

Neo-fascists vamp on San Diego

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San Diego takes pride in being named "the All-American City." Long known as a white, middle-class, ultra-conservative, military area, San Diego takes pride in denying problems other cities have. For example, San Diegans believe there is no racial problem here, despite the fact that there have been riots the past two summers! Police have extra surveillance in the black ghetto, and Black Panther Party headquarters have been raided again and again.

But this type of activity has always been "open," and the persons involved in the harassment

have been easily identifiable (for example, the local police and sheriff's deputies.)

More recently however, attacks have proceeded against various underground presses and other establishments with a liberal point of view, and the persons involved in these attacks are unknown. They usually leave a calling card. Minutemen stickers are pasted on the

door of each establishment so attacked! was attacked again. Truck tires were slashed for the second time. Synthetic Trips was hit again by the Phantom Slingshot. This Ultra-Right David used 3/4 inch lug nuts against defenseless windows and a door with such force that holes were put into the walls.

Jan. 3, 1970: After a New Year's hangover, our old friend struck once more. An automobile belong-



door of each establishment so attacked!

Let us briefly summarize the events in order:

Dec. 1, 1969: *Free Door*, the first San Diego underground press, and first free paper anywhere, suffered its first attack. Half inch steel balls were shot through its windows and door, and all four tires of the *Free Door* truck were slashed. This incident occurred at midnight.

Dec. 23, 1969: Synthetic Trips, a local head shop, was attacked by an unknown assailant. Marbles were fired through the windows and door by a high powered slingshot. They narrowly missed a young customer's head. The time of attack was 8 p.m.

Dec. 24, 1969: At 11 p.m. steel balls similar to those fired at the *Free Door* were shot through the windows of Synthetic Trips.

Dec. 25, 1969: During the day, the offices of the *San Diego Street Journal* were forcibly entered, and \$4000 worth of equipment was damaged by hammer and paint.

Dec. 28, 1969: The *Free Door*

ing to a member of the *Street Journal* was doused with kerosene, and a flare was lit and thrown inside, damaging the car beyond repair.

Jan. 4, 1970: Arnie's newsstand, a carrier of underground press and adult books, was attacked by lug nuts shot from the Phony David. Another newsstand, Chuck's, was also attacked with lug nuts shot through the windows and door, lug nuts similar to those found in Arnie's and Synthetic Trips. Minutemen stickers emblazoned the door.

Jan. 5, 1970: Chuck's was hit again, in the same way.

Jan. 14, 1970: The *Free Door* offices were entered during daylight. Machines worth \$4000 were smashed by hammers and paint and kerosene was doused over the entire building, on rugs, in food, in stereo equipment, etc. Private files were stolen and mail was taken.

If this were not enough, a professor at San Diego State College (who must remain anonymous), acknowledged as a Friend of the Black Panthers, has had his house shot up by rifles so many times he can qualify for disaster money.

Minutemen signs and slogans adorn his property, no doubt painted by the bold fellows shooting at his already very dead house. See, it hasn't even moved once! The professor's wife recently opened a free school for children. The premises of the school have been attacked so often that parents of attending children now sleep there and alternate as guards.

People, this is not 1933: Berlin! It is 1970 San Diego. Or is there a difference? Remember, the government did not stop the notorious Brown Shirts of Ernst Roehm from openly destroying property of Jews, liberals and anti-Nazis. Even murder was overlooked. Remember also that Agnew's attacks on the liberal press have gone unaltered by a condoning Nixon, and this only gives impetus and boldness to

(Please turn to Page 19)

(Continued from Page 9)
ultra-right organizations like the Minutemen to smash what THEY consider to be bad for us Americans. Jawoll!

Attacks of this nature have a bad habit of escalating. Till now, no one has been hurt. But not too far in the future someone may get hurt, even killed. Is that what it takes to get the police and the community involved? You can bet your sweet ass that had the press under attack been the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, and had the stickers read Black Panther Party, the whole goddam community would be shouting, "Rape, rape!" But since it's only a few undergrounds and headshops, what's all the fuss?

The *Street Journal* is making the most of these attacks. They insist that the attacks are really against

them alone, primarily because of the recent expose of C. Arnholt Smith, local business tycoon, and tyrant, and James Copley, owner of the *Union-Tribune*. The *Street Journal* is having a benefit to raise money for its destroyed equipment.

But the *Free Door* has not exposed anyone in recent months. And the headshops and book stores only expose underground presses and adult books. What has this to do with Smith and Copley?

No, it is clear that some one or some few persons have taken upon themselves a secret mission — to destroy the free press movement, the free sex movement and anything with the word free in it.

Does this sound like a joke? I hope not. The *Free Press* might benefit.