

Confederate Flag In SF Stirs Protest

SAN FRANCISCO — AP — Heated words are flying over a Confederate battle flag flapping at the city hall.

The flag, part of an exhibit of historical banners put on display was denounced as "a badge of slavery" by James Herndon, a member of the Negro American Labor Council and past president of the Negro Historical Cultural Society.

Mayor John F. Shelley also expressed distaste for the flag, although admitting he does not know what to do about it.

"Personally," said Shelley, "every time I see a Confederate flag it makes me feel it's used as a symbol for legalized sedition. It makes me shiver every time I see that flag flying."

Stanley Bergman, a member of the Sertoma Club which sponsored the exhibit, defended the flag on historical grounds.

"There are no political overtones to this," said Bergman. "All the flags come from the history of America and, whether we like it or not, the Confederacy was part of our history."