

13 years of cop torture alleged

Daley, Martin rip internal police reports

By David Jackson

Mayor Richard Daley and Police Supt. LeRoy Martin Friday defended the Chicago police against a department report that said officers tortured suspects at a South Side station for more than a decade, a practice condoned by commanders.

Portions of two internal police reports were unsealed Friday in federal court, marking the first public acknowledgment by police that allegations of brutality were more than isolated incidents.

One report identified 50 criminal suspects who contended that they were tortured by seven officers between 1973 and 1986 at the old Brighton Park police headquarters, and said that area commanders knew of the abuse and did not take action. One of the commanders in charge of area detectives during that period was Martin, who said the charges were unsubstantiated.

"The type of abuse described was not limited to the usual beating, but went into such esoteric areas as psychological torture techniques and planned torture," the report said.

"Particular command members were aware of the systematic abuse and perpetuated it either by actively participating in same or failing to take any action to bring it to an end," the report concluded.

Three of the seven named officers were suspended in November following a separate internal investigation that concluded that they tortured or allowed the abuse of Andrew Wilson while he was in police custody in 1982 on charges of killing two police officers. Wilson has been convicted.

Portions of that report were unsealed Friday as well by U.S. District Court Judge Milton Shadur, who is overseeing an unrelated brutality case in which the reports were subpoenaed.

The three named officers—former Brighton Park Cmdr. Jon Burge and detectives John Yucaitis and Patrick O'Hara—face dismissal. Hearings on their cases are scheduled to begin Monday.

See Torture, pg. 10

The unemployment picture

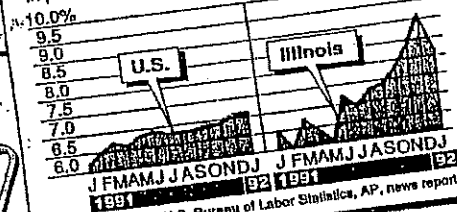
State rate

In percent for 11 major industrial states

State	Dec.	Jan.
California	7.7%	8.1%
Florida	7.5	8.7
Illinois	9.1	8.2
Massachusetts	8.7	7.9
Michigan	9.2	8.9
New Jersey	7.2	6.8
New York	8.0	8.4
North Carolina	5.7	5.7
Ohio	6.5	6.7
Pennsylvania	7.1	7.1
Texas	7.0	7.8

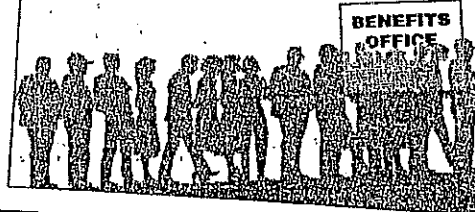
Unemployment rate

In percent of civilian workers, seasonally adjusted



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, AP, news reports

The U.S. unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.1 percent for January. However, in another survey, non-farm payrolls showed a drop of 91,000 jobs from December to January.



Demographic rates

Unemployment in percent for January

Adult men	6.9%
Adult women	5.9
Whites	6.2
Blacks	13.7
Hispanics	11.3

Chicago Tribune/Rick Tuma and Don Sena

U.S. jobless rate won't budge

Little room for optimism despite uptick in Illinois

By Stephen Franklin

Illinois' unemployment rate may have tumbled by nearly a point to 8.2 percent last month, but there is little else to cheer about for the state or nation's still-stalled job machine.

The economy is flat, and for some workers it is reeling, analysts said Friday as government figures showed the U.S. unemployment rate stuck for the second month in a row at 7.1 percent, the highest level in six years. However, payrolls fell na-

tionally by 91,000, seen as a negative indicator.

There were 8.9 million Americans out of work in January.

Other troubling signs, experts said, were a drop in workers' pay, a decline in hours worked and an increase of 400,000 in workers who were looking for full-time jobs but had to settle for part-time work.

Besides the 2.5 million people who have joined the jobless ranks since the recession began, the number of involuntary part-

time or underemployed workers has grown by 1.7 million.

There are another 1.1 million discouraged workers, who have stopped looking for jobs and no longer are counted in the jobless statistics. But some analysts saw a silver lining in the figures. They said the economy's slow pace might push the Federal Reserve Board to once more lower interest rates, to pump more money into the economy.

The sad job situation also is

See Jobless, pg. 10

Torture

Continued from page 1
fore the Chicago Police Board.

While it investigated Burge, the police office of professional standards also reopened investigations into other allegations of torture at the police area, which is on the Far South Side and has since been renamed the Pullman Area.

Burge and the two detectives are named in both reports unsealed Friday. Four other officers were identified, but their names were not released.

Two of them remain on the force, one is no longer on the payroll and the fourth is on a leave of absence.

Martin said Friday that he has taken no action against those four officers because he believes the allegations are not substantiated.

The report did not name commanders who condoned systematic torture. Police records show that Martin commanded the area's detective division for nine months during the 13 years when the abuse was alleged to have occurred, from late February 1983 to December of that year.

Martin said it was an "outright lie" that police commanders knew about or condoned torture.

Speaking Friday at a Chicago Urban League luncheon, Martin became angered when told of the allegations that those in command at the area headquarters, including himself, knew of the torture.

"This is a fine police department, fine men and women on it, 404 of them have gotten killed in the line of duty, and for someone to say that this department condones poor conduct from department members and you think that wouldn't make me angry, I'm furious," Martin said.

"If I knew that anyone was

doing anything wrong on this police department I would take action on it."

During a taping of WMAQ-TV's "City Desk" program, to be broadcast at 7 a.m. Sunday, Daley strongly defended Martin.

"These are only allegations," the mayor said. "These are not substantiated cases."

Correspondence released with the reports showed that Martin knew of the allegations against Burge and the two detectives for almost a year before suspending them without pay.

But Daley said he did not find fault with Martin for delaying the report because the superintendent had to review its methodology.

"It's allegations, rumors, stories, things like that, which we asked the Police Department to review the entirety of the report," Daley said. "How did they come to that conclusion? How did they arrive at these facts? You have to look at the methodology."

Attorney G. Flint Taylor, who argued for the release of the reports, said they will significantly impact future brutality lawsuits against the police by enabling plaintiffs to contend that they were victimized by an unspoken department policy of torture.

Such brutality cases have cost the city more than \$6 million a year in the past, records show.

"That's why the city fought so hard to suppress it," Taylor said.

FBI agents are "monitoring developments" as they relate to possible brutality and violations of civil rights, said Chicago FBI spokesman Robert Long.

"We are in contact with the Police Department over this situation," he said, adding that agents and police internal affairs investigators routinely work together.

Long said he was unaware of any ongoing FBI probe of alleged police brutality in Chicago.