

# League of cities urges fiscal aid

United Press International

INDIANAPOLIS — Officials of the National League of Cities Wednesday called for a deficit reduction plan to assure "longstanding economic recovery in this country" and to lighten the burden of cities in funding roads, services and programs for the poor.

In its official policy statement for 1985, the league called the deficit the most urgent priority confronting the nation.

League members said cities are faced with high interest rates, marketplace uncertainty and structural unemployment because of the deficit. In a policy statement adopted by some 3,000 delegates attending the League's Congress of Cities, the League endorsed a combination of tax increases and spending cuts, but no cuts in entitlement programs for the poor.

The policy statement, which guides the league's congressional lobbying efforts, also calls for more money for training the unemployed, the creation of a national investment bank to help cities fund repairs of decaying roads and bridges and a

\$140 million program to supplement low-income subsidized housing programs.

"Once we take a stand on something, you can pretty well say it's a consensus of local government officials from throughout America," said Cleveland Mayor George Voinovich, who was elected league president at Wednesday's final session.

New York City Council President Carol Bellamy was elected first vice president and San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros was elected second vice president.

The policy statement urges the Reagan administration to appoint a bipartisan commission, similar to the one that drafted recent Social Security reforms, to find a solution to the deficit.

"The deficit and the high interest rates and the periodic recession-recovery has had a devastating effect on manufacturing in this country," Voinovich said. "We've lost 25 percent of our manufacturing in four years."

Voinovich said every billion dollars trimmed from the deficit will create 25,000 new jobs.

# Hispanic defections to GOP challenged

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — The director of a voting rights group Wednesday challenged media reports and private polls claiming that large numbers of Hispanics defected from the Democratic Party in the November election.

William C. Velasquez, director of the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, said that more Hispanics voted for President Reagan in 1984 than 1980, but that the vote does not represent a major tilt toward the Republican Party.

"Mexican American support (for Republicans) was not nearly as great as the press and others said it was on election day," Velasquez said.

A Southwest Project poll showed that Texas Hispanics voted 73 percent for Democratic candidate Walter Mondale and 27 percent for Reagan. Traditionally, Mexican Americans in Texas vote about 90 percent Democratic.

Velasquez said that Republican pollster Lance Tarrance of Houston conducted a telephone poll that will make Reagan appear to have done even better among Hispanics.

Velasquez said he had not seen the results, but claimed Tarrance's poll cannot be accurate because telephone respondents often lie by saying they voted for the winning candidate, or that they voted when in fact they did not.

"Tarrance ought to be ashamed of himself on that poll," Velasquez said. "Lance Tarrance knows the biases. He knows it's going to look good for the president. I think he's doing it for that reason."

"Anyone who does a telephone poll is doing it with an ulterior motive in mind. I would guess that Tarrance is 100 percent off."

Robert Brischetto, who coordinated the poll of 2,106 people, said that in terms of Republican support, the gap between Hispanics and other groups actually grew in 1984.

# Lucas confesses to more murders

United Press International

ARLINGTON — Convicted murderer Henry Lee Lucas, who boasts of killing 360 people and says he has helped police resolve almost 200 unsolved murders, has admitted killing two people in the late 1970s in Arlington, police said Wednesday.

Officers who questioned Lucas for nine hours Tuesday and four hours Wednesday morning said Lucas led them to the scene of both murders and gave them details only the killer could know.

Spokesman Jim Willett said police will ask a Tarrant County grand jury to indict Lucas for murder and capital murder.

"We didn't take him around; he took us," Willett said.

Willett said Lucas, 49, has admitted killing Pat Rau, a 26-year-old transient whose decomposed body was found in the Trinity River on Thanksgiving Day 1978. He also has admitted shooting and killing Donnaver Hanna, a 40-year-old convenience store operator on Dec. 22, 1979.

Police also are investigating the possibility that Otis Elwood Toole, Lucas' companion during his cross-country murder spree, was involved

in the Arlington deaths.

Toole is in prison in Florida. Lucas, who was sentenced to death earlier this year for a Williamson County murder, is being held in Georgetown.

Willett said Lucas told police he picked up Rau in a bar about a week before Thanksgiving 1978, crushed her skull and dumped her body in the Trinity. Hanna was shot four times with a .22-caliber pistol during a robbery about a year later.

Investigators decided to question Lucas about the killings because both resembled incidents to which he has confessed. Police met with Lucas last week at the Williamson County Jail in Georgetown, then decided to take him to Arlington to see if he could pinpoint the locations of the killings.

Lucas, who has been charged with 26 murders in five states, spends much of his time traveling around Texas and other states for questioning about various unsolved crimes. Willett said Arlington police were "very fortunate" to be able to talk to Lucas, who is scheduled to meet with various law enforcement agencies through mid-1985.

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