

# JAMAICA BRANCH DESTROYED BY MYSTERIOUS FIRE



Front of office, window on left knocked out

Early Friday morning, between 1:30 and 2:00 A.M., the section office of the Jamaica Black Panther Party on New York Blvd. was set on fire by elements outside of the Black community.

A brother named Cliff flagloguhyde told us that he had been riding by the office at about 2:00 A.M. and there were about 6 fire engines, and about 6 pig cars outside of the office. The



Back of office

fire was almost out, and the fire department pigs were in the process of destroying the office with their equipment. There were reporters on the scene. And photographers were taking pictures of the office and the area. The pigs and reporters were asking questions of the people who were outside. The brother called the Har-

lem Branch, because he did not know Jamaica's number, and they told him to call East Coast Ministry of Information. Brad, from Ministry called us, and John Thomas, Owens, Ignase, and Avon got a camera and went down to the office.

By the time we got there at about 2:30 A.M., the fire was out, and the firemen and reporters had already left, there were only

2 pig cars left in front of the office. When we drove up and got out of the car, 2 of the pigs went and blocked the doorway of the office, so that we could not go inside. The rest of the pigs were just hanging around grinning like they thought that they had really made a major accomplishment by destroying the office. They said that no one was allowed in the building until the fire marshal came. Meanwhile, the pigs just stood around and laughed over their so-called victory. Avon and Owens went over to get their badge numbers and they started acting real silly saying things like 'Here, you want my badge number and sticking their chests out, and giving little smart remarks, their badge numbers are 13445, 17405, 254-Sergeant, and pig D. Keane - 22654.

There were people from the community on the set, and they were giving the pigs a lot of static. They were telling the pigs that they (the pigs) had burned the office. One sister, who lives across the street from the office, told the pigs from her window that the people from the community would rebuild the office, and that she would help, be-

cause the office belongs to the people, and the people would not stand for it to be burned again.

We made an attempt to contact the Bronx Ministry of Information, and a lawyer, but the pigs had turned off the telephones in the area. A sister told me to come over to her house and make the phone call. The pigs really got uptight over this. When we returned from making the phone call, we started to investigate the damage done by the fire. The back, on the outside of the building, was burned, and the roof had been chopped up by the fire department pigs, in an attempt to completely sabotage and destroy the building. The fire started at the rear of the building, close to the ground and burned all the way up to the top of the building. The inside of

name who the building is rented out to, and how long it has been rented, questions with no answers. After he had checked everything out, he came to the conclusion that someone had set the building on fire. That was already obvious to everybody. Then he asked us who had set the building on fire, as if we knew who had done it. He also asked if a Panther had done it, and that if one did, he would arrest him. As if we were crazy enough to set the people's office on fire. Brown stated that it seemed as if someone had poured some liquid all around or had thrown a molotov cocktail. Brown, after standing around for about half an hour talking a lot of crazy un-called for junk, trying to trick people into believing that he was not a pig, walked across the street, and made an attempt to open the door and just walk on into these two sisters house, but the sisters, who were sitting in the window, stopped him at the door and asked him where the hell did he think he was going. He told them that he just wanted to talk to them. They told him that there was not a thing to talk about, but if he wanted to do something, that there was a gas leak in the candy store below them, and that since he was from the fire department, he should do something about that. Brown exposed his true



Door firemen used axe on

the building was not burned, but has been flooded and chopped up by the fire pigs, they had chopped up the door, chopped up the back window and roof, broke the front window, flooded the place entirely and just generally ran amuck.

The people wanted to know what was taking the fire marshal so long, since the pigs had told them that he was coming at around 3:45 A.M. Fire marshals named Brown, a nigger and his sidekick, Brunner, a White pig showed up. Fire Marshal Brown, the nigger, did all of the talking asking a lot of dumb questions and looking around inside and outside of the building with a flashlight. He was asking questions like who pays the rent, the person's



Wrecked office pig's handiwork

cause we love and serve the people. The pigs of the power structure and their lackeys cannot and will not destroy the Black Panther Party by ripping off our leadership, or by burning our buildings. The people in the community have already shown their concern by telephoning in, and by coming in and offering to rebuild the office. The power of the people



Ceiling and wall where axe was used

piggish nature before he left by saying that he did not care if the whole block blew up.

We know by living in the Black community, that the pig power structure does not care about the welfare of Black people. That is one reason that the Black Panther Party was organized. Be-

is greater than the man's technology.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE  
John L. Thomas and Ignase Gittens

Black Panther Party  
Jamaica Branch