

It Was Almost their Last:

The Day the KKK Entered Negro Neighborhood

(Special to Muhammad Speaks)
BALTIMORE—Twelve Ku Klux Klansmen who somehow escaped with their lives after staging a "march" through a Negro community had the highest praise for the white policemen who rescued them from an enraged crowd of some 3,000 Negroes who almost performed the first lynching of KKK members at the hands of a Negro crowd.

THE KLAN invaded Baltimore's "black belt" allegedly to picket a demonstration being conducted by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) demanding an end to segregated housing and public facilities. It was the third time the KKK had ventured inside the black belt to protest CORE and had it not been for the artillery of the police force, it may have been the last such venture anywhere.

After Policeman Paul Bailey was knocked unconscious by a slab of concrete thrown from a window, Negro leaders warned that "all hell will break loose if the Klan did not disappear" from the black neighborhood.

Hundreds of singing, chanting CORE demonstrators were picketing on the same sidewalk with the Klan group. Others were gathered across the street.

As rocks, bricks and epithets were hurled down on the Klansmen, the police surrounded the group and hastened them out of the area as Negroes shouted, "If it wasn't for the cops, you wouldn't get out alive."

CORE spokesman charged that the Baltimore Police Dept. was directly responsible for the incident by allowing the hate-ridden KKK to parade within the Negro community, an immediate uncontrollable situation presented itself.

The statement asserts that CORE is a non-violent or-



POLICE RESTRAIN crowd of angry Negroes as Ku Klux Klan member and his wife don robes prior to trek through black ghetto of Baltimore under heavy police guard. The

KKK march was cut short, however, as Negroes started hurling bricks and stones into Klan ranks.

ganization and wishes to point that out to the public.

"HOWEVER, the tensions of 41 years are bottled up within the ghetto and the kind of fuel that the police dept. and the power structure allowed the Klan to pour onto the situation could very easily have incited a riot situation."

A CORE spokesman stated that even in Mississippi, the racist police and power structure does not allow the Klan to parade within the black community. Even they know, CORE said, that to do so is an immediate threat to the peacefulness of a non-violent demonstration.

"The mayor and the power structure, by allowing the Klan to exist and function within the city of Baltimore, sanction, officially or unofficially, the Klan's racist and bigoted attitude toward the black citizens of this city," said Herbert Callender, Director of Organization for National CORE.



MOMENTS LATER these KKK members were huddled together under police protection trying to reach safety, from angry Negro population.



WITH HIS back to the camera is Police Inspector Horlan, who aided the hapless Klansmen in escaping from the wrath of the Negroes. Dropped to the dark street is rather frightened and shaken Muhammad Speaks.

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