

CORE - Congress of Racial Equality
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BIGGEST DEMONSTRATION FOR CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD

Newark, N.J., July 22, 1965---Newark's biggest demonstration for a police civilian review board took place on July 21 when some 3,000 persons marched through the downtown area to a rally at Military Park where CORE National Director James Farmer was chief speaker.

Farmer was under close police protection, since two days before the demonstration, an anonymous phone call to the Newark-Essex CORE office threatened that if he came to Newark "the trip would be his last one."

CORE's local campaign for a civilian review board was sparked by the fatal shooting on June 16 of Lester Long, Jr., a Negro, by Patrolman Henry Martinez. He was suspended for a week and then reinstated.

Marchers Protest Fatal Shooting in Brooklyn

Brooklyn, N.Y., July 22, 1965---In sweltering heat, 150 persons marched eight miles on July 17 to protest the fatal shooting of Nelson Erby, a Negro, by Sheldon Liebowitz, a rookie policeman. Sponsored by Brooklyn CORE, the march ended with picketing of New York police headquarters in Manhattan.

Brooklyn CORE, which made its own investigation, claims that Erby was known in the area as an eccentric and was kneeling in the street praying for rain when he was accosted by the policeman. Liebowitz shot himself accidentally and then shot Erby. The police version is that Erby attacked Liebowitz. A grand jury investigation is being conducted.

Vigil for Civilian Board

Pittsburgh, Pa., July 22, 1965---Daily silent vigils have been conducted at City Hall by Pittsburgh CORE since the fatal shooting of Leroy Scott, a Negro and the beating of his mother by two off-duty policemen. Chief aim of the vigils is appointment of a police civilian review board.

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Police first reported that Scott was shot by two patrolmen, but an autopsy disclosed that he had been shot by his own revolver, thus committing suicide. A policeman also was killed in the exchange of gunfire. After the shooting, two off-duty policemen entered the home of Scott's mother, beat her and placed her under arrest. She was released three hours later. Pittsburgh CORE conducted a protest march which ended with picketing of the Public Safety Building.

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