

*Post 11-20-68*

## Police-Panther Gunfight Leaves 3 Officers Shot

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 19 (UPI)—Three police officers were wounded today in a shooting with eight Negroes in a panel truck emblazoned: "Black Panther Community News Service."

It was the fourth gunfight between police and the Black Panthers in the San Francisco area in the past 13 months. The earlier shootings, occurring in neighboring Oakland, left one policeman and one panther dead and several injured.

The officers halted the panel truck in front of a fire station and a block from police headquarters as the possible getaway vehicle in an \$80 gas station holdup.

A barrage of bullets erupted. Police said at least one of the Negroes fired, and the three wounded men apparently never fired back—although other policemen apparently did.

None of the Negroes was wounded, police said.

A police lieutenant, Dermott Creedon, was shot in the chest, and a sergeant, Robert

Flynn, was shot in the groin. Both were in critical condition and were given last rites. An inspector, Michael O'Mahoney, was wounded in the hand.

Numerous patrol cars and police motorcycles converged on the scene, and officers took the eight suspects into custody after an exchange of more shots.

The truck bore numerous Black Panther slogans and several posters picturing the militant leader Eldridge Cleaver, who is the central figure in a University of California controversy.

Cleaver is awaiting trial on an attempted murder charge growing out of a shooting last April 6 in which Black Panther Bobby Hutton, 17, was killed. An Oakland policeman, John Frey, 23, was killed last Oct. 28, after which Black Panther founder Huey Newton was convicted of voluntary manslaughter.

The most recent shooting occurred in Oakland last week, when a policeman and a Black Panther were wounded after a car was stopped for a traffic violation.