

# Undercover agent uncovered;

## Provoked breaking of laws

(Due to the nature and subject matter of this interview, both interviewer and interviewee MUST remain anonymous for health reasons. About May 15, 1970, an undercover agent with the San Diego Police Department, Special Assignment Division, was uncovered because of a freak happening. He was known to the Black Panther Party and Movement for a Democratic Military as Jay King, and had been very influential in both groups for TWO years. Jay King's picture appears here. Since the blown cover, he has had his hair cut and has shaved off his beard except for a goatee. If you have known Jay King, or know others who knew him, make damn sure that they see who he really is! Ed. note.)

**Free press:** This afternoon I'm going to be rapping with an orderly who a few days ago uncovered an agent of the SDPD who was working with MDM as one of their most active agents. Because this prson did what he did no names can be used and his identity has to be closely guarded for the next twenty years or so...

**Mr. X:** About a week ago as I was going to take a patient into the operating room, I noticed that one of MDM's chief people was sitting at the bedside of this patient. I recognized him as Jay King, working for MDM, and I said, "Hi Jay". Jay didn't respond to me and walked off down the hall and I took his wife into the operating room, and I was curious as to the relationship he had with this woman because Jay kept telling everyone that either he wasn't married or getting a divorce, and so I was interested as to whom this woman was in their relationship. I looked on a paper that is easily accessible to anyone working in the operating room and I noticed that on the chart the husband of this woman was an agent for SDPD Special Assignment Division. I

asked the doctor after the operation was over if the husband of this woman was the man with the long black hair and large full beard and he said yes, and as I was taking the woman back to her room from surgery I asked he if the man in the room with her this morning was her husband and she

said yes which meant that Jay King was an undercover agent for the SDPD and that he full name, according to the records, was John Paul Murray, Jr., who lives in La Mesa, or did. At the first opportunity I went to a payphone at the hospital and called MDM and told the person at MDM to go to another payphone thinking that the phone at MDM was tapped, so I asked him to go to another payphone which he did, and he called me back at my payphone and I proceeded to tell him about Jay, and then I went back to work.

About an hour later, the hospital was crawling with undercover police, plainclothes police. There was a plainclothes armed guard standing outside the room of Jay's wife who had just gotten out of surgery and the police were giving me very strange looks as I was walking up & down the hall, very hostile looks, and finally I was asked to come to an office where I was put in this room with two very upset plainclothes policemen who informed me that revealing the identity of an undercover policeman is in violation of some penal code of California or some such... and that if anything happened to Paul Murran, or Jay King, as it is, or his wife, or any of his family, I would be the first person that they would come to and that I would be charged with accomplice to murder or accomplice to whatever crime would be committed on

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San Diego policeman John Paul Murray (alias Jay King) when he was still encouraging demonstrators into confrontations with police which could cause their arrest. (Photo courtesy Movement for a Democratic Military)

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these people and that furthermore in case nothing does happen, there weren't enough law enforcement agencies in Southern California to protect my life or my wife's life or anyone I'm affiliated with and that I'd be very wise to look under my bed at night. I asked this policeman if he was threatening me and he said 'I would look under my bed at night'. I repeated, are you threatening me? and he said 'I've forgotten this whole conversation.' At which point I told him that he was being quite dishonest as far as I was concerned.

They threatened me some more and warned me very severely, telling me that I was young and that I was jeopardizing my future and that if I was smart I wouldn't be doing things like this, and they left and I went back to work and went down to MDM after work to see what was happening down there. Several people had been arrested with some planted illegal things in their car and they were taken to the interrogation room of the police department and Officer Pearson as well as John Murray walked in and interrogated these people and they didn't know anything about Jay at the time and were really quite baffled. The only thing they could possibly respond to was asking Jay why he did what he did and how could he do such a thing and he straightened himself up, proud and tall, and said, "Because I'm an American!" In which case the brothers of MDM let their mouths hang open and found themselves unable to respond to this type of mentality.

The *Street Journal* received a call that same day shortly after Jay's cover had been identified. They received a call at their unlisted phone number and received several death threats listing names of the key people at the SJ presumably by this officer John Murray or one of his friends. There have been other isolated incidents referring to this whole happening. The most complete report of what is happening now is available in the *San Diego Street Journal* issue #53, May 27-June 2. This issue has pictures of John Murray in case any of you knew a Jay King and recognized his face. He has since then been cleaned up... he got a haircut and he has a goatee instead of a beard and he still is going in and out of the SDPD....

**FP:** Did the police offer you any type of protection besides the threats?

**Mr. X:** No, no. Jay has been working for the so-called movement... he has successfully infiltrated Black Panther Party, MDM, had brief dealings with *Street Journal*, they were a bit leery of him, he is in very tight with MDM all up and down the coast, plus all the other activities, anti-war... he was very knowledgeable of everything that was going on and he has been

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doing this for two years. As a result he was probably considered one of their prime agents, most valued and his cover was identified and they were extremely upset and they were not interested in giving me any protection whatsoever...

They never asked me to make a deal. They never asked me to cooperate with them. They encouraged me to notify the MDM people as well as everyone else that if anything happened to Jay King that I would be held responsible for this. They wanted to make their threats known to everyone involved. No, they never did approach me with any deals, it was more just informing me of what steps they would take if anything did happen to Officer Murray. But it's very interesting to note that this whole thing has been kept very quiet at this hospital...

**FP:** The type of operations this guy Murray was doing, supposedly he was one of the leaders who was telling people to become more militant and break more laws, he was the one who instigated the confrontations at the various movements, marches, etc., at San Diego State the recent strike— he was involved in that and at the Naval Air Station confrontation (right after the Kent State Massacre, students from San Diego State College stormed the ROTC building for a sit-in and others went to the Naval Air Station at Point Loma to stop

traffic in and out of that base—Ed. Note) he was involved in that as a leader. It seems like the police were using him not only to gather information but actually to involve other people into breaking the law so that they could be carted away, imprisoned, put out of the way.

**Mr. X:** Yes, this is really a very important part of the whole thing. Jay was very militant. He was encouraging people to have confrontations... His involvement at the sit-in of the ROTC building up at State that resulted in the arrest of 30-odd people in which he squirted epoxy glue into the locks of the school, and the chains that they used to lock the door with were kept in his car, and he did urge confrontation up at this base (Naval Air Station). There is also evidence that the MDM chapter at Oceanside that was recently raided for stolen equipment and all the legal weapons they had in the house, and I emphasize legal weapons, were confiscated—these weapons apparently... I don't know this by first hand knowledge, but Jay did take these weapons up to MDM in Oceanside and shortly thereafter they were raided, busted. Yes, he has been active in getting people in general arrested, particularly key people in MDM and the whole movement... I think this is the tactic of the police de-

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partment, and I think it's not very honest, and the philosophy that any method you can use to get a "Commie" is okay because you are protecting the United States Constitution ... Jay falls into this category ... He's obviously a pig ... He was very successful in staying in MDM ... There are some very sophisticated people in MDM ... They aren't breaking any laws, but they are on the fringe and as far as the police are concerned they are breaking all the laws by just existing ...

*FP:* One more question. Owing to all the events that have gone by this past week, owing to your own conscience, would you do the same thing over again if the opportunity arose?

*Mr. X:* I don't think the police are going to like this, but yes, I would, very much so... yes.

*FP:* Do you have anything else to say now that you have the chance?

*Mr. X:* Yeah. I wonder how many kids have been shot, killed, gassed, clubbed, arrested because of people like Jay King, people who are very dedicated, the movement people who have received the consequences of these agents' activities ... very dedicated, sincere people who are trying to change the horrible shape that this country as well as this world is in and are actively trying to do something about it ... and along comes somebody like Mr. King or John Paul Murray and exploits their enthusiasm by his own boldness and you can guarantee that he's not going to get into any trouble but might encourage others to be a bit more bold than they would have been and either shot and killed or gassed or clubbed and harangued and thrown out of school and generally had their creative lives destroyed. They talk about outside agitators on campuses. It's very interesting because all this evidence proves conclusively that some of your outside agitators are trained in the San Diego Police Department, not Pekin or Moscow, and that their only purpose is to make sure that no change for the better takes place in this country. So next time you hear of somebody rapping about outside agitators and how we have to deal with them, keep that in mind ...

As far as where we have got to go in the movement, think about security in a real sense; think about getting to know each other real well ... we can't just allow ourselves to pick up recruits here and there ... you've got to get to know your people, get to know them well, get to know everything about them ... so if there's any suspicion, check out the stories and see if they match, because Jay's stories didn't match ... He told one set of people one thing and another set of people another thing ... so generally what this comes down to is that the movement has got to start thinking about security precautions.

*FP:* Thanks for the rap; stay well; stay healthy ...