

ABDULLAH

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this rally accomplish anything? Should the Coroner's inquest be accepted? What is police policy as it relates to search and seizure? Was Mr. Bush's fiance under suspicion, or were both of them under suspicion? Is this just another justifiable homicide? What can be done to avoid another incident such as this? Did the officers have the right to take Mr. Bush's fiance's key? Should he be alive today? These were some of the questions lurking in the minds of many individuals that I interviewed as they gave their opinions of the case.

Following are some quotes of individuals who talked to you SENTINEL-VOICE reporter:

Senator Joe Neal was very candid when asked to give his assessment of the purpose of the rally and the signal that it gives to our city: "This is a forum to give the entire community an opportunity to voice their concerns and to continue our fight to enlist public support

to really move forward and make corrections about what is being printed and reported in the media...To look at the Coroner's inquest and expose to the public the holes that existed in the testimony...To expose the racism that exists within the department and break the (fraternity) that exists between the media and the Metropolitan Police Department...This fraternizing that exists between them must be stopped if there is ever to be any justice!...For example, we need to have more African-Americans on the police force in order to be properly represented...We want to see at least 12 to 20% of the force African-American..."

Senator Neal emphasized that the media have for the longest been protective of the "status quo" because this is where they get their advertising budgets to operate. "The media has been protective of the status quo and have not dealt with our community's issues in a straightforward manner...The officers were reported by the media as saying that they did not know that Bush was Black, however, we found

out that the officers questioned the security guard before entering the apartment and was told that Bush was Black...Also, we found out that upon using the key that they confiscated from Bush's fiance to enter the apartment, they did not attempt to show their badges and proceeded to turn Mr. Bush over in his bed...I think the average person would be upset if someone appeared in their apartment while they were sleeping and turned them over in bed...Wouldn't you?...The police described their entry as an "Inquisitory Investigation," saying that because Bush's girlfriend was a prostitute that they suspected that she must have a Black pimp...They don't think we have rights!...There is no such policy as an Inquisitory Investigation!...Where was the search warrant?...If they took his girlfriend's purse upon arrest, proper procedure would have been to hold the property in the Evidence Vault pending Trial Review, not go inside the purse and take the key!..."

When asked about the outcome of the rally, Sen. Neal said that there will be a plan-

ned "Motorcade Demonstration" that will take place on September 1, 1990 at 8:00 A.M. on the Las Vegas Strip. According to Neal, "The purpose of the motorcade is to announce to the public, the community and the nation that we are tired of excessive use of force by the Police Department...And Mr. Bush was a middle-class individuals! What does this say to other African-Americans? No one is exempt, regardless of economic status! He was shown no respect! He worked a job and they said he was taking cocaine...He had some alcohol in his system but no illegal drugs were found...We will also enlist the support of the National Black Police Officers Association in our efforts to get justice in this case," he said.

Mr. Bush's personal physician Dr. Catherine Geffert was a bit more direct in her remarks to the SENTINEL-VOICE. "I am outraged! I have numerous relatives who are police officers...my father, daughter, son-in-law and my first husband were all police officers and I know that if you treat people with respect you may never have to use a weapon...They never had to use a weapon...All people need to live in peace...I am also a personal friend of Mr. Bush and I believe that his 14th Amendment rights have been violated...When will all the killing stop!!!"

There were people of all races present and it appears that this issue is crossing all racial boundaries. Dr. Geffert's husband, Jim Geffert said that he would like to see national attention drawn to this incident so that the world would know what goes on beyond the lights and the glitter. "This motorcade demonstration will bring national attention to Las Vegas...The city thrives on national attention and the glare of negative attention will send a signal to Sheriff Moran that he better get his officers trained properly or he better step down...The of-

ficers should be taught the proper use of a chokehold!"

The Nation of Islam had many members on hand encouraging the crowd to help them to bring Minister Louis Farrakhan to town in order to insure justice. They were selling buttons that stated "Stop the Killings" and other wares.

Brother Alfred Muhammad, one of the spokesmen for the group said that the time for talking is past. "Time for talking is past...It is time for action. Let's bring Louis Farrakhan to town and we will see some action!"

Mrs. Tommie Madlock, an elementary school teacher at Ira J. Earl School said that she was surprised that this sort of thing would happen in Las Vegas. "Being from Birmingham, Alabama, I was used to police brutality...I never expected Las Vegas to be like this; in fact, as soon as I get my tenure at the school district I am leaving this city...I am happy to see so many people come out in such a large force to get justice..."

Mr. Randy Merritt, a local media representative said that he was saddened by the loss of Mr. Bush, but he felt that the community should not let this effort overshadow the numerous lives that are being lost daily from illegal drug trafficking. "I sympathize with the Bush family and relatives but the community should be looking beyond one individual incident and put their focus on the drug problem!...I just witnessed 3 deaths in the past few weeks from drug violence...one child is now a deaf mute...The community should be keeping their focus on this problem!...Our police are not perfect but we need their help to stop these increasing deaths...Do not forget the drug problem!..."

We will continue this article next week along with a report of the National Black Police Officers Convention.

Education
Will Lead To the Truth

Jackson Gives His Support For Nike Boycott

The Chicago-based civil rights group Operation PUSH has called for a national boycott of Nike Incorporated, saying the sportswear giant is guilty of not reinvesting in the African-American community.

President of the National Rainbow Coalition and Operation PUSH founder, Jesse Jackson, says "the African American community accounts for no less than 30 percent of the company's estimated \$2.4 billion in annual revenue; yet Nike has a low record of minority employment and business dealings with black-run companies and banks."

Jackson cited, "There are no African-Americans on Nike's Board of Directors. There are no African-American Vice-Presidents, or even Senior Design Engineers at Nike. And Nike does not bank in African-American banks or advertise through African-American advertising agencies."

Reverend Tyrone Crider, Executive Director of Operation PUSH, said the Nike boycott is the direct result of recent cut off communications by Nike officials.

Crider says Nike refused to meet any further with Operation PUSH officials, following a request by PUSH that Nike complete a 10-point questionnaire compiled by PUSH officials on the athletic footwear industry.

Operation PUSH is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1971 by Reverend Jesse Jackson that has challenged major corporations to develop stronger reciprocal economic relationships with minority communities.

To date, Coors, Coca-Cola, the Burger King Corporation, the Ford Motor Company and many others have signed covenant agreements with Operation PUSH.

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