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CONTINUED
FROM 12.9.97
TO 12.16.97 2pm

DEPARTMENT OF
POLICE

ARTURO VENEGAS, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

December 1, 1997

HALL OF JUSTICE
813 SIXTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA
95814-2495

PH 916-264-5121
FAX 916-448-4620
E-MAIL
spdcou@quiknet.com
http://
www.quiknet.com/spd/

City Council
Sacramento, California 95814

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT THE SALES OF "SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIALS" IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: City wide.

RECOMMENDATION:

This report recommends that the City Council review the proposed ordinance (attached) and approve for immediate adoption.

CONTACT PERSON(S): Chief Arturo Venegas, Jr., Office of the Chief, 264-5121
Captain Rich Shraishi, Office of the Chief, 264-5224

FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: December 9, 1997

SUMMARY:

At the request of Council Member Steinberg, the Sacramento Police Department has prepared this report. It recommends that the City Council support the adoption of a new ordinance to the Sacramento City Code prohibiting the sales of "Saturday Night Specials" (SNS) (as defined in the attached ordinance) in the City of Sacramento. These weapons are mainly .22, .25, .38 and .380 caliber handguns with insufficient external safety features and made of very low grade metals. This ordinance is modeled after the West Hollywood ordinance which has withstood local court challenge. There are 37 other jurisdictions throughout California that prohibit the sales of SNS.

ORDINANCE NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 48.02 TO TITLE 48 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CODE, RELATING TO THE SALE OF "SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIALS," ALSO KNOWN AS "JUNK GUNS"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

SECTION 1.

Findings.

- (a) The City Council desires to reduce handgun-related crimes; eliminate the self-inflicted injuries and fatalities caused by the use of poor quality firearms which fail to meet minimum safety requirements; and make the City's neighborhoods and businesses as safe as possible.
- (b) The Federal Gun Control Act of 1968 prohibits the importation of poorly made handguns, but does not ban their manufacture and sale in the United States.
- (c) "Saturday Night Specials," as defined in this chapter, are dangerous products due to their low quality of manufacture and metallurgy. Many of these handguns lack minimum safety features designed to prevent unintended shootings.
- (d) As a result of their inferior craftsmanship, "Saturday Night Specials" are not suitably accurate or reliable to be useful for sport or hunting purposes. Although "Saturday Night Specials" are marketed by manufacturers as a reliable means of personal protection, objective expert evaluations suggest that they are not well suited for this purpose.

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FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

ORDINANCE NO. _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____

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