ungodly police behavior.

This was a mistake as the 'crazy', who was not driving, got out of the car and slapped the hell out of me again. He then tells me that if I do not get my "greaseball ass out of there NOW," he was going to arrest me for assaulting a police officer and attempting [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

At this point the [REDACTED] came to my side and walked me back to the cab. Mayor Bradley, I've got to tell you that the crap that is now in the newspaper has been going on for quite a while.

b6  
b7C

When we arrived at the [REDACTED] I asked to be taken to a motel we had just passed. I asked the [REDACTED] what the hell he had told the cops such that they beat my butt like they did?

b6  
b7C



Mayor Bradley

He told me the cops told him that [redacted] He said he told the cops [redacted] The crazy cop than told the [redacted] he better remember, get the story right or he was

b6  
b7C

[redacted]

give me any information and said he had to support his family and was not going to get involved with any crazy cops. He asked a very good question of me. Who is going to help him when the cops stop him and he is by himself?

b6  
b7C

This really floored me, a [redacted] afraid to help me because he feared the cops involved would come back and get him.

b6  
b7C

I called a police station immediately upon getting to work the next morning. I was told to drive to the closest police station and fill out a report. I refused to do this and demanded to be able to speak to the CHIEF OF POLICE to report this beating. I was told I could not do this but under the circumstances, an officer would be dispatched to [redacted] to obtain the report.

b6  
b7C

Sometime about noon two officers arrived to interview me. They listened to my complete story and then asked for identification of the officers and taxi driver. This sounded like an echo as I had just told them I did not get this information as my evening had been pretty hectic.

The detectives remarked I did not have any meaningful complaint as I could not produce any witnesses nor could I document any of my allegations. The split lips and torn suit pocket meant nothing as they could have been self induced.

I advised the detectives I would take a polygraph. I asked them to help me by using all of their resources to locate these 'crazies'.

I was told the police dept. was too busy to get involved in a 'witch hunt,' particularly since I could not document a single aspect of my story.

I honest to God thought these detectives would want to help find these 'sickies', but when I expressed my view that the LAPD had two 'sickies' on the beat, the two detectives turned on me. The immediate retort was what was my medical background to support my unsubstantiated observation. Who in the hell did I think I was to render opinions, especially since I had shown I did not have a grasp on any of the events I was complaining about.

This was the end of the interview as the two detectives excused themselves.

Mayor Bradley

I sulked, I licked my lips, I called lawyers, and I called newspapers to help investigate these two 'barbarians' on the police force. Nothing, absolutely nothing came of my efforts. In a heartbeat my [redacted] Never to return to your city of the 'CITY OF ANGELES', which is exactly what I saw, with the help of the 'FISTS IN BLUE'.

b6  
b7C

I know this letter cannot help anyone now, but Sir, I want you to know some members of the LAPD have been exercising their "RIGHTS" and lefts for quite a while.

I think your little dept. CALIGULA'S obtain their exercise this way.

In fact, everytime I read about a serial killer in California, I am prepared to bet the LAPD showpiece CALIGULA just overexercised his 'RIGHTS'.

I saw on local T.V. reports that indictments will be pressed on the 3 CALIGULA'S, but what about the other 25 cops who are standing around selling ringside tickets.

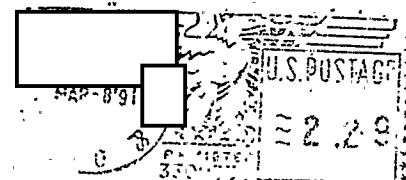
Today they watch, tomorrow they go practice, after all NIGGERS and MEXICANS are like fish in a pond. Who in the hell listens to them, especially if 25 ticket selling spectator cops swear the sucker in the hospital pulled an AK-47 on them and it was only self defense. I am sure all your fine MEN IN BLUE have an extra un-registered hand gun in the trunk of their cruiser, just in case the sucker might represent trouble.

Rodney King is lucky some busy body with nothing else to do took his picture while he was doing the IDI AMIN shuffle. I had no pictures taken and was left swinging in the wind.

SIR, I BEG OF YOU, IN BEHALF OF ALL OF US EXERCISE MATS, THAT YOU FIND THESE SICK CREEPS IN BLUE AND METE OUT THE FULLEST PENALTIES OF THE LAW, AND THIS IS TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE "BLUE" STUDENT SPECTATORS LEARNING THE FINE ART OF TORTURE.

How many [redacted] do you want to protect?

[redacted]



b6  
b7C

Mr. Sessions

DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
J. EDGAR HOOVER BLDG.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 3, 1991

Ms. [redacted]  
c/o [redacted]

San Mateo, California 94403

Dear Ms. [redacted]:

The copies of the letter and signed petition you sent to Director Sessions have been referred to me for reply. We appreciate the concern expressed by you and others in the San Francisco and San Mateo areas over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - San Francisco - Enclosures (3)  
① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosures (3)

AP-1

44A-LA-119954-E-39

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SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 1 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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March 11, 1991

Dear *Director Sessions*:

The Rodney King incident has prompted members of the San Francisco and San Mateo, CA communities to sign a petition to be sent to the Mayor of Los Angeles, the Chief of Police, CIA, FBI, State Highway Patrol, Justice Dept., and various other governmental officials expressing our disdain at the brutal beating and inhumane treatment of African Americans at the hands of criminals operating under the guise of "law enforcers".

We are interested in knowing what action you are taking concerning this matter. Someone will be in touch with your office, soon, to receive your feedback.

Thank you.

Concerned Citizens

# Rodney King PETITION

Thank God that we the public finally have proof that you can neither destroy nor deny. The savage beating and treatment of Rodney King by the Los Angeles police and Highway Patrol, on March 3, 1991, was absolutely despicable.

We know that this brutality was not an isolated incidence of racial violence, because we constantly hear the cries of those in our community who suffer at the hands of "law enforcers". We demand immediate and permanent dismissal of all officers involved and the dismantling of institutional racism in law enforcement agencies throughout the State and in this nation, NOW!

Name

Name

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Name

Name

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Per telephone  
+ zip dir  
Btm

[Redacted]

San Mateo, Calif 94403

San Mateo, CA

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TO:

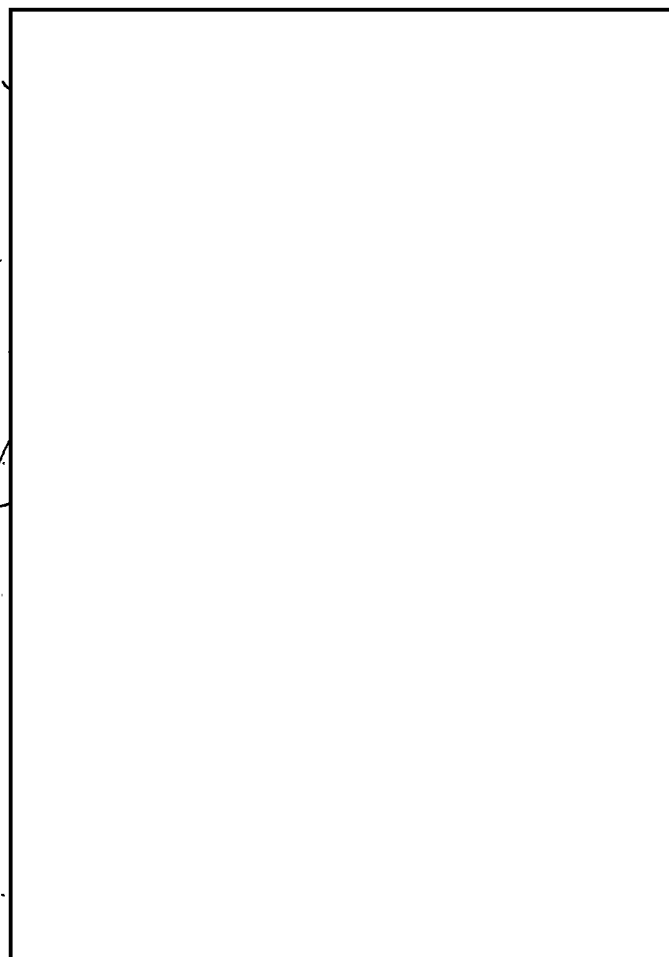
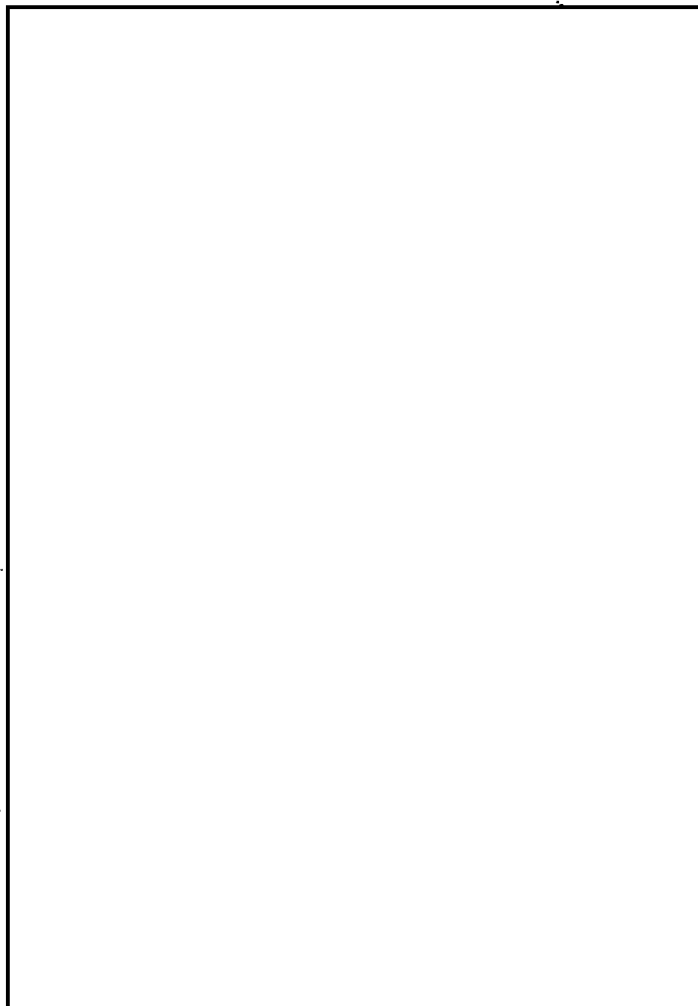
Date \_\_\_\_\_

RODNEY KING

## PETITION

We, the public, have proof of your brutality that you could neither destroy nor deny! The savage beating and treatment of Rodney King, by the Los Angeles police and Highway Patrol, on March 3, 1991, was absolutely despicable. We know that this brutality was not an isolated incidence of racial violence, because we constantly hear the cries of those, in our community, who suffer at the hands of criminals under the guise of "law enforcers".

We demand the immediate and permanent dismissal of all officers involved and the dismantling of institutional racism in the law enforcement agencies in this state and this nation, **NOW!**



b6  
b7c

April 3, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19129

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours  
[REDACTED]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - Philadelphia - Enclosure  
① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-40

AL-1

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APR 11 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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PHILA-PA-1912C

MARCH 14, 1991

WILLIAM SESSIONS DIR.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
10<sup>th</sup> AND PENNSYLVANIA AVE.  
N. W. WASHINGTON D.C. 20353

DEAR MR. SESSIONS: I AM  
PLEASED THAT YOUR AGENCY AS  
YOU HAVE CLAIMED IS INVESTI-  
GATING THE BEATING OF RODNEY  
KING. I WOULD HOPE THAT  
THIS INVESTIGATION BY THE  
BUREAU IS AS VIGOROUS AS  
THE BEATING RECEIVED BY  
MR. KING.

I DO FIND IT CURIOUSLY  
ABSURD THAT GIVEN THE NATIONAL  
SCOPE OF THE BUREAU THAT ITS  
INVESTIGATORY LATITUDE IS SO

LIMITED. I URGE YOU TO  
ALLY YOURSELF WITH REP.  
CONYERS AND REP. DON EDWARDS  
IN THEIR REQUEST TO ATTORNEY  
GENERAL THORNBURGH TO AUTHOR-  
IZE AN INVESTIGATION OF POLICE  
BRUTALITY CASES THROUGHOUT  
THE NATION.

THANK YOU

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

April 8, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Englewood, New Jersey 07631

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Your March 30th correspondence to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply.

We appreciate your concern and want to assure you that the FBI is conducting a thorough investigation of the incident which occurred in Los Angeles, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution. The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws.

Your question concerning the removal of the Chief of Police in Los Angeles is one which would more appropriately be addressed by the Mayor or Police Commissioner of that city.

Sincerely yours  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosures (3)

44A-LA-119954-E-41

AP-1

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APR 12 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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Re. Police Chief  
Daryl Gates b6  
b7C

[Redacted]  
Englewood, DJ 07671

March 30, 1975

Dear Mr. Sessions-

Why can't Police Chief Daryl Gates be  
fired? We are fast becoming a hostile  
nation.

Mr. Sessions. Police brutality must be  
stopped, at all cost.

Mr. Sessions. Many policemen are liars  
and cowards, they will handcuff you  
and then beat you senseless.

We are a shameless nation -

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b7C

[Redacted]

# The Record

Malcolm A. Borg, *Chairman of the Board*  
John Borg, *Publisher 1922-1948*  
Donald G. Borg, *Editor 1932-1975*

Byron C. Campbell, *President and Publisher*

David Hall, *Editor*

Bernard J. Buranelli, *Managing Editor*

Richard E. Benfield, *Editorial Page Editor*

James Ahearn, *Associate Editor*

## Pattern of violence in L.A.

Even if it were an isolated incident, the savage beating of a black man by the Los Angeles police is enough to make you sick. After all, this is not some fascist police state where the cops can routinely be expected to rough up citizens and employ Gestapo tactics. This is America, and we presume the police will act with fairness and justice.

More and more evidence is emerging, however, that clearly indicates the March 3 beating of Rodney King was not isolated or even very unusual. Instead, the beating seems to have been part of a pattern of anti-minority violence and bias that has been taking place in the Los Angeles Police Department for years.

As Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, a former top officer in the department, describes the situation: "It is no longer possible for any objective person to regard the King beating as an aberration. We must face the fact that there appears to be a dangerous trend of racially motivated incidents running through at least some segments of our police department."

The details of Mr. King's beating are now common knowledge. We've seen it virtually every evening on the television news: police officers kicking and striking Mr. King with their nightsticks as he lay helpless on the ground. What's just now becoming apparent is that the police made no effort to cover up the mayhem. The policemen inflicted the beating in full view of a crowd of onlookers and other police officers as the headlights from police squad cars illuminated the scene. One ranking officer stood by and made no effort to stop the violence. None of the police officers was moved by pleas from the crowd to end the beating.

Is this indicative of a police force where violence is an aberration? Certainly not. Likewise, it's not indicative of a police force where brutality is frowned upon. If Police Chief Daryl Gates and his subordinates had frowned on vio-

lence, it's a certain bet the officers would have made sure nobody saw them beating Mr. King. Like other people, police don't invite disciplinary action from their superiors.

Besides beating Mr. King in full view of the public, the Los Angeles police officers went on to comment blithely about it over the police communications system. "I haven't beaten anyone this bad in a long time," one of the officers remarked, according to a computerized transcript. If Chief Gates had put out the word that violence was unacceptable, these officers would have had the good sense to keep quiet.

There is other evidence of brutality by Los Angeles police officers. Verdicts and settlements against the department in 1972 amounted to \$553,000. Last year, they amounted to \$8 million. One of the officers charged in Mr. King's beating was suspended for 66 days in 1987 for beating a man who was handcuffed. In 1988, following a telephoned threat to a police station, 77 officers charged on the homes of two black families, ripped out sinks and toilets, and smashed windows and televisions. Officers scrawled "LAPD Rules" on a wall outside the building and beat residents as they arrested them. Last year, the city settled lawsuits by the residents for \$3 million.

One other episode reflects the attitude of Chief Gates' department, and this involves Mr. Gates himself. Following the March 3 incident, Mr. Gates stressed that the beating was an aberration that in no way reflected adversely on other members of his force. But he has expressed little shock, condemnation, or revulsion over the savage beating of a civilian by his officers.

Is this the reaction of a chief who truly detests the use of violence by his police force?

# L.A. police panel looks at ways to oust chief

Los Angeles Times News Service

LOS ANGELES — As embattled Police Chief Daryl F. Gates defended himself at a raucous City Council meeting Wednesday, the Police Commission received a briefing from the City Attorney's Office on the precise steps necessary to remove Gates from the office he has held for 13 years.

Although it is not clear that the commission intends to fire Gates, the 45-minute briefing could be a first step toward ousting or disciplining the chief in the wake of the videotaped March 3 beating of motorist Rodney G. King.

The commission, a civilian panel that oversees the Police Department, heard testimony from Assistant City Attorneys Frederick

N. Merkin and Leslie E. Brown, who explained which City Charter provisions could be used to fire Gates.

Commission Vice President Melanie Lomax confirmed Wednesday that she and the other panel members had asked the City Attorney's Office to tell them how they could censure or discipline Gates or remove him from office. But Lomax would not elaborate on what was said at the briefing, citing attorney-client privilege.

Lomax would not comment on what steps the commission would take next.

For 2½ weeks, Gates has been under pressure from politicians and community leaders to resign or retire because of the King beat-

ing. The incident, captured on a home video camera and televised across the country, has generated a national debate on police brutality.

A Los Angeles County grand jury last week indicted four Los Angeles police officers for participating in the beating. The grand jury's investigation is continuing, as is a Department of Justice probe into allegations of brutality by Los Angeles police officers.

Gates appeared surprised to hear that the commissioners could be plotting his downfall.

After the closed briefing, the commission held its second public hearing on police department procedures and allegations of wide-

spread brutality by officers against minorities.

Earlier, during an often-heated public hearing at City Hall, Gates addressed the City Council for the first time on the King beating, enduring the now-familiar calls from speakers for his resignation and engaging in a tense exchange with one councilman.

The chief ostensibly was summoned to the council to explain why the city paid \$625,000 to settle a police brutality lawsuit. Almost immediately, however, discussion of the videotaped beating overshadowed the agenda item before the council.

Also Wednesday, members of a U.S. House judiciary subcommittee held a hearing on police brutal-

ity around the nation. The federal government gets thousands of police brutality complaints each year but prosecuted only 46 in 1990, the panel was told.

Justice Department and FBI officials testified that they intervene as a last resort in local police misconduct cases. But House members — outraged at the videotaped beating of King — argued for more effort by the Bush administration to police the police.

"Seeing that man being beaten was offensive to all Americans, particularly to the tens of thousands of law enforcement officers who would not engage in such conduct," said U.S. Rep. Don Edwards, D-Calif., chairman of the subcommittee.

A-12 THE RECORD ★

## FBI vows to target bias crime

### Trying to gauge size of problem

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — FBI Director William S. Sessions said Monday the bureau will vigorously pursue cases of hate crimes and expects new reporting statistics to provide information on the extent of such violence.

Sessions, speaking to a leadership conference of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said the FBI has been collecting information this year on acts of violence in which the motivation was the victim's race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnic origin.

The statistics are required under a hate-crimes law passed last year by Congress. Sessions said the FBI has begun training state and local law enforcement agencies to recognize and report hate crimes.

"Unless the crimes are accurately reported, we may never know the full extent of the problem, and therefore of course we can never hope to eliminate it," Sessions said. "The FBI will continue to vigorously investigate acts of hate violence when they occur and, if possible, to prevent them from occurring."

Sessions declined to comment on the FBI's investigation into the videotaped beating of Rodney King by Los Angeles police officers.

He defended the FBI's controversial questioning of Arab-American leaders shortly before the Persian Gulf war, when critics said the bureau was unfairly singling out that group. Sessions said 117 voluntary interviews were conducted, with the purpose of gaining information about potential criminal acts against Arab-Americans, and to open lines of communication.

He said the public reacted "in a more or less cynical way." But, he said, Arab-American reaction "was by and large very strong and very good and very cooperative."

The Anti-Defamation League monitors instances of hate-inspired violence.

April 9, 1991

Mrs. [redacted]  
[redacted]

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your recent letter to Attorney General Thornburgh was referred to the FBI for reply.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

If you have information about a specific incident involving a possible violation of Federal law within our investigative jurisdiction, you should contact the FBI office nearest you, the telephone number of which appears on the inside cover of most local directories.

Sincerely yours  
[redacted]

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

- 1 - Pittsburgh - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - New Orleans - Enclosures (2)
- ① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosures (2)

44A-LA-119954-E-42

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 15 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[redacted]

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[redacted] Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Dear Mr. Thornburgh,

Please look into the brutality, by the police, against Operation Rescue across the country.

I am enclosing information sent to me about Pittsburgh. I believe Los Angeles Police were involved in like action and Hartford was disgraceful. Yet, nothing is ever done about it.

The beating of the man in Los Angeles was horrible. But Operation Rescue has had their civil rights violated longer and more intensely.

Thank you for your time.  
Sincerely,

P.S. There are Blacks involved in Operation [redacted]



Rescue also and many women who  
have been beaten & abused.

April 12, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Los Angeles, California 90004

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your March 26th correspondence commending the FBI on its investigation of the Rodney King matter.

The concern which prompted you to write is certainly understandable. I thank you for making this information and your views available to me.

Sincerely yours,

William M. Baker  
Assistant Director  
Criminal Investigative Division

① - SAC, Los Angeles (For Information Only) - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: No action is warranted regarding Mr. [REDACTED]  
communication.

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Central indices at FBIHQ were negative regarding  
[REDACTED]

44A-LA-11000-1 E-43


AP-1

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APR 19 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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FROM  
THE  
DESK  
OF

  
Los Angeles, CA 90004

3/26/91

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Dear sir:

Thank you for investiga-  
ting so quickly the Rodney  
King beating. I can assure  
you that racism and bu-  
tility does exist in Los  
Angeles. It is not an  
aberration like Sales des-  
crite it. Thanks again!

# QUOTES FROM CHIEF GATES

*Since he became Los Angeles' 49th police chief in 1978, Daryl F. Gates has made a number of controversial statements that have offended, in varying degrees, blacks, Jews, Latinos, women, casual drug users and even the State Department.*

■ 1978: He had been in office barely one month when he remarked to a Latino audience that some Latino officers were not promoted within the LAPD because they were "lazy." Gates said that he was only trying to encourage Latino officers to work harder and attain leadership positions.

■ 1979: Gates casually commented at a news conference in England that if President Jimmy Carter could not rescue the 52 American captives in Iran, Gates could by sending in his SWAT squad. A short time later, "the State Department called and said, 'Chief, we'd appreciate it if you'd mind your own business,'" according to Gates. The chief said he was only trying to be witty.

■ 1980: At a closed dinner meeting of deputy district attorneys, Gates called KABC-TV anchorwoman Christine Lund "an Aryan broad." Gates later apologized, saying the comment was meant "in jest" and was "in the spirit of a raucous evening."

■ 1982: Gates angered many Jews by releasing an in-house report that suggested that the Soviet Union was sending criminals disguised as Jewish immigrants to Los Angeles to disrupt the 1984 Olympics. Gates went out of his way to make peace with Jewish leaders, saying that the report was purely speculative and that he had never expected the media to publicize it.

In an interview, Gates said he had instructed his staff to investigate "a hunch" he had about why so many blacks die from police use of the carotid chokehold, which cuts off the blood supply to the brain. "We may be finding that in some blacks when it [the carotid chokehold] is applied, the veins or arteries do not open up as fast as they do on normal people." The remark, Gates said, was no more than a careless choice of words.

■ 1984: The City Council approved a ballot measure that would increase the city's power to discipline and fire department heads, such as Gates. Then the chief alleged that this would permit undue political influence by council members on the police and the rest of the city departments. Then in a statement that angered some council members, Gates said he was going to "rummage around in my mind" to cite examples of how council members ask the police to do "all kinds of things that are inappropriate."

■ 1988: In an interview, Gates conceded that he is more "patient and sensitive" in his dealings with people. But, he added, "I can still be an arrogant bastard. I've grown harder and softer."

■ 1989: In a videotaped message to LAPD officers, Gates used the term "pantywaists" to describe officers who opposed his Halloween deployment plan that was intended to prevent a recurrence of the near-riot that occurred in Hollywood the previous year.

■ 1990: At a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the first anniversary of the Bush Administration's war on drugs, Gates said "casual drug users ought to be taken out and shot." His statement was aimed at those "who blast some pot on a casual basis and the damned hypocrites who go out and party on the weekends and snort cocaine."

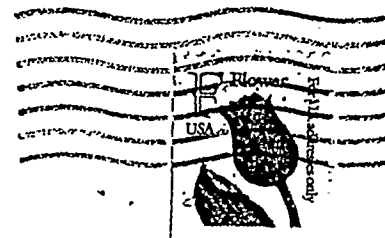
Gates said Mayor Tom Bradley had written a "dumb letter" calling for an investigation of possible police improprieties in the defense of four officers charged with vandalism during a drug raid two years ago near 39th Street and Dalton Ave.

■ 1991: In an angry statement after the shooting of rookie policewoman Tina Kerbrat, Gates referred to Kerbrat's killer as "an El Salvadoran drunk—a drunk who doesn't belong here."

In response to an outpouring of anger from Los Angeles residents over the videotape that captures LAPD officers repeatedly striking defenseless Rodney G. King, Gates offered an apology to King, but further enraged people when he added that he would apologize "in spite of the fact that [King's] on parole and a convicted robber."



Los Angeles, Calif. 90004



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b7C

*[Redacted]*  
William M. Baker  
Assistant Director, Criminal  
Investigative Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

air mail

April 16, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Jackson, Mississippi 39284-0865

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Your March 6th letter to Director Sessions has been received, and he asked me to thank you for writing.

We deeply appreciate your support regarding the FBI's investigation of the incident you mentioned. Allegations of civil rights violations are promptly, thoroughly, and objectively investigated by the FBI, and we hope to have this matter resolved as quickly as possible.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44A-LA-1195 (4) E-464

AP-1

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APR 19 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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[redacted]  
Jackson, MS 39284-[redacted]  
March 6, 1991

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Mr. William Session, Director  
10th Pennsylvania Ave., Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Session

I was shocked by a CNN news report showing a video taken by an amateur cameraman of the brutal beating of a California motorist, Rodney Glenn King, 25, of suburban Altadena, California, by a group of Los Angeles Policemen.

This morning I read an article in the Clarion-Ledger (Jackson, MS) VIDEO OF BEATING OPENS FBI PROBE OF L.A. POLICE OFFICERS. Because of the swift response of your agency to what appears to be, police brutality under the cover of law, you and your department are to be commended as patrons of a sacred american principle (due process). It is always good to know that the citizenry of this country; be they black or white, rich or poor, can look to the FBI as the custodian of our constitutional right to justice. God bless you.

Yours truly,

[redacted]

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[Redacted]

Full Dimensional Sound

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b7C



[Redacted]

SA [Redacted]  
FBI  
11000 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

April 17, 1991

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Dear Mr. [Redacted]

This morning I watched a news report on "Good Morning America" that indicated that the FBI was working to clarify the audio tracks on the video tapes of the Rodney King/LAPD incident.

[Redacted] has been in business for over 25 years and our prime emphasis has been with the music industry. I have included a couple of industry magazine articles that outline the process we use. Basically, we use 180 computers that sample each sound (note of music, sound effect, voice, ect.) at a rate of 648,000 times per second and then isolate and clarify that sound so that it can be heard.



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b7C

While our prime business relates to music, we have done special jobs such as the flight recorder tapes in the Cerritos air crash, and work for the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, DEA and Beverly Hills Police Department.

If you would like to evaluate our process and visit our studios, please call me and we will get together.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

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44A-LA-119954-E-45

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APR 20 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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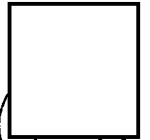
1 - Addressee

① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) (AP-1)



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44A-LA-119954-E-460

U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. 44A-LA-119954

11000 Wilshire Boulevard #1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
April 20, 1991

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, CA 90008

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

This letter is to acknowledge your letter to this office, which concerned the actions of the Los Angeles Police Department in the Rodney King incident. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that this office is in the process of investigating the King incident, under the mandates set out by the Congress of the United States for the investigation of the alleged violation of an individual's civil rights. The particular statutes which would apply to this, and most other civil rights investigations collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation are Sections 241 and 242 of Title 18 of the United States Code. I want to assure you that this office will conduct a thorough and professional investigation any time there are allegations made which provide a sufficient basis to bring the actions of the police officer under the provisions of the two above mentioned United States Code Sections.

Thank you very much for your letter and concern.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE G. LAWLER  
Special Agent in Charge

By: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Supervisory Special Agent

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Los Angeles, Ca., 90008  
3/13/91

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Federal Building  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Westwood, Ca., 90024


To the director of the Rodney King investigation:

I am a young Black man in the 11th grade + 16 yrs. of age. I live in a neighborhood that's known for its gang activity, + of course police harassment. The reason why I'm writing is because I'm concerned for myself, + others that live around me. It's not the gun shots or crimes that arouse my concern. Rather, the squad cars that pull around the corner everyday.

I've recently seen the footage of the Rodney King case, and it's gotten me to think real hard about police actions. Harassment is one thing, but brutality is way off line. What was the justification for such a beating? Speeding? I think not, although the police report claimed they were in a 115 m.p.h. chase with King. Unless my eyes were deceived, King was driving a Hyundai Excel. Based on a test by a K-CAL newsman, the police report was proved wrong. The newsman, riding in the same model car, noted that the vehicle had ~~trouble~~ trouble going 90 m.p.h. So not only does this brutal event show the police as racist, but also as liars too.

44A-LA-112954

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FBI — LOS ANGELES	



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A lot of people say that the King incident wasn't racist. Even King himself refused to believe what happened to him had nothing to do with his skin color. In my opinion, it was definitely racist. If King was White, do you think any of this would have even happened? I don't think so. Of course, this is my own opinion, but "they" probably would have handed him a donut, apologized for the inconvenience, and said "have a nice day". I know I sound sarcastic, but sarcasm is no where in comparison to brutality.

All I am asking for is justice. I wish to see both King and those so-called officers get what they deserve. Oh sure, these officers will get their "punishment." Suspended off the force maybe. Or even worse, no more trips to Winchell's or Gum-Gums. Of course, King will receive a settlement in court, which should cover his medical expenses. But due to that "lunching", King has suffered permanent brain damage, and nothing can compensate for that.

In conclusion, I'd like for you, as the F.B.I., to run a thorough investigation on not just the King case, but many others as well. Such as the Century City janitors case. So please, for the sake of us Black, Latino, and other peoples of color, investigate these patterns of police brutality.

Please respond as soon as possible.  
Thank you.



A concerned Black man.

1 - Addressee

① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954)(AP-1)



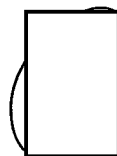
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FILED \_\_\_\_\_



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44A-LA-119954-E-47



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. 44A-LA-119954

11000 Wilshire Boulevard #1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
April 20, 1991

Ms. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Los Angeles, CA 90008

b6  
b7C

Dear Ms. [redacted]

This letter is to acknowledge your letter to this office, which concerned the actions of the Los Angeles Police Department in the Rodney King incident. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that this office is in the process of investigating the King incident, under the mandates set out by the Congress of the United States for the investigation of the alleged violation of an individual's civil rights. The particular statutes which would apply to this, and most other civil rights investigations collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation are Sections 241 and 242 of Title 18 of the United States Code. I want to assure you that this office will conduct a thorough and professional investigation any time there are allegations made which provide a sufficient basis to bring the actions of the police officer under the provisions of the two above mentioned United States Code Sections.

Thank you very much for your letter and concern.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE G. LAWLER  
Special Agent in Charge

By: [redacted]

Supervisory Special Agent

b6  
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[REDACTED]  
Los Angeles C.A. 9008

b6  
b7C

Federal Bureau of  
Investigation  
Federal Building  
11000 Wilshire BLVD.  
Westwood C.A. 90024

Dear Director of the Rodney King case,

I am a young lady of color on my jr. year in high school. This kind of behavior is totally uncalled for, what I saw on the news was something I remember watching on television about what happened in the sixties, I never thought it would be happening now. How is our community supposed to trust the LAPD? I truly think the police officers involved should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. And the accomplices should be suspended from the police force because they allowed this kind of conduct to continue without doing anything. and further more I would like any other cases concerning police brutality to be investigated thurally.

A Concerned student,

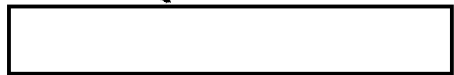
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44A-LA-119957

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APR 8 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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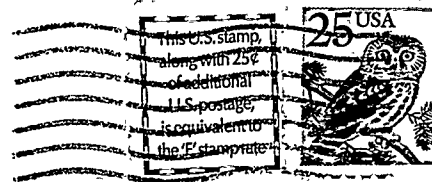


Los Angeles C.A. 90008



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API

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Federal Building

11000 Wilshire Blvd.

Westwood C.A. 90024

April 24, 1991

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805

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b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your recent letter to Director Sessions has been referred to me for reply. We appreciate your concern over an issue that has been of great interest to the American public.

A thorough FBI investigation of the Los Angeles Police Department incident is underway, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution.

The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws. In addition to investigating allegations when they come to our attention, the FBI also provides civil rights and stress management training to law enforcement officers as part of our national police training program.

I can assure you that Director Sessions remains personally committed to civil rights for all Americans and understands the unique role of the FBI in ensuring that law enforcement is credible, evenhanded and fair in its treatment of criminal offenders.

Sincerely yours

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

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① - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosures (2)

44A-LA-119954-E-48

SEARCHED	[redacted]
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
APR 29 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[redacted]

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March 27, 1991

Dear Mr. Sessions:

It has all the appearance of a whitewash, a coverup and I think you should step in and direct that the uniformed criminals of L.A. (or anywhere) be treated just like those who do not wear uniforms.

The now infamous L.A. action by LAPD was a gang related crime. They were an organized gang, wearing items that identify them as members of a gang, and had supervision, communications and everything the other gangs have. The only difference between this gang and the others is that this gang is being paid by the victim and the public.

To learn that the members of this gang are not cooperating with the FBI is sad. To learn that the FBI is insisting on only voluntary interviews is sadder still. Is that how it would be handled if it had been a rival gang attacking a member of the LAPD uniformed gang? I think not.

It is ludicrous that the officers have entered pleas of guilty, but that looks to the public like part of the plan. They plead not guilty; fellow officers refuse to be questioned; the FBI closes its investigation; Bates stays on; the department continues to go about its businesses as it sees fit. The public suffers.

I think you should take a personal role in this one; set the LAPD criminals up as an example; try them and if they are found guilty, punish them. It could be a deterrent to many police officers everywhere (including the FBI) who are often overzealous and who get carried away with their authority--at the expense of the public.

And you might take one step further, in the name of justice and law enforcement, by honoring the brave amateur photographer who caught these criminals in action. He is now being threatened, apparently by LAPD criminals. What is happening to our country?

He is a real American hero. And if others dared to do the same, we could reduce considerably all crime in our cities--not just by police, but by other criminals as well. If you could get the President to honor Mr. Holliday as a national hero, the LAPD would be reluctant to do him harm or continue to threaten him. And maybe Mr. King would even give Mr. Holliday a sizeable reward from the millions he will win in his suit against the criminals.

You could be the catalyst. Go for it.

Aloha no.



Honolulu, Hawai'i 96805 USA

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### Officers not cooperating in FBI probe

LOS ANGELES — The FBI was unable to question at least 25 colleagues of four policemen charged in a videotaped beating because the officers would not voluntarily cooperate, a union lawyer said.

A Los Angeles County grand jury has reconvened to hear evidence about officers who stood by and watched the March 3 attack on a black motorist that stirred national outrage after it was captured on videotape by an onlooker and played on television.

The defendants, Sgt. Stacey Koon, 40, and officers Laurence Powell, 28, Timothy Wind, 30, and Theodore Briseno, 38, were scheduled to enter pleas today to assault and brutality.

If convicted, they could get up to 4 years to 7½ years in prison.

Cecil Marr, an attorney for the Los Angeles Police Protective League which represents the 8,300-member force, said, "The FBI is insisting on only voluntary interviews. Unless the police officer gives up his rights, the FBI is not interested in talking to him."

FBI agents called off interviews with 20 other officers, Marr said.

*From staff and wire reports*

May 10, 1991

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Van Nuys, California 91401

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Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your April 4th letter to Director Sessions concerning a radio report that indicated he had classified the beating of Rodney King of Los Angeles as a "hate crime" has been referred to me for reply.

At a press conference held on April 4th, Director Sessions was reluctant to comment on the King case in view of its pending status. When pressed for an answer to the issue of whether this case can be considered a "hate crime," he indicated that by the appearance of it and the fact that persons have been indicted by a grand jury for the County of Los Angeles, he presumed that it would be listed that way.

The FBI is authorized to investigate a hate crime which constitutes a violation of one of the civil rights statutes. In order to prove that hate violence has occurred, the crime must meet specific criteria. General requirements include willful conduct; use or threat of force; actual or attempted injury of, intimidation of or interfering with, the victim; and acting because of such factors as the victim's race, color, religion, or national origin.

I hope this information will clarify this matter for you.

Sincerely yours,  
[redacted]

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Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
MAY 15 1991	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

44A-LA-119954-E-49

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] VAN NUYS CA. 91401

April 4, 1991

William Sessions  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Director Séssions:

I'm writing because I just heard a radio report to the effect that you are now classifying the Rodney King beating as a hate crime.

I think that unless you know a great deal which is unknown to the press and the public, that you are making an appalling snap judgment and one which will make everything a lot worse.

The evidence of the police tapes cannot be construed as racist unless the language of bigotry and race hatred has become as delicate and allusive as poetry. "Gorillas in the mist?" "Lizards?"--any kid on any street corner can tell you what racial epithets are--and these were not. They were the familiar gallows humor of cops--in this case unpardonably jocular about an example of hideous brutality. But racist? No way.

Why you would choose to arm the Al Sharptons and our own Ramona Ripston is beyond me. I protest that statement!

Sincerely

September 13, 1991

[redacted]  
Inglewood, California 90043

Dear [redacted]

Your August 2nd correspondence to Director Sessions was referred to me and your interest in writing is appreciated.

We appreciate your concern regarding the Rodney King case and want to assure you that the FBI is conducting a thorough investigation of the incident which occurred in Los Angeles. We are working closely with the Department of Justice toward a timely resolution. The FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws.

Your comment concerning the removal and replacement of the Chief of Police in Los Angeles is one which would more appropriately be addressed by officials of that city.

Your enclosed newspaper clippings are being returned to you.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

Enclosures (4)  
4 newspaper clippings

(1) - Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-50

SEARCHED [redacted]  
SERIALIZED [redacted]  
SEP 16 1991  
[redacted]

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U.S. Dept  
of Justice

7/2/91

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Washington  
D.C.

Dept. of  
Justice

Inglewood Ca. 90043

Dear F.B.I. Director

William S.cession

I trust that this letter  
will find you in good faith.  
We the people of the  
United States, grateful  
to almighty God for the  
civil political, and religious  
liberty which He has  
permitted us to enjoy,  
and seeking His blessing  
upon our endeavors in  
order to provide for the  
health safety, and welfare  
Over Please

CERTIFIED

P 474 383 973

MAIL



maintain a representative  
and orderly government.  
eliminate poverty, ~~and~~ and  
inequality assure legal  
social, and economic  
justice provide opportunity  
for the fullest development  
of the individual insure  
domestic tranquility  
provide for the common  
defense, and secure the  
blessings of freedom  
and liberty to ourselves  
and our posterity do Ordain  
and establish this Constitution  
for the inalienable rights  
of all citizens. It's in this  
spirit that I write  
this letter.

Next page please

RECEIVED  
AUG 10 1964  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

It shall be the responsibility  
of each city in the United States  
to administer a fair and  
~~credible~~ police department.

In this area the City of  
Los Angeles has demonstrated  
a very derange attitude  
toward the black community  
of the City of L.A. Ca.

The steel hammering on 3/3/91  
of motorist Rodney King  
was just the tip of the ice  
berg. These kind of racist  
incident go on unchecked  
in L.A. The only way the  
black people of the  
City of L.A. Ca. are  
On or Please

going to overcome police  
brutality is with the  
help of the U.S. Justice  
Department.

It should not be a matter  
of debate. A scandal such  
as the L.A. P.D. Rodney  
King scandal should  
have been investigated  
by the U.S. Justice  
Department.

The L.A. P.D. is a runaway  
train, and need be stop.  
Why hinder the prospect  
of raising above this  
scandal by letting police  
Chief Larry R. Gates  
remain head of the L.A. P.D.  
Next page please

Page (3)

for 9 more months.

I believe it would be  
an efficient move on the  
part of the U. S. Justice  
Department. If it would  
take action, and appoint  
a new police chief to  
the City of Los Angeles Ca.  
as soon as possible.

We can't wait 9 more  
months to restore law and  
order back to the City of  
L.A. Ca.

I believe that the U. S.  
Justice Department  
will supply the City of  
Los Angeles Ca.  
Over please

With a new police Chief,  
and I believe god will  
help us recover from the  
'Rodney King' scandal.

Thank you, and may the  
good lord richly bless you.

Yours truly, from [redacted]  
[redacted]

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b7C

P.S. I am praying that  
god will continue to bless  
America.

Once again yours truly  
in the spirit of freedom  
and brotherhood. from  
[redacted]

b6  
b7C

Ch. in New York City.

May 14, 1992

[redacted]  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45209

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I am writing in response to your April 30th communication requesting a Civil Rights investigation into the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Shortly after this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Following the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

We appreciate your interest in writing.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44-LA-119954-E-51

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	[redacted]
AP-1 MAY 19 1992	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

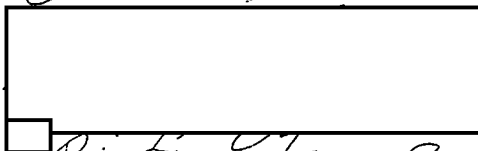
[redacted]

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Dear Director Sessions. april 30 1992  
The Rodney King Court Verdict  
was A travesty !!  
Please file a federal Civil Rights  
Case.

Sincerely



CONF. 45209

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b7c

May 18, 1992

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Riverdale, New York 10463

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your May 1st letter concerning the FBI's Civil Rights investigation into the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Shortly after this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Following the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

We appreciate your interest in writing.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-52

AP-1

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[Redacted]

Riverdale, N.Y. 10463 ✓

May 1, 1992  
William Sessions, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Sessions:

This letter is written to express my grave concern over the acquittal of the four Los Angeles police officers who beat Rodney G. King.

In my opinion it seems appropriate for your bureau to continue and complete your investigation and to ensure that the laws and justice are upheld in this case.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

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b6  
b7C

May 19, 1992

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
San Antonio, Texas 78211- [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I am writing in response to your May 3rd correspondence about the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department and the rioting that took place following the trial of the officers.

Shortly after this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Following the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

In addition, a joint Federal/State Task Force has been formed to investigate and prosecute those involved in the riot-related criminal activity in the Los Angeles area. Federal, state, and local authorities will work together diligently and expeditiously to identify and bring to justice those criminals who terrorized communities throughout the area by acts of violence and wanton destruction.

We appreciate your interest in writing, and we thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted signature box]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

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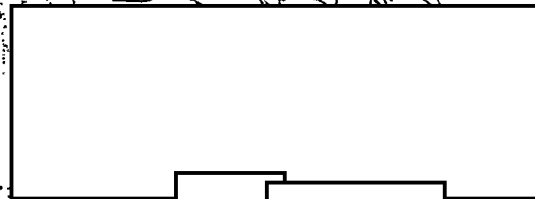
(1) - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44-41A-119954E  
53  
AP-1 MAY 26 1992  
FBI - LOS ANGELES



USA 19

David  
William L. Brown  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Hyattsville, Maryland  
Washington, D.C.  
20535



SAN ANTONIO TEXAS  
78211

May 1, 1992

Dear Detective Lessions.  
As graduate of U.S. Army, former  
Marshall General's School Military  
Police as well as the Guard House  
administration Course in the  
1940s, I don't recall being  
taught to beat subject with  
a night stick (Baton). We were  
taught in incident stick  
with Mr. Rodney King to get

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subject off their feet, so as  
to overcome any possible  
danger. Handcuff applied  
sooner as possible  
with the number of police  
at the scene. The prudent  
action would have been to  
sit on Mr. King and apply the  
handcuffs.  
Beating as administered  
was not part of police  
work. Those police officers  
should be removed from  
police work as unsuited  
mentally. If their police  
beating is necessary with  
so many police available.  
FBI should view the  
tapes and locate looters  
and those who shot the  
truck driver, etc. for  
prosecution purposes.



Dear Training Session

As graduate of U.S. Army Provost  
Marshal General's School Military Police  
as well as the General House Administration  
Course in the 1940s. I don't recall  
being taught to beat subject with a night  
stick (Baton). We were taught in incident  
such as with Mr. Rodney King to get  
subject off their feet, so as to overcome  
any possible danger, hand cuff applied  
soon as possible. With the number of  
Police at the scene, the proper action  
would have been to sit on Mr. King and  
apply the handcuffs. Beating as administered  
was not best of Police work. Those Police  
officers should be removed from Police work  
as unsuited mentally, if they believe beating  
is necessary with so many Police available.  
FBI should view the tapes and locate  
looters and those who shot the truck  
driver, etc. for prosecution.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

b6  
b7C

True copy  
5/7/92

[Redacted Box]

100-58  
[Handwritten signature]

May 22, 1992

Mr. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Chico, California 95926

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Dear Mr. [redacted]

I am writing in response to your May 1st letter concerning the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Following this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. After the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

We appreciate your interest in writing, and you may be assured a thorough investigation is being conducted in this matter.

Sincerely yours [redacted]

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[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44 A-LA-119954-E-54

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b7C

AP-1

[redacted]

# ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

5-1-92

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b7C

Dear Mr. Session

CHICO, CA

95926

would you expand the  
Rodney King situation  
investigation to include  
the following:

1. was the tape edited?  
a. we have heard that the  
first part was edited out  
for media showing.
- b. was the tape "doctored?"
2. Was this taping a  
set up? Did Mr. King  
stop in front of apartment  
house by prearrangement.

I don't believe in conspiracy  
theories but the public needs  
to know.

WESTON

Sincerely,

b6  
b7C

May 22, 1992

Ms. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Springfield, Virginia 22152

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your May 1st letter concerning the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Following this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Following the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

We appreciate your interest in writing.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-55

SEARCHED	[REDACTED]
SERIALIZED	[REDACTED]
AP-1	MAY 27 1992
FBI - LOS ANGELES	[REDACTED]

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[Redacted]  
Springfield, Virginia 22152 ✓  
May 1, 1992

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William Sessions  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Mr. Sessions:

The not guilty verdict rendered for the police officers in the Rodney King case is a real travesty of justice. I have watched television coverage and read newspaper reports on the reasoning behind the verdict and I still cannot comprehend how these officers can be found not guilty.

Those jurors who have spoken with the media say that there was other evidence besides the video tape that they had to consider in their decision. However, these jurors have not discussed any concrete evidence to vindicate the officers of their harsh and cruel beating of Rodney King.

Please explore and pursue an investigation of this case and the violation of Rodney King's civil rights.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

b6  
b7C

Married  
Caucasian

May 22, 1992

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your April 30th letter expressing your approval of the Civil Rights investigation into the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Shortly after this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Following the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

We appreciate your interest in writing, and we are also glad that Inspector [REDACTED] could assist you in connection with your research inquiries.

Sincerely yours, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44A-LA-119954-E-56

SEARCHED	SERIALIZED	FILED
AP-1	MAY 27 1992	FBI-LOS ANGELES

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[Redacted]

(A-1) 12  
2-17-92

20 APR  
1992

Chicago, Illinois 60626

[Redacted]

Chicago, Illinois 60626 ✓  
April 30, 1992

United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C. 20535

To The Director's Staff:

I understand that Justice intends to complete their civil rights investigation regarding the recognized "Rothman King" case. Given the experiences that have affected the nation, I cannot help but officially express approval for the agency's follow-up.

I wish to express my appreciation for Bureau Chief [Redacted] help in research inquiries.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

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May 26, 1992

Ms. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your May 1st letter concerning the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

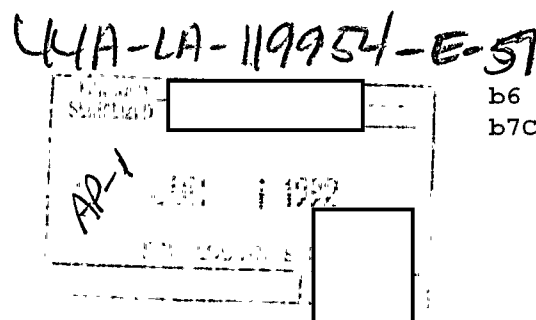
Following this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Upon the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

We appreciate your interest in writing.

Sincerely yours, -

[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure



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May 1, 1992

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, DC

Re: Justice for all

Dear Sir:

I am appalled by the acquittal of the police officers who brutally kicked, shocked with a stun gun, and clubbed Rodney King in the course of arresting him.

I am a white, 41-year-old [redacted] with two daughters, ages 7 and 10. When those police officers brutalized King, they brutalized me, and they brutalized my daughters. If there is no justice for King, then there is no justice for me or for my daughters.

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Please help heal this country's wounds by defending justice for all of our citizens.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Cambridge, MA 02138

May 29, 1992

Ms. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Kirkland, Washington 98033- [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Dear Ms. [redacted]

I am writing in response to your May 11th letter concerning the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department and the subsequent riots after the trial of the police officers.

Following this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Upon the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

In addition, a joint Federal/State Task Force has been formed to investigate and prosecute those involved in the riot-related criminal activity in the Los Angeles area. Federal, state, and local authorities will work diligently and expeditiously together to identify and bring to justice those criminals who terrorized communities throughout the area by acts of violence and wanton destruction.

With regard to your request for help in obtaining a copy of the instructions given to the jury in the trial of the four police officers, you may wish to write to the Simi Valley Courthouse, 3200 Cochran Street, Simi Valley, California 93065, for possible assistance.

We appreciate your interest in writing.

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

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1 - Los Angeles - Enclosure

44A-CA-119954

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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May 11, 1992

Federal Bureau of Investigations  
William Sessions, Director  
Tenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Mr. Sessions:

I am appalled by the verdict in the Rodney King case ... angry beyond expression ... I am additionally angry at the judge because I can see no way any jury could reach the verdict reached except that the court's instructions were improper -- so limiting to the jury that they were bound by the instructions so that they had no option to reach any verdict other than the one reached.

I am angry if the instructions were that limiting. I feel outraged. I feel that there is no justice in this world if you are a minority in this society. I am not a minority; I am a white woman.

This country has been disgraced by this verdict. Tonight I am ashamed of the jurors of that jury. I am ashamed of our so-called justice system.

I feel so sorry, sad for the men and women on that jury who have to live with their disgraceful decision. I believe their hands were somehow tied into the verdict they found. Either that or the most conservative, racist jury possible to be found in this world was seated on the jury. It is an extremely sad commentary on this society in general and our treatment of our minority people.

I think you can understand my feelings and their depth from what I have said thus far.

What I would hope you could do for me and my peace of spirit and America is to:

1. Tell me how I can get a copy of the instructions to the jury.
2. Please be compassionate to the gross injustice of not severely punishing the police officers involved in this beating.

Mr. William Sessions  
Federal Bureau of Investigations  
Page two

3. I implore you to give the officers involved the same treatment anyone else committing this assault would certainly receive. Because that is what they did; they were not enforcing any law by beating a man who was on the ground 56 times.
4. Please forward this letter on if need be to achieve the desired result-- fair and swift action.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my hurt, disgust, anger and sick feeling at this miscarriage of justice.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter and in responding promptly to me. Please pray with me for Rodney King, his family, friends and sympathizers. Please pray especially that this does not result in further violence in our streets but that it may serve as a means to lead people to seek a peaceful resolution to a terrible tragedy resulting from the racist society we live in.

Thank you in advance for letting me know how I may receive a copy of the instructions to the jury. I will not be able to rest until I have done my personal utmost to assure that the police officers are punished for what they did -- this is one small step toward that peace.

Enough time has passed now so that it is now being stated on the news that a video tape is going to be used to prosecute the looters in Los Angeles that acted after the verdict. I am confident that I am not the only American who is wondering how a video tape can be used to prosecute these people but apparently had no influence in the trial of the police officers.

Sincerely, [redacted]

[redacted]  
Kirkland, Washington 98033- [redacted]

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June 1, 1992

Mr. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19138

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b7C

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your follow-up letter concerning the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

As I mentioned in my letter of April 3, 1991, following this incident, the FBI initiated a Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Upon the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

I want to again assure you that the FBI condemns acts of police brutality and is firmly committed to the vigorous and aggressive enforcement of Federal civil rights laws.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

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b7C

① Los Angeles (44A-LA-119954) - Enclosure  
Reference my 4/3/91 letter to Mr. [REDACTED] a copy of which was furnished to your Office.

44A-LA-119954-E-59

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AP-1	JUN 5 1992
FBI - LOS ANGELES	[REDACTED]

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Philadelphia, Pa.  
19138

Dear Director of F.B.I.  
Mr. Sessions

I am writing to you  
again regarding Mr. King.  
The police brutalitys were  
overwhelming enough evidence  
to have those so call 'Coward'  
polices convicted. there were  
enough 'substancine' <sup>excuse</sup> ~~evidence~~  
evidences to convict them. it  
was a cut & dried motivated 'juro'  
it was all plan before the 'juro'  
even started. an all 'white' 'juro'  
except 1 'hispanic' & a 'oriental'.  
there isn't very very little  
justices in this country for  
minonites. 'whites' have 'lynch  
kill negroes & they never were  
executed'. I am 67 years old I  
know there is 'very' 'very' little  
justices in this country for  
negroes.

If those places were blacks  
& they had beat a white man  
like those white police  
beated Mr. King up. they would  
have been convicted & put in  
jail period. why doesn't the  
justice department get a  
federal judge & get an honest  
juror & have those dogs  
convicted & put in jail for  
years. I know exact all  
of the racists & bigotry that  
goes on in this country. this  
country is in a completely  
mess. so I am very  
very up set at all this mess  
that is going on in this so call  
democracy country.

From a very very  
up set citizen

[redacted]  
an ex U.S. Navy  
world war #2.

June 1, 1992

Mrs. [redacted]  
[redacted]

San Antonio, Texas 78209

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

I am writing in response to your May 15th correspondence about the incident involving Rodney King and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department and the rioting that took place following the trial of the officers.

Shortly after this incident, the FBI initiated a preliminary Civil Rights investigation. The case was placed in a pending status, awaiting the outcome of the local trial. Following the conclusion of the trial, additional investigation was initiated and is currently ongoing. The results will be provided to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, which has the final authority regarding Federal prosecutive action in civil rights matters.

In addition, a joint Federal/State Task Force has been formed to investigate and prosecute those involved in the riot-related criminal activity in the Los Angeles area. Federal, state, and local authorities will work diligently and expeditiously together to identify and bring to justice those criminals who terrorized communities throughout the area by acts of violence and wanton destruction.

We appreciate your interest in writing, and we thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]  
Inspector in Charge  
Office of Public Affairs

① - Los Angeles - Enclosure

100-44-19954-E-60

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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[redacted]  
San Antonio, Tex 78289,  
May 15, 1992.

Dear Mr. Sessions

In light of the fact that the pictures of the King incident was spliced down to fifty-one seconds, it could well be that this film should be shown to the public. Any three minute picture cut down to a smaller time element could show something that is not true.

I would not want the four officers to be sacrificed just to appease the negroes.

Anything that happened to King cannot compare to the wanton killings, looting and arson that went on in Los Angeles.

Who is going to argue for the civil rights of the victims of this terrible scourge?

Are they going to be brought to trial and made to pay for the crimes committed?

I have yet to hear any black leaders say anything about the immorality of the crimes that went on during the anarchy.

Sincerely,

JUN 16 '92 1

Honorable Robert J. Lagomarsino  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman Lagomarsino:

Thank for your recent letter urging the FBI's cooperation with Federal and local authorities in the aftermath of the Rodney King verdict.

In close coordination with the Department of Justice, the FBI acted swiftly in the wake of the unfortunate violence that recently erupted in Los Angeles. We fully recognize the significance of the complex law enforcement issues surrounding the King verdict. Attorney General Barr and I met with the President to develop and implement the most effective response plan possible. I am proud that the President designated the FBI to lead the Federal law enforcement effort.

Of course, immediate efforts were directed at helping to restore peace to the streets of Los Angeles, and, as you know, a large number of FBI Special Agents, trained in special tactics, were dispatched to that area soon after rioting began. Their presence, along with local and other Federal law enforcement officers and military troops, assisted greatly in bringing the tense situation under control.

The FBI has played and is now playing an active role in exploring the issue of whether Rodney King's Federal civil rights were violated. A Federal grand jury has been convened for this purpose, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice. Because this remains pending, I am unable to provide further details at this time. You can be sure, however, that this is being pursued with great vigor. Also, where appropriate, the FBI is pursuing each and every other potential violation of Federal civil rights laws brought to our attention.

① - SAC, Los Angeles - Enclosure

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	
ASAC	

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ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO  
19TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

2332 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0519  
202-225-3601

CONGRESSIONAL OBSERVER  
GENEVA ARMS CONTROL TALKS

POW/MIA TASK FORCE  
CHAIRMAN

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0519  
May 12, 1992

COMMITTEE ON  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR  
AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS  
VICE CHAIRMAN—PARKS

The Honorable William Sessions  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigations  
J. Edgar Hoover Building  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Judge Sessions:

I know that you share my strong concerns about the recent rioting in Los Angeles that left 52 people dead, 2,383 injured and damage to parts of the city estimated to cost nearly \$800 million to repair.

I support the efforts of President Bush and the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate potential violations of civil rights laws in the Rodney King incident. However, I also believe that individuals and organized groups that took advantage of the popular anger following the Rodney King verdict should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

I urge you and the FBI to work together with the U.S. Department of Justice and local authorities to investigate and prosecute rioters and gangs who violated federal drug, arson, firearms or organized crime laws following the Rodney King verdict. Regardless of the circumstances, criminals must know that if they choose to break the law, they will be caught; and if they are guilty, they will be punished.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

  
ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO  
Member of Congress

RJL:tj

☐ SUITE 101  
5740 RALSTON  
VENTURA, 93003  
(805) 642-2200/656-4344

☐ 314 EAST CARRILLO  
SANTA BARBARA, 93101  
(805) 963-1708

☐ 104 E. BOONE ST. #E  
SANTA MARIA, 93454  
(805) 922-2131

44A-LA-119954-E-602

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b7c



LDS ANGELES GMF



15:51-05-05



Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigations  
555 E. Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90801



JUN 27 92

Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0802

Dear Senator Biden:

As you are aware, the FBI has taken a central and important multidimensional law enforcement role in connection with and in the wake of the recent Rodney King verdict. In close coordination with the Department of Justice, the FBI acted swiftly when violence erupted in Los Angeles. In full recognition of the significance of the complex law enforcement issues surrounding the King verdict, Attorney General Barr and I met with the President to develop and implement the most effective response plan possible. I am proud that the President designated the FBI to lead the Federal law enforcement effort.

Of course, immediate efforts were directed at helping to restore peace to the streets of Los Angeles, and, as you know, a large number of FBI Special Agents were dispatched to that area soon after rioting began. Their presence, along with local and other Federal law enforcement officers and military troops, assisted greatly in bringing the tense situation under control.

The FBI is actively exploring whether Rodney King's Federal civil rights were violated. A Federal grand jury has been convened for this purpose, and we are working closely with the Department of Justice. Because this inquiry is pending, I am unable to provide further details at this time. You can be sure, however, that this matter, as well as any and all other potential violations of Federal civil rights laws which are brought to our attention, will be pursued with great vigor.

1 - SAC, Los Angeles

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.

We are also investigating those other Federal crimes directly related to the May rioting in Los Angeles. As you may recall, in January, 1992, I unveiled a national SAFE STREETS campaign designed to strengthen the Federal response to gang and drug-related street crime through the use of combined task forces. In recognition of the violent crime problem in Los Angeles, Special Agent in Charge Charlie J. Parsons, who heads our FBI office there, has worked diligently to implement several successful task forces using the SAFE STREETS strategy. An additional task force was organized to specifically address those acts of violence committed in the aftermath of the King verdict. I am pleased to report that the level of cooperation between the FBI and other law enforcement agencies has been and continues to be excellent.

The arrests of four individuals for the senseless beating of truck driver Reginald Denny illustrates the spirit of cooperation between the FBI and local law enforcement. Information was received by the FBI which led to the identification of these four men, and, as widely covered in the media, the FBI assisted the Los Angeles Police Department in making arrests.

Given our multipurpose mission and flexibility to redeploy investigative manpower to address priority matters, the FBI is well equipped, when immediate action is required, to address a myriad of law enforcement concerns. This type of effort will continue to be necessary in Los Angeles for some time. Please be assured that the FBI is committed to producing the kind of results that will best serve not only the citizens of Los Angeles but citizens all around our country.

Sincerely yours,

William S. Sessions -  
Director

Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0802

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-2101

Honorable Howard M. Metzenbaum  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-3502

Honorable Dennis DeConcini  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0302

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy.  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4502

Honorable Howell Heflin  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0101

Honorable Paul Simon  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1302

Honorable Herbert H. Kohl  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4903

Honorable Strom Thurmond  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4001

Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4402

Honorable Alan K. Simpson  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-5002

Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1501

Honorable Arlen Specter  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-3802

Honorable Hank Brown  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0641

Honorable Ernest F. Hollings  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4002

Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1102

Honorable Dale Bumpers  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0401

Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-3002

Honorable Jim Sasser  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4201

Honorable Brock Adams  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4703

Honorable Robert C. Byrd  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4801

Honorable Warren Rudman  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-2902

Honorable Ted Stevens  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0201

Honorable Mark O. Hatfield  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-3701

Honorable Robert W. Kasten Jr.  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4902

Honorable Phil Gramm  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-4302

Honorable Jack Brooks  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4309

Honorable Don Edwards  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0510

Honorable John Conyers Jr  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2201

Honorable Romano L. Mazzoli  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1703

Honorable William J. Hughes  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3002

Honorable Mike Synar  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3602

Honorable Patricia Schroeder  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0601

Honorable Dan Glickman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1604

Honorable Barney Frank  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2104

Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3210

Honorable Edward F. Feighan  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3519

Honorable Howard L. Berman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0526

Honorable Rick Boucher  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4609

Honorable Harley O. Staggers Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4802

Honorable John Bryant  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4305

Honorable Mel Levine  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0527

Honorable George E. Sangmeister  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1304

Honorable Craig Washington  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4318

Honorable Peter Hoagland  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2702

Honorable Mike Kopetski  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3705

Honorable Jack Reed  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3902

Honorable Hamilton Fish Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3221

Honorable Carlos J. Moorhead  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0522

Honorable Henry J. Hyde  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1306

Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4909

Honorable Bill McCollum  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0905

Honorable George W. Gekas  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3817

Honorable Howard Coble  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3306

Honorable ~~George Allen~~  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4607

Honorable Lamar S. Smith  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4321

Honorable Craig T. James  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0904

Honorable Tom Campbell  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0512

Honorable Steven Schiff  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3101

Honorable Jim Ramstad  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2303

Honorable Neal Smith  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1504

Honorable Bill Alexander  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0401

Honorable Joseph D. Early  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2103

Honorable Bob Carr  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2206

Honorable Alan B. Mollohan  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-4801

Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0505

Honorable Jamie L. Whitten  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2401

Honorable Harold Rogers  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-1705

Honorable Ralph Regula  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3516

Honorable Jim Kolbe  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0305



Honorable Joseph M. McDade  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3810

[Redacted]  
Long Beach, CA 90814  
August 10, 1992

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United States District Court  
312 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

COPY

Dear Sirs:

That an United States District Attorney was permitted to issue a re-trial on the Rodney King case on a "civil rights" basis, misrepresents the rights and authority of our police officers to arrest an unruly criminal.

On the other hand what right did Rodney King, the criminal, have to obstruct his arrest by police officers? Please note King's offences:

1. Speeding over 100 miles an hour on a freeway to resist arrest.
2. After exiting, he ran a series of red lights.
3. He vacillated getting out of the car when ordered to by the officers.
4. He fomented aggressive movements toward the police officers.
5. He resisted handcuffing, so he was ordered to "prone" on his stomach to be handcuffed. King refused!
6. Consequently, King was taser stun-gunned. Still he rose up to fight off the officers, although having received 50,000 volts of electricity. He was stunned a second time, yet he rose up to charge at Powell.
7. Finally, the baton was used against this hostile, resistant criminal, and beaten to subdue him into submission.

Your so-called re-trial, therefore, is a miscarriage of justice aimed at officers Powell, Koon, Briseno, and Wind. This brings contempt toward our policemen who endeavored to subdue an insolent criminal, an outrageous act. The District and Federal Courts need to honestly deal with the Rodney King case, dealing with an insubordination to arrest.

Sincerely yours,

47 LA-110974-E-ldf

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AUG 25 1992	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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## Perils of Trial by Media

By REED IRVINE and JOSEPH C. GOULDEN

We saw in the flames of Los Angeles the awful cost of convicting people of serious crimes in the media before they have their day in court. The nation was appalled in March 1991 to see on television the videotape of Los Angeles police officers clubbing and kicking a black man lying seemingly helpless on the ground. Even the most ardent supporters of the police found it difficult to defend those officers.

Four of the officers were suspended and charged with several felonies. Nearly every news report that mentioned the case was coupled with a reprise of that shocking videotape. The officers were tried and convicted in the minds of millions by what appeared to be unassailable evidence.

Thus the public felt a stunning shock on April 29 when the jury acquitted the officers except for one charge against one officer on which they failed to reach agreement.

Immediately the TV screens were filled with comments from people whose knowledge of the evidence was limited to 30 seconds of videotape that they had seen so many times. They couldn't understand how jurors who had spent three months in court hearing the evidence and arguments presented by both sides could have arrived at a different verdict from their own.

Our media somehow never got around to addressing an important issue: Should criminal defendants be convicted on the basis of a snippet of televised film, or are they entitled to a trial where jurors have the opportunity to hear and evaluate all the evidence?

Implicit in the jury's acquittal was a conclusion that our networks had not given the public the full story of what happened during King's arrest. We agree.

Jurors interviewed by the networks emphasized that there was credible testimony that King aggressively resisted arrest when officers ordered him from his car after a high-speed chase down a freeway and then through residential streets. The jury saw the full 81 seconds of the amateur video, and the defense called experts who used it to demonstrate that the actions of the police were purposeful and justified.

But the excerpts shown on local and network television ran no more than 30 seconds. They showed a man being beaten, but they didn't explain why. This bobtailed video is what convinced much of the nation of the officers' inexcusable brutality. Even prosecutor Terry White (who is black) acknowledged that the full tape could hurt King.

"We knew that there were parts of the videotape that showed Mr. King in somewhat of what could be seen as aggressive movement towards the officers," White said on ABC's "Good Morning America" on April 30. Ironically, ABC at this point showed a film clip not of the "aggressive movement" but of police batons flailing at a seemingly helpless King.

*Mr. Irvine is chairman of Accuracy in Media. Mr. Goulden is AIM's director of media analysis.*

White said the jurors "looked at a man who had led police on a chase, who didn't stop when the police tried to pull him over and he acted strangely once he got out of the car and didn't immediately follow their commands."

Viewers of the tape didn't know that, nor were they told that two passengers in King's car promptly obeyed the instructions of the police but that the powerful King had repulsed the officers when they tried to handcuff him.

They weren't told that he was hit twice with a Taser stun-gun, which knocked him down but not out.

Defense attorney Michael Stone told CNN that the tape showed King starting to get up. He said, "My perception is that if you run this tape in real time, you will see Mr. King moving as fast as any professional linebacker...Mr. King has already been Tasered twice when this starts. He has fought

off the effects of 50,000 volts of electricity."

Harvard Law Prof. Arthur Miller, who is legal commentator for ABC News, saw much of the trial on cable TV. He said on "Good Morning America" on April 30, "I think that a jury of 12 people, having heard all the evidence, might have come to the conclusion that these officers were using reasonable force in the circumstances. I personally, having watched a good deal of the trial, thought that at least two of the officers would be acquitted."

Trial by video is the technological equivalent of lynching. Our system wisely provides for trial by jury, where citizens can hear *all* the evidence, not just a snippet selected by a TV news department and broadcast ad nauseam. It is chilling to see so many intelligent people trashing the system because it failed to produce the verdict trial by video led them to expect. ■

## Why King Jury Failed to Convict

When the 12 jurors in Simi Valley acquitted four Los Angeles policemen of assault with a deadly weapon and various other charges in the Rodney King case, the jurors were immediately condemned.

L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley, inflaming the passions of an already ignited populace, scored the jurors for asking "us to accept the senseless and brutal beating of a helpless man." Even President Bush appeared to second-guess the verdict, saying he and his family were "shocked" by the outcome, and then directed his Justice Department to see whether the policemen could be tried on violating federal civil rights statutes.

The jurors have been called "ignorant" and "racists," and have received so many hate letters and death threats that they have been given special protection by the police.

But the six men and six women—one a Filipino, one an Hispanic and the rest white—hardly deserve the kind of verbal abuse and the threats they have been enduring. Despite all the howling, there is not a scrap of evidence that a single one of the jurors was either incompetent or a bigot. Nor has anyone come forth to accuse them of having prejudged the case. When the jury was sworn in, the prosecutors themselves said they believed they were capable of rendering a just verdict.

Many of those who assailed the jurors insisted the case was open and shut because of an amateur video showing King being beaten by the police. But the jurors saw the *entire* video—not just the slice customarily shown on TV (see Reed Irvine story above). They were shown the film in slow motion and in freeze frame, and they picked up detailed information the general public never viewed. Over the seven-week period of the trial, they also heard more than 50 witnesses, including specialists who had examined King after the beating.

Their conclusion: King had repeatedly resisted arrest, and the police officers, contrary to the impression left by the TV version of the video, had acted rationally in trying to subdue him.



RODNEY KING

Nor were the jurors alone in coming to this decision. Harvard Law Prof. Arthur Miller, who saw the trial on TV and is an ABC-TV commentator, said:

"I think a jury of 12 people, having heard all the evidence, might have come to the conclusion that these officers were using reasonable force in the circumstances."

Virginia Loya, the lone Hispanic on the jury, has argued that Laurence Powell, the officer who most used his baton, should have been convicted of assault under color of authority. Three other jurors upheld her point of view, and he may be retried on that charge. She now says she would also have convicted Sgt. Stacey Koon, commander at the beating scene.

But even she says that she believes that two of the officers, Timothy E. Wind and Theodore J. Briseno, were clearly innocent.

In other words, the case was far from being air

tight from the beginning, and those who just saw the TV version of the video were clearly being misled if they thought no exculpatory evidence could be produced at the trial.

There is no question that the defense lawyers for both Powell and Koon, Michael Stone and Darryl Mounger, respectively, did a superb job presenting the case for their clients and the police in general. But that is hardly the fault of the jury. And the picture they presented boiled down to this: at every stage, the police acted in a reasonable manner. They tried to subdue the 6'4" King, who tips the scales at 250 pounds, with verbal commands initially. When that didn't work, they tried the electric taser darts. And when he was still resisting, they finally brought out the batons.

Here's how the jury viewed the case, through the eyes of the defense lawyers:

The California Highway Patrol (CHP), on the Foothill Freeway in Los Angeles on March 3, 1991, began chasing Rodney King, who was driving a Hyundai at speeds up to over 100 miles per hour for nearly eight miles. King is black, and he also had two black passengers, Bryant Allen and Fred Helms. He raced along the freeway, then turned off onto surface streets, running a series of red lights. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) was called in to assist. All the time, the CHP car was close behind, red light flashing and siren blaring.

Allen, so he testified on the stand, kept tapping King on the shoulder, begging him to stop, but King acted as if he never heard him or felt his tap. When the car finally did stop, Allen and the other passenger, Helms, got out on the right side, and "went prone," as they were ordered to do.

King, however, reacted differently. He was ordered out of the car, but it took him nearly a minute to get out. And then once he got out, he got back in again. He pulled this stunt more than once. The police, of course, were fearful that he was on drugs, and were worried that he might be searching for a gun in the car.

When he did finally emerge, he was faced with several policemen pointing guns at him, and they gave clear, concise orders for King to get down on his stomach. But King paid no attention, laughed at the helicopters overhead and did a dance.

Sgt. Koon then approached King and ordered him to get down on the ground. If he didn't, he was told, he would be shot with a taser dart, which delivers 50,000 volts of electricity. King knelt, keeping his arms and hands in a push-up position, but still refused to get on his stomach.

Four officers approached him with the intention of getting hold of his arms and legs, and came at him in a so-called "modified swarm technique." Powell then tried to take his left arm to the side and out, and then back behind the waist for handcuffing. He had also taken his handcuffs out of the pouch. But King still refused to comply with the order to go prone.

Powell finally knelt him in the back to force him down, and King's face hit the ground, but he bounced right back up, shaking off all the officers who were trying to get hold of both his arms and legs. So Koon again threatened to "taser" King. The officers backed off, and Koon hit him with a dart, and King, finally, fell down. He arose once more, was tasered again and went to the prone position.

[This was when the video started.] As Powell approached to cuff him, with baton in hand, King, in less than two seconds, sprang from a fully prone position and charged Powell. So now, for the first time, Powell used the baton. There was no other way at this point, according to the police, to subdue King.

Indeed, Tim Singer, a highway patrol cop, testified that King reminded him of a movie "where the monster gets shot and still is coming at you."

King was hit 56 times in 81 seconds, but there appeared to be no permanent damage, and there is no evidence on the video that he was hit on the head or on the spine, which would have been in violation of police instruction manuals.

Dr. Dallas Long, an Olympic Gold Medal winner in the shotput and an expert on traumatic injuries to the face and skull, also testified that none of the injuries sustained by King to the face were consistent with having been hit with a heavy instrument.

Did the jury, then, come in with the "correct" verdict? Should none of the officers have been convicted? Whatever one's view, the jury found the case for the defendants persuasive enough so they couldn't find the police guilty "beyond a reasonable doubt." Those who only saw the TV video may always think the jury made a wrong decision. But it is difficult to conclude, in view of all the evidence presented, that the jury acted in a prejudicial or unreasonable manner. And that is all you can ask from those who tried this extremely difficult, complicated and controversial case.

### Many Involved in Riots

## Our Illegal Alien Problem

By REP. DANA ROHRBACHER (R-Calif.)

The media have quickly come to refer to the recent incidents and looting in Los Angeles as the "Los Angeles riots." Much of the damage was done by a foreign army. Not by an organized army but by an army, nonetheless. It should be no surprise to anyone that the Department of Justice estimates that large numbers of those arrested while looting America's second-largest city were illegal aliens. Not only are illegals looting the stores, they are robbing the taxpayers as well.

When the flow of illegal aliens was a trickle, and when those same illegals stayed clear of public services for fear of deportation, our country absorbed the newcomers with no problem. In fact, conservatives rightfully analyzed that immigrants, including illegals, were making a major contribution to America's economic well-being. That was they.

Today, the flood of illegal immigrants crossing our borders has reached a level where the taxpayers are beginning to feel like they are in over their heads. Furthermore, illegals are now drawing on government programs.

I've had numerous meetings with local, county and state officials all pleading that illegal aliens are putting an unbearable strain on local, county and state and yes, federal services. This is not just anecdotal evidence. Those on the front line report that our jails, criminal justice system, health care facilities and schools are overcrowded and overburdened with the cost of caring for and dealing with



those who illegally cross our borders.

Taxpayers provide at least \$5.4 billion in direct federal benefits to illegal immigrants, according to a recent study by the Center for Immigration Studies. This figure is dramatically underestimated, since the study did not include programs such as Social Security, Medicare, food stamps or unemployment compensation. And the problem is getting worse.

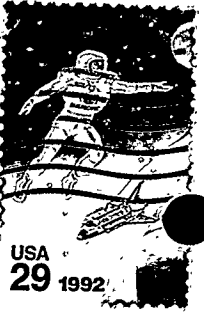
Women who are in the U.S. illegally do not have to pay for any costs associated with the birth of their children. Since the majority of these women receive no prenatal care, their babies are often placed in intensive care for several days, sometimes weeks, at an average cost of \$5,000 a day.

According to Los Angeles County office figures, taxpayers spend \$31.82 million to pay for illegal alien mothers' giving birth in county hospitals in 1990. Currently, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) is provided to 117,000 children of illegal alien mothers. This number has increased 287 per cent in the past three years, resulting in a cost to taxpayers of \$318 million in 1991.

These figures only account for Los Angeles County. The situation in San Diego County appears far worse. If one adds up the total, California taxpayers are spending over a billion dollars a year for illegal aliens. As long as we provide such benefits, as well as education in their own native tongue, free lunches and even housing and food subsidies, why are we surprised that the trickle of illegal aliens into our country has become a tidal wave?

Our social services and educational systems are already breaking down. As long ago as 1983, a General Accounting Office (GAO) report stated that illegal aliens received \$23 in Social Security for every dollar they paid in. That is bound to catch up with our seniors, who've paid in all their lives, are right to be outraged about this threat to Social

*Rodney King's case is NOT a racial issue or civil rights, but simply resistant to arrest. Please treat the case as such!*



AP-1



F.B.I. Investigation  
U. S. Dept. of Justice  
11000 Wilshire Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

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FBI — LOS ANGELES	

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FFB 22 1994

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Associate Director for U. S. ATTORNEY  
Management and Operations  
U. S. Courts  
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Office of the Attorney General  
Public Inquiry Unit  
P. O. Box 944255  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

Los Angeles, CA 90039  
February 20, 1993

Daniel O. Ikemoto  
Auditor-Controller  
Superior Courts  
500 West Temple  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

James Hahn  
L. A. City Attorney  
200 No. Main, 18th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

- Re: (1) People v. Certain LAPD Officers  
Rodney King, Complaining Witness
- (2) People v. Certain Defendants  
Reginald Denny, Complaining Witness
- ✓ (3) U. S. v. Certain LAPD Officers  
Civil rights trial in re Rodney King

Race/class riots in Los Angeles allegedly  
caused in whole or in substantial part by  
not guilty April 1992 jury verdict and  
beginning on/about May 1, 1992.

- (4) Rodney King v. City of L. A., et al.
- (5) Reginald Denny v. City of L. A., et al.

Request and way to stop double/triple  
dipping into public fund(s) created by  
general taxpayers.

Gentlemen:

Rodney King and Reginald Denny themselves can each save the day.  
How? By your arranging for each to publicly state that he personally  
is choosing to have Justice served in re his subject incident on the  
criminal level or on the civil level, but not on both. And each can  
add that he is choosing because, as President Clinton recently said,  
"The price of [not choosing or] doing the same thing is [will be]  
higher than the price of" choosing.

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Clarence A. Lee, Jr.;  
Office of the Attorney General;  
Daniel O. Ikemoto;  
James Hahn  
Re: Rodney King and  
Reginald Denny  
February 20, 1993  
Page 2

A choice belongs to Rodney King and to Reginald Denny, not to a fictitious People v. or the U. S. v. And a choice belongs to each since each has filed a civil lawsuit, hopefully to monetarily recover from any/all wounds received at the hands of "Certain LAPD Officers"/"Certain Defendants."

Real people, or taxpayers in general, do not want Justice doubly or triply served in either King or Denny because such serving means the costs of settlements/trials/incarcerations, etc. will be paid to a particular or specific special interest/organized class of taxpayers from a general public fund(s). To permit a double or triple dipping is to force taxpayers in general to be unwilling parties to such customary practice.

Each public fund continues to be in double or triple jeopardy because at least overtly there are no private fund co-plaintiffs in either King or Denny. And there are no private fund co-defendants to deep pocket in King or Denny. Therefore, Rodney King and Reginald Denny can withdraw or rescind as a complaining witness if he chooses to have Justice served through his civil lawsuit, or dismiss his civil lawsuit with prejudice if he wants to have Justice served on the criminal level.

Those "Certain LAPD Officers" and those "Certain Defendants" do not in effect owe a "particular or specific special interest/organized class of taxpayers" the privilege of doubly or triply engaging in deep pocket milking, particularly when such milking undoubtedly will continue to hold the general public hostage and to place the general public at increased risk.



Clarence A. Lee, Jr.;  
Office of the Attorney General;  
Daniel O. Ikemoto;  
James Hahn  
Re: Rodney King and  
Reginald Denny  
February 20, 1993  
Page 3

Surely the parties in each subject matter can pay own costs and expenses to and including the date and time Rodney King and/or Reginald Denny publicly choose how each personally wants Justice served in re his subject incident.

Please do all you can to let no one underestimate, attempt to steal, or steal the thunderous street value of choice.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted Signature]

Neighborhood Watch Volunteer

[Redacted Address]

Enclosure: 5-5-92 letter to Daryl F. Gates

cc with enclosure:

John G. Davies, Judge  
U. S. District Court  
312 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4793

[Redacted] Attorney for  
Rodney King  
[Redacted]  
Santa Ana Heights, CA 92707

[Redacted] Attorney for  
Times Mirror Co.  
[Redacted]  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-3197

(Please see next page.)

John Ouderkirk, Judge  
L. A. Superior Court  
111 North Hill Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr., Attorney for  
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4929 Wilshire Blvd., 10th Floor  
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Clarence A. Lee, Jr.;  
Office of the Attorney General;  
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James Hahn  
Re: Rodney King and  
Reginald Denny  
February 20, 1993  
Page 4

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Ethics Commission  
City of Los Angeles  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012-4190

Robert M. Milano, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court  
111 North Hill Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tom Bradley, Mayor  
City of Los Angeles  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Los Angeles, CA 90039  
May 5, 1992

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Daryl Gates, Chief  
L. A. Police Department  
150 North Los Angeles Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

William Barr, Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
10th & Constitution, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Lourdes G. Baird, U. S. Attorney  
Department of Justice  
312 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Forthcoming administrative hearing(s) of  
Certain LAPD Officers and civil rights  
hearings re Rodney King.

People v. Certain LAPD Officers

Rodney King, witness  
Race/class riots in Los Angeles  
allegedly caused in whole or in  
substantial part by not guilty  
April 1992 jury verdict and be-  
ginning on/about May 1, 1992

Gentlemen and Ms. Baird:

Please subpoena me to testify as a non-expert volunteer witness at either/both the subject hearings. I can testify as a California licensed driver since 1960 because I believe I understand fully the difference between civil privilege(s) and civil right(s). My testimony can result from at least, but not necessarily limited to, the following questions:

Q BEFORE Rodney King was granted a California driver's license as a privilege, did he have civil rights as an applicant for such license? Assuming my answer will be yes, then - -

Daryl Gates  
William Barr  
Lourdes G. Baird  
May 5, 1992  
Page 2

Q DURING the incident involved in the subject verdict, were Rodney King's civil rights suspended by virtue of his having agreed to such suspension as a condition of/for accepting his driver's license from the DMV? Assuming my answer will be yes, then - -

Q Did the DMV/Motor Vehicle Code have primary/first jurisdiction over its licensed/unlicensed drivers and dictate through duly authorized personnel that licensed/unlicensed drivers of motor vehicles on public streets shall, not to be confused with may, at all times yield to the authority of flashing red lights and to the authority of police/fire/ambulance authorities flashing those lights? Assuming my answer will be yes, then - -

Q AFTER Rodney King yielded the right of way but not his motor vehicle or himself to such authority, did his civil privilege status nevertheless remain primary/first and his civil rights status remain secondary/second until such time as Those Certain LAPD Officers had removed him from the possibility of regaining access to and control of his motor vehicle as a driver? Assuming my answer will be yes, then - -

Q Could Rodney King's civil rights per se have been violated since he had none while/as a licensed or expired license driver as respects the subject incident? Assuming my answer will be no, then - -

Q Is Rodney King's contribution to the subject incident the proximate/primary cause since his first duty was/is to

Daryl Gates  
William Barr  
Lourdes G. Baird  
May 5, 1992  
Page 3

avoid personal/public injuries by driving in a nonreckless manner and by nonviolently submitting to arrest? Assuming my answer will be yes, then - -

Q Are Those Certain LAPD Officers' contribution(s) to the subject incident the secondary/second cause aka the effect? Assuming my answer will be yes, then - -

Q Did Rodney King intentionally interfere with the orderly performance by Those Certain LAPD Officers of their duties and therefore shall/may be obligated to mitigate any claimed damages against them or the LAPD? Assuming my answer will be yes, then I remain

Respectfully yours.



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b7c

cc:  Attorney  
for Rodney King  
9100 Wilshire Blvd.  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Internal Affairs, LAPD, re/for  
Those Certain LAPD Officers

Mayor Tom Bradley

[redacted]  
Long Beach, CA 90814

August 14, 1992

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FBI Investigation  
U.S. Dept. of Justice  
11000 Wilshire Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Dear Sirs:

This letter is sent to you to express my opposition to the recent re-trial and indictment against the four police officers, Powell, Koon, Briseno, and Wind connected with the Rodney King case.

The attached letter is carefully tabulated to inform you of the miscarriage of justice against the officers.

I trust you will do what you can to correct this unjust situation.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

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This letter has gone to Federal, State, and City officials with the view of asking for justice for the officers involved, and dealing fairly with Rodney King's non-compliance to arrest.