

Officer: King came close to being shot

USA TODAY

April 26, 1994, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS; Pg. 3A; Nationline

Length: 936 words

Byline: Paul Leavitt

Body

Rodney King was so out of control he came "very close" to being shot by police officers, whose beating of King was captured on videotape, one of the officers testified Monday.

Laurence Powell, one of two officers sentenced to 30 months in prison for violating King's civil rights, said the beating was justified and "if he got up and attacked me one more time, it was going to be a shooting situation." Powell, who struck most of the blows during the March 3, 1991, incident, defiantly asserted he was positive he had done nothing wrong. The federal civil jury has awarded King \$ 3.8 million for his injuries and now is considering punitive damages against Powell and 14 others.

IMMIGRATION LAWSUIT: California this week will file the first in its series of lawsuits against the federal government seeking enforcement of immigration laws and reimbursement for state's costs of illegal immigration, Gov. Pete Wilson said. Florida already has filed suit. Wilson said California initially will seek \$ 400 million, the annual bill to imprison illegal immigrants, and will ask a court to order U.S. officials to prosecute "alien felons" who return to the USA.

CASINO ROBBERIES: Nevada Gaming Control Board officials, prompted by two weekend casino robberies in Las Vegas, this week will urge additional security measures. Eight casinos have been hit in the past 18 months. Five men, suspected of being Los Angeles gang members, are charged with the Sunday robbery of Harrah's. The Flamingo was hit Thursday for \$ 158,000. The money is missing.

ASSISTED SUICIDE: Jack Kevorkian's Detroit trial on a charge of violating Michigan's new law against assisting a suicide will continue, a judge ruled. His lawyer, who wants the charge dismissed, said the prosecution was in the wrong county. Kevorkian, an advocate of doctor-assisted suicide, has been present at 20 deaths. Also, the state panel that has studied the issue for a year decided it couldn't agree and sent lawmakers three possibilities: legalize assisted suicide with strict controls; continue the ban passed last year; or leave the decision up to the Legislature and send along procedural safeguards to use if lawmakers decide to allow it.

SPECIAL DELIVERY: Mail carriers hope to collect 35 million to 45 million pounds of food for charity May 14. The National Association of Letter Carriers will pick up donations on mail routes and distribute them to food banks. People should leave packaged food near their mailboxes. Last year, 220 branches collected 12 million pounds of food.

SCHOOL PRAYER: Bishop Knox returned as principal of Wingfield High School in Jackson, Miss., for the first time since being suspended for allowing student-led prayers over the intercom in November. A county judge Friday ordered immediate reinstatement and back pay. His biggest problem Monday: getting the school keys he had surrendered. The U.S. Supreme Court in 1962 barred officially sanctioned in-school prayer.

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KILLER CAT: Hikers, bikers and joggers are being warned a mountain lion is suspected of killing a jogger in the Auburn Lake Trails subdivision near Cool, Calif., 40 miles northeast of Sacramento. Authorities say there were claw marks on Barbara Schoener, 40, and she may have been dragged down a hillside. Her body was found Sunday.

PRIEST TO PRISON: The Rev. John Hanlon, 65, was sentenced to life in prison for raping an altar boy in 1980 and 1981 while a Catholic priest at St. Mary's Church in Plymouth, Mass. He's eligible for parole in 15 years. "I still wish him dead," said the victim, William Wood, 27.

TRUTH IN SENTENCING: The New Jersey Supreme Court adopted a rule that judges at sentencings must say when a defendant is likely to be paroled. Gov. Christie Whitman had urged the measure. Most inmates get time off for being good and are paroled long before their term ends.

ALSO MONDAY . . .

-- **EXECUTION:** Texas executed Arkansas parolee Larry Anderson by injection early today for the 1982 stabbing murder of Houston bar manager Zelda Webster, 28.

-- **RED BAITING:** New Hampshire's 1951 Subversive Activities Act, which outlawed the Communist Party and required loyalty oaths of state workers and political candidates, is being repealed effective June 21.

-- **TWISTER:** Three people were hurt and up to 20 homes leveled by a tornado in Talihina, Okla., emergency workers said. Some residents were missing. A tornado in Lancaster, Texas, injured 12.

-- **GRANT'S TOMB:** Descendants and admirers of Ulysses S. Grant asked a federal judge to order the government to restore the 18th president's burial site in New York. Lawyer Edward Hochman cited urine stains, litter and graffiti.

Spy case plea agreement in works

A plea agreement may be near for Aldrich and Rosario Ames, accused of selling secrets to the Russians and Soviets for more than \$ 2.5 million while he was with the CIA.

News reports say he would plead guilty, take a life prison sentence and cooperate in assessing the damage he's done to national security - if his wife gets a relatively short prison term so she can care for their son, Paul, 6. Prosecutors are said to have offered her a five-year sentence, but she has resisted. Aldrich Ames' lawyer said it's possible an agreement could be disclosed Thursday in federal court in Alexandria, Va., but that depends whether Rosario Ames agrees. Also, the White House is considering a plan to transfer key spy-catching and policy-setting responsibilities to the FBI from the CIA, The Washington Post reports today.

Contributing: Gary Fields, Jane Schmucker, Sandra Sanchez and Steve Marshall

Notes

THE NATION

Graphic

PHOTO, b/w, AP; PHOTO, b/w, Rogelio Solis, AP; PHOTO, b/w, Agence France-Presse

Classification

Officer: King came close to being shot

Subject: ASSISTED SUICIDE (92%); IMMIGRATION (90%); SHOOTINGS (90%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (90%); SUITS & CLAIMS (90%); DAMAGES (90%); LITIGATION (90%); ROBBERY (89%); JUDGES (89%); DEATH & DYING (86%); SUICIDE (86%); FOOD CHARITIES (83%); DEATHS & INJURIES BY POLICE (78%); COUNTY GOVERNMENT (78%); CIVIL RIGHTS (77%); SENTENCING (77%); CORRECTIONS (77%); JURY TRIALS (77%); CHURCH & STATE (77%); PRISONS (77%); VERDICTS (77%); FREEDOM OF RELIGION (77%); FELONIES (77%); JAIL SENTENCING (77%); RELIGION IN SCHOOLS (77%); LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS (75%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (75%); LEGISLATION (75%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (75%); PUNITIVE DAMAGES (75%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (74%); DECISIONS & RULINGS (74%); IMMIGRATION LAW (74%); LAWYERS (74%); WOUNDS & INJURIES (74%); CHRISTIANS & CHRISTIANITY (73%); SCHOOL PRINCIPALS (70%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (70%); FOOD BANKS & SOUP KITCHENS (68%); SUPREME COURTS (66%); EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION (60%); RELIGION (60%)

Company: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SECURITIES DEALERS INC (51%); NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SECURITIES DEALERS INC (51%)

Industry: GAMBLING (90%); CASINOS (90%); LAWYERS (74%); GAMBLING REGULATION & POLICY (73%)

Geographic: DETROIT, MI, USA (79%); LOS ANGELES, CA, USA (79%); LAS VEGAS, NV, USA (79%); JACKSON, MS, USA (79%); CALIFORNIA, USA (92%); NEVADA, USA (79%); MICHIGAN, USA (79%); MISSISSIPPI, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (93%)

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