LAS VEGAS VOICE

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Possible Charleston-Gate

Last week the Congress of Racial Equality opened an intensive investigation in Charleston, South Carolina. The investigation stems from the Police killing of a 17 year old Black youth. Witnesses to the incident repudiate charges by police that the shooting occured during a struggle between a white Charleston Police Officer, Joel Kalman, and Irvin Keith Williams. The alleged struggle which left the Williams. The aneged struggle which left the Williams kid critically wou-nded (he died 5 hours later in the hospital) followed a high speed chase and collision between a stolen car in which the Williams kid was riding and a third vehicle not in-volved. The 2nd Officer on the scene who was also involved in the chase, a Black Officer, Sylvester Rivers, witnessed the en-tire incident and said "it didn't happen that way." Rivers says that Officer Kalman"shot the Williams boy twice, once in the chin from a distance and once in the stomach from close". Rivers says there was no struggle and it appeared to him that the Williams boy was surrendering. Rivers charges that "Kalman murdered the boy without cause." Officer Rivers was fired from the Police Force and labeled a liar by his supperiors for "telling the truth". Another Black Of-ficer who was the next on the scene did not witness the entire incident, however he cor-roborated parts of William's story and con-firms that there was no struggle. This Officer has been harrassed by Police Officials to the point were he was forced to resign from the force. The ensuing Police investigation was sloppy, incomplete and stank of a Watergate type cover-up.

A 4 day preliminary investigation conducted by CORE Officials (National & Local), personally supervised by CORE Chairman, Roy Innis, turned up several contradictions in Police and Witness reports. Evidence found revealed that an incredibly reluctant investigation was conducted by the Charleston Police Department.

"There are witnesses that saw and heard some very important details that the Police have not even spoken to", commented Innis. "In the 4 days we were there I'll bet we spoke to more witnesses and obtained a clearer picture of what really happened than the police did. I'm convinced that Charleston Officials, from the Mayor to the Police Chief are involved in a conspiracy to coverup an unjustified killing. I think we might have a "Charleston-gate" on our hands" said Innis.

A Coroner's inquest and a Grand Jury hearing failed to indict Officer Kalman for Murder, however CORE Officials learned that several key witnesses were not called to testify a one or the other and that some witnesses didn't testify at either proceeding. P.O. Rivers, the second Officer on the scene was not called to testify at the Coroner's inquest although other Officers who arrived after the fact were. The Coroner said that he was not even aware that Rivers was there until after the inquest was over.

CORE Officials returned to New York to study the information gathered and to demand that the Justice Dept. conduct a thorough investigation into the shooting. Innis, in a telegram to Drew Days III, Asst. Attorney Gen. in charge of the Civil Rights Division (text attached), said, "I have evidence and reason to believe that Officials of Charleston, S.C., acting under "Color of Law", have violated the civil rights of Irvin Keith Williams by unjustifiably causing his death."

The CORE team under the personal direction of Roy Innis will return to Charleston this month to continue it's investigation and to help the Charleston Community fight for the reinstatment of former P.O. Rivers.

Every Child Deserves Love & Warmth

Senator Roger Jepsen has introduced legislation to allow federal income tax deductions for some of the costs of adopting a child. "Every child in AMerica should have the

"Every child in AMerica should have the opportunity to be surrounded by the love and warmth of a family," Jepsen said. "And likewise, every family, if it so desires, ought to have the opportunity to share its sense of family with a child in need."

He said that strengthening adoption laws and removing disincentives within the adoption process is a necessary part of providing those opportunities.

those opportunities. "There is a great number of people who have a strong desire to adopt a child, but who are discouraged from doing so by the high cost of the adoption process," Senator Jepsen said.

The cost of adoption has risen dramatically over the past several years as a result of federal and state laws and Supreme Court decisions relating to adoption, child custody provisions and parental rights. Various groups estimate there are between 150,000 and 300,000 adoptions per year nationwide.

groups estimate there are between 150,000 and 300,000 adoptions per year nationwide. "The adoption process involves a great deal of technical knowledge in statutory as well as administrative law," Jepsen said. "Even under ideal circumstances, an adoption is a lengthy, tedious and expensive process," Jepsen's proposal would allow income tax deductions for necessary adoption fees, court costs, attorney's fees and other expenses directly related to the adoption. "I believe there is no such thing as an

"I believe there is no such thing as an unwanted child as long as there are qualified parents who want to adopt a child, but are discouraged by the adoption process," Jepsen said. "Giving families a tax break for some of the adoption costs can remove that discouragement."

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