

# THE COLLEGE STUDENT SPEAKS

By DORIS BROWN  
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Are black people in danger of being wiped out--every one of them? Some people, who think so, believe that the Negro community is destined for "genocide." They see this coming in two ways:

--White officials' stockpiling of arms in preparation for the much-predicted "long hot summer."

--The use of public schools to so "culturally deprive" black people that they will perish spiritually.

In answer to the first apprehension, it should be noted that far more Negroes than whites die in most race riots. And thus, if summer outbreaks are coming, scores of black people can be expected to lose their lives.

But this hardly qualifies as "genocide"--the extermination of a whole group of people.

The second apprehension is even more unfounded. However, bad educational provisions for black people might be now, they were even worse 25, 50, or 100 years ago, when they were virtually non-existent.

If educational facilities are poor in low-income areas, the culprit is likely to be official indifference, not a plot to put black people down culturally.

And this points up my first major objection to the talk about "genocide" plots: It presumes that major conspiracies are taking place, when what is really happening is nothing.

In this vein, a problem experienced by a college associate may be illustrative. Being of Italian origin, he complained that his American classmates were not only avoiding him but were trying to get him kicked out of school.

His landlady, he said, was threatening to throw him out into the cold. The girls he wanted to meet made slurs about his background, and his professors made fun of his accent.

His problem, I answered, might be, not that he was the target of concerted attacks, but that he was simply lonely for company and resented being ignored.

I SUSPECT that some people who see "genocide" coming their way may have the same feelings. They imagine plots against them, when the real problem may be indifference; they fear the white man's vengeance--while feeling inadequate that their rantings haven't stirred up as much official opposition, and consequent recognition, as they would like.

What those who warn of "genocide" really appear to want is to be recognized and to be considered important enough to wipe out. The reaction they get is opposition, all right, but it is coupled, not with a "genocide plot," but only a weary wish that the troublemakers would simply go away.

And this leads to a second reason why Negro "genocide" isn't likely: Whom would whites have to talk about, and fret about, if no black people were around? They'd go crazy, without a convenient scapegoat.

Even more to the nitty-gritty, whites would be left without a source of cheap labor--another good reason for wanting to keep Negroes around.

Black people are too much a part of this nation's economic cultural life to be surgically removed.

And, so, I'm sorry to tell those warning of "genocide" that their hopes have been unfairly raised. They're not going to be wiped out. They just might live to a ripe old age.

And then, what "plot" will they see coming?

# TO SPARK ALL-STARS 29 PALMS TOURNNEY PLAY



Sponsored by the Doolittle Elementary Council, and under the supervision of Laverne Sloan of the Neighborhood Youth Corps In School Program who is working as a Recreation Aide at Doolittle Center, these vivacious young ladies selected from each of the West Las Vegas elementary schools, have been busily drilling and polishing their cheer leading technique for their appearance at the 29 Palms (California) Annual International Invitational Tournament this week-end where Doolittle Center's 3rd and 4th grade all-star cagers will do battle to "bring the bacon home".

Dazzling damsels are (from left - kneeling) Sherry Shelton, Lorraine Brown, Darlene Marshall, Sheryl Pattermore (Head Cheer Leader), and Vivian Wattree... Standing, from left, Nately Coleman, Sarah Jacobs, and Vinetta Pattermore.

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### Red Cross Instructors Class Begins April 1

Advanced first aiders who are interested in becoming instructors will be pleased to know that Clark County Red Cross will have a class beginning April 1st.

Volunteer instructor Jack Eastep states that the class will be held five nights in a row from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Chapter House, 212 Mesquite. Those holding a current advanced first aid card are eligible to enroll in this first aid instructor course.

Emphasis will be on approved teaching methods with a review of the subject matter covered in both standard and advanced first aid. Anyone interested may enroll by calling 384-1225. The Red Cross is a United Fund Agency and there is no charge for the course.

### Medical Aid Deadline

Nearly half a million older people not previously enrolled have signed up for the voluntary doctor bill insurance under medicare since the start of the current open enrollment period, last October 1, Ed Cocks, social security district manager, noted today.

Although most older people in Las Vegas are now enrolled in the program that supplements their basic hospital insurance under medicare, some still need to take action by April 1, in order to get the protection, Cocks said.

Early in February, most of those not yet enrolled for the doctor bill insurance, and for whom the Social Security Administration had addresses, received a reminder letter from the Commissioner of Social Security. Along with the letter was a card for the person to send back, marked "yes" or "no."

Older people not signed up for the voluntary medical insurance who did not receive such a letter and card are urged to get in touch with their Las Vegas social security office in the new Federal Building.

Just about everyone now 65 or over is eligible for the voluntary program, Cocks pointed out, whether or not they have ever worked under social security, and whether retired or still working.

Those who miss out on this second chance to take the supplementary protection will have to wait another year, and pay a premium that is 10 percent higher for each full year they could have had the medical protection, but were not enrolled. And those who wait three years past their first chance to sign up for medical insurance will not be able to sign up at all.

All medicare beneficiaries who have paid or unpaid medical bills for July, August and September 1966 have until April 1st to file for medicare refund. Bring your medical bills or receipts to your Las Vegas social security office for assistance in filing medicare claims. To assist people in signing for medical insurance and 1966 medical claims the office will be open until 9:00 p.m. on April 1st.

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