iepartments di levels, tevery single

 clerk said. • The Day s we had 200 ning time." t-rate cards

People who r buy City of ple, I guess." nager. of his store's hough the tock was

iod right :hristmas

s there

all the glitter lighter We need itement. This nd times to ent. All the ces and tinsel lo it the done within a y strategy. n Oaks ions was full ip their leggoodies from i prevailed. At c zirconia, ted a pair of etically \$13.95 instead here were no

idness

serman, the colates, "it's pers are even looking for a bees

hose snaps, Christmas in ings, a young ving quietly. d hopes for iture arrival d out. She sprayed some her eyes. went to the t, they had to ole new ks and offices stmas crush

she has spoken to a new gocior, one who works exclusively with old people. The new doctor says that Erma's "symptoms" can be treated with a new drug therapy. A combination of analgesic drugs has been found that can alter the chemistry of the brain to bridge "psychotic breaks" like the one Erma is experiencing. Of course, Erma will have to be moved to a hospital during this treatment, where she will receive "continual observation" until her "condition" can be "stabilized."

redhead who turned 40 on her last birthday. She had been a dancer, an off-Broadway actress, a New York bartender and a Florida shopkeeper before she 'hurned out on the pursuit of fame and fortune.

She describes herself as having been "recycled" into a career working with old

"I reached a point where I knew I wasn't going to be young anymore, and Erma Henke listens to this with an what I wanted was something that made

underside of her chin with the fingers of both hands.

"A one, a two, a three ..."

Judith points in the other direction, toward a very old woman sitting alone in a straight-backed chair, leaning forward on a cane, beside the front door. The woman's hair is so thin it looks like a valver and a way that is beyond anything

Randi J. Ullivan / A-16, Col. 1

## One-man video warehouse held in theft.

## Beverly Hills police put \$500,000 worth of gear on display

By Paul Wilner Herald staff writer

A man who helped run a Beverly Hills television news service has been charged with grand theft for allegedly stealing more than \$500,000 in expensive video and photographic equipment, authorities said yesterday.

Sophisticated motion picture cameras, video equipment, electric typewriters and computers confiscated from the home of Ronald George Levin, 41, were on display at a news conference conducted by Beverly Hills police yesterday in the garage of that city's library.

Lt. William Hunt, a spokesman for the department, estimated the total value of the confiscated merchandise at "between \$500,000 and \$1 million.

Levin was arrested Friday on four counts of grand theft after an investigation of allegations that he had been "borrowing or buying video and photographic equipment and not returning or paying for it," Hunt said.

Levin had been "acquiring expensive video and photographic equipment to use in the production of a TV pilot film called 'The Reporter,'" Hunt said, adding that Levin had allegedly neither paid for nor returned the equipment.

Levin told authorities he was selfemployed at Network News Inc., on Camden Drive in Beverly Hills, an independent company that supplies free-lance news segments to TV stations.

His lawyers denied the grand theft

Basically, this is a case where merchants have attempted to use the police



Beverly Hills detectives inspect some of the allegedly stolen electronic equipment.

department as a collection agency," Regis-Possino, one of Levin's attorneys, said yesterday outside a bail reduction hearing before Beverly Hills Municipal Judge Andrew Weisz. "They have taken a private civil matter and created an aura of criminal wrongdoing, which does not

After criticizing what he called Levin's 'chutzpah," Weisz reduced the defendant's bail from \$250,000 to \$75,000. Levin is scheduled to be arraigned today.

Don Steier, another member of Levin's legal team, said Beverly Hills police allegedly confiscated "a lot of equipment" that was not covered by the search warrant from the defendant's home.

But police said the equipment had been confiscated in order to determine its

rightful owner.

"During the search of Mr. Levin's home, approximately half of the equipment was recovered," Hunt said. "Various pieces of expensive computer equipment were found during the search and were confiscated until ownership is determined.

"The investigation .. revealed information that Mr. Levin was intending to sell some or all of the equipment," he added. "This intent makes the actions of Mr. Levin a criminal offense.

Police said they embarked on the investigation after complaints from merchants, including the Panasonic Corp., the C.S.F. Manufacturing Co., RCA, and the Garden Photo Co. of Los Angeles, that Levin had allegedly taken their goods without payment.

the analysis of i the throttle of haven't given it

Another aspencroachment a 1968 federal v make it a crime foreign spy, law private citizen. computer traff around the nati

Three congr that computerwell constitute. major crime th considering wh rewritten to ref

Also, a Hous last month ope a definite Orwe Liberties and t The proceeding next spring, re government ac

These inclumake it easier require that fe sensitive infor tests, and expa authority to co The subcommi proposed restr Information A through litigat Department.

A final and Orwellian abu: Reagan's seem toward freedo

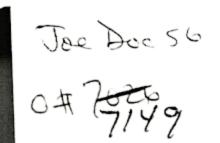
Reagan, wh in favor of suc forms of infor than the kind demonstrated which seems is conservative r

Lou Canno Reagan White observed, in re press from the and the threat to senior aides president "she who admire h consider the t prevail in the appropriate to country."

Last New Y dropped by a Mirage to exc the traveling

Instead of Year, Mr. Pre visit this Dec. for the press comment as

HERALD EXAMINER 12-28-83



047149