

# H-Bomb Guard Seen For City's Archives

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If a hydrogen bomb exploded anywhere near downtown San Diego today, all city records would be destroyed.

City contracts, subdivision maps, birth statistics, police files and other records affecting half a million people would be consumed in the great fireball that would sweep over the city, leveling, melting and vaporizing everything in its path.

All of the city's records are kept in Civic Center or in other downtown buildings.

## Building Hopes Told

To forestall such a loss from bombing, or from fire or earthquake, the city hopes to build a \$100,000 repository for its vital records in an outlying area of the county.

The building would house the city's archives, including all originals or duplicates of essential documents accumulated since San Diego became a city.

Construction of this building is part of a far reaching plan to improve a record-keeping procedures in all departments of the city government.

The program, says City Clerk Phil Acker, includes a complete survey of city records. It was started this month by statistical analysts from the Remington-Rand Corp.

## Survey Objectives Listed

Objectives of the survey are twofold:

1. To simplify record

keeping, save space, and reduce costs.

2. To arrange record keeping so that copies of all important material can be quickly microfilmed and dispersed for safe keeping.

Acker said the survey will cost \$25,000 and will take 20 months to complete. Funds have been appropriated by the City Council.

The archives building, he said, should be located near enough to the city for research but far enough away that it would be 10 to 15 miles from a probable bomb hit.

The building should be concrete, should be air conditioned to preserve records, and should be headed by a trained archivist, Acker said.

## Voters Approve Move

A move toward eliminating the dangerous concentration of all city records in Civic Center was authorized by the voters of the City and approved by the Legislature last year. It was a change in the city charter permitting the double microfilming of records. This will enable the city to keep one copy downtown and send the other to a remote vault.

Crammed into 7,500 file drawers at Civic Center are papers which cover events and transactions affecting almost every citizen of San Diego.

## Record Loss Seen

If a bomb should destroy Civic Center today, it would

wipe out the record of city contracts, subdivision transactions, the maps of sewer and water mains, all city ordinances, minutes of city councils, police identification and commitment files, the record of city bond holders, employe retirement records, and other material which would be important to setting up the machinery of government in the aftermath of an atomic holocaust.

City officials hope this will never happen, but as long as the world lives under the threat of atomic war, they want to be prepared.

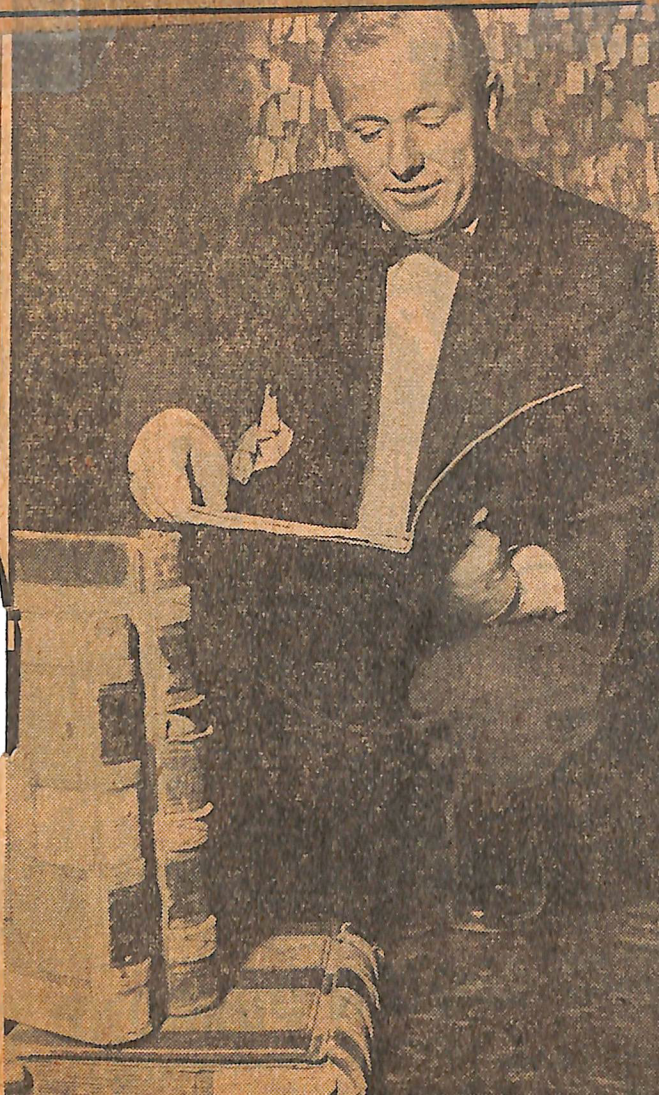
# USC Chief Hung in Effigy

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—An effigy of Dr. Norman Topping, president of the University of Southern California, was hung last night by about 1,000 students.

Police said the students gathered on 28th street, along "fraternity row," and blocked traffic.

A sign on the effigy read "There are no gods on row."

One fraternity, Kappa Sigma, was banned from campus after a pledge, Richard Swanson, 21, choked to death on a piece of smeared raw liver during initiation ceremony Sept.



**RECORD REVIEW**—City Clerk Phil Acker looks over some of the records, vital to San Diegans, which would be destroyed if nuclear blast hit here.