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Place: Rudder 308

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GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT
FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR
NOVEMBER 30, 2000 1:15PM

AMBASSADOR RICHARD HOLBROOKE
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NOVEMBER 30, 2000 7:30PM

GENERAL WESLEY CLARK
FORMER NATO SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER, EUROPE
DECEMBER 1, 2000 1:15PM

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Cases against conventional agitators lacking evidence

Police witnesses have hard time identifying protesters months later when the crowds at the time were large and conditions chaotic.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — More than a dozen police officers were injured, police cars were smashed and City Hall was marred by graffiti as some demonstrators caused mayhem during the second night of the Republican National Convention.

Four months after police and city officials vowed stiff penalties for those they described as professional agitators, cases are falling apart and the most serious charges have been struck down.

"You really have a situation where you're seeing it was an enormous overreaction," said Pennsylvania ACLU legal director Stefan Presser. "The police department attempted to sell both the courts and the public a bill of goods which is now seen for what it is, which is ultimately just bad law enforcement."

Prosecutors say it is understandable that police witnesses might not always be able to identify individual

protesters months later when the crowds at the time were large and conditions chaotic.

"Sure it would be nice if everyone had a wonderful memory and everything was captured in slow-motion video. ... This is to be expected," said Assistant District Attorney Trevan Borum.

"You're going to have to have somebody come in here and testify that somebody did something wrong."

— James M. DeLeon
Penn. Municipal court judge

Of 391 people arrested during the convention, more than 100 were charged with misdemeanor offenses. More than 100 more than half arrested charges reduced or dropped.

Most recently, 40 protesters arrested at a street-blocking demonstration Aug. 1 were acquitted. A judge of conspiracy and of justice. Three were charged with lesser offenses and sentenced to community service.

WTO protesters return to Seattle

SEATTLE (AP) — The World Trade Organization meeting that collapsed in clouds of tear gas a year ago is being marked by activists this week in a city that is now known as much for civic haplessness as it is for its good coffee and charm.

The violent anti-WTO street protests that overwhelmed police on Nov. 30, 1999, left Seattle with permanent scars, some say, even as it galvanized a growing movement against corporate globalization.

"One of the biggest things we learned with

WTO is that Seattle is not Mayberry with high-rises," said City Council member Judy Nicastro. "People don't play nice anymore."

To mark the one-year anniversary, some 5,000 activists are expected to gather Thursday for "N30," the International Solidarity Day Against Corporate Globalization.

That number is a fraction of the 50,000 protesters who showed up last year, bent on blocking streets and shutting down the WTO meeting. By the time the tear gas cleared, about 600 people

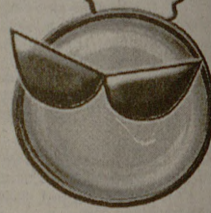
had been arrested, property damage totaled some \$3 million, and Seattle had become a global symbol of popular defiance.

Seattle officials, who had banked on a civic boost as hosts to the talks, were instead targeted by critics for failing to prepare and for overreacting to protesters with tear gas, rubber bullets and arrests.

Soon after, Police Chief Norm Stamper announced his early retirement. Mayor Paul Schell, another target of frequent and harsh criticism, has yet to announce whether he will seek another term.

Carlos Lam, who has lived in Seattle for 33 years, said demonstrators consider the city's image un-Seattlelike. "My view of what it's always been is that it's always been a great town. But the country we're in is a bunch of people who might keep from here."

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