

# HERB CAEN



## Pull Cord to Stop Press

**MORE HONORS:** Esquire's terrific December issue, crammed with the joys of Christmas (sex, violence and the like), lists the 10 most crime-ridden and the 10 most crime-free communities in the country, and the Bay Area is right up there. The hard way . . . The worst, in order: Compton, Calif.; Newark, Detroit. Pontiac, Mich.; San Francisco, Wilmington, Dela.; Oakland, Cambridge, Mass.; Denver and Washington. The best: Lakewood, O.; Rome, N.Y.; Weymouth, Mass.; Utica, N.Y.; Nashua, N.H.; Euclid, O.; Provo, Utah; Greenwich, Conn.; Florissant, Mo., and Westland, Mich. . . . All very well, but I'd still rather be walking nervously down Pacific Ave., looking over my shoulder now and again, than skipping jaunty-jolly along the byways of colorful Utica. The two surprises: that New York City didn't make the Bad List, and that Washington, considering its recent crime wave, is only No. 10.

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**ONWARD:** "Who said this and where at what point in time?" asks that ace trivia player, Barnaby Conrad. The statement: "The United States cannot afford four more years of that kind of administration." Correct answer: Richard Nixon in Dallas on Nov. 21, 1963, The Day Before . . . Over in the East Bay, Crockett's Dan Russo, with 30 minutes to spare while waiting for the alleged 4:30 p.m. BART run, pulled out his ever-ready Webster's Crosswords book and found, on page five, a puzzle impossible to complete at THIS point in time. The clue for No. 5 down, a five-letter word, is "Our Vice-President."

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**ORWELL MEMORIAL CORNER:** Edward (Ted) Lewis of San Rafael wrote to West Point for some information on its hazing practices and rec'd back a letter from Col. George S. Webb, Chief of Staff, informing him that "The Freedom of Information Act prohibits disclosure of the details" . . . And Ross Workman, who keeps tabs on the Radical Right for the laughs, struck pay dirt in the Nov. issue of Liberty Lobby's Liberty Letter, which blasts William F. Buckley Jr. as "a former deep-cover agent for the CIA" and wonders editorially "how much subsidy his boring hoax magazine, National Review, gets from the CIA to keep it going?" Hotstuff and definitely exclusive.

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