

By Harriett Muhammad

Dear Harriett: May I call to your attention a slight error made by the newspaper, Muhammad Speaks, of March 25, 1966. On the front page it says "Hampton students hail Muhammad's message—see page 2." Page 2 whereas it should be page 6.

I wonder if the MISTAKES the Negro people are making in using anger, envy, jealousy, hatred and even murder as a means to attain certain objectives, are not being overlooked, as was the mistake of putting page 2 when it should have been 6. Best Regards.

MR. L. B. SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

DEAR MR. L. B.: Occasionally M U H A M M A D S P E A K S newspaper may contain a "slight error" as you detected, but these situations are no more numerous than the "slight errors" that you can find in any leading newspaper or magazine. It's that human touch, you know.

If you had been reading M U H A M M A D S P E A K S since its birth a few years ago, you would probably be impressed to see how this organ has grown and advanced in every way from year to year. However, since your real concern lies not in our physical structure as such, but rather in our choice of content, let's discuss this:

THE HONORABLE Elijah Muhammad has the final say-so as to what type of material is and is not to be published in MUHAMMAD SPEAKS. His newspaper is a crusading one — a newspaper with a purpose. Any well-informed person knows that EVERYTHING printed reflects the views of the authors and that different newspapers have different pros and cons. MUHAMMAD SPEAKS is pro black because its composers are black and pro-black.

If we choose to print information that leaves out much of the mistakes that our people have made, it is not because these mistakes are being OVERLOOKED, sir. We would not consciously strive to insult one's intelligence. On the contrary, our mistakes are quite obvious to us as they are the MAIN topics of discussion in other black weeklies and white dailies.

I AND many others find it refreshing to be able to read a black newspaper without it containing the latest in social scandals or the latest thing in murder and robbery. M U H A M M A D S P E A K S purposely tries to present the progressive side of events so as to be a source of more progress for all concerned.

People who read the paper get information that is not carried in other medias, they get instructions as to how they can better themselves. White people get a taste of what is on the minds of black people and a better understanding of why things are the way they are today in the non-white worlds.

Black people get a psychological boost in being able to see their better side for a change, and in being able to relate to a brighter future ahead, both in and outside of continental U.S.A.

M U H A M M A D S P E A K S has a function in this society —our mere existence proves this.

Something on your mind? Write and tell me about it.

Harriett Muhammad

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