

# General Sold Seized Guns, Probers Told

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Maj. Gen. Carl C. Turner (ret.), using his high office as the Army's top policeman, persuaded two police departments to donate confiscated guns and then sold them "for personal gain," a Senate investigator testified yesterday.

The witness, Philip R. Manuel, said that "under the color of his official position" as Provost Marshal, Turner obtained at least 700 firearms—handguns, rifles, sawed-off shotguns and machine guns—from Chicago and Kansas City, Mo., police and from Fort Bliss, an Army installation at El Paso, Tex.

Manuel testified that Turner sold some of the weapons to a gun shop in North Carolina whose owner was arrested last summer—while Turner was chief of the Justice Department's 900 U.S. marshals.

#### Weapons Turned In

Between last July 8 and Sept. 23, the general turned in 202 additional weapons to the Criminal Investigation Division, which was in his jurisdiction during the four years, ended in 1968, that he was provost marshal.

The CID got the last batch 19 days after the Nixon administration, which had learned of Turner's involvements from the subcommittee, forced him out of his Justice Department post.

Manuel investigated Turner's arms dealings for the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee's hearings on financial and other irregularities in the Armed Forces.

#### Other Investigations

Acting subcommittee chairman Abraham A. Ribicoff (D-Conn.) disclosed that the gun traffic also is being investigated by the Defense and Justice Departments. Investigations by other federal agencies, including the Bureau of Customs and the Internal Revenue Service, also are under



GEN. CARL C. TURNER  
... former provost marshal

way, it was learned.

Walter J. Bonner, an attorney for the retired general, said Turner will testify today. "I don't expect him to invoke the Fifth Amendment" against self-incrimination, Bonner told newsmen.

Turner is expected to be questioned not only about gun deals, but also about earlier, sworn charges that he played an important role in "white-washing" William O. Wooldridge, former Sergeant Major of the Army, who has been accused by military investigators of grave improprieties.

See CLUB, A8, Col. 1

#### CLUB, From A1

Manuel said that on 14 separate occasions between Aug. 1, 1966 and Nov. 14, 1968, Turner obtained 397 weapons from the Chicago Police Department, 96 from the Kansas City Police Department and 195 from Ft. Bliss.

Turner justified these requests on grounds such as that the weapons were needed for training of Army personnel for a military police museum (which actually received 18), or for his avocations as a lecturer and collector. Numerous weapons were kept in Turner's home.

A Chicago policeman, Lt. Paul T. Duellman, testified that he first met Turner when he came to headquarters, in full uniform, on May 23, 1968. This was shortly after the rioting that followed the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

#### Liaison for Gen. Johnson

Although Chicago police say they were told by Turner that he was in command of all federal troops in Chicago, he actually was there as the personal liaison for Gen. Harold K. Johnson, then Army Chief of Staff.

Duellman told the subcommittee that under an Illinois law permitting disposal of confiscated evidence to the military, the superintendent of police directed him to let Turner choose weapons from among the 12,000 that Chicago police confiscate each year. Normally, the guns are melted down in a steel mill blast furnace.

On each of his four visits, Duellman said, Turner signed



**LT. PAUL DUELLMAN**  
... Chicago policeman



**PHILIP R. MANUEL**  
... Senate investigator

a receipt saying the arms "will be retained by the U.S. Army for training purposes."

On the first visit, Duellman said, Turner picked 63 weapons from a table. The guns then were crated and put in the trunk of his waiting staff car.

Turner got 136 guns in Chicago last Nov. 14—although unbeknownst to Duellman the general had retired from active duty two weeks earlier.

**Receipt Submitted**

In response to a subcommittee subpoena, Manuel testified, Turner submitted an unsigned, undated receipt for 17 handguns that he sold for \$1,122.50 to the Pine State Gun Shop in Fayetteville, N.C. Fourteen of the guns, for which he received \$927.50, came from the two police departments, as shown by their serial numbers, Manuel testified.

In July, the owner of the store, Earl Reddick, who was not named at the hearing, was bound over to a federal grand jury, charged with three violations of the 1968 gun control law.

Federal agents lodged the charges after a raid on June 27 on Reddick's warehouse where, Manuel told reporters, they found five tons of weapons destined for Haitians opposed to the regime of Francois Duvalier. The seven handguns in the seized cache had been acquired from Turner.

Manuel said records of the store showed transactions dating back to 1965 with Turner, who is a federally licensed firearms dealer.

Turner was appointed as chief marshal last March 5 by Attorney General John N. Mitchell. Harry S. Flemming, Special Assistant to the President, told a reporter he "assumed" that a "full field FBI investigation" had been made of Turner because such a check is routine for any significant Justice Department appointment. The Department and the FBI declined to comment on whether there had been such a check.