

THE SELMA JOURNAL DOUGLASS FREE PRESS

"... If there is no struggle there is no progress... Power concedes nothing without a demand."

Frederick
Douglass

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NEGRO YOUTHS BRUTALLY ASSAULTED UPON LEAVING SERVICE AT LOCAL TRADITIONALLY -WHITE CHURCH

It has been brought to the attention of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee that on October 4, 1964, six Negro youths ranging in age from thirteen to sixteen were attacked about a block away from the church of the Assumption upon leaving a mass there. They and other Catholics like them had attended the church before; they had been assaulted before by the same men who on the above date knocked one of the boys cold. One of the men later tried to run over the boy with a car. The boys felt perfectly justified in attending the church of their faith in this city of almost total segregation.

POLICE OFFICIALS DENY LEGAL RELIEF

The mother of the boy who was knocked out, went to the Selma police station to try to swear out a warrant for the arrest of the man who did it. Upon finding out that the man was white, the police refused to let the mother swear the warrant. After being kept waiting for several hours at police headquarters, the mother and son were lectured on the virtue of the separation of whites and blacks in Selma. The refusal to allow the mother to swear the warrant was even more unjustified, considering the fact that the youths felt that they could positively identify the man.

WHERE TO NOW

When a Negro citizen, or any citizen for that matter, is denied the protection of the law, where is he to turn? To the Federal Government? What would it do if it could? Can it do anything? These questions we cannot answer at present. It is very clear, however that we cannot live our lives in peace when hoodlums can attack us at will without fear of prosecution.

Politicians need votes; they run our government. They control the police power. REGISTER TO VOTE! They cannot ignore us then!

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ISSUES MEMORANDUM TO ALL ARMED SERVICES SECRETARIES ON PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF SERVICEMAN UNDER THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL

On July 13, 1964, the Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, issued a memorandum to Armed Services Secretaries making it clear that they are to take affirmative action to secure the rights of all servicemen under the Civil Rights Bill, 1964. Mr. McNamara called the Act "an immensely important and historical expression of the nations commitment to freedom and justice..."

PAY YOUR POLL TAX NOW

TO VOTE IN CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE ELECTIONS
DEADLINE, FEBRUARY 1st

QUESTION

Where am i
in our
history books

i built the
ark that
saved you
from the sun

and nursed
your babes
with black
milk laughter
everywhere

so where

am i

oh where
am i

TEARS OF DARKNESS

Alone
in my
lonely room
dark reindrops
fall

and bathe
this wretched
hemisphere
with caustic
tenderness

SHINNER MAN

A big man
God
With a big stick
Death

taught me how
to pray

BLACK I

A dark cloud
hovers over
my picnic
ground

PARABLE

To the gods
"I will not
pray
stay together"

please add
"in darkness"

REQUIEM

And life
a clock
a bleeding heart
does hear

for hope
sometimes
evades the
listening ear

and hate
and fear
the troubled
vessels
swirl

and death looks on

BLACK MAJESTY

A no-named nothing
all unknown
welks this earth
with me alone

White dreamer: is it santa claus
black i: could be

White preacher: holy trinity
black i: hardly

White thinker: destiny
black i: maboy

Black MAJESTY: or is it no
black i: well i'll be no!

ANSWER

There i am
behind the
plow

laughing

crying

sighing

dying

there am i

SUMMARY

So goes the story of
the man who never was

He is not who you
think he is nor is
he someone else and
never was

am i this man who
never was-a black man
god how could i creat
man

i do not know nor do
i understand how man
who never was a man-
made man

* Mr. Long has worked with S N C C in Selma, and is former staff coordinator for the organization.

JOIN THE FIGHT FOR DIGNITY - GIVE TIME AND MONEY TO:

The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, 31 1/2 Franklin Street, Selma, Alabama. Pledge your support for freedom and justice. Come by at any time or call 872-1426. The staff is at your service.

ONE MAN - ONE VOTE