

FROM NY 21 BLACK COMMUNITY
INFORMATION CENTER BRONX NY -

In January, 1946 to February 1950, Dan M. Murtagh was Commissioner of Investigation of the City of New York. Miles F. McDonald, who was district attorney of Kings county filed a complaint against commissioner Dan Murtagh, before the "Honorable" Samuels Lefkowitz, a judge of the County Court of Kings (Brooklyn) County. In D.A. McDonald's complaint against Commissioner Murtagh, in turn

Title III of Part IV of the code criminal procedure "upon information and belief, the respective sources and grounds for which are hereinafter set forth said defendant (John Murtagh) is and about it between the months of August 46 and February 1950 in the county of Kings, committed the crimes of neglect of duty, as set forth in Section 1841 of the Penal Law, of omission of duty by public officer, as set forth in Section 1857 of the Penal Law, and violation of evasion of a provision of law relating to his office and employment as set forth in Section 896 of the charter of the City of New York, in that said defendant (John Murtagh) willfully and unlawfully failed, neglected and omitted to report to the Mayor of the City of New York the results of an investigation, of which the police department of the City of New York.

On or about the 26th day of August 1946, the Mayor of the City of New York ordered and directed the defendant as Commissioner of Investigation to institute and conduct an investigation into the police departments in each borough of the City of New York and particularly into the plainclothes squads and superior and ranking officers who were charged with the duty of detecting and suppressing gambling and vice for the purpose of ascertaining and determining whether any such officers had accepted or received any money or gifts from gamblers and bookmakers and other any of said squad members officers thereof were corrupted, or grossly inefficient in the discharge of their official duties. Commissioner Murtagh investigated the N.Y.C. police department from the Assistant Chief Inspector, to inspectors and other

high ranking officers in charge of various squads in police departments throughout the city of New York, in the latter part of September 1946, Commissioner Mirtagh received reports from his own investigators that gross corruption in the police department existed. The reports said arrangements were made between bookmakers and police commissioners, plainclothes squads, the chief inspectors office, the borough plainclothes squads and the local division officers.

Bookmakers generally will make no attempt to operate unless they have assurances from all police units concerned that they will have full coverage and that they will not be molested in connection with their bookmaking activities.

After extensive investigation commissioner Murtagh received vast information on the corruption within police divisions in Kings County. In numerous instances, reports to Mr. Murtagh which indicated laziness, gross inefficiency and incompetence in discharge of their duties by high ranking officers in charge of the various squads of the police department throughout the city of New York.

As Commissioner of Investigation, John Murtagh, committed numerous crimes of neglect of duty. On the 4th day of April 1951, Basil Murtagh admitted his crime of not reporting to the Mayor the mass, morbid corruption within the police department, which was Commissioner John Murtagh's lawful duty, as Commissioner of Investigation.

John Murtagh is a classic example of how pig technicalities and political "boudam" function in fun city (New York). As Commissioner of Investigations, John Murtagh was an important aspect of the corrupted political machinery of New York City. Brooklyn District Attorney Miles McDonald had enough evidence on John Murtagh for 10 years in prison for corruption of a public official. The political bosses of N.Y.C. knew that Murtagh had enough knowledge on other corrupted politicians to take more to Sing Sing with him. So the other politicians in N.Y.C. began convincing to stop prosecution in court of John Murtagh. On June 5, 1981, in Supreme Court, special term, Kings County

(Brooklyn) appellate Division Part 1 John Murtagh had a hearing on his criminal charges of neglect of public duty.

The decision of the hearing was that John Murtagh committed his crimes in the county of New York (Manhattan) and that Kings County Courts (Brooklyn) did not have the jurisdiction to prosecute him because the crime was committed in Manhattan. The case was dismissed against John Murtagh on

is able to dictate to him on particular cases.

In June 1969, D.A. Frank Hogan selected Judge Murtagh to preside over the Panther 21 case (of conspiracy) with Hogan's boy, John Murtagh, presiding over the Panther 21 case; D.A. Hogan part of the Democratic machine of N.Y.) will be indirectly making all legal decisions in the courtroom.

Gerald B. Lefcourt realizes that Judge Murtagh was selected by D.A. Hogan to preside over the Panther 21 case. The tremendous influence of the D.A. is illustrated by the fact that any and all statements Assistant D.A. Phillips makes in court are accepted by Judge Murtagh as fact. Some 30 motions before Judge Murtagh (including bail reduction motions) were arbitrarily denied.

Gerry Lafcourt filed a petition in behalf of the Panther 21 in the appellate division of the Supreme Court to have Judge Murtagh removed from the case because the judge was personally selected by D.A. Hogan to preside over the case. And that Murtagh is biased, hostile and partial against the N.Y. Panther 21 and their Attorneys, D.A. Hogan has admitted he "suggested" that Judge Murtagh preside over the case. The Appellate Division Court denied the petition, because "Judge Murtagh is a fair judge in court." The people must understand and remember that Supreme Court appellate division part 1 is the same court that on June 5, 1961, dismissed and invalidated John Murtagh's criminal charges of neglect and unlawfully failing to report information to the United States.

Bandit Judge Maragh is truly educating the people about "JUST US" in the courts for oppressed people. The fascist Bandit Maragh is clearly illustrating to Black people, that the question is not only trial by a jury of our peer group, but the Black Community must have courthouses in our communities with judges selected from the Black community, who are responsible to the Black Community.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!!
LUMUMBA ABDUL SHAKUR
(N.Y. 21 ON TRIAL)



those grounds. According to regular procedures in a case like this, the Manhattan District Attorney, Frank Hogan, would immediately pursue a complaint against Frank Hogan. In one of

LETTER TO A
PARENT FROM A SISTER IN THE
WOMEN'S HOUSE OF DETENTION

It's been quite some time since I've communicated. The last 30 who has been lost for 23 serene years, has found a new , is being lead up a new road, after during these few months I have been incarcerated, I've come contact as well as having the joy and pleasure of meeting faithful sisters. Sisters who have loved me, educated me enough devote my life, to the people, now, my sister, my brother, finally, my neighbors, to my sick people who have lost out I been cheated for so many yrs, and want to regain strength high to fight for the purpose of liberation. To be free of slavery and sorrow in which we've endured.

Mother I'm no longer a child crying and crying on your past, I am a woman, a peace seeking suffering woman who seeks to help all people suffering, oppressed people suffering, state

dying innocently at the mercy of the pigs. They've robbed, cheated and stolen everything, we have nothing. I'm tired Mother, I'm tired of the fascist, racist pigs, who have taken bread from our mouths, clothes from our backs and leaves us with no shelter to die. die they say 'crawl nigger beg' but I'm not going to beg and crawl no more.

My god is there ever gonna be an end? Yes, yes mother I'll fight and fight and even kill for you, my people. I'm tired Mother of watching you and our people suffer. I'm tired of watching my poor Mother sick from hunger, sick from not being clothed, sick period with no place to rest, her weary tired body and soul, which needs to lie down at ease constantly, moaning "God help me", and constantly crying out for the "savior".



THE PEOPLE MOAN
FROM THE STIFLING
JOLT OF OPPRESSION

The racist society of America is constantly attacking the masses, hounding them with unjust laws to keep them restricted. High economic standards keep us starving and living in rat-infested buildings.

The masses are awakening. They know who the enemy is, just from having that knowledge many people have been harassed, interrogated and convicted for their beliefs. Sometimes they are not charged, but that's only when they promise to stay in their place. The ones who refuse are convicted of crimes created by the racist courts. Tortured unmercifully by the underdogs and thrown into prison labeled "POLITICAL PRISONER" and left to rot. The people moan; some cry out from this stifling job of oppression (big oppression) while the pigs (the oppressors) are satisfied with themselves as human beings.

The people have been severely tricked into believing that a reg-

BLOOD TO THE HORSES BROW
AND WOE TO THOSE WHO CAN-
NOT SWIM!

Sells C.

Death Of A Narcotic User

On Feb. 10, 1970, the Black Panther Party interviewed Mrs. Pearson on the events leading up to and surrounding the tragic death of her 19 year old son, Gary Michael Pearson, on Dec. 28, 1969. He came of death—acute and chronic intravenous narcoticism (overdose of narcotics-heroin).

Although Mrs. Pearson suffered a great personal loss, she hopes that this story will move the people to action against this plot of genocide on Black and Puerto Rican youth in Brownsville and all oppressed communities throughout anti-Black.

Mrs. Pearson describes Michael as an above average high school senior who was a track star and active in the community as President of the Young Adult Council of Brownsville Community Council. During the summer of 69 Mrs. Pearson began to notice that Michael had dropped his activities and began to lay around the house a lot. In September, Mrs. Pearson had the occasion to enter her son's room one night, and found him sitting on his bed asleep with a needle in his arm. She woke her son and took him to Interfaith Hospital (a Black operated hospital in Queens) for detoxification. After a two day stay in the hospital, Michael returned home and continued to use drugs. In October, in desperation Mrs. Pearson decided to enroll Michael in one of "Rockefeller's Programs", not because she had faith in such a program but because she felt that getting him away from the drug scene would help him kick the drug habit.

Mrs. Pearson filed for a commitment at the center on Eastern Parkway and Nostrand Ave., and filed the papers in Supreme Court. In accordance with the N.Y. State Narcotic Addiction Control Commission, Michael was sent to Edgecombe Reception Center—for detoxification (which is a two or three day process), afterwards Mrs. Pearson and her son were accompanied by a state appointed lawyer, to the judge who determines whether or not commitment to the three year program will take place. No longer can the parents, wives, or loved ones have the known addict committed, both parties must agree before commitment goes through. Thus, when Michael protested, saying he was not an addict, the judge agreed and no action was taken. Mrs. Pearson looking back says, "When I went to them to enforce their law, they refused and I blame the state. My son's hands were shaking before the panel, he was saying

he wasn't an addict and they believed him, I even showed them the spot on his arm where I pulled the needle out when he was asleep and they still refused to commit him."

Around the middle of December, Michael told his mother that he wanted to kick the habit and he could do it in three days. Mrs. Pearson agreed and stayed with her son for the three day period—Friday to Sunday. The following Monday morning he went to stay with his grandmother who lives in another community, until he could recuperate. During this time Michael showed definite improvement. Mrs. Pearson saw her son Christmas day, he was doing fine—this was the last day she saw him alive. The following Sunday a friend of Michael's, James White, came to the house and they went out together—previously this James had been calling but Michael's grandmother could tell him that he was not there—when Mrs. Pearson discovered he was missing, she started looking for him, asking all his friends, even filling a missing person report with the Third Precinct. When these efforts failed, Mrs. Pearson had some of Michael's friends bring James White to her home, as he was the last known person to see Michael. This coupled with the fact that he was no longer calling Michael regularly as before his disappearance. James White was brought to the house, he stated that the last time he saw Michael was at Van Seftien and Dumont, the night on 12/28/69.

On January 14, 1970, the police came to Mrs. Pearson's home and informed her that Michael had died December 28, 1969, that he had been at a party in Harlem, where he passed out and was taken to Harlem Hospital accompanied by a friend, and four hours later died. His body was considered unclaimed. Mrs. Pearson was given no explanation as to why there was such a delay in the notification of her son's death. When hospital records indicate his name and address, no autopsy record, nothing except that Gary Michael Pearson, born 6/15/50 died 12/28/69 of an overdose of heroin—better defined as "germ warfare" being inflicted on Black and oppressed people by the U.S. Government under direction and order of the ruling class. If we can accept and understand the real reason for Michael's death then we can understand why the narcotic programs throughout this country and especially the Rocke-

faller Commission Programs are not even designed to work. Their so-called "plan of attack" deals mainly with treatment, which consists of addicts who volunteer for treatment and rehabilitation and so-called "prevention" which consists of telling potential users of drugs how harmful they are. This, of course, is typical of a capitalist solution to a social evil—always dealing ineffectively with the results and never dealing or talking about the cause, but how can they when in reality they are the cause.

A bulletin issued by the N.Y. State Narcotic Addiction Control Commission explains in meticulous detail how heroin enters this country from the growers in the Middle East and gets in the hands of the pushers and our youth. With such knowledge at the disposal of the Commission it is difficult to understand why it is so difficult for the U.S. Government to cut off the source, only one conclusion is possible, the U.S. Government allows all types of narcotics to be transported into this country and then further facilitates its distribution in our communities by sanctioning the alliance between the police and the pushers on all levels. Notice that users, but very seldom the pushers, are arrested for drug violations. The Black Panther Party states that one of the ways we can begin to cut off the source is to have Community Control of Police and at the same time move to educate and mobilize the people to deal with the problem.

It is a fact that large quantities of all types of drugs especially heroin are being made more and more readily available in the Black and oppressed communities, not only to kill and make non-functional the young potential revolutionaries, having these same youth perpetrate crimes against their own people—but also to make additional profit for the ruling class. The people will and must move to stop this murderous action being inflicted upon them. Mrs. Pearson is the head of a Narcotic Prevention Program in Brownsville. She understands the cause of her son's death and wants to do something. She says to the people, "confront, then expose this evil" and move with her to stop it.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

BLACK PANTHER PARTY
Brooklyn Branch
Brenda Hyson