



al-islam

THE ISLAMIC MOVEMENT JOURNAL

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Muslims attacked in Newark

A contingent of Islamic missionaries from Washington were assaulted yesterday on the steps of Essex County College in Newark, police reported.

Police Director Hubert Williams said although the assailants fled before the arrival of police and no arrests were made, it is believed they were members of the Nation of Islam in Newark.

Terming the attack "a difference of philosophies," Williams said "the City of Newark will not tolerate any kind of violent behavior from anyone."

"We want to make that very clear to the parties involved in this incident," Williams said.

Police said the 12 missionaries, members of the Islamic Party in North America, were attacked in front of the college at 56 Market St. shortly after they had distributed literature and talked with passersby at Broad and Market streets.

Renford Silvera, 28, of Washington, one of four missionaries hurt in the melee, was admitted with head injuries to Martland Medical Center, according to a hospital spokesman. The other three victims were treated and released, the spokesman said.

According to police, six attackers, armed with tire irons, hammers, pipes and other club-like objects, jumped from their cars and attacked the missionaries.

THE SUNDAY STAR-LEDGER, November 23, 1975

Newark, N.J.

DETAILS INSIDE

Blood in the Cause of Allah

At approximately 2:45 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22, 1975, twelve members of The Islamic Party in North America were viciously attacked in Newark, N.J. by 12-15 members of Wallace Muhammad's organization (commonly known as "Black Muslims") carrying clubs, claw-hammers, tire irons and pipes as they were performing their noon and afternoon prayers. Below is an account of what happened by one of those attacked.

On Friday morning, Nov. 21, 1975, twelve workers from I.P.N.A. left it's headquarters in Washington, D.C. enroute to New York City and New Jersey. We arrived in New York City at approximately noon on Friday. After making our Friday prayers at the Islamic Mission in America (Brooklyn, N.Y.) we immediately set out to meet people. Even though it was raining, we spent the next eight hours in the streets inviting people to Islam. We talked to over 1,000 people and received donations for approximately 400 AL-ISLAM journals. After a full day of calling people to Islam we met with some of our workers in N.Y. and decided to spend the night in New Jersey, where we would be spreading our message the next day.

Saturday, the next day, at 9:30 a.m. we were on the steets of downtown Newark. We were told by many people before going to Newark that this was a city controlled by "Black Muslims" and that they had a tremendous influence on the people in the city. However, we did'nt find the influence that was reported. On the contrary, the people of Newark were very interested in our journal, AL-ISLAM, and in less than four hours we had received donations for over 600 journals and distributed other free literature.

At about 1:15 p.m. two "Black Muslims" approached one of our workers as he was talking to people. They told him they didn't like one of the articles in AL-ISLAM. One of the "Black Muslims" pushed our brother and the other one went into his pocket. By this time three other I.P.N.A. workers, a policeman and I arrived on the scene and stopped further altercation. The twelve of us regrouped and discussed the violent atmosphere that we were in, but we all decided that Allah's message must be spread, so we continued the work. Twenty minutes later, eight "Black Muslims" encircled one of our brothers and began to threaten him to discontinue his message. The brother walked away

from them and continued calling people to Islam. At about 2:00 p.m. we decided to leave and make our noon and afternoon prayers. It was during the performance of these prayers that we were attacked.

We decided to make our prayers outside instead of travelling to a Mosque because we didn't want to lose any time in delivering our message. The prayers were performed on the grounds of Essex County College. For security purposes we decided to make our prayers in two groups. As the second group was in the midst of their prayers two Cadillac cars pulled up and approximately twelve "Black Muslims" got out, approached us, pulled out clubs, claw-hammers, tire irons, etc. and began to swing at us. Being completely unarmed, and in the midst of performing our prayers, naturally we were not in a position to defend ourselves effectively. The violent and brutal blows of these instruments on the heads and bodies of our brothers, plus the sight of gun butts in the pockets of some of our attackers, clearly indicated that their objective was to kill us. Being penned in a corner of the building, some of us successfully broke away to get help, others continued to defend themselves as best as they could. In the process three of our brothers were seriously injured, each receiving severe head wounds. One also received compound fractures to his left arm resulting in four hours of surgery, and another brother's back was severely strained. The attack was witnessed by screaming bystanders.

Blood streaming down his face and witnesses looking on in horror, one of the workers managed to get away and run into a store to call the police. An ambulance arrived and took the seriously injured Muslims to Martland Medical Center. Police on the scene found two black hats left by our attackers, one with the name Lieutenant Herbert 7X written inside it. Before our three injured Muslim brothers could get registered for

THE ATTACK - Its Meaning

The Islamic Party in North America was founded in the winter of 1971 by Muslims from various cities who were dissatisfied with the casual approach taken by many Muslims in carrying the public call of Islam. The Party's objective was stated on numerous occasions by the elected leader, Y. Muzaffaruddin Hamid, "... to make Islam a household word so that its meaning and message may be understood by the American people of all ethnic groups, and so that they can join the ranks of the struggling Believers and work towards the establishment of the Islamic way of life in North America." In order to reach this objective, AL-ISLAM - THE ISLAMIC MOVEMENT JOURNAL became the major public voice for I.P.N.A. and continues to address all issues relating to Islam and its establishment in North America.

Due to the controversial status of the "Nation of Islam" (Black Muslims), AL-ISLAM journal responsibly addressed that issue also, since this group has been the greatest source of confusion about Islam. Without the support of the diplomatic and immigrant Muslim community, and despite fear on the part of many indigenous American Muslims, The Islamic Party put its duty to Allah and the integrity of Islam before all other considerations and openly stated its views.

The Newark incident is yet another example of what happens when devoted Muslims go forth to call people to the service of Almighty God, Allah. The proponents of falsehood always resort to violence and gangster tactics to quiet the voice of Truth because they know that once their game of deception is exposed they have no ground to stand on. The reason why the "Black Muslims" are currently upset over the Islamic movement in general, and The Islamic Party in particular, is perhaps because of the article "Black Muslims Still Unbelievers" (AL-ISLAM, Sept.-Oct., 1975) and the refutation of their unacceptable defense (BILALIAN NEWS, Nov. 14, 1975) by two other articles, "Islamic Worker's Response to the BILALIAN NEWS" and "Elijah and Fard Must Go." (AL-ISLAM, Nov.-Dec., 1975) Apparently, this material was too damaging to the facade of the "Nation of Islam." True Muslims need only to stand on the truth of the Islamic message and the rational arguments in the Holy Quran and teachings of Prophet Muhammad ibn Abdullah (peace and blessings be upon him) of Mecca, Arabia. Having no such truth or rational arguments on their side, the "Black Muslims" decided to brutalize the representatives of The Islamic Party as they were performing their mid-day prayers.

The pattern of violent attacks on Orthodox Muslims by the so-called "Black Muslims"

under the leadership of the late Elijah Muhammad has been well documented. The case of Malcolm X (Bro. Abdul Malik Shabazz) is well known.* He was shot down without mercy only because he embraced orthodox Islam and exposed Elijah Muhammad as a fraud and a deceiver. It seems that a similar pattern of barbarianism is developing under the leadership of Wallace Muhammad (son of Elijah and present "Chief Minister" of the "Black Muslims.")

These kinds of uncivilized acts, however, cannot deter the Believers from delivering their message and calling people to the worship of Almighty God, Allah. In fact, they have been promised in the Holy Quran that they will be opposed and persecuted only because they speak the Truth and invite men to turn to the way of righteousness and give up false gods and man-made systems. "Or do ye think that ye shall enter the Garden of Bliss without such trials as came to those who passed away before you? They encountered suffering and adversity, and were so shaken in spirit that even the Apostle and those of faith who were with him cried, 'When will come the help of Allah? Ah! Verily, the help of Allah is always near.'" (II: 214)

But Allah warns the enemies of Truth, "let not the unbelievers think that they can get the better of the godly; they will never frustrate them." (VIII: 59) Although the workers in the Islamic Movement must suffer pain and hardship, the Holy Quran also makes this promise: "Allah will establish in strength, those who believe, with the Word that stands firm, in this world and in the Hereafter." (XIV: 27) Naturally, this means that the Islamic movement will continue its work throughout the country, including NEWARK.

I.H.

*Read the AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X

BLOOD IN THE CAUSE...(cont.)

treatment, and before a police report was taken, to my amazement a representative of Wallace Muhammad's organization (sent by the Captain of "Black Muslim" Temple No. 21) had reached the hospital.

After our brothers were in the hospital awaiting treatment, a local Orthodox Muslim drove up to the hospital frantically looking for us. He told us that he had just come from a restaurant where he was approached by a group of "Black Muslims" who asked him was he a member of 'Al-Islam', referring to The Islamic Party. The brother told them that he wasn't a member of I.P.N.A. but that he was a Muslim who believes in Allah and peace. They then told him that: "The alarm is out, we're out to get those AL-ISLAM Muslims." However, his warning came too late.

While our brothers were being treated at the hospital, Sergeant Gaynor arrived at the hospital with a contingent of policemen. He immediately placed guards around our brothers who waited outside in our bus. Guards were assigned to the injured brothers and communication from our Washington headquarters was intercepted. The sergeant explained to me that he was taking all precautions because the hospital our brothers were in was heavily populated by "Black Muslims" employees and their temple was only two blocks away. He said that he feared for our safety and he insisted that the other brothers in the bus be escorted to the Newark Police headquarters for our own good. However, we were waiting on further instructions from I.P.N.A. headquarters and preferred to stay. Again the sergeant insisted and even threatened to arrest us if necessary to get us to the Police headquarters. We decided to go to the Police headquarters willingly.

None of our brothers were seriously shaken by this attack. Even while being driven to the hospital in the ambulance our three wounded brothers continued to spread the

word of Allah to the ambulance driver and attendants. One of the ambulance attendants asked our brothers why they had gotten assaulted. One of the three injured, said: "You have to understand the nature of this message; we are a threat to them ("Black Muslims") because we are telling the truth. You have to understand this message. It's because of this message that we were attacked!" One of the brothers gave the attendant a blood-stained leaflet explaining the faith of Islam. Glancing at the leaflet, the attendant put it in his pocket and told our brothers: "I'm going to find out about your faith!" While our brothers were being driven to the hospital they each made a solemn vow to Allah that as soon as their wounds healed they would continue the call of Islam.

When two of the injured were released from the hospital and brought by the police to their headquarters, where the rest of the brothers were giving reports about what happened, one of the injured brothers immediately began giving our message to one of the detectives on the case. During the conversation with the brother the detective admitted that when we came in the room he noticed something different about us from other Muslims. He noted the discipline, self control (and simplicity in dress of the I.P.N.A. workers. He expressed admiration for the work of The Islamic Party.

Each of the detectives handling the case were very cooperative and concerned. Before leaving we gave them and the Director of Police in Newark a copy of AL-ISLAM. The Director expressed admiration for our religious zeal and said that he was going to take the journal home to his son.

We all thanked Allah Almighty for giving us the opportunity to spread His message. And we asked Allah to give us the opportunity to return to Newark and continue calling people to Islam.

J.A.

O MUSLIM BROTHERS !

THOU WILT NOT FIND ANY PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN ALLAH AND THE LAST DAY, LOVING THOSE WHO RESIST ALLAH AND HIS APOSTLE, EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE THEIR FATHERS OR THEIR SONS, OR THEIR BROTHERS, OR THEIR KINDRED. FOR SUCH HE HAS WRITTEN FAITH IN THEIR HEARTS, AND STRENGTHENED THEM WITH A SPIRIT FROM HIMSELF. AND HE WILL ADMIT THEM TO GARDENS BENEATH WHICH RIVERS FLOW, TO DWELL THEREIN FOR EVER. ALLAH WILL BE WELL PLEASED WITH THEM, AND THEY WITH HIM. THEY ARE THE PARTY OF ALLAH. TRULY IT IS THE PARTY OF ALLAH THAT WILL ACHIEVE SUCCESS.

(HOLY QURAN chapter 58 v. 22)