

DETROIT

Communists Assassinate Police

Gary Allen, a graduate of Stanford University and one of the nation's top authorities on civil turmoil and the New Left, is author of Communist Revolution In The Streets — a highly praised and definitive volume on revolutionary tactics and strategies, published by Western Islands. Mr. Allen, a former instructor of both history and English, is active in anti-Communist and other humanitarian causes. Now a film writer, author, and journalist, he is a Contributing Editor to AMERICAN OPINION. Mr. Allen is also nationally celebrated as a lecturer.

■ AT 11:40 p.m. on March 29, 1969, the Detroit police officers assigned to Scout Car 10-5 were Patrolman Michael Czapski, age twenty-two, and Officer Richard Worobec, age twenty-eight. In less than half an hour they would have been off duty. The temperature was in the low twenties that night, and the wind-whipped streets of Detroit's west side were nearly deserted. Suddenly, as Car 10-5 cruised north on Linwood Avenue, Officers Czapski and Worobec spotted a dozen Negro men dressed in military uniforms and carrying rifles. Something serious was happening. Something very serious.

The first word of trouble broke into the static of the police communication system at 11:42 p.m. as a gravely worried Officer Worobec radioed: "We got guys with rifles out here! Linwood and Euclid!!" The police officers stopped their car and moved out quickly to investigate.

The dozen fast-moving guerrillas were dressed in green military fatigues with

leopard-skin epaulets. One lagged behind the others as they moved away from the policemen. Officer Czapski, a rookie with only a few months' service, called out: "Wait just a minute!"

In a reflex action, the rear guard of the guerrilla patrol whirled around and opened fire on Czapski, who fell fatally wounded. Patrolman Michael Czapski, his body now methodically pumped with seven bullets, had never even unbuttoned his holster.

Almost simultaneously the uniformed guerrillas also directed their weapons at Worobec. Although critically wounded, and under constant fire, he managed to reach the squad car. A tape recording of the police radio calls picked up Worobec's plea for assistance at 11:43 p.m. as slugs ripped into his body. I have heard that recording, the pathetic "Help, help... agh... oh," as this father of two was gunned down in the street. Behind the voice is the unmistakable crackling of gunfire.

Patrolman Richard Worobec managed to escape death at the hands of the terrorists only by reaching up as he lay on the floor of the car, putting the vehicle in gear, and depressing the throttle with his hand. The scout car careened down the street until it smashed into a light pole. It is impossible to tell how many shots were fired at Worobec as he attempted to reach safety. There were thirteen bullet holes in the body of the scout car, but the windows were largely shot away and there is thus no means to determine how many other shots were fired through the police vehicle in an effort to kill him.

The dozen soldiers, members of the

Black Legion of the army of the Republic of New Africa — geopolitical arm of the Communist Revolutionary Action Movement — withdrew into the New Bethel Baptist Church where the Communist R.N.A. was holding its second annual meeting. The Black Legionnaires had just escorted the evening's featured speaker, R.N.A. Vice President Milton Henry (alias Brother Gaidi), to his white Cadillac when Officers Worobec and Czapski had spotted them.

Within minutes, supporting scout cars arrived on the scene and brother officers removed the body of Czapski and the wounded Worobec from the area while under fire from the revolutionaries inside the church. A ranking officer at the scene risked his life repeatedly to pound on the locked door of the church and demand entry. The only answer received was gunfire.

Finally the officers broke into the darkened, barricaded building. They immediately found themselves fired upon from the center of the altar by a rifleman who dove for cover behind an overturned table near the pulpit. Gunfire was being directed at the officers from all over the church. One sniper blasted away from a loft. When the police returned his fire, the sniper (David Brown of Compton, California) dropped an automatic rifle loaded with six shells and tumbled unhurt to the floor.

Other officers now worked their way into the church fortress, an old movie theater converted with federal funds, and managed to turn on the lights. A twenty-minute gun battle was now over.

The revolutionaries were ordered to stand with hands up. Slowly the Comrades of R.N.A. began to rise as directed. One hundred forty-two adults and five juveniles were in the building. The majority, both men and women, were wearing the paramilitary uniforms and black berets of the Communist Republic of New Africa. When police officers requested information about the slaying

and ambush, they were met with stony silence. So tight was Party discipline that not one of the 147 Comrades present offered assistance or cooperation.

Nine guns and a large quantity of ammunition were found stored in the hymnal racks, along with a cache of narcotics. Four of the militant revolutionaries were slightly wounded in the battle. One was from Brooklyn, another from Chicago, and a third had previously been arrested for attempted murder of two Detroit policemen whose patrol car was machine-gunned during the Detroit riots last April.

All 142 adults found in the building were arrested. This because the police had to break into the church, which was harboring the assassins; because they were fired upon out of the dark after they entered; because many members of the crowd were wearing uniforms identical to those worn by the assassins; because no aid was given to the officers once they secured the church; because weapons and drugs were found in the church; and, because of serious concern about further neighborhood disturbances if the assembled revolutionaries were not temporarily detained.

Police busses hauled the prisoners to the jail where arrangements were immediately made for detectives to process them as quickly as possible. Off-duty officers were brought in to assist in expediting the booking, fingerprinting, and other processing procedures. The revolutionaries were taken into the garage on the ground floor of police headquarters, and from there were sent in small groups to the police laboratory where nitrate tests were conducted to find traces of gunpowder. They were then taken to the Robbery (Breaking and Entering) Bureau for fingerprinting and identification. From there the prisoners were sent to the ninth floor, where they were registered for arrest.

Meanwhile, Leftist State Representative James Del Rio and the radical pastor



Handcuffed, but giving Communist clenched-fist salute, captured R.N.A. guerrillas remain defiant.

of the New Bethel Church, the Reverend C.L. Franklin, telephoned Detroit Recorder's Court Judge George W. Crockett and informed him that the Comrades were being held at the police station. Crockett did not wait until the next morning to open his court. He got out of bed in the middle of the night and arrived at the police station at 5:30 a.m., announcing that he was going to set up a makeshift courtroom at the scene.

There were still a number of patrolmen who had not completed their preliminary reports, having not arrived from the scene of the murder. Of the 142 persons arrested, only forty-two had been completely processed. The detectives were working as quickly as possible, but many of the prisoners were from out of state and the police were attempting to ascertain how many of them were wanted on other charges.

Within fifteen minutes of his arrival, however, Judge Crockett had ordered the Police Department to stop everything and produce the captured revolutionaries before his makeshift court in the

Licensing Bureau of the police station. As the prisoners entered the "courtroom," they exchanged greetings with State Representative Del Rio, and Judge Crockett began releasing prisoners on writs of *habeas corpus*, which he wrote out himself in longhand on plain sheets of paper as each appeared before him. Police only learned the names of some of the more uncooperative militants as they appeared before the Judge to be released.

By the time Wayne County Prosecutor William L. Cahalan arrived on the scene, Judge Crockett had already freed fifteen prisoners.

At this time, no court recorder was present in the "courtroom" and the Press was not allowed entry. When Prosecutor Cahalan arrived on the scene, however, he and Del Rio and Crockett left the room for a private conference. Only when they returned were newsmen allowed to be present at the Kangaroo proceedings.

As Judge Crockett's incredible charade continued, policemen standing guard were jeered by the guerrillas, who were anticipating immediate release. Remarks

such as, "We'll only be here a short time, Whitey" were directed at the officers by sneering, uniformed Comrades who delivered the Communists' clenched-fist salute for photographers. As the tension mounted, chief of the Communist R.N.A. Milton Henry burst through the side door of the building, flanked by two bodyguards, and pushed past the police to the prisoners. Comrade Henry conferred with the Judge and Del Rio, then left.

When a prisoner identified as James Wheeler was brought before Judge Crockett, Prosecutor Cahalan asked that



Officer Michael Czapski, killed by Red guerrillas.

he be held. As Judge Crockett ordered the release of the prisoner on his own promise to appear in court at noon, a furious Cahalan directed the police to detain Wheeler. "Your Honor," he declared, "we haven't had a chance to check this man's record." Crockett snapped back: "Do you want to appear before me this afternoon on a charge of contempt? I ordered that man released!"

"Who has served the writ of *habeas corpus* for this man to appear before you?" demanded Cahalan.

"I have the writ here," the Judge replied acidly, "and when I get the names of all the prisoners the writ will be executed."

Crockett then asked Prosecutor Cahalan if he wanted to bring in the next prisoner. When the Prosecutor replied in the negative, the Judge ordered him to show cause why he should not be cited for contempt and ordered his re-appearance at noon. Thereupon Judge Crockett declared the hearing terminated and stormed out of the building.

Two of those released by the Judge had been given nitrate tests which showed they had recently fired guns, and others had not yet even been fingerprinted. As it turned out, a number of those arrested were out on bond for earlier shootings or hold-ups.

The remaining prisoners were now taken to the ninth floor of police headquarters where they were held until the hearing at noon in Judge Crockett's courtroom. Prosecutor Cahalan refused to appear at the noon hearing in Recorder's Court, but Crockett did not proceed with the contempt citation — although he whined that Cahalan's absence was "a personal affront" with "racial overtones."

Replacing Cahalan was Assistant Prosecutor Jay Nolan, who asked that eight prisoners be held for twenty-four hours while the Homicide Bureau developed its investigation of the bloody ambush.* Only two of the eight were held — the man who was in the loft, and another who had been captured with a can of Mace. The two were held on charges which had nothing to do with the killing of Officer Czapski and the attempted murder of Officer Worobec.

Six men — the nitrate tests on five of

*Homicide detectives had not even had a chance to go out and view the scene of the shooting, nor had they had a chance to take the guns that had been confiscated from the church and match them ballistically with bullets removed from the police car and the bodies of the dead and wounded officers.

whom showed gunpowder on their hands — were given an outright release. All but one were from out of state. Crockett held that it was a violation of the prisoners' Constitutional rights to give them a nitrate test before they were provided with an attorney. In doing so, Judge Crockett was making law, not interpreting it. Nitrate tests, like fingerprinting, are a part of booking, and an attorney has been required to be present only during interrogation. But, even if Crockett's absolutely unprecedented ruling on nitrate tests were perfectly in order, it was still not justification for the release of murder suspects. Cahalan quoted a January 1968 decision of a Federal Court of Appeals which held that a judge's only power in restricting police during an "illegal" investigation is to refuse to accept the evidence illegally obtained.

Crockett's actions were, to put it mildly, highly irregular. Setting up court in the police station, for example, is unprecedented. Even Crockett admitted he could not immediately recall another such case, but said he was "sure the law allowed me to do this." Judge Crockett claimed that his court was wherever he happened to be — even though a decision of the Michigan Supreme Court had ruled against just such hearings, noting that "the court is not ubiquitous." Prosecutor Cahalan also cited a ruling of the Michigan Supreme Court that a Recorder's Court Judge is not empowered to issue a writ of *habeas corpus*. "If the white judge's law in Alabama must be obeyed," answered the racist Crockett, "then a Negro judge's law in Detroit also must be obeyed."

The *Detroit News* noted of the instant writs to free the revolutionaries:

There is serious doubt... that his [Crockett's] use of the principle of habeas corpus in the hasty freeing of prisoners following the shootout was proper. "Michigan

law requires — does not suggest but requires — that any judge who refused to consider a motion for habeas corpus is guilty of malfeasance," he said in his news conference yesterday.

However, it appears to have been Crockett himself who originated the writ of habeas corpus — assuming there was a real writ. If a writ was issued upon his motion, how does he square that action with Michigan Court Rules Annotated by Honigman and Hawkins,



Thirteen bullet holes tell of the guerrilla ambush.

which states: "Judges of the municipal courts of record, the Common Pleas Court or the Recorder's Court may, within their respective jurisdictions, issue writs of habeas corpus upon proper application, but are not empowered to do so of their own motion."

Crockett states that he initiated writs of habeas corpus "on information from [State Representative James] Del Rio and C.L. Franklin," pastor of the New Bethel Church,



Comrades of R.N.A. link hands after being freed.

But Wayne County Prosecutor William L. Cahalan has said: "No one saw the writ. Crockett had a piece of paper on his desk which was not in the usual form of a writ. The writ was never served."

What kind of man would go to such extraordinary lengths to free a murderer or murderers and their paramilitary accomplices who had just been involved in the killing of a policeman in cold blood and fought two pitched gun battles with officers?

George W. Crockett Jr. is indeed an extraordinary man. In a highly favorable feature article, the *Detroit Free Press* informs us that after graduating from law school in 1934, Crockett spent five years with the U.S. Department of Labor and the federal Fair Employment Practices Commission. In 1944, he went to Detroit at the invitation of R.J. Thomas, then President of the United Auto Workers, to work as a consultant on race relations with that union. The *Free Press* says:

At the U.A.W. he met Maurice Sugar, one of the legendary characters of the American labor movement. Sugar was to have a great influence on Crockett's beliefs. America's first full-time partisan labor lawyer, he was chief counsel for the U.A.W. from 1937 to 1948.

The *Detroit Free Press* doesn't do justice to the "legendary" Mr. Sugar, the man who was to have "a great influence on Crockett's beliefs." Benjamin Gitlow, the former General Secretary of the Communist Party who repented and exposed the Conspiracy, knew Sugar well. In his book *The Whole Of Their Lives*, Gitlow writes:

Maurice Sugar, an outstanding labor attorney, is the public figure of Detroit's communist brain trust. Maurice Sugar has also been in Russia. For years, he was the chief counsel of the International Labor Defense, the communists' legal defense organization. He operates a legal mill in his spacious offices at the Barlum Towers, where promising communist lawyers learn how to utilize labor laws and the courts in the application of communist strategy. Sugar's office handles much of the legal business of Detroit's labor unions, thereby giving the communists access to important and confidential union matters and legal supervision of their negotiations with the employers.

Sugar is an old Party member, whose communist affiliation was a carefully guarded secret for many years. He had an automobile worker arrested on criminal libel charges, because he had distributed a leaflet which charged that Sugar was a communist. The worker won a verdict of "not guilty" because it was proven in court, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that Sugar was

a communist. Sugar is always consulted on Detroit matters by the top communist party officials. Parading as an impartial, pro-labor attorney, Sugar sought to be elected a Recorder's Judge, with the backing he received from the C.I.O. and A.F. of L. unions.

Comrade Sugar made Crockett a partner in his law firm for "promising communist lawyers," and while Sugar was never elected to the Recorder's Criminal Court, his protégé George Crockett was elected — with predictable results.

Soon after joining Maurice Sugar's law firm, Crockett went to work for the Communist Party, serving as chief defense attorney for eleven top Party officials who were charged in 1949 under the Smith Act with being Communist operatives. Actually, Crockett was fronting for Comrade Sugar, who was disbarred from practicing before a federal court because of having served a jail term for refusing to fight in World War I. During the trial, Sugar sat at the defense table whispering instructions to Crockett.

Obviously the Communists would not have chosen a lawyer to defend them in whom they did not have complete and absolute trust. Since Sugar's office was a communications center for Communist activities, no one who was not "trust-worthy" was even allowed to work in that office, let alone become a partner. The *Daily Worker* of January 29, 1950, tells us of Crockett's reaction at being "selected" to defend the Communists:

The Communist Party, greatest champion of Negro rights, doesn't have to take their hats off to anyone when it comes to fighting on that issue, and, naturally, it would select a Negro attorney.

I was highly honored.

At the trial, Judge Harold Medina cited Crockett for "one of the most vile and

contemptuous displays ever to take place in a courtroom." Crockett served four months in the federal reformatory at Ashland, Kentucky, for contempt of Medina's court.

Following the conviction of the eleven top Reds, the Communist Party continued to spotlight Crockett. A Red Front organization calling itself the National Non-Partisan Committee even published a monograph titled "Freedom Is Everybody's Job!" — with a photograph of George Crockett on the cover. The booklet contained a summation of Crockett's ringing defense of the Communist Party. The Comrades must have guffawed when they titled that Front a "Non-Partisan Committee." Its address was given as 23 West 26th Street, New York City — Communist Party headquarters.

Comrade Crockett's summation was even more preposterous than the current Mao-think. He actually contended that it is simply a capitalist, imperialist lie that the Communists exploit the Negroes for Communist ends. Actually, Crockett



Communist agent George Crockett freed Reds.

maintained, the Negro is duping and exploiting the naive Communists:

So far as the Communist Party is concerned it is probably more accurate to say that Negroes have used the Communist Party. It is the one party in which they feel free to speak and to act like Americans. It is the only party that seemingly cares about the plight of Negroes in this country.

Crockett's closing arguments were widely quoted in the Communist Press. After all, he told the jury:

... The Communist Party is in truth and in fact the conscience of America. America needs this party of protest. Get rid of it and I promise you there will be another party to take its place. America just can't live without a conscience.

George Crockett has also helped the Communist Party to raise funds. The *Daily Worker* of February 3, 1949, carries a large advertisement for a rally in New York City to support the Communists then on trial, featuring such Comrades as Paul Robeson, Pete Seeger, Dr. Annette Rubinstein, and George Crockett. On November 11, 1949, according to the *Daily Worker*, Crockett and "noted labor attorney" Maurice Sugar appeared for the Civil Rights Congress in Chicago. The Civil Rights Congress is officially cited by the federal government as a Communist Front. In another advertisement for a meeting in Chicago on December 11, 1949, the *Worker* proclaimed: "11 men sentenced 53 years in jail, \$110,000 in fines for 'thinking.' " The program, we are told, featured "Gil Green — One of the '11,' State Chairman, Communist Party of Illinois; George W. Crockett — Lawyer for the Defense, Sentenced to 4 months for 'contempt'; [and] Claude Lightfoot — Executive Secretary, Com-

munist Party of Illinois." The program was presented under the auspices of the "Communist Party of Illinois, 208 N. Wells Street, Chicago."

According to the *Daily Worker* of April 24, 1952, George Crockett "told how up to that time he had met only one Communist [sic], but that as time went on he met many more and never met such sincere people."

On September 21, 1952, the *Communist Worker* announced that "George W. Crockett, Jr., prominent Negro civil rights attorney" would be the featured speaker at a rally promoted by the Midwest Committee for Protection of the Foreign Born, one of the most long-established Communist Fronts in America. Crockett, according to the organization's letterhead, was a sponsor of that officially cited Communist Committee.

After the Smith Act trials, of course, George Crockett continued to defend Communists. The *Detroit Free Press* relates:

In 1952, too, the undaunted Crockett was legal counsel before the House Un-American Activities Committee for three Detroiters accused of being communists, among them Coleman Young, now a state senator.

"Crockett has defended scores of top Communists since the 1950's," says the Chicago Tribune of April 2, 1969.

George Crockett has even served as Vice President of the National Lawyers Guild, described in the federal government's *Guide To Subversive Organizations* as the "foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party," which "since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents." Judge Crockett displays the official flag of the Communist National Lawyers Guild in his court-

room. In fact, twelve members of the law firm of Goodman, Crockett, Eden, Robb and Philo are members of the Communist National Lawyers Guild and are so listed in its official directory.* There are, in fact, only four members of the National Lawyers Guild in Michigan who are *not* law partners of Crockett, and the senior partner in the firm (Ernest Goodman) has served as National President of that Communist Front.

Judge Crockett is very busy doing all sorts of little things for Communists. On December 9, 1960, for example, he addressed the Global Books Forum, a Red Front headed by avowed Communist Helen Winter, whose husband was Chairman of the Communist Party of Michigan. Comrade Crockett's subject? Believe it or not, it was: "My visit to the Soviet Union." Crockett regaled the assembly with a glowing description of the Soviet system of "justice." For some reason he did not mention the Siberian slave camps.

Yes, George Crockett not only frees Communist assassins, but he does things like chairing a meeting at the Detroit Central Methodist Church on February 20, 1965. We know that was an important meeting because it was highly publicized in the *Communist Worker*. The featured speaker was none other than Herbert Aptheker, top official theoretician of the Communist Party, U.S.A. Crockett said it was a great privilege for him to introduce Aptheker, his friend for sixteen years. He has many such friends. According to the *Congressional Record* of February 3, 1965:

In 1962, Crockett went to Mexico where he associated with individuals known as among the more active members of the American Communist group there. In 1964, Crockett was registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act as an agent of the Cuban Communist Government of Fidel Castro.



Comrade Milton Henry, of the Communist R.N.A.

This makes George Crockett, by definition, a Communist agent, a fact sadly neglected by the Detroit newspapers. The *Detroit Free Press*, for example, prefers to tell us that:

In 1963, Crockett was among six Michigan attorneys invited to confer at the White House with President Kennedy and then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy on civil rights problems

"In 1964," the *Free Press* adds, "Crockett organized a group of 66 attorneys to travel to Mississippi in a National Lawyers Guild project" Unfortunately, the *Free Press* did not consider it important to tell its readers that the National Lawyers Guild is a Communist Front officially cited by the federal government as "the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party."

*One of the members of the Lawyers Guild in Crockett's firm is Claudia Shropshire, who was running the neighborhood legal services for the O.E.O. when the Detroit riots occurred.

Okay. Does Communist agent George Crockett pay dues to the Communist Party?

What difference does it make to Detroit's policemen?

The man who was recruited by top Communist Party official Maurice Sugar has never been publicly identified as a Party member, but he has assiduously avoided the opportunity to deny his membership before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In fact, in U.S. hearings on "Communist Political Subversion," an identified Communist took the Fifth Amendment concerning the question of his association in the Communist Party with George W. Crockett Jr. On Page 6530 of that government document we read the testimony of Stanley Nowak (accompanied by counsel George W. Crockett Jr.) who had been established under oath to be a member of the Communist Conspiracy:

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Nowak, do you know your counsel in any capacity other than the capacity of attorney and client?

Mr. NOWAK. Yes . . .

Mr. ARENS. Did you ever serve in the Communist Party with him? (The witness confers with his counsel.)

Mr. NOWAK. First of all, this is an improper question.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that the witness be ordered and directed to answer the question.

Mr. FRAZIER. You are directed to answer the question.

Mr. NOWAK. Mr. Chairman, may I again say this is an improper question and that is why I refuse to answer improper questions on the grounds of the fifth amendment.

Question: How does an official Communist agent become a judge in one of America's largest cities?

Answer: With the overt and covert aid of the Liberal Establishment.

Prior to 1965, the Detroit Bar Association sent ballots to local attorneys to rate candidates for the bench as "well-qualified," or "qualified," or "poorly qualified." Detroit voters came to put their trust in the Bar Association's recommendations. But in 1966, the year Crockett ran for Judge of the Recorder's Court, the system was altered and the job of making recommendations was turned over to a small committee. That committee, dominated by "Liberals," certified a Communist agent who had served a four months' prison sentence for contempt of court as being "highly qualified."

The papers repeated the recommendation without telling the public that the ground rules for the Bar Association's recommendations had been changed. Detroit's Press neglected to inform the citizenry of Communist agent Crockett's background, and Detroit's policemen must now pay the price.

While some local labor leaders, letting the media do their work for them, remained silent about Crockett, others championed the Communist agent's cause. The Communist Worker of October 30, 1966, headlined an article, "Unionists in Detroit Campaign for Crockett," which assured the Comrades:

Close to 100 top and local leaders of the AFL-CIO and the Teamsters Union have issued a leaflet titled, "Trade Unionists Endorse George Crockett for Recorder's Court Judge (280) Nov. 8."

Thousands of these leaflets are being passed out at union halls, plant gates and construction projects.

Naturally Comrade Crockett has been a storm center ever since he donned the judicial robes. According to the *Detroit News*, "In a host of other episodes, Crockett has been accused of being soft on criminals, of browbeating policemen and prosecution

witnesses in his courtroom, and of stretching the law to the advantage of the accused, and the disadvantage of the forces of law and order." The racist Judge Crockett says he believes his maneuvers are justified, maintaining: "I think black judges have an obligation to pore through the law books to find new remedies for the ailments of their people."

The *Detroit News* adds, "Crockett enjoys experimenting with the law and finding new uses for it. In the process he upsets the traditionalists, those who prefer the *status quo*." One of Detroit's other judges is more direct. He says, "Crockett has instilled in the mind of the thug and the con man and the pimp on the street corner a sort of security. He's given them *carte blanche*." Yet another Detroit jurist is quoted by the *Detroit News* as declaring of Judge Crockett: "He has developed such prejudice against the police that he doesn't belong on the Recorder's (criminal) Court bench."

Far too typical of George Crockett's bizarre decisions was his meting out a reduced sentence to a young hoodlum who beat an elderly man to death. Crockett's reasoning was that the victim wouldn't have died from the beating if he had not been old.

Probably the most notorious of the Crockett decisions prior to the Linwood shooting was the Tyler case. Lloyd Tyler tied up the owner of a jewelry store, dragged a female employee into the street with a gun at her head, and then dropped the girl and stole a police car. In a chase that followed, Tyler fired eighteen shots at pursuing officers. Though four times a convicted felon, Lloyd Tyler was released by Judge Crockett and ordered to seek treatment at the federal narcotics sanatorium at Lexington, Kentucky. The Judge explained that Tyler was a victim of "irresistible urges" since he is a drug addict. The criminal was then sent to Lexington without escort, failed to qualify for admission, and returned to Detroit.

Judge Crockett's "controversial"

handling of the Bethel Church assassination has drawn both angry fire and, fantastically, glowing praise. Carl Parsell, President of the Detroit Police Officers Association, accused Crockett of giving "people a free license to shoot policemen . . . without fear of punishment." Parsell said, "Feeling is running extremely high with the men [officers], and it will run high in the community when citizens view the weekend justice we have just witnessed."

Many citizens of Detroit came to the support of their local police, accusing Judge Crockett of making a mockery of the law. A number of upstate politicians called for an investigation of Crockett by the state's Judicial Tenure Commission, which has the authority to fire or retire a judge for physical, mental, or emotional disability and misconduct. "If you want the facts, go to the funeral parlor and look at the facts . . . seven bullet holes," State Senator Robert Huber told Coleman Young who was trying to block the investigation of Crockett. State Senator Young, an identified Communist, is a former client of Crockett's.*

On the Monday following the assassination, the wives of three hundred police officers picketed Judge Crockett. And, representing the wives, Mrs. Patricia Fisher presented a petition to U.S. Attorney Robert Grace to demand a federal investigation of Crockett and of Detroit's city administration. The petition charged that Crockett had "conspired with known revolutionaries, people that advocate the overthrow of our government." It said that the outright murder of our police must stop, and argued that the release of the arrested persons before a proper investigation was completed is a miscarriage of justice. Detroit's Congressmen,

*Comrade Young, Democratic National Committeeman from Michigan, was cited before the House Committee on Un-American Activities as one of the "leading Negro Communists in the United States." State Representative James Del Rio quotes Young as having told him: "I'm the top Communist in Michigan."

who scream for a federal investigation every time there is a charge of police brutality, fell all over themselves denying the need for a federal inquiry of this matter — despite the fact that avowed revolutionaries crossed state lines to attend the R.N.A. convention of this geopolitical arm of the Communist Revolutionary Action Movement.

Approximately 150 policemen also picketed the Livernois Police Station, the precinct in which the fatal gun battle occurred. A Negro officer on duty at the Station assessed the need for picketing this way: "The color the black militants hate is blue. That's the color of a police uniform. They didn't care if he's black or white. All they care about is that he's a cop."

Such indignation against Comrade Crockett was quite understandable; what was incredible to many Detroiters was the fantastic amount of support for Crockett which was soon drummed up by the Communists and their allies and dupes. The *Detroit Free Press* for April 5, 1969, carried the headline: "Hundreds Demonstrate in Support of Crockett." The *Free Press* tells it this way:

Throngs of people, black and white, surged through downtown Detroit Thursday in a mass demonstration of support for Recorder's Court Judge George W. Crockett, Jr. . . .

The demonstration in support of Crockett was swelled by public school teen-agers, some of whom earlier attended a rally at Wayne State University to protest the Vietnam War and commemorate, a day early, the anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The *Detroit News* informs us that a group known as Black United Front (B.U.F.), which claims the support of forty militant organizations, was leading

the picketing with signs reading "At Last, Here Come The Judge," and "Say It Loud, Of Crockett We're Proud." The Chairman of B.U.F., Dan Aldridge, said the group was formed "to bring all forces in the black community under one banner." He didn't say what banner.

Aldridge is a writer for the local Negro newspaper, *The Michigan Chronicle*, and a member of the national staff of the Communist Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (S.N.C.C.). Comrade Aldridge is an employee of the city of Detroit, a member of the Detroit Commission on Children and Youth. Of course, Detroit's ultra-Liberal Mayor Jerome Cavanaugh has explained that Aldridge's "personal [revolutionary] political philosophy" has no bearing on his city employment.

Here is an excerpt from the B.U.F. statement in support of Crockett:

We are not involving ourselves now in a discussion about who fired the first shot Saturday night. We are concerned with the inexcusable conduct of a police force . . .

We don't intend to stand by and allow . . . the willful destruction of property for which black people have given their life blood to attain.

It was not immediately ascertainable whether Aldridge's reference to property referred to the cache of guns, ammunition, and narcotics which were confiscated or to the church fortress which was built with federal funds.

Attending the B.U.F. demonstration was Congressman John Conyers, like Crockett a member of the Communist National Lawyers Guild.* Also making a

*Conyers was, in fact, a member of the National Executive Board of the Communist N.L.G. So important is he to the revolutionaries that in 1965 he was the keynote speaker at a banquet for the Communist Southern Conference Educational Fund. He has often contributed to *Labor Today*, cited by J. Edgar Hoover as a propaganda organ of the Communist Party.

statement for the Press was a man identified as Ebony Lamumba. Mr. Lamumba introduced himself as the Minister of Information for the Detroit consulate of the Communist Republic of New Africa. Assisting Lamumba were two men dressed in the military uniform of the terrorist Black Legion.

Support for Crockett also came openly from other top leadership of the Communist Republic of New Africa. On Sunday, April 6, 1969, the following advertisement appeared in the "Personals" section of the *Detroit News*:

God bless you George. We thank you for your aid and encouragement last Sunday morning. We all love you. Brothers Richard and Milton [Henry].

Curiously, the *Free Press* says of Judge Crockett: "In the Negro community of which he is a part, he seems to be more popular than ever before, widely viewed as the black man's most eloquent spokesman inside the halls of justice." The *Detroit News* observed that "Crockett is looked up to by most elements of the black community as their hero of the moment." But the *News* noted:

Unfortunately, there is also a sad failure on the part of local Negro leaders to express what so many responsible but lesser known black citizens feel about this case . . .

They feel no kinship with Robert Williams, the organization's (R.N.A.) president, a fugitive believed to be hiding out in Red China . . . Still, the public statements by blacks have been coming largely from R.N.A. leaders themselves or from leaders who obviously don't want to offend the radicals. Milton R. Henry, vice-president of R.N.A., declares that the real issue is the "assault" upon black women and

children in a Christian church. "I don't think the emphasis should be placed on one white officer who was killed. That is nonsensical."

Where is the local black leader who will point out that no women or children would have been involved if armed radicals had not retreated from the street into their midst, deliberately involving them?

Where is the black leader who will criticize Crockett's haste?

The answer is that the majority have now been intimidated by the Communist terrorists among them, just as were the majority of Moslems in Algeria before the Communist takeover there. But white "Liberals" support the militant black revolutionaries instead of coming to the aid of the majority of Detroit Negroes who are now trapped in terror. For example, the *Detroit News* of April 4, 1969, carried the headline, "Crockett Wins Support of 4 Lawyer Groups." These groups declared that Crockett "is presumed to have acted in good faith and in accordance with the law and his obligation as a judge, and his decision is entitled to be respected."

Crockett was also praised by Max Fisher, chairman of New Detroit, a private "anti-poverty" agency through which money from big business is being funneled to Black Nationalists. Fisher praised Crockett's "very good judgment" in freeing the prisoners arrested in the "Linwood incident." After he freed the murder suspects, the Detroit Chapter of the A.D.A. even gave Crockett an award "for outstanding community service." Other white "Liberals" who did not vocally support Crockett were apparently struck with a sudden case of laryngitis, for none has dared to criticize his freeing of the assassins.

The Left wasted no time in attacking the local police, however, attempting to shift the blame away from the black Reds. The "Reverend" Ralph Abernathy of the

Communist-staffed Southern Christian Leadership Conference flew into town to assail the police for "trampling in God's holy temple," and said the "invasion" of the church violated all Constitutional and religious traditions of the nation. With Abernathy when he made his statement were representatives of the Detroit Council of Churches, the Detroit Presbytery, and the Interfaith Action Council.

Ralph Abernathy even called for segregation of the police, declaring: "Since Negroes live in the ghetto, they should have control over the ghetto." This is, of course, a chief objective of the Black Panthers and other Communist groups who believe that "Negro control" will mean control by the militants. Abernathy, always the racist, contended that police in Negro neighborhoods should be black, inspectors should be black, and the police commissioner should be black. According to the *Detroit News*, he then announced that "he was unfamiliar with the program of the R.N.A. but said that, though its tactics were different, its goals of equality and peace were the same" as those of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Abernathy had come to Detroit because S.C.L.C.'s man in the Motor City is the Reverend C.L. Franklin, who had turned his church over to the revolutionaries of the Communist R.N.A. Franklin told the Press, "I'd rent the church again to the same group if I'm assured they don't have guns." And, he continued, "I do not denounce these people. Their goals are the same as ours, only they approach them from different directions."

The "Reverend" Franklin it was who got Crockett out of bed to go free the Comrades. He is the father of singer Aretha Franklin, whose rendition of the *Star Spangled Banner* in "soul" style at the Democratic National Convention left millions uncharmed . . .

The Communists and their sympathizers have attempted to claim that the police fired first, ignoring the facts that

neither officer even unbuttoned his holster before the shooting started, and that Czapski was dead before he could so much as touch his gun. Police investigating the scene found glass broken out (not in) from the windows where militants fired upon police coming to the aid of Officer Worobec. Also, the curb was chipped from the many rounds fired from inside the church.

Police knew the assassins had fled into the church because Worobec gave this information over the police radio. That the men fled into the church, and that the police were fired upon from inside the church, was also confirmed by a number of independent witnesses, including a Negro security guard who came to Worobec's aid. Yet James N. Garrett Jr., Board Chairman of the Cotillion Club, a Negro group once headed by Crockett, has asserted that "the entire black community" feels "highly incensed" over the police action at the church. Garrett demanded that the city pay the medical expenses for the wounded Comrades, pay for damages to the church, and make a public apology to the church's pastor. The *Detroit News* editorialized:

Nobody has yet requested that the police return the guns confiscated within the church or pay for the ammunition expended by the black militants. Garrett would preserve the fiction that the people gathered late at night on March 29 at the New Bethel Church were but an ordinary, peace-loving flock of worshippers come to say their prayers.

While the militants hailed Crockett, and the politicians talked of adding gun laws to disarm the honest (instead of enforcing sedition laws against terrorists and traitors), the Detroit police buried their dead compatriot. As policemen from all over the East and Midwest lined the streets to pay respect to a brave

young officer, militants stood behind them laughing and spitting at the policemen. The Communists have done very well indeed at spreading hatred in Detroit. Like its related organization, the Communist Black Panthers, the Republic of New Africa feeds on this hate and, in turn, generates it.

Students of political affairs are well aware that R.N.A.'s program is taken directly from Communist Party directives dating back to the publication of *American Negro Problems* in 1928, in which Negroes were promised their own "Negro Soviet Republic" in the American South. Following the Communist program in detail, the R.N.A. lays claim to the states of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana — precisely that Black Belt offered to Negro Comrades in the Communist text *The Negroes In A Soviet America*. This is hardly surprising since the R.N.A. was founded in Detroit a year ago during a two-day National Black Government Conference dominated by leaders of the Communist Malcolm X Society and the Communist Revolutionary Action Movement (R.A.M.). The organization named as its President one Robert F. Williams, a psychotic Communist and black nationalist who publishes from Peking a quarterly handbook on urban guerrilla warfare called *The Crusader*. Comrade Williams, of course, was a founder of the Maoist R.A.M. organization.

The man who runs the Communist Republic of New Africa is its Vice President, Milton Henry (alias Brother Gaidi), a forty-nine year old Pontiac attorney and Yale honor graduate. Yes, obviously, Comrade Henry knows precisely what he is doing.

The R.N.A. has already called for the federal government to hand over the Southern states and \$400 billion in reparations for the "labor stolen from our ancestors during slavery and for damages suffered by blacks from racial discrimination since slavery." The demands were

presented to the State Department in Washington in a formal note delivered last May. No reply has been reported. The group issued a "black declaration of independence," and its members declared at the outset that they were no longer citizens of the United States. Why there has been no attempt to deport these self-proclaimed aliens and Communists has never been explained by either the Johnson or Nixon Administrations.

The members of R.N.A. — estimated to number less than a thousand by the Justice Department, and more than seventeen thousand by Brother Gaidi — support a portion of their activities with a self-imposed three percent income tax. Much of the money reportedly goes toward equipping R.N.A.'s Black Legion, the group's military arm. Other funds, says an F.B.I. source, come to R.N.A. from Communist governments abroad.

Since the Republic of New Africa doesn't expect our government to comply with its demands, the group hopes to gain control of the states earmarked for the new nation by using its legionnaires. One R.N.A. scheme is to help Negro voters elect black Sheriffs in Southern areas where Negroes are in the majority. The black Sheriffs could then legally deputize legionnaires to form a black army rivaling each state's National Guard.

Members of the R.N.A. Cabinet include the Communist Black Panthers' Hubert "Rap" Brown as Secretary of Defense, and revolutionary poet LeRoi Jones as one of the Ministers of Culture. Another officer is Betty Shabazz, widow of Communist Malcolm X. The Republic of New Africa now has "consulates" in New York City, Los Angeles, Cleveland, New Orleans, Dayton, Cincinnati, and Detroit.

The *Detroit News* quotes Comrade Brother Gaidi as saying the strategy "calls for the R.N.A. to secure the Southern states with the help of African and Asian countries, specifically Red China." Gaidi and his brother, Richard Henry (alias,

Brother Imari Obadele), met in Communist Tanzania last June with Comrade Robert Williams. In a statement issued after the Tanzania conference, Imari decreed that the Red's black organizations would put a high priority on building "a strong, disciplined black legion in America — a black army to fight for black rights." He said the decision to speed up creation of "a combat-ready black legion was based in part on the failure of the United States government to respond to New Africa's demands for land in the South and a money settlement for the centuries-old suffering of black people."

Brother Imari, incidentally, legally rejected his "slave name" last year after quitting a post as a technical editor at the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Center in suburban Detroit. Imari has been a leader in the Reds' Revolutionary Action Movement and the Medgar Evers Rifle Club.

Among those arrested at the scene of the Bethel Church assassination (and freed by Communist agent Crockett) were the four members of R.A.M. who were arrested two years ago for plotting the assassination of Whitney Young of the Urban League and Roy Wilkins of the N.A.A.C.P. Two of these, Communists Herman Ferguson and Arthur Harris, were tried and convicted and are free on appeal, and the other two are awaiting trial. It is thus not at all surprising to note that the *By-Laws* of the Republic of New Africa contain R.A.M.'s "Duties of the Black Guard." Included in the duties are:

1. *The Black Guard is a dedicated man. He has no personal interests, no business affairs, no emotions, no attachments, no property and no name.*

2. *... He is the white western world's determined enemy and if he continues to live with them, it is only in order to destroy them more rapidly.*

3. *The Black Guard hates all western doctrines and accepts only*

the doctrine of World Black Nationalism....

4. *... morality is everything which contributes to the success of the World Black Revolution....*

5. *The Black Guard is a dedicated man; unmerciful towards the enemy and toward his lackey uncle toms; and he expects no mercy from them. Between him and them exist — declared or consealed — war to the death.... * * **

15. *The enemy's system can be split into several categories. The first category is those who must be condemned to death without delay. Brothers should compile a list of those to be condemned according to their crimes; executions should be carried out in order.*

16. *... It is necessary to be guided only by the usefulness of these executions for the sake of the revolution. Above all, those who are especially dangerous to the Vanguard, R.A., must be destroyed; their violent and sudden death will produce panic and utter chaos in the enemies [sic] ranks depriving it of its will to action by removing its most cleverest and energetic pawns.*

17. *The second group consists of a great many lackeys (toms) in high positions enjoying riches, influence, power, and high positions by their collaboration and selling out to the enemy. These traitors must be used and exploited in every possible way; they must be implicated and tied into our public front, their secrets must be made public, their image destroyed, and their real self exposed to the masses of our people. In doing this we will bring them under our control. Their power, influence and connections, wealth and energy will be used for the benefit of our people.*

18. *The third group consists of those who will be spared for the*

time being in order that, by a series of moves, they may drive our people into inevitable revolution.

19. The fourth group is those ambitious office holders, would be (opportunistic) leaders and new emerging black bourgeois. The Black Guard must pretend to collaborate with them, appear to be following them at all times, while at the same time prying out their secrets until they are completely in our power. They must be put into a position of where there is no way out for them, and they can be used to create disorder and confuse the enemy. * * *

24. With this end in mind, the Black Guard is dedicated to the formation of a "new world," universal world government . . . *

In Detroit, as elsewhere, the Communists' Black Nationalists rely for nourishment on the white Establishment they seek to destroy. The Establishment organization in charge of financing and coordinating the revolution there is a group calling itself New Detroit, Inc. New Detroit was formed in the wake of the devastating riots of the summer of 1967.† The organization is a sort of private poverty revolution financed by big business. The leaders of New Detroit have been Chairman Max Fisher of the United Foundation, Henry Ford II, J.L. Hudson Jr., and Walter Reuther.‡ Among the companies listed by New Detroit as financing or cooperating with its efforts are American Airlines, Benton & Bowles, Chrysler Corporation, the *Detroit Free Press*, the *Detroit News*, Ford Motor Company, General Motors, United Auto Workers, Sears, Roebuck and Company, and Xerox.

Typical of New Detroit's "professional" leadership is Frank Ditto, a vicious Black Nationalist who calls himself Malcolm II. Ditto's F.B.I. rap sheet shows seventeen arrests for dis-

orderly conduct, inciting racial disorder, and inciting to riot and criminal trespassing.

Frank Ditto is a Black Muslim and is associated with a publication called the *Inner City Voice*, an underground newspaper which is openly revolutionary and Communist, as well as specializing in Black Nationalist propaganda. Naturally Ditto, or Malcolm II, was just the man

*This extraordinary rhetorical style is infectious among Black Nationalist groups. Police in suburban Pontiac found a one-page flyer geared toward a local high school controversy which stated: "We will demand and get BLACK PRINCIPALS, BLACK TEACHERS, BLACK CULTURE . . . Keep whitey off balance. He is a sickly coward like the FUZ who are deathly afraid of the Blacks . . . A DEAD BLACK is a tragedy; A DEAD WHITEY gives joy and exhilaration . . . Go with us and we promise you the town within five years. Our great Warrior forefathers ate the hearts and livers of their enemies. We may yet have WHITE PIG roasts with WHITE PIGS."

†Although forty-three people were killed and hundreds of millions of dollars in damage was incurred in the infamous Detroit riots, not one person spent a single day in jail as a result of a conviction stemming from that insurrection.

‡Hudson, owner of the city's largest department store, has now resigned. His store was virtually empty. Customers boycotted the establishment, and his new "poverty" help stole everything that was not nailed down. Today, J.L. Hudson is a sadder but wiser bleeding heart.

As for Walter Reuther, most Americans are familiar with the fact that he spent fourteen months in the Soviet Union being trained by the Communists. His letter from Russia urging Comrades in the United States to "Keep working for a Soviet America" has on a number of occasions been inserted in the *Congressional Record*. But that is far from the end of the story. Larry Davidow, a former socialist who was an attorney for the U.A.W., has testified that "For the three years that I was general counsel on every issue that came up, Walter Reuther quoted the Communist Party position. He acknowledged that he was a member of the Communist Party's Unity Caucus. That was the name the Party gave its organization which was to capture control of the U.A.W. and keep it under control of the Communist Conspiracy . . . Walter Reuther can only be explained in the climate of his devotion to Marxism."

the Fords and Reuthers were looking for to handle their organization of Negro youth, and they bestowed \$50,000 on Comrade Ditto for that purpose.

Frank Ditto is now using New Detroit money to run a program to teach three thousand Detroit youths how to set up and run their own government in what is called the Political Education Program (P.E.P.). Not surprisingly, P.E.P. conducts a Liberation School. Guess what they are going to liberate.

Over Comrade Ditto's office flies not the American flag but the red, green, and black flag of the Republic of New Africa. In the middle of the green stripe is a fist clenched in the Communist salute.

Since every new country needs an army, Malcolm II is giving military training to young Negroes to prepare them for the task of keeping the "toms" quiet. Malcolm's cadets, the Community Patrol Corps (C.P.C.), wear the R.N.A. uniform of fatigues, black boots, and black berets. They display the Black Panther symbol, and the organization puts out a newspaper which openly supports the Communist Black Panthers and advocates the killing of policemen. According to the *Detroit News*, the C.P.C. — whose members are assigned to police the real police — receives its financing not only from New Detroit but from *thirty-two churches*. The C.P.C. vigilantes are paid \$1.60 an hour for their "work."

Ditto's Black Commandos have been doing an excellent job for Ford and Reuther. Three were recently arrested for jumping a police officer. Detroit Patrolman William Barbour testified that one of them "knead me in the face and stepped on my hand." Kindly Judge Crockett dismissed the charges and freed the gentle youths to return to their revolutionary chores.

A teacher at Butzel Junior High was recently stabbed by a group of C.P.C. Black Berets who swept through the school. According to the *Detroit News* of March 3, 1969, parents were assured

there would be "no reprisals taken against students involved in the disruption of the school when [Marc] Weglarski was stabbed." Commenting on the performance of his boys, Ditto declared: "I am much more concerned about the mental slavery of our children who are not being taught than I am about the stabbing of one teacher." (Or killing of one police officer?) Ditto blamed the stabbing on the refusal of the school "to meet legitimate student demands."

Meanwhile, in the aftermath of the assassination, Patrolman Worobec — married and the father of two children — lies in a hospital facing the possibility that he may never walk again. And, despite everything that Judge Crockett could do, independent witnesses to the shooting have identified two of the assassins. Warrants were issued for Alfred Hibbitt of Detroit and Rafael Viera of New York City. One would have assumed that these men would — like Comrade Eldridge Cleaver — be long gone to Canada or Cuba, but both have now surrendered to the police. This may be the ultimate in arrogant confidence that they, like Black Panther Huey Newton of Oakland, will be convicted of neither murder nor attempted murder. They had over two weeks to escape, but didn't try.

The key point is this: Both assassins had originally been freed by Crockett over the protest of the police. Fantastically, however, the Supreme Court may have retroactively pulled Communist agent Crockett's chestnuts out of the fire with its ruling of April 22, 1969, against arresting and fingerprinting suspects picked up in a dragnet. When you have criminals on the bench, alas, the criminals are in control.

Black militants all over America have now been shown that — just as the Communist propagandists say — they can kill a policeman with virtual impunity. It's time to stop this business. And, the impeachment of Judge George Crockett Jr. would be a very good beginning. ■ ■