

July 31, 1964

MUHAMMAD SPEARS

Pakistani Cites U.S. Muslims, Tells Why

World Watches Rise of Messenger Muhammad

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their own little world of fellow-professionals and in the eyes of their non-black neighbors and friends, they are usually referred to as "Negroes."

Not one of the writers, however, is a Muslim.

It is thus easy for us—who believe in Allah, His apostles and in the One True Religion, Islam—to understand why their treatment of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's Mission and his many magnificent accomplishments almost always falls far short of an objective appraisal.

But here I am not concerned with the personal bias or prejudices of a non-Muslim critic. My chief concern is to report on how the "Eastern" Muslims here and abroad feel about the Honorable

Elijah Muhammad's work and how their views compare with the propaganda in the powerful American press.

The non-Muslim opinion-makers would have you believe that the vast majority of the world's Muslims "have nothing to do with the followers of the respected Messenger"; that they find the facial aspect of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's teachings "shocking and incompatible with the spirit of Islam," and that the U.S. Muslims are a "sect with teristics" and not an integral part of the global Brotherhood of Islam.

In my opinion—and, as an "Eastern" Muslim who long has been a serious and diligent student of the Islamic scene in America, I am certainly much better qualified to analyze and offer a verdict on the subject—nothing could be farther from the truth!

And the truth is that the followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad are the

envy of "Eastern" Muslims, not only in the U.S.A. but everywhere!

True, the Muslim world does not publicly admit its unbounded admiration and affection for the U.S. Muslims. (The Muslim lands of the East prefer, wisely, not to offend or antagonize the mighty U.S. Government—which, it is believed, the followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad do not enthusiastically support as other "good citizens" do—lest it should adversely affect their trade and/or economic aid ties and agreements with Washington.) But its appreciation and regard for the Muslims' singular accomplishments, particularly in education and in the field of economics, and its sympathy for the just cause of the "Nation of Islam" has long been an open secret!

I am also in a position to tell my readers that in the lands of Muslim Africa and Asia the name of the Hon-

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Islam Scholar Abdul B. Noeem

World Focus on Muslims

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orable Elijah Muhammad is far more widely known and respected than that of any other black leader in the Western Hemisphere.

Of late, a new dimension has also been added to the Messenger's popular image abroad — they now regard the Honorable Elijah Muhammad as the "Champion who kayoed the Cassius Clay in Muhammad Ali!"

As for the U.S. Muslims who do not identify themselves with the "Nation of Islam," the lack of their sympathy or opposition stems not from a dislike or disapproval of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's Mission but from a (perfectly understandable, if inexcusable) feeling of human jealousy.

The "Eastern" or East-oriented Muslims in America — particularly those of Arab or Middle East origin — may know more of the Holy Qur'an and the history of modern Islam, and being "non-Negro" (which means the white society does not usually bar or actively hinder their progress in education, cultural development or employment), may also appear to be the more successful in life's endeavors. But they lack the zeal, the organizational discipline, the (so-called) "Black" Muslims.

We need not, of course, chide, excessively criticize or belittle any of the Muslim peoples in America—we are, after all, brothers-in-faith!—but there is no harm in



FIRST NEGRO elected chief executive of a major city in the United States is Atty. George D. Carroll, sworn in July 13 as mayor of Richmond, Calif., a city of 80,000 citizens, 29,000 of whom are Negroes. Mayor Carroll and Mrs. Carroll smile following induction ceremonies in city hall.

pointing out exactly where the "other" Muslims differ sharply from the members of the "Nation of Islam."

While the "Eastern" Muslims, most of whom were born in Islam and many with an Arabic tongue (which gave them a definite headstart in Islamic learning), seem to act and behave as children who are more or less satisfied with a handful of playthings and happy in their environment, the followers of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, most of whom must still be regarded as infants who have as yet to learn of the deeper aspects of our wonderful religion, act and behave as mature men and

women who only seek to serve as the true warriors of Allah!

A member of the "Nation of Islam" will indeed lay down his life for the cause of our sacred faith quicker than an "Eastern" or Arabic-speaking Muslim can recite a short verse from the Holy Qur'an! And in this wilderness, where the enemy is constantly on the lookout to set upon and hurt a Muslim, such dedication is not unimportant.



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