

Two law enforcement officers watch as tear gas shells explode on lawn in front of Southern University administration building in Baton Rouge.

Death Is Price For Tranquility At Southern U.

To many, it was the inevitable result of institutional racism. To others, it was the inevitable result of the "unthinking militancy" born of the institutional racisms, of Black people "getting out of their place" in a whitedominated society.

To Denver Smith of New Roads, La., and to Leonard Douglas Brown of Gilbert, La., both 20, the cause made little difference. Their lives and dreams were shattered by buckshot pellets.

Both Smith and Brown were students at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La. The campus and its sister campus in New Orleans had been the scenes of tense, but mostly nonviolent student demonstrations for several weeks.

Who killed Smith and Brown has not been established. However, there is a strong belief, supported by circumstantial evidence, that the fatal shot or shots came from one or more sheriff's deputies who were called to the Baton Rouge campus.

A generally agreed upon version of what happened on the Thursday morning of Nov. 16, when Smith and Brown were killed, follows:

Nearly 300 students who had been part of a student crowd of 2,000 persons were standing in front of the administration building when an estimated 150 armed lawmen arrived on the campus. A number of the students had gone to the building to speak with Dr. G. Leon Netterville, president of the Southern University system, about the arrests of several student leaders who had coordinated the protest.

Netterville, whose resignation has been called for by the protesting students and some faculty members on both campuses, left his office when the students arrived. Angered, the students began placing "temporarily closed" signs around the administration building and littered the president's office. They moved outside the building.

The lawmen gathered in front of the building. East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Al Amiss, speaking from an armored vehicle, issued a garbled warning to the students standing in front of the building to leave. The students remained.

Someone threw a smoking canister—police said it came from the students—and the lawmen began firing tear gas. The sounds of the exploding tear gas shells mixed with the screams of the fleeing students. It lasted 10 minutes. When the commotion was over, Smith and Brown were dead.

The sheriff's deputies were

fice are made in the same size and color as regular shotgun shells and are fired from shotguns. He added that the deputies "were scared to death" and "poorly trained" for such a confrontation.

Southern's Baton Rouge campus was closed until after the Thanksgiving holidays as a result of the incident.

The real trouble at Southern University began in 1880 when



Bodies of two slain students lay sprawled in pools of blood. Videotapes of the shooting indicated that both students were killed by the same shot gun blast.

armed with the approximate caliber of weapons (No. 3 buckshot) that killed the two students. Louisiana Gov. Edwin W. Edwards said later that he had "no doubt" it was a blast of buckshot "mistakenly" fired by a deputy sheriff that killed the young men.

The governor explained that the tear gas shells used by the East Baton Rouge Parish sheriff's ofthe school was established under Jim Crow laws by an all-white state legislature. Like other state institutions established by whites "to keep the niggers in their place," the school has nearly always been separate from, but very seldom equal to the white state colleges and universities in terms of funding and plant facilities.

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Southern President Netterville.

But in 1880, many Blacks were happy to receive any kind of education, albeit unequal. Also, at that time, Black administrators of all-Black state schools were chosen not so much for their ability to further Black higher education as they were for their ability to "get along" with white politicians who controlled the schools.

Times have changed, and so has the caliber of Black college students.

But, other than the meager increase of Blacks (eight in Louisiana serving in state legislatures, what changes have taken place in the minds of white politicians? What changes have Black administrators of predominantly-Black state colleges undergone?

Protesting students at Southern University charged that no changes have taken place in the racial attitudes of the white Louisiana lawmakers who allocate state funds and that, in the case of university administrators, few changes have taken place.

So, in October when a young psychology instructor who was

popular among the students resigned, the students seized the opportunity to press their grievances. They charged that the all-white Louisiana State Board of Education was shortchanging the state's Black colleges, that they needed better housing, better classroom facilities, stronger academic departments, better food and a voice in administration affairs. They demanded that Dr. Netter-ville resign.

The students on Southern's Baton Rouge campus began a class boycott to dramatize their demands, at which time Netter-ville ordered the campus closed for a "cooling-off" period. Several days passed. The campus reopened, and most of the Baton Rouge students returned to classes.

But the unrest that began on the Baton Rouge campus, populated by 9,000 students, spilled onto Southern's New Orleans campus and sparked sometimes violent demonstrations at Grambling (La.) College. There were 25 student arrests at Grambling.

After the New Orleans crisis ended, it was generally felt that tensions would subside and that all remaining boycotting students would return to their classes. The feeling was enhanced by several reported "understandings" reached by students and administrators on the Baton Rouge campus. Among the "understandings" were included amnesty from legal action against protesting students and an alleged agreement that Netterville would not seek another two year extension of his term.

Netterville, 65, is working under

a contract that extends his tenure until next July, past the normal retirement age of 65. He has been president of the university system for four years and a major power in the operation of the university for more than 20 years.

Netterville, in his first public appearance two days after the shootings, reponded to questions concerning his resignation saying, "the charges were false and irresponsible." Asked if he would seek an extension of his term, he said, "I will make that decision when the time comes."

The time may be coming soon. Although Gov. Edwards has publicly supported Netterville, he has indicated that he would welcome Netterville's resignation next summer. The governor, who got into office because of a large Black vote, said that Netterville is "out of touch" with his students and much of his faculty. "I'm a white man and Dr. Netterville is a Black man, but I come closer to understanding those students than he does." Edwards said.

Other casualties of the Southern University disturbances were two teachers, George Baker and Joseph Johnson, who were dismissed the day after the shooting.

"I was terminated because I had acted as an advisor to the dissident students," Baker said. Baker, an assistant professor of engineering, said the students "wanted the university to begin dealing with the Black community, but the university did not want to."

Johnson, a physics teacher, was also dismissed because of his involvement with the students.

The shooting has come under scrutiny by the Federal Bureau of Investigation at the request of the U. S. Dept. of Justice. The incident marked the third time since 1968 that Black collegians in the South were killed in Demonstrations by a predominantly-white group of law enforcement officers.

On Feb. 8, 1968, at South Carolina State College, state troopers killed three Black students and wounded 28 others during protests against the operation of a segregated bowling alley near campus. On May 11, 1970, two Black youths were killed and 12 others injured during a policestudent confrontation at Jackson (Miss.) State College.



Gov. Edwin Edwards walks through Southern campus with armed plainclothes guard.

Black Businessmen Hit By Riot Blame Cops, Parents

Most businessmen in the nation's capital thought it wouldn't happen—at least, not this year. Summer was over, schools were in, and the police force was beefed up to 5,100 men. Furthermore, there were no signs of community unrest. Then one night it struck. Rioting broke out along a northwest corridor in the heart of the city's ghetto. For three unseasonably hot nights, merchants saw their shops vandalized and looted.

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were pelted with rocks and bottles thrown by angry youths who thought the officers were looting the apartments. The looting followed

Hardest hit were several stores owned by Blacks. Jerry Reese, Black owner of a men's clothing store, reported losses totaling \$100,000; other Black merchants complained of losses ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

"The overall problem," said Black supper club owner Ed Mur-



Upset, angry Jerry Reese (l), Ed Murphy (c), Marion Barry (in dashiki) and Rufus Isley (at mike) vow to protect stores if cops fail.

Dozens of arrests were made and several policemen were injured.

What sparked the worst disorders in Washington, D. C., since April, 1968, residents alleged, were Gestapo-type or "no-knock" tactics police officers used in staging a narcotics raid. Acting on a "tip," several policemen kicked down two apartment doors in the all-Black community in search of drug offenders. Finding no one at home, the officers gathered up merchandise which they said was stolen and headed outside. There they

phy, "is a lack of concern on the part of the government for Black businessmen and the Black community." Said one tradesman, "Another major problem is that parents can't seem to control their children. We need to knock on doors and tell them to get their children off the streets to stop this thing."

Black spokesman Marion Barry told Mayor Walter E. Washington that the businesmen had vowed to take "whatever means are necessary" to protect their investments. 2/22/73



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Labor Duo Closes Plant; Threaten Other Action

The recent two-man shutdown of a critical assembly line at Chrysler Corp.'s Jefferson plant in Detroit was more than just an isolated incident caused by two dissatisfied Blacks.

It was a bold attempt by 25-year-old Isaac Shorter and his 22-year-old roommate, co-worker Larry Carter, to dramatize the pitiful working conditions in a modern-day plant.

"I stay in the plant, even though it's not really a good place to work, because I want to continue to challenge the company. I would rather fight within the system than from without it," said Shorter who added that he and Carter have studied Mao Tse-tung. Kwame Nkrumah, and Karl Marx extensively.

"Mao said to deal with the principle aspects of a problem first," Shorter continued.

With that kind of philosophical urging, Shorter and Carter locked themselves up in the power cage of the Chrysler Imperial plant for 13 and a half hours. Shorter shut off the power for the line that carried the body shells by pushing the main button.

"We lost the production of about 950 cars that day," a company spokesman told JET. Shorter and Carter estimate that this cost the plant over \$1 million for the day.

The two welders, who earn almost \$4.50 an hour, staged their demonstration to force Chrysler to fire their supervisor of two months, 32-year-old Thomas Woolsey. To them, he is a "slave driver."



Employes carry Shorter and Carter on their shoulders following shutdown at Chrysler plant in Detroit.

Chrysler not only fired Woolsey, following an investigation of charges from Shorter, Carter and other workers proved to be substantial, but they agreed not to reprimand the two activists. "Already, however, they're trying to get me to change my job," Shorter said. "But I'm not going to do it."

"They're not going to be able to break us up," added Carter.

As the two see it, "we're in a job that helps carry on the economy," Shorter stressed.

"There are rats as big as cats in here. It rains in the plant and the workers are overworked," Carter chimed in.

For these reasons, Carter and Shorter will lead an effort to overtake the local United Auto Workers union at their plant and begin a stronger employe group.

"Whites will go along with us, too," they explained. "We outnumber them."

8/16/73

Police Kill Man, Arrest Woman In N. J. Shootout

A 32-year-old Black man was killed and a 26-year-old Black woman was injured in a recent shootout with New Jersey state troopers on the New Jersey Turnpike near East Brunswick. A white state trooper was also killed in the gun battle.

Killed in the incident was a man identified as James F. Coston of Bronx, N. Y., and state trooper Werner Foerster, 35, of Old Bridge, N. J. Jo Ann Chesimard, who is said to have participated in the shootout, was wounded.

Police said the shooting occurred when a car containing three Black persons was stopped for "speeding slightly" on the New Jersey Turnpike by James Harper.

Harper, police allege, called for backup help as a "routine" maneuver and waited until another state trooper, Foerster, responded

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before approaching the car.

Harper asked the man driving the car for his driver's license and, finding a discrepancy, asked him to get out of the car, police said.

At that point, police allege, Miss Chesimard opened fire on the two state troopers. "As we put it together," said Col. David B. Kelly, New Jersey police superintendent, "the girl fired from within the car, Harper retreated and there was a fire fight."

The driver of the auto, who police were unable to identify, escaped during the shootout.

Police said that the Black man killed in the incident, James Coston, was also known as Zayd Malik Shakur, former deputy information minister of the Black Panther Party.

Police also claimed that Miss Chesimard is the leader of a group called the Black Liberation Army.

Police set up roadblocks following shootout on New Jersey Turnpike near East Brunswick exit where two persons were killed by gunfire.



5/17/73

LAW AND JUSTICE

New York Charges Cop With Murder Of Black Youth, 10

Like other children, 10-year-old Clifford Glover may have at one time or another dreamed of growing up and being a policeman, but he will not. A white New York policeman gunned him down last week.

"They killed my son in cold blood. There was no reason that boy had to be killed the way he





Clifford Glover

Add Armstead

was," lamented Eloise Blackman, the boy's mother, when she learned that authorities had charged the white policeman with murder in the death of her son. (Almost immediately, other policemen began protesting the murder charge and actively sought a lesser charge than murder.)

Add Armstead, the boy's stepfather, was with him when he was killed. In conversations with newsmen, he recounted the incident that took place at about 5 a.m. on April 27, as young Glover was walking with him to work before Patrolman Thomas Shea, 36, shot the youth twice in the back:

"We were walking, not saying anything to each other, and this car pulls up and this white fella opens the door with a gun," Armstead recounted. "He said, 'You Black son of a bitches' and fired."

Armstead said that since the man did not identify himself as a policeman, he and the boy ran, fearing that the man would rob him of the \$114.82 he had.

Shea and another white policeman then chased the two Blacks into a vacant lot, and it was there where Clifford Glover was shot.

"I've loved him like a son. He used to call me daddy," related Armstead.

Friends and neighbors of Glover recalled that it was a regular routine for the youngster to go to work with his stepfather after school and on weekends. They said that he often talked about "his father" and looked forward to helping out at the Pilot Automotive Wrecking Co. yard where Armstead works as a mechanic.

Neighbors described the slain boy as a well-behaved youngster who attended church each Sunday with his mother.

Authorities said that the two police stopped Armstead and the boy to question them about the holdup of a taxi driver. They said the two were stopped because they resembled the description of the two suspects: two Black men about 24 years of age; one was 5 feet, 11 inches, weighing 155 pounds, and the other was described as 6 feet and 180 pounds.

The boy, who police apparently mistook, was 4 feet, 11 inches tall and weighed 90 pounds.

Although the policemen claimed that the boy aimed a pistol at them, no such weapon was found.

Nine Black Muslims Convicted For Rioting

A jury of 11 whites and one Black found nine self-styled Black Muslims guilty of inciting to riot and participating in a riot in connection with a Jan. 10, 1972, Baton Rouge, La., gunbattle that left five persons dead.

The predominantly-white jury returned a guilty verdict after deliberating only two hours and 41 minutes in the month-long trial.

The nine defendants, who will be tried later on murder charges stemming from the confrontation between Muslims and police which left three Blacks and two deputy sheriffs dead, could be sentenced a maximum of 21 years in prison on the riot charge.

Those convicted were Clennon Brown, John Devine, Toussaint L'Overture, John Bell, Ronald Crawford, Daniel McKinney, James McMath, Lawrence Brooks and Robert Barber. Three other persons indicted in connection with the incident were granted a separate trial which has not been scheduled. One other defendant pleaded guilty and testified for the state. Another is still at large.

In a JET interview, Ossie Brown, district attorney for East Baton Rouge Parish, termed the jury's decision "a fair verdict based upon the evidence."

In prosecuting the case, Brown charged that the defendants "wanted to start blood running in the streets of Baton Rouge and they did it. Sorry to say, we saw something this city has never seen

before, and God forbid we will ever see it again."

Although Murphy Bell, the defense attorney, could not be reached to comment on the jury's verdict, he had said earlier that "to prove the lesser (riot) charge first" was a move by the prosecution "to make it easier to prove the tougher one later."

The defendants are said to be very devout Muslims who believe in the Nation of Islam and the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, though officials of the sect deny that the nine are Muslims.

Police behavior in arresting the nine, was criticized by many Blacks who contended that the officers should have exercised more restraint.

Policeman holds machine gun to head of one of Blacks arrested during confrontation in Baton Rouge.







Rimoro (r) and his companion, Little (c), are booked by California authorities after their arrest when van they were driving was stopped by police.

Chicano Arrested In Murder Of Black Oakland Educator

A Chicano anti-war political activist was arrested recently in Oakland, Calif., and charged with the killing of Dr. Marcus A. Foster, the first Black superintendent of Oakland schools, who was gunned down in an ambush last Nov. 6.

Joseph M. Remiro, 27, was arrested after a shoot-out with police who stopped him and a friend when they were driving a van through a suburban neighborhood.

In the process of the shooting and arrest, police verified the existence of a militant organization calling itself the "Symbionese Liberation Army" through literature found in the van stamped with the figure of a seven-headed multicolored cobra and headed "Symbionese Liberation Army."

A letter from such a group had been sent to a local radio station in November taking credit for the killing of Dr. Foster, after the acclaimed Black school figure was ambushed in a school board parking lot.

The letter, written in the form of a warrant, claimed that Foster had been convicted in a "people's court" and sentenced to die by cyanide bullet.

The killing of Foster had been perplexing to police and school board members since he had been highly respected for his innovative methods and abiding concern for the community. Originally, it was reported that three Black men had attacked Foster and his aide.

Remiro, who was said to have been a Bay Area Vietnam Veterans Against the War Activist, was arrested along with a companion, Russell Little, 27, a "male Chicano," after police pursued and stopped the van in which both were riding. Following his arrest, Remiro was charged with murder and attempted murder.

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New York Judge Gives Panther Member Life

Richard Moore, 29, believed to be the first Black Panther in New York State and possibly in the country convicted and imprisoned in connection with police killings, was recently sentenced to life in prison for attempting to kill two policemen with a machine gun two years ago.

"My appeal will be over the barrel of a gun," the New York State Supreme Court clerk quoted Moore as saying after the defendant walked out of the courtroom upon hearing the life sentence.

Although two previous trials had resulted in a mistrial and a hung jury, Moore was convicted on two counts of attempted murder and possession of a machine gun. Justice Joseph A. Martinus imposed life imprisonment without hearing defense arguments.

Chicago Jury Finds Black Hit Man Guilty Of Murder

Julius Barnes, the Black man who authorities say pulled the trigger in the October, 1970, sniper slaying of Chicago horse magnate George Jayne, was recently found guilty of murder.

But Barnes' two white accomplices, Joseph LaPlaca, a handyman accused of serving as a gobetween, and Silas Jayne, the dead man's brother and bitter rival, were found guilty of conspiracy to commit murder.

Barnes' conviction carries a minimum sentence of 14 years and the two whites can get between three to 10 years.

Johnson Publishing Veteran Dies In California Of Cancer

C h a r l e s Hughes Hatcher, 56, the Los Angeles circulation representative for Johnson Publishing Co. for 22 years, was buried last



Charles Hatcher

week at Forest Lawn-Covine Hill Cemetery in Covine, Calif., after an unsuccessful bout with cancer.

Hatcher, a 32nd degree Mason and native of Taylor, Tex., was hired to work with JPC in Fort Worth, Tex., and was transferred to Los Angeles in 1957.

He is survived by his wife, Ernestine; his son, Charles Hughes Jr.; two brothers, and three sisters.

Former Head Of Negro Baseball League Dies

Dr. J. B. Martin, past president of the Negro American Baseball league and first Black trustee of the Chicago Metropolitan Sanitary District, died recently at his Jackson, Mich., home.

Dr. Martin, who served on the Chicago Sanitary District board from 1946 to 1958, was born in Holly Springs, Miss.

He was president of the baseball league from 1940 to 1961, during which time he owned the Chicago American Giants. At its peak, the Negro American League was comprised of 16 teams and averaged 16,000 fans a game.