

OUR CITIES

Cleveland As Archetype

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■ WHILE Gotham's Mayor John Lindsay proudly, if perhaps temporarily, extolls the virtues of the jungle he calls Fun City, citizens of Cleveland are referring to what Mayor Carl Stokes has made of their city as the "mistake by the lake." The nation's eighth largest metropolis, Cleveland, is degenerating at an accelerating rate into a decayed ruin ruled and terrorized by criminals and revolutionaries. Though salted with greenbacks from the federal government and the Ford Foundation, it is becoming an unbearable jungle from which civilization is fleeing much as it did from Rome in the Fourth Century. And, as in ancient Rome, the barbarians are not only outside the gates, but *inside* — being nourished and protected by the Establishment.

Even though the praise for Mayor Stokes in the nation's "Liberal" media has been rivaled only by that afforded the shade of the late President Kennedy, it can no longer be hidden from the nation that under the new Mayor residence in many areas of Cleveland has become

somewhat akin to living on the outskirts of Saigon. It is the middle-class which most feels the terror of the situation. In an open letter to Mayor Carl Stokes, for instance, a Clevelander named William Jeffries recently expressed his horror at what has happened to his city this way:

My wife was waiting for a bus in broad daylight. She bent down to feed a small puppy some candy when she was viciously struck down from behind. The coward dared not confront her and take her purse. No, like some beasts thirsting for blood, they split her skull and destroyed her vision. Their blood-thirst still not quenched, they took a jagged piece of metal and continued to beat her. Was this brutality worth the sixteen dollars she had in her purse?

I have lived 52 of my 58 years in this "civilized" city gone mad! I can remember when half the population was hungry. Why didn't they revert to robbery and senseless beatings? Why, in this day when anyone who is willing to work can, must there be such savagery? Why must my tax dollar be used to feed and clothe children who will grow up to be a menace to me?

The five days my wife was lying in the hospital will forever be engraved on my mind. Five days of hearing her plead for my help — not realizing I was there. This memory is why I am and will remain an angry, sick dissident.

Someone please help us!

The case of the Jeffries has become all too typical. For the single month of May 1969, according to the *Cleveland Press*, the crime scoreboard in that Ohio city read like this: 266 assault and battery cases, 130 shootings, 32 homicides, 36 stabbings, 26 sex assaults, and 540 robberies. Homicides in Cleveland are up seventy-five percent over last year. The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for July 7, 1969, reports: "... robbery here for the first three months of this year seems to have jumped phenomenally, going from 795 in 1968 to 1,226 in 1969."

The above figures, we might add, are from official reports only. Many crimes in Cleveland are no longer reported to authorities because Mayor Stokes has so hamstrung the police that citizens have come to consider it a waste of time to report any but the most serious crimes. Clevelanders do, however, report auto thefts — they are up seventy-three percent over the same period last year.

So serious is the situation that in a recent feature titled "Fear of Criminals Torments Citizens of Cleveland," the *Plain Dealer* admitted that in many formerly prosperous business areas "most storeowners have moved. Those who remain close up at two and three o'clock in the afternoon. Guns, knives and baseball bats are hidden near the cash registers." The city, according to that morning daily, is gripped by an "awe-inspiring fear of crime." As a result, "Karate classes are overfilled; German Shepherds and Doberman Pinschers are hard to get; hardware stores can't keep up with the demand for new locks; gun sales are phenomenal."

While Cleveland's bleeding hearts wring their hands, the city's small businessmen merely bleed. The once-beautiful city by the once-beautiful lake has now become a Mecca for criminals, Communists, and Black Nationalist extortionists. Witnesses have recently appeared before the City Council's Safety Committee and testified that Maoist Black Nationalist groups are demanding from small busi-

nessmen (both Negro and white) a flat rake-off of ten percent "off the top" of gross sales. One witness charged that money was being funnelled to groups for "organized hoodlumism by adults who mold children in hate" — an obvious reference to the Communist Black Panthers. The witness, Ralph A. Colbert, noted that after being threatened by revolutionaries he caught robbing his service station, his home was burned to the ground.

Another service-station owner, Oliver Person, told the Council, "My place was shot five times, broke-in three times, my pop machine and battery chargers were taken and \$1,800 worth of tools taken." He was ordered by the black Marxists to pay ten percent of his profit "for the benefit of the community," and a few weeks later got a letter instructing him to attend a meeting to discuss his payments. Person identified those who made the threats as Black Nationalists; the next day, terrified without police protection, he denied the charges to the newspapers.

Indicative of the criminal arrogance resulting from the breakdown of law and order under Mayor Stokes was the testimony of Richard Shumaker, District Manager of the Gulf Oil Corporation. "We have," he told the Council, "a fantastic problem of people getting gas without payment and leaving with the threat of violence if our operators try to stop them. This happens many times a day, and costs the dealers up to \$80 a day out of their own pockets." Shumaker said that as a result of the growing lawlessness it is becoming almost impossible to find competent men to run gas stations in the Cleveland area.*

Charles and Floyd Oakley operated

*Baxter Hill, leader of Cleveland's paramilitary C.O.R.E. and head of the War on Poverty's PRIDE, Incorporated — a federally-funded program for militants, now being probed by the Attorney General — screamed of the "lies that are being told about the black community." A racist revolutionary, Hill is a close confidant of Mayor Stokes.



Stores of small businessmen who refused to pay "taxes" to the revolutionaries have been burned.

three service stations in Cleveland. Several days after Charles publicly complained of an attempted shakedown by paramilitary Black Nationalists, his brother Floyd — whose wife was expecting a child — was gunned down and killed. The *Cleveland Press* of June 23, 1969, reports that the surviving Oakley brother will close their two service stations in the city's Negro neighborhoods.

Undoubtedly only a handful of those threatened by these black Communists have dared to come forward. After what happened to Floyd Oakley, most are paying up and keeping quiet.

While in some instances the Comrades

*There is, however, some risk in this extortion racket. According to the *Cleveland Press* of October 31, 1968, police were seeking a thumbless man named James Taylor for the attempted dynamiting of a Texaco station. It seems the dynamite exploded prematurely, blowing off one of Taylor's thumbs. Police found the thumb at the scene and were able to identify the suspect by the print. Taylor's brother Sidney was killed during the Black Nationalist shoot-out with police in Cleveland's Glenville section on July 23, 1968.

are willing to settle for ten percent "off the top," in other cases they want a hundred percent. Many whites have been warned to sell out or face the consequences.* The case of the Gelfand brothers is typical:

On November thirteenth of last year the Cleveland newspapers reported the killing by police of a black revolutionary named Reuben Rankin, after Rankin had seriously wounded pawn-shop owner Ernest Gelfand during an attempted robbery. Comrade Rankin, according to the eulogy at his funeral, was a devout disciple of Communist Malcolm X. His brother was arrested in the same robbery, and it developed that both had participated in the paramilitary ambush of Cleveland police on July 23, 1968.

Shortly after this incident, Ernest Gelfand's brother, proprietor of Little Herman's Bar, was ordered by the revolutionaries to close his business. When he refused, Comrades threw two one-gallon Molotov cocktails into his bar and burned him out. A couple of hundred feet away a Negro who had toured the Euclid Avenue

area telling businessmen not to fear, and to stay open despite threats by Black Nationalists, was found dead. It was arson and murder.*

Gelfand subsequently received the following note, made up of words cut from newspapers and pasted together: "We warned you once. We [*my photocopy is unreadable here*] . . . out and take the rest of those white mother***** with you for black power is here."

Julius Zuckerman is another Cleveland businessman. For years he had been running a bar started by his grandfather. At first he, too, ignored the threats of the black Marxists and kept his business open. Soon, however, uniformed Black Nationalists began picketing his establishment, and physically abused customers who sought to enter. According to the *Cleveland Press* of November 9, 1968, Zuckie's Bar closed shortly thereafter, following a meeting with Mayor Stokes. Today Julius Zuckerman works in a bank, and longs for the comfortable business of his father and grandfather, and the days before the terrorists of Black Power took command of Cleveland.

But Mr. Zuckerman probably also thinks of Joseph Zoldan, owner of Tom's Bar, who also ignored the threatening letters. Apparently the Comrades decided to make an example of someone. At 2:45 a.m. on September 16, 1968, residents living near Rockefeller Park heard a long series of gunshots. Four bodies were found the next morning. Zoldan, the owner, was shot five times in the head

*Coincidentally, the fire-bombed building is owned by Charles P. Lucas, who was the unsuccessful Republican candidate running last year against Carl Stokes' brother Louis for Congress.

As chance would also have it, Louis Stokes, who had campaigned with the endorsement of the local Press on the platform of seeking the abolition of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, was appointed to that same Committee, now called the Internal Security Committee. Congressman Louis Stokes will no doubt perform as a vigilant watchdog against Communist terrorism.

and body. Raymond Homer, a Negro bartender, was shot three times in the head and neck. Miss Martha Lancaster, a white patron, was shot four times in the head and neck. And Ronald Mahone, a Negro bartender, was shot once in the head. The victims had been gagged, strangled, and bludgeoned before being shot.

The "Liberal" Press elected to assume the motive to be robbery. But, it seemed to less addled Clevelanders highly unusual for a robber to transport his victims a quarter of a mile away before methodically binding, gagging, torturing, and murdering them. It was clearly a Communist terror execution.

A scapegoat was soon found for the killings — a white itinerant named Richard Tingler — who has, of course, mysteriously disappeared. A Cleveland policeman told me of the murders:

At least three guns were used in the killing; but the papers would like you to believe Tingler could have fired all three of them. Just recently, Tom's Bar received another warning — the widow has someone running it for her — and they were told that they are also going to wind up "in the park."

It turns out that Richard Tingler, who served time for burglary, was a cellmate of James Thomas, a Black Nationalist executioner now being held for the slaying of the Reverend Christopher Ware. Officially the motive for the killing of Ware is also being said to have been robbery. But, again, the brutality involved betrays the type of terrorism typical of Communist assassination. The Reverend Ware was beaten, shot once in the forehead, stabbed twelve times in the head and twice in the hand, and beaten again. According to the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* of October 29, 1968, the Reverend Christopher Ware spent much of his time finding jobs for ex-convicts, and had recently found one for Comrade Thomas.

Tingler is known to have been living with Thomas shortly after the killings. He later used one of the murder guns, a nine-millimeter Luger, in a double murder in Columbus, Ohio. Authorities say privately that Tingler most likely got the gun from his friend Thomas, who gave it to him to draw suspicion away from the Black Nationalists. They say they are convinced that when he is located Tingler will be found dead, and the case of the murders in Cleveland will be marked "closed" by the politicians.

The latest game of extortion in Cleveland is called "Steal the McDonald's hamburger stand." The movement is led by "Rabbi" David Hill, described by Negro columnist Bob Williams of the *Cleveland Press* as the "spiritual leader of Cleveland's Black Nationalists." Rabbi Hill, who calls his "synagogue" the House of Israel, claims that Negroes are the real Jews. According to the Rabbi, "Christ is black and the black man is God's chosen people. Christ came into this world to save his own, the black people, from oppression by the white race. The black people are the first, the oldest, the original; therefore the super people."

The fanatical "Rabbi" Hill makes the most interesting excuses for extortion. He told his audience over station WABQ on February 23, 1969:

The House of Israel, and Bishop David Hill, your humble servant, have served notice on those supermarkets, that range between 105th and St. Clair, and 105th and Superior, they have been served a notice that their business is unwelcome in the black community. Their business is no longer wanted. They've been given ninety days to move their business from the black community — or suffer the wrath of God!

The owners of the supermarkets, only too aware of the open terrorism per-

mitted the Comrades in Cleveland by Mayor Carl Stokes, sold out.

Hill is well qualified to serve as "spiritual leader" of the Communists' paramilitary Black Nationalists. According to the *Cleveland Press* of July 14, 1969, he spent a year in Mississippi State Prison for extortion, and another year there for forgery; four years in prison for a 1959 conviction for interstate transportation of stolen securities; a term in the Illinois Security Hospital in Springfield, Illinois, for a con game in 1962; and, a term in



Mayor's associate — Red Maoist Harrell Jones.

the Lima State Hospital for the Criminally Insane in 1966. Following his rest at the hospital for the criminally insane, David Hill went into the Black Nationalist business in Cleveland, where he was an immediate success.*

"Rabbi" Hill's demands are simple. He

*The Reverend Cicero Goddard is an outspoken opponent of Hill and a patriotic anti-Communist. After the Reverend Goddard spoke against Hill and showed the anti-Communist film *Anarchy, U.S.A.*, the windows of his church were broken by terrorists who then attempted to burn the building.

now wants four white-owned hamburger stands, located in Negro neighborhoods of Cleveland and worth \$250,000 each, sold to blacks for about \$20,000. One would assume that "responsible" civil rights organizations would repudiate such attempted extortion. Actually, they have chosen Hill as their leader in what is called Operation Black Unity. According to the *Cleveland Press*, the groups backing Hill's play are C.O.R.E., N.A.A.C.P., Urban League, the federally-funded Afro Set, the Council of Churches, United Pastors Association, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Federation of Black Nationalists, and the federally-funded PRIDE Incorporated.

A flyer distributed by Hill's goons claims, "Agreement was reached between the House of Israel and McDonald officials in the Mayor's office to sell all McDonald Restaurants in the black communities to black buyers." (*Emphasis in the original.*) The flyer closed with the threat: "NO BLACK McDONALD'S, NO McDONALD'S!" Owners of the franchise have indicated their willingness to sell to qualified Negro buyers, but only one has yet come up with a reasonable offer. A "sale" to a Negro is reportedly in progress pending approval of a government-guaranteed loan. That's what they call "Black Capitalism," baby!

There has, as you would expect, been trouble beneath the golden arches as three of the four McDonald's restaurants have been closed by teams of Black Nationalist pickets dressed in the official uniform of the Communist Black Panthers. Customers have naturally been reluctant to cross Panther picket lines. The leaders of Hill's Operation Black Unity obviously believe that by shutting down these once very profitable businesses the price can be brought down precipitously. In the meantime, the scores of Negroes who once worked at those restaurants, and who took home \$600,000 a year in wages, are unemployed.

The whole idea, of course, is for the

black Comrades to drive all white businessmen out of the Negro community so that it can be turned into a Black Nationalist enclave — a base for urban revolution. The Black Marxists call it "community control" or "self-determination," and every time a businessman is forced to capitulate to blackmail by these thugs, the Black Nationalists up the ante in the blackmail poker game.

In recent years Cleveland has had a history of riots and bloodshed.* The Hough riots of 1966, for instance, were precipitated and exploited by the Communists. Following a careful investigation, the House Committee on Un-American Activities concluded that "In Cleveland, Ohio, the Communist and black militant doctrine of promoting and supporting violence was clearly evidenced." The Cuyahoga County (which includes Cleveland) Grand Jury also made a thorough investigation and determined:

This Jury finds the outbreak of lawlessness and disorder was both organized, precipitated, and exploited by a relatively small group of trained and disciplined professionals at this business.

The three major characters who touched off the Hough performance were

*Actually the first "Civil Rights" happening in Cleveland which attracted national attention occurred in 1963, when the Reverend Bruce Klunder, a white minister who helped organize the local chapter of C.O.R.E. (back when C.O.R.E. admitted Caucasians), led a demonstration against a local construction project. Klunder, well-schooled in the Leftist strategy of putting your opponent in a position where whatever he does is wrong, cleverly lay down behind a large bulldozer while a number of his fellow demonstrators flopped in front of the machine. The bulldozer's operator, however, unaware of Klunder's ploy, backed over the socially conscious minister while trying to avoid his comrades. As a result, Klunder became Cleveland's first "Civil Rights" martyr. The incident has been memorialized in song and story as "Klunder's Blunder" or, perhaps more appropriately, "Klunder's Last Blunder."

Lewis Robinson, Harlell Jones, and Ron Lucas — all subsequently prime-movers in the "Cool It For Carl" movement to keep Cleveland quiet while Stokes was running for election.

Robinson, according to the Grand Jury Report, was affiliated with "the Freedom Fighters of Ohio, the Medgar Evers Rifle Club (which he helped to found), the J.F.K. House,* of which he was the ultimate head, the Deacons for Defense, and the Revolutionary Action Movement." The latter, of course, is a Communist terror corps, openly pledging its allegiance to Mao Tse-tung.

Harlell Jones, an employee of the War on Poverty, was — the Grand Jury also found — affiliated with "J.F.K. House, the Medgar Evers Rifle Club, the Revolutionary Action Movement; he is vice president of the Deacons for Defense . . . and has frequently either presided over or sponsored meetings for black nationalists, and espouses the ultimate revolutionary purpose for adjusting differences or obtaining desired ends."

The third member of the Three Musketeers of the Hough riot, Ron Lucas, was the local organizer of the W.E.B. DuBois Club — officially cited youth arm of the Communist Party. It was established before the Grand Jury that other Communist DuBois Club leaders arrived in Cleveland from Chicago, New York, and Brooklyn a few days before the riots to work with Robinson, Jones, and Lucas in fomenting the multi-million dollar conflagration.

Both the Revolutionary Action Movement and the DuBois Clubs have been cited by F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover as being arms of the Communist apparatus. By formal definition, then — Robinson, Jones, and Lucas are Communists. All three have, of course, worked publicly for, and with, Mayor Carl Stokes.

*The J.F.K. stood for Jomo Freedom Kenyatta (the Communist Mau Mau leader of Kenya). J.F.K. House was the nexus center for the Hough riots.

Communist Lewis Robinson has even had the nerve to stage yearly parades in celebration of the Hough riots for which he was largely responsible. The second annual parade organized by Comrade Robinson to celebrate that holocaust was led by none other than Mayor Carl Stokes, marching with the Black Nationalist flag of the Communist Republic of New Africa, flanked by Communist Harlell Jones and several of Jones' lieutenants dressed in the paramilitary uniforms of the Black Nationalists and carrying carbines. Apparently the Mayor wanted to be sure that the "black community" was aware of who was running the show. Non-violence was dead; Black Power had arrived.

Anyway, everybody read the message that way. Two days later on July 23, 1968, three policemen were killed and fourteen more wounded, some severely, by Communist Black Nationalists lying in wait to murder police officers in the Glenville Section of Cleveland. The ambush was led by a Communist astrologer named Fred "Ahmed" Evans — who, along with his paramilitary group, had just marched with Stokes through Hough. Evans was described by the *Plain [Fast] Dealer* as "a controversial character in the civil rights movement" — which is akin to observing that Raquel Welch is not a boy. The *Cleveland Press* proved a little less euphemistic:

It is necessary that we know who he is. Not only because he is charged with murder. But because for the past few years he has been the leader of a group of blacks in our community and a celebrity among hundreds of others — regarded as important enough to be on the Cleveland Now payroll at \$150 a week this summer until his arrest.

Actually Ahmed was doing better than that. Despite (or possibly because of) his reputation as a black extremist, he had a

\$10,000 grant from "Cleveland Now" — established by Stokes, and financed by the War on Poverty, to run an African culture program and teach and preach hatred of whites at the expense of the taxpayer. Ahmed consulted the Red stars and took a short-cut — he spent the money to buy guns and ammunition with which to kill policemen.

Like "Rabbi" Hill, the tall bearded Ahmed Evans was well-qualified to be both a "celebrity" among black revolutionaries and a youth organizer for the War on Poverty. The father of three illegitimate children, he had been given an undesirable discharge from the Army for striking an officer and was diagnosed by the military as a "psycho-motor epileptic with paranoid tendencies who has difficulty controlling himself under stress." The stress of having \$10,000 to spend on devices with which to murder police officers just proved too much for Ahmed.

The money was funnelled to Comrade Evans from the Office of Economic Opportunity by way of the Reverend DeForest Brown, who maintained: "The funds allocated to Ahmed were a sincere effort by those involved to give him and his associates the opportunity to work in a positive way in the community."

According to the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* of April 18, 1969, "Rev. Mr. Brown said that he basically agreed with the black nationalist philosophy of Evans. He admitted he was a black nationalist, but said he was not associated with any specific group." The Reverend Brown, who works closely with Mayor Stokes, merely passes out the taxpayers' dollars to the Comrades. Of course, Brown remained loyal to Evans even after the bloodletting, explaining "... we had confidence in him." You see, said Reverend Brown, "We knew of Evans' creative ability and placed our trust in him. We had a good relationship, a sort of brotherly relationship."

A number of wealthy businessmen and large corporations in the city have also

donated time and money to supplement the government funds feeding the Marxist terrorists of "Cleveland Now." Among the former is one Dean Ostrum, vice president and general counsel of Ohio Bell Telephone Company and chairman of the Mayor's Council. Ostrum said of Comrade Evans: "His program was planned to reach 600 young people in ghetto areas. We endorsed the original proposal and we still have confidence in Brown and the Hough Area Development Corp."

Still, when Ahmed Evans was captured several hours after the outbreak of the shooting, he told arresting officers: "If my carbine hadn't jammed, I would have killed you three." Then he admitted, "I shot at every white policeman I could...." When he arrived at the police station he announced: "It is no secret that I'm a revolutionary.... We look to Ho chi Minh as our leader." His admission of guilt in the murder of the policemen bothered Cleveland's soul brothers not one whit. In fact, to many he was a bigger hero than ever, and a national organization was set up to raise funds for his defense.*

The Communist-led S.N.C.C. organization even held a rally outside the Criminal Court Building and promised "aid and assistance" to Brother Ahmed. The rally was led by Phil Hutchings, who succeeded Communist H. "Rap" Brown as head of the local Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Hutchings, whose mother works for Mayor Stokes, stated: "We support Brother Ahmed in what he did, because that is the only kind of authority the police forces will respect."

The *Plain Dealer* of August 16, 1968, assured Cleveland that others supporting the Comrades of S.N.C.C. in their stand for Ahmed Evans were the "Rev. Baxter

*Originally one of the attorneys for the Evans killer squad was to be Louis Stokes, brother of the Mayor. But, Louis had to turn the case over to another lawyer when he became involved in his Congressional campaign.



Mayor Carl Stokes marches with armed Reds and revolutionaries to commemorate the Hough riots.

Hill, Lewis Robinson and Harlell Jones" — all close associates of Mayor Stokes.

Adding to the tragedy of the ambush was the fact that it need never have happened. Sam Mayfield, a resident of the area, told reporters at Forest City Hospital where he was being treated for injuries received while bravely rescuing an elderly couple from a burning building, that rumors of imminent violence were rife in the neighborhood all through the day of the killings. But, warnings were much more official than mere neighborhood rumors. Mayor Stokes admitted that early the day of the ambush he received information from the F.B.I. and military and police intelligence sources that "at 8 a.m. [Wednesday, July twenty-fourth] major disturbances were to occur in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland and Pittsburgh." According to the *Cleveland Press*: "Although police and city officials met six hours before the first shot was fired to discuss reports that violence was expected, no search for weapons at the suspected trouble source — Fred (Ahmed) Evans' living quarters — was ordered."

The F.B.I. and the police had information from an informer within Ahmed's group about the impending butchery, but Cleveland's politicians chose to question the reliability of the informer rather than to permit their police officers to protect themselves from a bloody ambush. When the attack came, according to the *Cleveland Press*, the carefully controlled "police were inadequately armed to meet the sniper attack." The Stokes Administration had seen to it that all of the advantages were with Evans and his guerrillas.

Instead of ordering a search warrant, Stokes sent Councilman George Forbes; Walter Beach, a poverty warrior and militant Stokes flunkie; and, militant Omar Mejed out to meet with Comrade Evans at 7:50 p.m. The three men claim they left kindly Ahmed and his armed guerrillas with the impression that there would be no violence.

A few minutes later, police surveillance cars spotted fifteen to twenty armed men, most in Afro robes, running out of Evans' store-front Afro Culture

Center. The officers then left the area. Apparently Evans had been spooked by the presence of police surveillance vehicles and decided not to wait to strike until eight o'clock Wednesday morning. Evans' well-trained guerrillas assumed positions so as to trap police entering from any direction in a cross-fire. It was to be a bloodbath.

At 8:25 p.m. — thirty-five minutes after the Mayor's boys met with the Communists — a tow-truck entered the area to tow away an abandoned Cadillac. The two men in the truck were unarmed civilians, but were wearing uniforms similar to those worn by the Cleveland Police. Communist terrorist Evans ordered his guerrillas to open fire. One of the truck drivers, William H. McMillan — who somehow survived sixty-five shotgun and carbine wounds — later told reporters he believed "the snipers set up the ambush and used the tow-truck as a decoy to bring the police in." He added, "Those guys knew that tow-truck drivers are unarmed. They had their cross-fire all planned. We were sitting ducks."

In addition to the three policemen killed and fourteen wounded, at least three of Evans' guerrillas — like Ahmed, all receiving federal "poverty" funds — died in the battle. Comrade Ahmed's comment was, "They died for a worthy cause." It is believed by authorities that several more Black Nationalists were also killed, as at least one reported body was gone by the time police began collecting the corpses.

While the battle was in progress, Mayor Stokes sent a Truce Squad into the area to try to get the guerrillas to surrender. This was led by Stokes' close ally Baxter Hill of the paramilitary C.O.R.E. and the federally funded Pride Incorporated, and Ron Lucas, local organizer of the Communist W.E.B. DuBois

*Just two months later, Truce leader Lucas was arrested at a rally for Hubert Humphrey for carrying a nineteen-inch sword hidden in a cane.

Club and leader of the Hough riots.* Under fire and retrieving their dead and wounded, police would not allow them to approach the house where Ahmed was hiding.

Before the guerrillas could be subdued, looting broke out and three thousand National Guardsmen had to be called. But after consulting Wednesday with local Black Nationalist "community leaders" (funny how these guys are all community leaders), Stokes ordered the Guard and white police out of the area. Policemen couldn't believe it. As one exclaimed: "After a few of my brother officers were killed and others wounded, we were pulled out of the area, and told not to use force. I am so angry and confused I don't feel that I can any longer perform an effective job." His letter of resignation followed the next morning.

Another bitter officer wondered: "Why didn't the Department use that armored truck that was lent to us by the Michigan State Police? It arrived here Wednesday morning. It was equipped with a water cannon and small arms."

Why, indeed?

By withdrawing the National Guard and all police (except a handful of Negro officers), Carl Stokes once again conveyed to the terrorized citizens of the area that the Black Nationalists were in command of Hough-Glenville and that this area of Cleveland was going to be a Soviet enclave or it was going to be a heap of cinders.

Major General Sylvester Del Corse, in charge of the National Guard, claimed Stokes had "surrendered to black revolutionaries." He called the Glenville massacre "a plot to spread destruction, disrupt the government, and show their strength; that is, the black militants and the Black Power groups."

Few doubted it. And none were surprised when Wednesday night criminals and Black Nationalists went on a rampage. The Thursday morning papers carried the headline: "Glenville Halts Snip-

ing but not Looting, Fires." The stores of sixty-three merchants were completely looted. Losses for fifty more merchants who were interviewed totalled \$1.5 million. Property damage due to fires or vandalism added to the loss another \$1 million.* Merchants were naturally bitter about being left unprotected before the looters. One businessman, who reported looters did \$500,000 damage to his cleaning plant, said he was "eliminated, and no one seems to care."

Arthur Fiordalise, owner of a furniture store in the area, threatened to sue the city, claiming: "I feel that my civil rights were violated when Mayor Stokes took out the National Guard and the white police officers." When Fiordalise was informed by employees that his store was being ransacked, he telephoned the police for help. "The last officer that called told me he was sorry, that they only had five cars patrolling that area and that they could not help all the merchants." Then Fiordalise telephoned the Mayor's Committee. He later related, "The girl also told me that they were told not to stop looters as long as they were not burning anything." The furniture dealer went to City Hall and was assured "the Mayor was familiar with my situation and that he had three policemen with shotguns guarding my store." Relieved, Fiordalise returned home only to learn from an employee that the Mayor's officer had lied. "I again called one of the Mayor's Committee members and talked to a girl," the furniture dealer reported. And, she said: "'You don't have to worry,' that she checked with downtown and knew the building is insured."

Fiordalise explained that while the owner of a building may be insured, the merchants do not insure merchandise in

leased stores like his. "I'd say that seventy-five percent of the merchants in the area can't afford insurance, so they'll just take a loss. I guess if they could afford insurance they wouldn't be in that area," he said.

Of course, the Mayor proclaimed his policy a huge success — although the next night he was forced to reverse himself and free the police and National Guard to go back into the area. Mayor Stokes actually claimed, "Black leadership did a splendid job," and pointed out that no policemen had been shot on Wednesday. Of course, if policemen are not allowed to interfere with criminals, no policemen will ever get hurt. Stokes claimed he was merely putting lives above property, but a prominent police officer told me: "That is a lie. He was just protecting his Comrades — otherwise he would have allowed us to use the armored car."

The Mayor was playing games.

The area's City Councilman, Negro Leo Jackson, was furious with Stokes. As he put it: "If you want to say what happened last night — no shootings, no sniping — was a success, then it was. But if you consider the destruction, the breaking of windows, the wholesale gutting of buildings, last night's activities were a total failure. People of the area are scared stiff . . ." Another Councilman, James Stanton, complained: "... no vigilante group can be substituted on any moral basis in lieu of the duly constituted law enforcement authority. I strongly urge the Mayor never again to leave a section of this city subjected to a Mayor's Committee or vigilante committee [*to decide*] which individuals could loot or burn at will." Many questioned whether it was legal for a Mayor to deliberately prevent policemen from enforcing the law.

Mayor Stokes also came under fire when he appeared at a Town Hall Meeting. Here are some samples of the questions put by irate citizens, and the Mayor's answers:

*Bringing out the Guard cost yet another million dollars — so the total dollar cost of the Glenville ambush was somewhere around \$3.5 million. The Red Cross reported that at least 240 persons lost their homes to fire.

Q: *On July twenty-first you were photographed in the company of an armed guard in the commemoration of the Hough riot. Two days later they (the armed guard) shot policemen. This opens you to charges of criminal syndicalism.**

A: *If the men I walked with were the ones who shot the policemen I don't know what they were doing at City Hall on Tuesday [good question]. Everyone involved in the shooting is either dead or under arrest. I walked with them just as I walk with the American Legion.†*

Q: *Why do they commemorate the Hough riots?*

A: *I have absolutely no right to tell citizens in this city if they are to observe a particular event or not. If I go with one of you I'll go with the rest of you.*

Q: *What is your position on Black Nationalists?*

A: *I find no difference in the Black Nationalists from those in the Slovenian National Home or the Polish National Home, as long as what those nationalists are talking about is creating an understanding binding together and developing a pride in their being.*

When someone in the audience mentioned that the Panther-style Black Nationalism of the killers is not based on understanding but on the old Communist ploy of "self-determination" by revolution, Stokes became angry and began shouting about "McCarthyism."

Following the riots, Mayor Stokes began a well orchestrated campaign for gun-control laws. Although, to his credit, he *did* admit that he could not guarantee that such laws would cause his Black Nationalist friends to surrender their machine-guns — which were already outlawed by existing gun laws. The cry for gun legislation sounded mighty strange

coming from Stokes, who as an attorney had regularly defended persons being tried for violations of gun laws. Carl had fought all the way to the Supreme Court in a case involving two men arrested and convicted of carrying concealed weapons on a downtown street.

Depends who's carrying the gun, I guess.

Charges of hypocrisy were again raised when the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* of October 15, 1968, revealed that Mayor Stokes had intervened in behalf of Carl Johnson and Communist S.D.S. and S.N.C.C. leader Alex Weathers (a roommate of Communist DuBois Club leader Ronald Lucas) who had been arrested for serving as illegally armed bodyguards for C.O.R.E. chieftain Floyd McKissick. The charges were dropped.† And, when Stokes was questioned by reporters about interceding for the two armed revolutionaries, the Mayor said he felt "no compulsion" to answer the questions. But, he added, "I am not denying anything."

In the wake of the subsequent riots it was arranged that a Grand Jury would "investigate" the Glenville Massacre. One did. It ignored the findings of an earlier Grand Jury regarding the Hough riots, and produced a re-write of the Kerner

*A suit charging Stokes with criminal syndicalism was subsequently filed, but the local A.C.L.U. suddenly became concerned about a case in which a member of the Ku Klux Klan was convicted on a syndicalism charge years ago. Although the man has been out of jail for years, the A.C.L.U. took the case to the Supreme Court and got the law invalidated. Stokes managed to acquire continuous postponements of his case until the law had been nullified.

†The Ohio American Legion quite naturally had a conniption at the comparison and wrote Stokes a scathing letter which said in part, "The American Legion does not parade with apparent zeal to commemorate periods of riot, strife, and looting."

‡According to the *Plain Dealer* of October 25, 1968, Weathers was hired by Case-Western Reserve University as a Program Coordinator in the school's Leadership Training Program, directed by an identified member of the Communist Party named Jack Emmer.

Report — blaming everyone except the criminals.* As an apparent reward, the foreman of that Grand Jury, one Alvin I. Krenzler, was almost immediately made a judge by Ohio's Governor James Rhodes. Although Stokes and Governor Rhodes (himself in deep trouble over charges by *Life* magazine that he manipulates a giant political slush fund) are in separate "dimes worth of difference" Parties, they are good friends and (according to the *Plain Dealer* of November 20, 1968) old pool-shooting cronies. It is almost miraculous how good things happen to Stokes' allies (as in the case of Krenzler), while his opponents run into worse luck than Al Capp's Joe Btfsplk.

"Liberals" have twisted the facts like pretzels and salted them with the usual claptrap sociological bunkum to show that Comrade Ahmed's cross-fire ambush

*Also in the wake of the riots, Congressman William Minshall announced that investigators for the General Accounting Office would be sent to inquire into the use of O.E.O. funds in Cleveland. It was further announced that a federal Grand Jury would probe the Glenville shoot-out. But, if either of these investigations actually took place, we have been unable to determine what became of the information produced. One thing the investigations were supposed to determine was why the U.S. Attorney's office in Cleveland was twice turned down when it asked Washington for a warrant to search for high-powered automatic weapons and dead bodies in connection with the Glenville shoot-out. The guns and bodies were reportedly hidden on an Ashtabula farm.

According to the *Cleveland Press* a policeman who took part in the investigation said that normally there was no trouble getting a search warrant based on F.B.I. information. But, whenever the matter has "racial" implications, the Cleveland Attorney General's office had to defer to the Washington office. Congressman Minshall charged that the U.S. Attorney General "is shielding an individual or groups in Cleveland" involved in a conspiracy which led to the killing of the policemen.

Meanwhile, several of the officers shot by Comrade Evans' Black Nationalists are still in the hospital and some will never be able to return to duty. One will always have a short leg where a bullet shattered a bone, and another was shot in both the jaw and the spine.

was totally unpremeditated. The Eisenhower Commission on Violence appointed two Case-Western Reserve professors to research the battle at Glenville, and they determined (surprise!) that it was a product of "spontaneous combustion." The guffaws emanating from the police department were matched only by the sound of the gnashing of teeth.

The Lord High Guru of this "study," a Professor Louis Massotti, unfortunately let the velocity of his mouth exceed the trajectory of his judgment by hinting that his report contained evidence that would clear Ahmed. And, he complained vociferously that the government was not going to release the report until after the verdict in the Evans trial. Naive black militants and campus revolutionaries took Professor Massotti at his word and began harassing him to release the report himself. In eagerness to obtain propaganda to support their Comrade they ransacked the campus office of the Civil Violence Center and stole \$500 worth of negatives used in the study. Next the eager idealists invaded Massotti's classes, and the Professor responded by denouncing the University for not providing him with protection. After a while, however, even a "Liberal" like Massotti can get more than he can swallow. He finally announced that the Comrades harassing him were "facists of the Left" — mustn't use the nasty word *Communist*, you know — quit his job at the University, and fled the country to become a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Bologna. He vowed he would never return to Cleveland.

Finally, two of Massotti's colleagues admitted that the furor was really over nothing; that the Massotti report contained only hearsay, and unsworn testimony taken from unidentified witnesses. That is, it was a mere street echo of Black Nationalist propaganda. The Professor paid an expensive price for his braggadocio and attempted deception. But, the incident provides a good indication of the validity of the current spate of reports on

riots and violence being turned out by such "Liberal" investigators.

At the Evans trial this spring, abundant evidence was produced concerning the careful preparation which went into Communist Ahmed Evans' "spontaneous combustion." Seven gun dealers testified that Evans and his guerrillas bought at least thirteen rifles and nearly two thousand rounds of ammunition, including armor-piercing shells, between July eleventh and July twenty-third. The guns and ammunition were, of course, all paid for with money given Evans by "Cleveland Now" — initiated by Carl Stokes and funded by the federal Office of Economic Opportunity. One of Ahmed's lieutenants even told a clerk at one of the stores: "There's going to be a big smash in Cleveland." Other witnesses told of Evans conducting gun classes, including ones at the Afro Culture shop run by Mayor Stokes' marching companion, Communist Harlell Jones.*

Regarding the "spontaneous combustion" in Glenville, witness Walter Washington gave the following testimony at the trial:

Q: Where did you meet Evans?

A: At a meeting of [Communist] Black Panthers and black nationalists at Evan's house . . . [the morning of July 23, 1968].

Q: What was the purpose of the meeting?

A: To tell us when the pop is going to jump off.

* * *

Q: What did you observe?

A: Guns, rifles and ammunition.

Q: Did Evans come in?

A: Evans came in with a rifle . . . He showed us how to load and unload a rifle and what to do if they jammed. He also told Addis [a companion] he had \$600 from the suckers.

Q: Then what did he do?

A: He left with Addis to go to

Atlantic Mills to buy more rifles.

Q: Did everyone else stay?

A: Yes. El Rashee [one of the leaders] came in then . . . He said we were to have a shoot-out with the police.

On May twelfth, Communist Fred "Ahmed" Evans was convicted not on seven counts of "spontaneous combustion" but of murder in the first degree. Evans said he had no regrets about what he and the Communist Black Panthers had done, and that blacks have "every reason in the world" to do what he did.†

The Glenville shoot-out and the Evans trial have somewhat clouded the otherwise "promising" future of Carl Stokes. Yet many still consider him a Black Moses sent to lead his people out of the wilderness. Born and raised in the Cleveland slums, the Stokes story is an authentic tale of rags to riches. After leaving the Army, Carl attended West Virginia State College and Western Reserve University. In 1948, he became a state liquor inspector. On his first case, according to *Time* magazine, "he pistol-whipped the bartender." Later, in a shoot-out with some bootleggers, one of Stokes' colleagues was wounded as Stokes gunned down two men.

In the biography Carl Stokes provided the police department when he was running for office, he maintains that he left the job with the Liquor Department in 1954. However, an investigator reports that he actually left in September of 1952. Obviously Carl did not want anyone to check back to the real date to discover the circumstances under which he abandoned the Liquor Department.

*It was Comrade Jones who had announced earlier: "Policemen who have offended the Negro Community will be targets of violence. They have even been selected by badge number."

†According to the *Cleveland Press* of March 19, 1969, police were investigating reports that two jurors and a prospective witness in the Evans case had been terrorized.



Mayor Stokes comes to rescue Communist Harlell Jones, who complains that police took his gun.

The fact is that he "left" the job *and the state* amid a flurry of nasty allegations regarding the shake-down of a bar owner in Cincinnati. Stokes was given his choice of leaving or having charges filed.

While a liquor inspector, Carl began the first of his three marriages.* Stokes' first wife, Edith, tried to have him jailed on January 13, 1956, because he was not making his support payments. He had been jailed earlier. We know, for example, that he was imprisoned on January 25, 1945, just before going into the Army. His henchmen have, however, thoroughly expunged the record of most of Carl Stokes' past indiscretions (including one "productive" affair of January 29, 1963, over which we are certain the Mayor would not care to take a lie-detector test). But, in the case of the 1945 jailing, they forgot that Stokes had signed the property book when arrested. An investigator has a photocopy. The other records concerning the arrest have been removed

or expunged, leading to the widespread assumption that if the truth were known Carl Stokes would be found to have a most interesting police record.

After a time training in Minnesota, Carl returned to Cleveland, where he attended Marshall Law School at night and worked as a probation officer in the daytime. As a probation officer, Stokes was suspended from May 1, 1955 to June 1, 1955, for misuse of his office. On the day he passed the Ohio bar exam in 1957, he went into practice with his brother Louis, who had a lucrative operation going with "Civil Rights" groups as clients. A year later, Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze, later J.F.K.'s Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, and L.B.J.'s Ambassador to Communist Poland, appointed Stokes as an assistant prosecutor, and in 1962 he made a successful bid for the State Legislature.

It was in 1965 that Carl made his first bid for the mayoralty of Cleveland. Stokes' biographer, Kenneth Weinberg writes that "His loyal ADA friends formed a hard-working cadre [*sic*] for

*See Kenneth Weinberg, *Black Victory*, Page 43.

him, and volunteers turned out in large numbers." Running as an independent, Carl Stokes came within 2,100 votes of Democrat Mayor Ralph Locher. After that, says Weinberg, "Carl no longer had to depend on the limited ADA membership: true love was beginning to bloom between him and the country's white liberals." Stokes joined those "Liberals," for instance, in serving as a sponsor of the DuBois Centennial Year, honoring Communist Party activist W.E.B. DuBois.

When 1967 rolled around, Carl Stokes was ready for another crack at the mayor's office. This time he ran as a Democrat, opposing Locher in the primary. By running as a Democrat, he passed up certain victory in a three-way split with Locher and Republican Seth Taft. Apparently a *quid pro quo* was reached with the national Democrats who were looking for a youngish (forty-two) Negro with moxie and, as they say, "charisma." Stokes is loaded with both. For its part of the bargain, the Democrat Administration suddenly shut the valve off on all federal funds to Cleveland, leaving the honest but politically inept Locher floating to earth on a sawed-off limb. The word was: Elect Stokes and the money will flow once again. Carl Stokes defeated Ralph Locher in the Democratic primary by eighteen thousand votes.

Still, he had to face Republican Seth Taft in the runoff, pitting the great-grandson of a slave against the grandson of a President. Stokes had the advantage of the facts that forty percent of Cleveland's voters are Negro, and there were only forty thousand registered Republicans in the city. The Republicans had not elected a mayor in Cleveland since 1939. Worse, Taft was anything but a tiger. According to the *New Republic*, he "would like to be identified with Lindsay, Rockefeller, Javits and their kind." Seth Taft proved a lusterless campaigner, while Carl Stokes (according to *Time*) "put together one of the slickest campaign teams ever to operate in Cleveland." As Weinberg notes:

During the previous six years he [Stokes] had carefully cultivated the friendship of every person he met who might be of some political help to him. He has the knack, invaluable to a politician, of making one feel that he alone is the person Carl Stokes really trusts, the person whose opinions and judgments he really admires, the person who really knows Carl Stokes, the man who is indeed his friend With each passing year, he appeared more and more often at parties of white suburbanites who would later become valuable sources of campaign contributions and campaign workers, each of whom would be assured by the warmth of Carl's gratitude that it was his contribution that had put the campaign over the top, or his work in the registration drive that had got out the winning votes.

While Stokes had his Black Nationalist cohorts and Communist friends putting out the word to Negroes to "Cool It For Carl" during the campaign, he was touring the white suburbs talking about law and order. He went so far as to promise that looters would be shot, and some of his "Liberal" supporters were horrified. But, the candidate knew what he was doing — white folks ate it up. Stokes also campaigned on a promise that the city income-tax would not be raised (he later doubled it), and painted beautiful pictures of green mountains of federal dollars which would once again roll in from his friends in Washington. He told voters:

I hope you will appreciate my personal relationship with the federal government, despite the sarcasm of my opponent. We're going to need money, lots of it, to solve our problems. And I want every dime I can get from the federal government.

One of my first duties as mayor will be to go to Washington to see Lyndon Johnson personally — in addition to the kind of talk we'll have next Thursday.

In order to support Stokes' bid for mayor, the tax-exempt Ford Foundation donated \$175,000 to the black militants of Cleveland C.O.R.E. to register every possible Negro voter.* The *New York Times* later credited the Ford Foundation's voter registration drive for the Stokes margin of victory. Weinberg says:

... CORE was received with much less suspicion and hostility by the Muslims, by the nationalists, by [Maoist, Communist] RAM, by Snick, and by J.F.K. House. There were cries of outrage and anguish from the Locher group when CORE received its grant, and it must indeed have seemed to Ralph Locher that the whole country was conspiring to put him out of office. In October CORE ran a full-page ad in the Call and Post [Negro newspapers] telling Negroes: "If You Don't Vote This Tuesday, Forget It."

Ralph Locher may have had a point when he complained that the CORE ad, if paid for with Ford Foundation money, was an improper use of funds given for registration and voter education and not for the support of a candidate. But the votes have already been counted, and Locher will have to take his complaint up with McGeorge Bundy.

While Seth Taft ran short of money for television promotion, Stokes was well financed. It was he, not Taft, who was the candidate of the Establishment. His primary angel was Cyrus Eaton, the notoriously pro-Soviet industrialist who, along with his partner Nelson Rockefeller,

controls all licensing and patents for the Soviet Union in the United States.† Weinberg writes: "Every Democrat who aspires to high public office in Ohio sooner or later encounters the powerful and somewhat mysterious figure of Cyrus Eaton." Stokes did sooner; he served as an attorney for Eaton's local power company. Kenneth Weinberg continues:

It was surely more than coincidental that Cyrus Eaton's high-powered public-relations man later turned up as PR man for the Stokes campaign, and it was charged (and denied) that it was Eaton who picked up the tab. Nor was speculation about a Stokes-Eaton alliance diminished by the fact that Eaton's wife was an active volunteer worker at Stokes headquarters.

And, sure enough, it was the crimson Eaton who lined up the Cleveland business establishment behind Stokes. The campaign treasurer was George Herzog, retired Chairman of the Board of the Union Commerce Bank. A retired vice president of the Glidden Company served as chairman of the "Businessmen's Committee for Stokes." The Establishment hierarchy actually convinced many local businessmen that Stokes as mayor provided the best possible riot insurance.

Carl Stokes squeezed in by 1,679 votes. There were many questions about fraud, and considerable talk of a recount. But, Ray C. Miller, in charge of the Board of Elections, quickly certified the outcome. Miller, who had been a clerk for

*Registering voters was not all Cleveland C.O.R.E. was up to in the summer of 1967. According to excellent sources in Detroit, it was Cleveland C.O.R.E. which organized the enormous Detroit riots. For two weeks before the outbreak of burning and looting in the motor city, cars with Ohio license plates flowed into Detroit loaded with "magazine salesmen" who covered Negro neighborhoods doing the spade work for the riot.

†See the *New York Times*, January 16, 1967.

twenty-two years, was quickly promoted to a judgeship when Stokes assumed office.

Carl Stokes received ninety-six percent of the Ford-ballooned Negro vote, and twenty percent of the white vote.* The *Saturday Evening Post* declared: "Like John Kennedy in 1960, Stokes took office with a mandate that exceeded his margin." The *Post* did not explain the why of either case. The mind boggles!

As Carl assumed office, *Time* magazine assured the American public that he was not a radical. How did it know? Get this: "Certainly Stokes, with his expensively tailored, double breasted pin stripe suits, monogramed (CBS) shirts and Antonio y Cleopatra cigars is no leveler. His children go to private schools." By that logic, the simply dressed, humble George Wallace is practically a Maoist.

The Stokes Administration has been plagued by scandals from the very beginning. He had to fire his City Hall aide, Geraldine Williams (now with the O.E.O.'s Hough Development Corporation), when it was found she was associated with what was euphemistically called a "cheat spot." He dropped Bill Stein, who subsequently had tax troubles with Uncle Sam, after Stein got into a shooting scrape. Meanwhile, Stokes was busy attempting to acquire a Playboy Club franchise. Since head Playboy Hugh Hefner balked at Ohio's Sunday "blue laws," the thrice-married Stokes, who likes variety in his bunnies, has been down at Columbus attempting to change the law.

Carl is looking out for his own financial future. According to two separate and reliable sources, he and two partners have recently taken advantage of the Bahamas' Swiss-style secret bank accounts to buy half a million dollars worth of property at Queen's Cove, near Freeport, on Grand Bahama Island. But, while "non-leveler" Stokes has been looking out for his own bank account, he has not been quite as frugal with those of the taxpayers. Shortly after his election he

demanding an \$11,000 limousine . . . and subsequently announced a steep tax raise.

Mayor Stokes is also lobbying for a state-wide income tax so that all of Ohio's citizens can have the privilege of supporting Cleveland's loafers. He has already been able to turn on the money spigot in Washington. As the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* reported: "Stokes went on to say to LBJ that the mayor's first year in office was successful because it received unlimited federal help, adding, 'Anything we tried to get, we got . . . It's important to have people of power responsive to your needs.'"

The local "Liberal" media have been ecstatic in their praise of Mayor Stokes' first year. "Stokes is the best thing that has happened to Cleveland in a long time," purred Rebecca Bell of WKYC-TV. The *Plain Dealer* exuded: "... he is building a young, exciting, competent administration which can attack the problems of this great city." The *Cleveland Press* echoed: "in a year of Stokes, the city has thrived and prospered commercially and city business has taken on a new excitement at City Hall. Cleveland Negroes . . . were able to broaden their community influence and well-being through political power."

Exploding crime, extortion, armed revolutionaries in the street, racial burnings, terror murders of small businessmen, the Glenville massacre? Forget it!

There was of course no mention of the fact that Stokes worked very closely with known Communists such as Robinson, Lucas, and Jones, and no mention of Stokes' setting up programs to funnel tax money into the hands of Communists, paranoids, and Black Nationalists. The Mayor has a P.R. man, William Silverman,

*Curiously, "Liberals" have screamed "racism" because only twenty percent of the whites voted for Stokes; but, of course, it was not "racism" when ninety-six percent of the Negroes voted for Stokes. By such logic, which is of course absurd, the Negroes of Cleveland are sixteen percent more racist than whites.

with a \$68,000 a year budget provided by a Cleveland foundation to make sure that the media accentuate the positive and ignore the bodies in the streets.

Mayor Stokes did "almost" suffer one major defeat during his first administration. He attempted to build government housing in Lee-Seville, a middle-class neighborhood. Mrs. Jean Capers, a Negro attorney, filed suit on behalf of the Lee-Seville Home Owners Improvement Association to prevent the deterioration of their neighborhood.* On March 17, 1969, the *Plain Dealer* reported that Mrs. Capers' office had been destroyed by fire. Firemen reported smelling gasoline. Again, Stokes' opponents seemed to be the victims of Voodoo.

The Mayor's most successful battle has been against his own police department. He began by opposing a charter amendment to provide a raise in salary for police and firemen.

Chief of Police Richard Wagner, an extremely intelligent but hard-nosed law enforcement officer, resigned rather than work under the Leftist Mayor Stokes and his Communist cronies. Wagner, who was so highly regarded that he had been considered as a possible replacement for J. Edgar Hoover, was replaced by Mike Blackwell, a long-time friend of the Mayor. Blackwell tried to go along with Stokes and was considered a "puppet chief" by his men. However, following the Glenville shoot-out, Chief Blackwell was no longer willing to let Stokes set up the police force for target practice by black revolutionaries and was quickly replaced as Chief by the more "flexible" Patrick Gerity.

In December 1967, the Mayor announced he was fighting crime by putting 285 more policemen in the streets. He did

*One of Carl Stokes' latest escapades was his participation in a C.O.R.E. "Self-Determination Conference," financed by the Ford Foundation. (*Plain Dealer*, March 18, 1969.) "Self-determination" is, of course, a well-known Communist slogan coined by Josef Stalin.



Red killer Evans financed by a Stokes project.

this by breaking up squads of specially trained experts and assigning them to routine patrols. The Mayor disbanded the arson squad, for instance, even though arson is at an all-time high in Cleveland. The helicopter squad was also abandoned. Helicopter teams were trained for riot control, were the eyes of the police, and the only practical way to deal with false fire alarms and police calls during a riot. The helicopter squad had been armed and trained to coordinate anti-riot maneuvers with mounted police and squad cars. Naturally, the Black Nationalists demanded its destruction and their ally Stokes obliged.

The mounted police were then disbanded by Mayor Stokes, but later partially reinstated. A mobile booking and photographing unit for use during riots was also eliminated.

Then too, use of specially constructed armored baskets atop fire-engine snorkel units was forbidden by Stokes. Such units allowed the police to go after snipers on roofs or in windows of multi-story buildings. The Mayor further exposed the

police to danger by refusing to permit officers in trouble areas to wear helmets full-time, and refusing to equip all police cars with rifles.

Former Chief Wagner has referred to Mayor Stokes' throttling of the ability of the police department to deal with riots and snipers as "systematic sabotage." The morale of the Cleveland police department is at an all time low. Worse, judges appointed by the Mayor have proved super-lenient. And, the Mayor has even intervened directly (as in the case of revolutionaries Weathers and Johnson) to get charges dropped against armed criminals.

The Mayor's Civil Service Commission, which handles tests of applicants for the police department, and promotional tests within the department, has been racked with corruption. Two of Stokes' appointees have been indicted for perjury and destruction of records in connection with police promotional and appointment exams. One of those indicted, Jay White, is the brother of Reggie White — who is known by the police to control the numbers racket on the East Side. The results of two promotional exams have had to be thrown out by the courts because they were "leaked" before the tests were given. Applicant tests were also "leaked." The *Los Angeles Times* of April 21, 1969, revealed that, "Before the results [of the applicant tests] could be announced, some of those being tested were found to have photographic copies of the test itself... [many] believe the commission 'leaked' the copies in an effort to favor black applicants."

While the controversy rages, no policemen have been added to the force. According to the *Plain Dealer* of April 19, 1969: "... the commission's performance has kept the Police Department from acquiring the new manpower it so

badly needs. Not one policeman, or fireman, for that matter, has been appointed to the city's safety forces since September, 1967" — shortly before Stokes became mayor.

Nevertheless, Carl Stokes perseveres. He gave a seconding speech for Hubert Humphrey at the Democrat Convention and was rumored to be slated for a Cabinet post if H.H.H. had been elected. The Mayor has not fared badly under the Nixon Administration either. As the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* notes: "So, even the Nixon Administration treats him with deference. Last week Nixon aides rolled out the red carpet for Stokes when he visited Washington to seek transportation funds."

The radical Mayor Stokes is now in the midst of running for re-election. In April he held a fund-raising dinner attended by 2,100 persons at \$100 a head. It was addressed by Senator Edmund Muskie and the mayors of Detroit, Atlanta, San Francisco, Baltimore, Milwaukee, and Gary. The affair was emceed by comedian Bill Cosby. According to the *Los Angeles Times* of April 21, 1969, "The turnout at the dinner was heavily power structure; the Cleveland business community poured funds and leaders into it, and it was heavily black community-oriented with... militant leaders in the audience."

As we go to press, Communist revolutionary Harlell Jones has just announced that if Stokes is not re-elected the Black Nationalists who have been protected by the Mayor will burn Cleveland to the ground. This is the dilemma faced by a city that let radicals and Communist revolutionaries get the upper hand. The only thing that can save the city by the lake is a new mayor who will enforce a crackdown on those revolutionaries and cut off their government funds. ■ ■

CRACKER BARREL

- EAGLE ROCK — Nobody in Washington believes a rumor until it is officially denied.
- EAGLE ROCK — Going to a cocktail party with your wife is like going hunting with the game warden.

—JACK MOFFITT