

OPEN LETTER TO NON-WHITES

Right To Peaceful Assembly Denied Black Americans

By Elijah Muhammad

Dear Brother in the Nation of Islam, and especially my people here in America where live the worst enemies of Islam and the peace of the world:

It should now be clear to you, after the attacks that have been made upon us and are still being made by the brutal American police forces with the FBI's harassment and persecution, that Allah has manifest the white race of America to be nothing but a race of devils.

We are forbidden by Allah to carry weapons. It is well known that this is our rule: no armed person is to sit in our meeting, and because of this rule, we have been successful in enjoying a peaceful assemblage wherever we have gone.

But it has again been made clear by the hostile act of the Flint, Michigan police department against our peaceful assemblage, that the devils do not respect anyone's peace.

Because of this we shall never again permit white people to sit in our meeting—armed or unarmed. This does not include the Turkish people, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, those of Pakistan; Arabs, Latin Americans, Egyptians and those of other Asiatic Muslims and non-Muslim nations.

All black Americans or non-whites are welcomed to our mass meetings. We will soon make a try at converting and uniting all the originals of this Western Hemisphere.

All of us, even those who have a few drops of black

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The Honorable Elijah Muhammad issues new ruling on admittance of non-whites to Muslims meetings.

—Photo by Herbert Muhammad



... But Not With Guns

WHEN FLINT POLICEMEN insisted on armed entry to the I.M.A. Auditorium in Flint, Mich., during a Muslim religious service, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Messenger of Allah, calmly dismissed 4,000 persons who had

gathered for the meeting. The policemen were acting under orders of Flint City officials in what many charge was deliberate persecution of the Nation of Islam.

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blood in them, must unite under the crescent to try and save ourselves from the doom of the enemies who have ruled and killed us for the past 4,000 years, and especially during the last 400 years.

For they have covered the earth and sea with their death-dealing rule over the aboriginals of the earth, since they left the confines of Europe.

And now to their latest outrage in Flint, Michigan. There, on October 27, the police department harassed us for three hours in order to enter our meeting, fully armed inside an auditorium filled with peaceful, unarmed people.

This proves beyond a shadow of doubt that there is no justice, nor peace for our black people in America, whether they be Christians or Muslims.

We had rented this public auditorium in Flint to teach the so-called Negro of the presence of Allah, of the judgment of the devils and the separation of the two peoples (black and white).

Approximately 6,000 people, including 200 to 300 devils had submitted to be searched for arms and other possessions that might be against the peaceful assembly. A black policeman had entered, but had surrendered his arms.

Later on, however, two white officials appeared, claiming that their law compels them to go into all public meetings armed and that their weapons were not to be given up.

They insisted on coming in with their arms, and upon the right to those who would oppose their entering. I left in the midst of my lecture (which I should not have done, and called their bluff. But there were too many women and children in the audience).

I went to the door to speak with the haters of so-called Negroes. I told them, that if they wanted to come in, do

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BEFORE THEIR MEETING in Flint, Mich., was disrupted by armed, white cops who attempted to enter the rally with guns, these Muslim ministers gathered with the Honorable Elijah Muhammad (seated center). The Messenger of Allah disbanded the meeting when the policemen insisted on entering with guns. Seated with Mr. Muhammad are

(from left) Minister Isaiah, Baltimore, Md., and Minister Philbert, Grand Rapids, Mich. Standing from left: Minister Lonnie X, Washington, D.C.; Minister Marvin Omar, Philadelphia; Minister Malcolm X, New York; Minister Wilfred, Detroit, and Minister Theodore, Cleveland.

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as their white brothers had done: that is, give up their weapons until dismissal. And if any one acts other than peaceful in our meeting, we would surely let them know and they could arrest them.

But this was not enough. They continued to demand entrance without being disarmed.

I therefore dismissed the meeting. I could have called their bluff but there were too many women and children in the audience.

Their record of unprovoked, evil attacks against our people is a long and vicious one. The attacks began in Detroit, Michigan, in 1932-33-34 and from there to Chicago, Illinois, April 1935 and down to the attack and murder of the Muslims in Los Angeles, California, April 27, 1962.

Even under the laws of America brutal police forces beat and deprived black people of simple justice. Including those who are in prison at the present time and those who are being sent to prison throughout the country. Untold thousands are being held in prison unjustly.

Muslim prisoners are making court appeals against false charges in Monroe, Rochester, New Orleans, Attica, Dannamora and Baton Rouge, Louisiana and against unjust court rulings. In upper state New York and Massachusetts, the Muslims, unjustly charged with attacking the police department in a peaceful assemblage, have appealed.

I have two more appointments for this year: one on December 1st in New York City, and in Los Angeles, California, on December 22nd. I hope you who love peace and the black people will be there.