

Police spy unit probe of 3 high politicians told

By Dennis D. Fisher

Three unsuccessful presidential candidates were spied on by an agent of the Chicago Police Department's Red Squad as part of his official duties, it was revealed Monday.

Patrol Officer John Valkenburg, now suspended, said in documents filed in U.S. District Court that he "interviewed" former U.S. Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.), Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) and former Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox.

Knowledgeable sources said that Valkenburg's use of the word "interviewed" in connection with his spying duties meant that

McCarthy, McGovern and Maddox were targets of the police intelligence unit.

The disclosure came under an order by Judge Alfred Y. Kirkland in the continuing police spying case.

Kirkland, whose five previous deadlines to answer questions under oath were ignored by Valkenburg, had threatened contempt-of-court sanctions against him and against Alfredo Vallejo, an Area 4 youth officer, if they had failed again to answer written questions by Monday. The contempt threat against them was lifted after they answered some of the questions.

Valkenburg answered two of five questions asked by attorneys for the Alliance to End Repression and the American Civil Liberties Union, but he claimed his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination on the other questions. The Fifth Amendment was invoked on questions dealing with whether Valkenburg committed or knew about alleged police burglaries of activist groups' offices in search of information about members.

Kirkland has imposed secrecy orders on pretrial disclosures in the case or on comments by lawyers involved.

One question raised, sources said, was the

purpose of the intelligence-gathering from the presidential candidates.

Lawyers for the Alliance to End Repression and for the ACLU are challenging police spying on citizens and community groups that have committed no crimes. They have accused Valkenburg and other officers of illegal entries, theft of activist group files and equipment, and general disruption and counterinsurgency activities.

Valkenburg was asked to identify all the present and former confidential informants he used in his intelligence gathering. He named himself, with his code identification, CI 579 (Confidential Informant 570), and another police officer, Michael Randy, as CI 497.

Among the 10 groups and organizations Valkenburg said he interviewed were the Students for a Democratic Society, Women for Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Communist Party of the U.S.A.

In addition, he conceded he "interviewed" 21 activists in politics and anti-war efforts, including the three presidential contenders.

The other question he answered involved payment for information as a police spy. He said he spent no money for information.

He asserted the Fifth Amendment right to whether he took files or membership lists from the offices of the Chicago Peace Council, Women for Peace or the Fellowship of Reconciliation in September, 1967, all at 1608 W. Madison.

He had the same response about whether he removed business machines from the office of the National Conference for New Politics.

He also refused to answer a question that asked him to list "all additional seizures that you were aware of" by any police intelligence agent of political, educational, religious or social group without a search warrant.

*Mr. Weinstein
publishes it?*