

# Los Angeles Times

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## BELL'S MONEY FLOWED UPHILL

While top officials drew big checks, the city cut jobs and spending on police and other services.

KIM CHRISTENSEN, SCOTT GOLD AND HECTOR BECERRA

At the same time that top Bell officials were receiving some of the fattest municipal salaries in the nation, the city cut spending on police, social services and parks and recreation, according to interviews and records reviewed by The Times.

While City Manager Robert Rizzo was receiving more than \$700,000 a year, Rosario Torres was laid off from her \$9-an-hour job preparing children for kindergarten.

"They tell you they don't have the money to pay you, and you think 'OK, I understand, they just don't have the money,'" Torres said. "But I never imagined they were making so much money themselves. It's incredible."

The cuts underscore questions about how Bell handled its finances in recent years. City officials have defended Rizzo's high salary, saying his leadership allowed Bell to avoid many of the cuts and financial problems surrounding cities have faced amid the recession.

Rizzo told The Times earlier this month that Police Chief Randy Adams was brought in to turn around a department riddled with problems. The city had enough money to pay Adams \$457,000 a year, yet it had earlier reduced funding for officer training, such as quarterly sessions at the firing range.

Details of the cuts came from interviews and from [See Bell, A7]

### Salary fallout

Bell's mayor agrees to give up his pay, and council members agree to a 90% cut. **LATEXTRA, AA1**



Reuters

### SPILL CLEANUP IN CHINA

A worker collects oil over the weekend in the vicinity of the northeastern port of Dalian. Officials in the region said that the slick in coastal waters had been cleaned up 10 days after a pipeline explosion sent the crude into the Yellow Sea. But fouled beaches remained closed indefinitely. **WORLD, A3**

## War strategy in cross hairs after leaks

The disclosures add to doubts in Congress and pressure for a solution to the Afghanistan conflict.

DAVID S. CLOUD, KEN DILANIAN AND PAUL RICHTER REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON

The leaking of a trove of U.S. documents has put the Obama administration on the defensive about its Afghanistan policy and may deepen doubts in Congress about prospects for turning around the faltering war effort.

The documents made public late Sunday by the website WikiLeaks included dozens of new disclosures about Pakistani intelligence agencies' assistance to Afghan insurgents, corruption in the U.S.-backed Kabul government, and instances of U.S. troops accidentally killing civilians.

There were few bombshells in the reports, which were written by military and civilian officials in Afghanistan from 2004 to late 2009, during the George W. Bush administration and before President Obama ordered more than 30,000 additional troops to Afghanistan as part of a new strategy aimed

at turning around the war.

But the sheer volume of information and the focus on the conduct of the war were likely to embolden critics, increasing pressure on Obama to show results by the end of the year, when he has said he will review the strategy.

Most lawmakers reacted cautiously to the leaked documents. But members of Congress have increasingly questioned Obama's Afghanistan strategy in recent weeks, and a \$37-billion funding bill for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq has yet to pass.

Sen. Russ Feingold (D-Wis.), an opponent of Obama's decision to commit more troops last year, said the disclosures "make it clear that there is no military solution in Afghanistan."

Rep. Jane Harman, a Democrat from Venice who chairs a Homeland Security intelligence subcommittee, [See Leaks, A4]

### Karzai says up to 52 civilians slain

NATO denies the charge, asserting that instead it killed six militants on the battlefield. **WORLD, A5**

### Secretive mission

WikiLeaks group works under the radar to expose secrets. **WORLD, A4**

## Mexico no haven to U.S. fugitives

Those who flee south are increasingly caught by special police squads

RICHARD MAROSI REPORTING FROM MEXICALI, MEXICO

Jason Harrington, wanted on a battery charge in Alameda County, was caught after a chase across rooftops in the Baja California fishing village of San Felipe. Alleged child molester

Father Joseph Briceno of Phoenix was handcuffed amid a crowd of parishioners in Mexicali. Tony "The Big Homie" Rodriguez, a Mexican Mafia boss from Indio, hurled threats after being hauled off a street corner by Mexican police posing as junkyard dealers.

All three fugitives had a similar escape plan: Flee to

Baja California and leave their troubles at the border. But they ended up back in U.S. custody, as did hundreds of other fugitives in recent years, after being hunted down by Mexican fugitive-hunting squads.

Mexico, offering an anonymous existence in the disorder of the developing world, has long enticed the hunted.

About 1,000 U.S. fugitives wanted for crimes are believed to live in Mexico, according to federal estimates. Many are in resort areas such as Cancun or in border states such as Baja California.

But in recent years, Mexi-

can law enforcement agencies, even some rife with corruption — have stepped up their efforts to send fugitives back north. Fugitive deportations and extraditions from Mexico reached 299 last year, more than triple the number from 2003, according to the U.S. Marshals Service.

Among those captured this year was Eduardo Gilbert Nevarez, charged with slaying two people in Lynwood in 2001.

Law enforcement agencies in Mexico get mixed grades pursuing high-level, homegrown drug traffickers, but hustling after [See Fugitives, A8]



Los Angeles Times

**NO PROMISES:** Candidate Jerry Brown has made no real commitment to labor unions.

### CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS

## Brown's appeal to unions: He's not Whitman

MICHAEL J. MISHAK REPORTING FROM SACRAMENTO

The television ads seize on the millions of dollars organized labor is spending to help elect Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jerry Brown, warning that if he's victorious, he would be "their governor."

Labor leaders watching the spots, which are funded by billionaire GOP nominee Meg Whitman, should be so lucky.

Unions are indeed reaching deep into their pockets to help Brown, whose campaign needs the cash to compete with Whitman's personal fortune. But how much return they will get on their investment under a Brown governorship is unclear.

The last governor labor helped elect, Democrat Gray Davis, was a reliable champion of its agenda. Under Davis, state worker retirement packages and paychecks were fattened and a labor-backed bill that forced large corporations to provide healthcare for employees was signed into law.

But Brown's main appeal for labor may be that he is not Whitman.

"Whitman would be an absolute disaster," said Steve Smith, a spokesman for the California Labor Fed- [See Brown, A8]



ANNE CUSACK Los Angeles Times

**MISSING:** The Carabajal violin, named for the Indian who made it in 1798, was taken seven years ago from Mission San Antonio on California's Central Coast.

### COLUMN ONE

## Tribe's song and chance

Salinan Indians are hoping a tribal leader's music will summon home a stolen 2-century-old violin.

STEVE CHAWKINS REPORTING FROM JOLON, CALIF.

Jose Maria Carabajal was toiling for the friars at Mission San Antonio on California's Central Coast when he first heard the exalted strains of a violin.

His people — the Salinan Indians — had been making music for thousands of years, but he'd never heard anything like the sounds soaring from the priest's polished chunk of wood and gut.

Intrigued, Carabajal decided to make his own. The instrument he crafted in 1798 from bay laurel and other native woods was solid enough to last more than two centuries and sweet enough to build a reputation of its own.

The Carabajal, as it came to be known, was handed down through generations. It was played at fiestas and in saloons, at Masses and barn dances. Salinans came to see it as an important piece of their past. Scholars saw it as a rare artifact of the Mission era.

Now it's gone — stolen from an unlocked display case at the mission's tiny museum seven years ago.

"There's a lot of history here — and a lot of mystery," said John Warren, founder and leader of the New World Baroque Orchestra in Paso Robles. He isn't a Salinan but, at 70, he's worked with the tribe for years and is the longtime caretaker of the mission's ancient instruments.

In the early 1990s, Warren restored the Carabajal (pronounced car-ah-bah- [See Violin, A9])

### Cambodians say sentence too lenient

A former Khmer Rouge prison leader who presided over 14,000 deaths will serve a little more than half of his 35-year term. **WORLD, A5**

### An \$8.7-billion mystery in Iraq

The Pentagon can't account for a huge sum of oil revenue that was supposed to be used for reconstruction, an audit finds. **LATEXTRA, AA1**

### Work begins on giant wind farm

The project in Mojave, billed as the largest of its kind in the country, could eventually power 600,000 California homes. **BUSINESS, B1**

### Blood runs thick on this stage

Filmgoers may be used to gory violence, but at a play? "The Lieutenant of Inishmore" breaks new ground. **CALENDAR, D2**

### A Web of doubt

Hulu's dramatic ratings drop shows the difficulty of measuring online viewers. **BUSINESS, B1**



STEVEN SENNE Associated Press

### American set to take over BP

Robert W. Dudley, above, may have an edge over the oil company's exiting chief, Tony Hayward, in the public eye: strong ties to the Gulf Coast. **BUSINESS, B1**

World ..... A3  
 Nation ..... A6  
 California ..... AA3  
 Obituaries ..... AA7  
 Weather ..... AA8

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