

# Of-Bombed Chicago Statue Moves Indoors



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Statue under guard in Chicago's Haymarket Square, left, and now in its new place in lobby of Police Headquarters

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CHICAGO, Feb. 11—Chicago's most frequently bombed statue, a nine-foot, bronze tribute to seven policemen killed by a bomb, has been moved indoors, presumably to safer quarters.

The statue, which depicts a 19th-century policeman commanding peace with an upraised arm, has become a symbol of this city's embattled Police Department since the turbulent Democratic National Convention of 1968.

The statue drew national attention as the target of two bombs and the focus of numerous protest marches here during and after the conspiracy trial of the so-called Chicago Seven, which stemmed from the convention disorder.

Since the second bombing in 1970, the statue has been repaired and placed under 24

hour guard by a city policeman. The area was also constantly scrutinized by a television camera hidden in a nearby air-conditioner.

#### Cost Put at \$68,000

The annual cost of such surveillance was estimated at \$68,000, far more than the few thousand dollars it cost to erect the statue originally or to repair it.

The statue commemorates seven city policemen who perished, along with an undetermined number of uncommemorated workers, in the Haymarket Square riot of May 4, 1886.

The striking workers, described as "anarchists" in contemporary accounts, were demanding an eight-hour day.

Carter Harrison, the city's Mayor then, pronounced their gathering peaceful and went home. But soon after,

Capt. Jack Bonfield of the police and 200 men arrived. The captain is said to have uttered the words, "In the name of the people of Illinois, I command peace."

But the last words were drowned out by the blast of a powder bomb, which killed seven policemen, whose colleagues began then firing into the crowd.

Four demonstrators were later hanged, although no one was ever convicted of throwing the bomb.

The statue has been the target of numerous vandals since its dedication in 1889. In 1925 it was smashed by a runaway streetcar.

#### 'Anarchists' Draw Blame

The first recent bombing occurred Oct. 6, 1969. The police attributed it to "anarchists." The most recent bombing came 364 days later after \$5,500 in repairs.

An anonymous telephone caller said the blast was "in honor of our brothers and sisters in the New York prisons" and exclaimed, "Power to the People!"

One policeman speculated that it was the work of a radical with something against the Police Department." Mayor Richard J. Daley called the bombers "evil creatures who work in the dark," vowed "never again" and ordered the statue rebuilt and a permanent guard installed at its pedestal at West Randolph and the Kennedy Expressway.

One local columnist proposed that a fiber glass duplicate be erected to save money on bombing repairs and the guard detail.

But instead, a city maintenance crew the other day moved the statue to its fifth and latest location—the lobby of Police Headquarters.

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