ANOTHER PEOPLE’S SERVANT MURDERED

On Saturday morning May 15, 1971, in the oppressed community of East St. Louis, Illinois, another genocidal act was carried out against the People. The oppressors mercenaries, known locally as the East St. Louis Police Department, brutally murdered Joe Smith, a community worker for the East St. Louis-St. Louis Community Center.

Patrolmen Jack Birches and Wilbert Jeremiah, while patrolling the John DeShields Housing Projects, spotted Joe Smith and Richard Butler walking towards their homes. The policemen, having low mentality, think that anytime Black people move about in the community they are breaking a law. (The law being an unwritten one, handed down to the masses by the profit-seeking, ruling class idiots of the Power Structure.) Upon hearing the screech of tires and knowing what the police had in mind, the two brothers ran for their lives. Wilbert Jeremiah, a staunch racist, was the first patrolman out of the car and he came out firing his revolver. Joe Smith was immediately felled by shots in the back and neck. Richard Butler stopped, and had it not been for the people looking out of their doors, would not be alive today.

A statement given to us by Richard Butler’s mother said that after hearing the car stop, shots were immediately heard. She did not hear the order to halt, supposedly given by Jeremiah, because he never gave it. Also, another sister from the DeShields Project, Mrs. Mary Luckett gave us a statement to the effect that after hearing the shots and seeing through the window Joe lying in the street—face down—her home was invaded. The frightened racist, Jeremiah broke into Mrs. Luckett’s home and grabbed the telephone, almost knocking her baby off the couch. He also asked for a blanket to cover up his foul and evil deed. When Mrs. Luckett stepped outside to investigate further the obvious atrocity that was committed, Jeremiah told her to get back inside the house, because there would be more bullets flying. While the sister was protesting about these incidents, more police cars arrived on the scene. Patrolman William Anderson checked the Brother’s pulse and found that he was still alive. The ambulance hadn’t arrived for thirty minutes and the police car never moved to aid the Brother or make him comfortable. The lives of oppressed people are of no concern to the enforcers of the ruling class doctrine. When an ambulance finally came, they approached without the siren or lights on, and exited in the same manner.

The people of the East St. Louis community had their first glimpse of gestapo-type law and order under the new city administration. Being rightly angry, they filled the mayor’s office Tuesday morning and demanded the firing and incarceration of the mad dog racist policeman named Wilbert Jeremiah. The newly-elected black mayor, who is also the Police Commissioner, James Williams, told the people that he didn’t question the actions of his policemen and that a three-man investigation team from the Police Department would let him know the results of their study of the incident. To the people this was the height of absurdity.

It is widely known that Lacky James Williams follows the dictates of Richard B. Ogilive, Governor of Illinois and former Cook County Sheriff. In fact Lacky mayor Williams might as well move his office to Springfield, Illinois (State Capital), because this is the place from which he receives his orders. The oppressed people of East St. Louis are beginning to realize that in order to control the destiny of their community they must move in a collective force and snatch power from those who have usurped it.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Community workers

East St. Louis - St. Louis Community Center