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Ward Population

Proposed

Thursday, August 20, 1992 Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Ed Frazier

Census Bureau: 3,000 residents not counted

By TRAVIS MITCHELL Chronicle Staff Writer

In a bizarre turn of events, the city manager's office has been on a 'merry-go-round' ride, since the Census Bureau indicates that 3,000 residents must be accounted for in Winston-Salem before ward lines can be redrawn.

Ward lines are redrawn after every official United States Census

This year the ward lines of Winston-Salem must be redrawn to reflect the recent annexation of some of the county townships and the 1990 census count. The city manager's office has submitted several proposals to the board of alterman for approval. The last proposal which incorporated the revisions made by the alderman was to be submitted for approval on Monday. However, it may change because of an estimated 3.000 citizens unaccounted for in 90s count.

"We haven't finished a proposal," said City Manager Bill Stuart. "We thought we had one, but the census upped the population count by 3,000 and we realized that we could not go forward until we knew where those 3,000 were."

These 3,000 individuals may or may not affect the proposal, according to city planner Addie Todd. "If the Census Bureau tells us that 3,000 people were missed in the '90 census then we will have to redesign our proposal," she said, "but if it is a post-census estimate then we won't have to make any changes, unless wanted by the alderman." Officials said that they won't know until the Census Bureau responds.

Todd said that the last two realignments were not as difficult because the number of people who had to be accounted for was less.

"In previous realignments we've had to account for 2,000 or

(1) The North Ward (Alderman Nelson Malloy) and Southeast Ward (Alderman Larry Womble) continue to be vulnerable. The North Ward is currently 61 percent black and the Southeast is 43 percent black. Some aldermen fear that after the realignment, these wards could be lost to white Republican candidates. [A secure ward would reflect a domination of 70 percent of the population by African-Americans]

(2) The annexation of county areas brought in a large number of white voters who influenced the North, Northeast, Southeast and East wards, making most of them less dominated by African-Americans. With each realignment, city boundary lines are moving away from the Black East and more toward the 'White Wes.'

(3) Under the proposed alignment, the residents of Kimberly Park would be split between the would be able to vote within a few blocks of their homes, but those residents who would be split into the

(4) The ward realignment could shift power to the Republicans and end the current Democratic hegemony (control). Along with Democratic Mayor Martha Wood, the four black Democratic aldermen now enjoy a partisan advantage. Nancy Pleasants is a conservative Democrat.

(5) Mayor Martha Wood's vote could be a tie-breaker if the vote on ward alignment is split along par-

North and Northeast ward. Those voting at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center in the North Ward Northeast Ward would have to travel three miles to the Lowrance Middle School precinct to vote.

depending on the census update."

Director Jim Yarbrough, the Census Bureau never officially informed the city manager's office of those numbers.

day or Wednesday someone called Ms. Todd and asked what she thought about the 3,000 people the Census Bureau was adding to the city," he said. "Finally, Thursday or Friday she asked someone at the bureau to mail a copy of the news

Todd said that she could not contact the officials at the Census Bureau who made the decision. She said that some progress has been made and that she should find out later this week or next week exactly what's going on.

"We've been working on this present proposal for a couple of months," she added, "and if we have to make changes it will take at least another month."

City officials say five major issues surround the realignment

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3,000 people, but this time it could be anywhere from 7,000 to 10,000

According to Deputy Planning

"Sometime last week on Tues-

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Rivera

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"My full intention is that if I can arrest, I will, unless I'm told I can't. I have to follow my legal advice. We're not going to do something that creates a liability situation for the city."

Police studied photographs of demonstrators who carried a variety of clubs and shields. "If we can put a face to a name on a weapon, we'll go after it," Voelker said.

Police estimated there were 60 Klan members in town for the rally. About 130 anti-Klan demonstrators marched from the Rock County Courthouse toward Peterson's house while police tried to keep the two groups apart.

Insults were exchanged and fighting broke out, involving people who left Peterson's property.

"I think it's important that when the Klan is staging something, that we should go where they are and confront them," said march leader Paul Damato of Chicago, an orga-

nizer of the Midwest Network To Stop the Klan.

In all, 10 people were arrested, including Rivera. Charges against Klan supporters and marchers included disorderly conduct and

McLaughlin — a member of the America First group, a neo-Nazi organization based in Chicago said Monday that he only suffered a bruise around his left eye. "A lot of things Geraldo said are just off the wall," McLaughlin said. He denied calling Rivera "a dirty Jew."

McLaughlin said he would fight the disorderly conduct charge. He also said his only other arrest was about two months ago when he shot a black man in the leg who was breaking into a friend's car in Champaign. He said the man charged him with an object in his hand. Authorities declined to issue charges for the shooting, McLaugh-