

# Civil rights groups ask firing of police chief for racism

United Press International  
LOS ANGELES — Police Chief Daryl Gates' suggestion that blacks may be more genetically susceptible to chokeholds than "normal people" has triggered demands by civil rights leaders that he be fired.

"We may be finding that in some blacks when it (choke hold) is applied, the veins or arteries do not open up as fast as they do in normal people," Gates said in an interview.

Councilman Dave Cunningham led Monday's move to fire

## 3 men die in elevator accident

United Press International  
JETMORE, Kan. — Three men who were painting inside a narrow grain elevator were killed when their scaffold collapsed, authorities say. The men fell 145 feet.

It was the second fatality at a Midwest grain elevator in less than a month.

Francisco de la O, 29; John Romero, 42; and Jim Finch, 42, died Monday at the Collingwood Grain elevator in Jetmore, Kan. The men were employees of Borton Construction of Hutchinson, Kan.

Mrs. Rex Moore, wife of the job site superintendent, said the three men were preparing to paint the inside of the elevator when the scaffolding collapsed or tipped, causing the men to plunge to the concrete floor.

Dr. James O'Shea, assistant district coroner, said the men were dead before they hit the bottom of the 5-foot-square shaft. He said the shaft was so narrow that the men bounced off the walls and struck each other in their fall.

O'Shea said the three died of massive head and internal injuries.

He said he looked at the cables of the Jetmore scaffold and they all looked intact. He said he could see no apparent reason for the accident.

An explosion April 20 at the Bluffs Elevator Co. in Council Bluffs, Iowa, killed five elevator employees and injured 25 other people. The explosion was set off by grain dust, but what ignited the dust and where the blast originated has not been determined.

Gates, comparing him to Lester Maddox, the racist former governor of Georgia, and William Shockley, the two-time Nobel Prize winner who believes blacks are genetically inferior to whites.

Mayor Tom Bradley, favored

to become the nation's first elected black governor, later ordered an unprecedented disciplinary investigation into what he called four years of disparaging remarks about blacks, Latinos and Jews.

"I am concerned that state-

ments that are disparaging to blacks, as they were in this case, could undo the constructive progress, which has been made in dealing with a change of policy on the use of the chokehold," Bradley said.

Gates said Monday that he will not resign and saw no reason to apologize for his comment. While he stood by the remark, he said it "probably would have been more clear" if he had used the words "normal fashion" rather than "normal people."

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