

Rioting Plagues Los Angeles As Chicanos Mourn Writer

From News Dispatches

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 31—More than 100 police officers used tear gas to break up a crowd of about 500 persons late Sunday in the Mexican-American district of Wilmington in the second night of violence in Chicano neighborhoods here.

At least 15 fires were reported over a 12-square block area but authorities said only six caused damage. At least 17 persons were arrested as the crowd clashed with police.

Police officials said the crowd massed on Avalon Boulevard to show support for those arrested and injured in east Los Angeles Saturday.

The Saturday night uprising in the east Los Angeles Barrio claimed the life of a journalist and resulted in the arrests of 60 persons. There was more than \$1 million in property damage.

In other violence Sunday night, four police officers in Riverside, 100 miles east of here, were shot and wounded as they chased two suspects on foot following two firebombings.

Riverside authorities said the officers were felled by a shotgun blast as they chased two young men through a backyard. Two officers were hospitalized.

In the violence Saturday night here 178 businesses were damaged and seven destroyed.

Fatal Shell

Ruben Salazar, a Mexican-

American affairs columnist for the Los Angeles Times and news director of Spanish-language television station KMXB, was killed by a tear gas shell fired in an attempt to clear patrons from a bar. He was struck in the head and died of massive head injuries.

Two other persons, one shot in the head while running a road block at the peak of the violence, were in critical condition.

The violence erupted at the conclusion of a parade sponsored by the National Chicano Moratorium Committee. From 15,000 to 20,000 persons participated in the parade but only about 400 clashed with sheriff's deputies.

Rosalito Munoz, chairman of the committee protesting the disproportionate number of Mexican-Americans killed in the Vietnam War, charged that deputies moved into the crowd without warning.

Munoz, former UCLA student body president, said deputies fired tear gas into the crowd without warning, causing panic. He said parade organizers were not asked to help quell the trouble.

A spokesman for the sheriff's department said an order to disperse was given over a loudspeaker five minutes before deputies moved in and there was not time to contact parade officials.

Asks Investigation

In Washington today, the director of the National Mexican-American Anti-Defamation

Committee asked President Nixon in a telegram "to order ... an FBI investigation of the East Los Angeles riot and the murder of Ruben Salazar."

Domingo Nick Reyes told Nixon that the shootings of Salazar "is incomprehensible to us. No other person had been as dedicated to articulating the Anglo community and public at large about the hopelessness, frustration, and tensions in the Barrios ghettos of the Mexican-American community."

Reyes urged also in the telegram that Nixon name a high-level investigating panel, to include Chicanos, to report on the riot.

At the Western White House, in San Clemente, presidential press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said the President viewed the death of journalist Salazar during the riot as "a very tragic thing."

Although Nixon never met him, Ziegler said, he thought he was "one of the very respected Spanish-American journalists."

Ziegler said Asst. Atty. Gen. Jerris Leonard, in charge of civil rights activities, had been in touch with the U.S. attorney in Los Angeles from the moment the death occurred and had been following the situation "very closely."

He said the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department "is appropriately investigating the incident." But he said federal officials are keeping in close touch.

Ziegler was asked if President Nixon was aware of the demonstrations in East Los Angeles by Mexican-American groups when he went to that city Saturday evening for dinner at the Scandia Restaurant.

The President knew there was going to be a moratorium and parade on Saturday, Ziegler said.