

WHITE ACCUSES GOOD NEIGHBOR COUNCIL ON FILE

RALEIGH (CCNS) - The Reverend Leon White, Executive Director of the North Carolina Virginia Commission for Racial Justice, accused three persons of knowing "where the files are", in reference to the missing files in the Wilmington 10 case.

During a press conference held by the Michigan Wilmington 10 Defense Committee, Rev. White stated, "There are three people who know where the files are. They are Preston Hill (former staff member of the Good Neighbor Council, predecessor to the N. C. Human Relations Commission), Fred Cooper, (former Director of the Good Neighbor Council), and Attorney Dale Johnson (former Assistant Attorney General and Special Prosecutor in the Wilmington 10 case).

The press conference, convened by Rev. White followed the presentation of 2,282 signatures on petitions to Laney Funderburke, Appointment Secretary to Gov. James E. Holshouser. The petitions called for executive clemency for the Wilmington 10, who are presently in the state prison system serving sentences totaling 282 years as a result of convictions in 1972. Following the reading of the press statement by Carolyn Moody, Executive Director of the Wilmington 10 Defense Committee in Michigan, copies of the petition were presented to Rufus R. Edmisten, N. C. Attorney General, and an aide to Governor-elect James Hunt.

The Wilmington 10 are serving their convictions for firebombing Mike's Grocery in Wilmington in 1971 during an attack on the city's black ghetto by the Kulu Klux Klan, the Rights of White People, and other white supremacist organizations.

The convictions of the eight black high school students, Ann Shepard Turner, a white anti-poverty worker, and Rev. Ben Chavis, a staff member of the Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, have been appealed through state courts to the U. S. Supreme Court and is now being brought back through the federal court system. Currently a decision is

Magistrate, Logan Howell, to allow changes to be made in a writ of habeas corpus which seeks to overturn the conviction.

Defense attorneys are seeking to amend the complaint with a sworn statement by the state's main prosecution witness saying that he lied in the 1972 trial in Burgaw and was coaxed in his testimony by federal officials and state prosecutors. U. S. Magistrate Logan Howell has been considering the request for overturning the conviction since February 1976. Also before Howell is a request to provide bail for the 10 defendants, a request denied by Howell once before.

A former employee of the N. C. Human Relations Commission, Rev. Aaron Johnson, told newsmen in November that the Commission withheld subpoenaed documents that could have exonerated the Wilmington 10. The documents, Rev. Johnson said, were not present at the trial, nor did subpoenaed members testify. According to Johnson, Commission staffers were afraid they would lose their funding by the state legisla-

ture. Mysteriously, the documents disappeared from the Commission's files and have not been seen since March, 1972.

Hill, when contacted at his home in Charlotte, said he could not remember anything about the files or their disappearance. Fred Cooper, former Commission Executive Director, said he remembered when the files disappeared and that no effort was made to find them or report the disappearance to the proper officials.

When informed of the missing files in November, 1976, by a reporter, Ron Ingle, then Executive Director of the Human Relations Commission, initiated an investigation by the S. B. I. The next day, Ingle was fired by his boss, Bruce Lentz, Secretary of the N. C. Department of Administration.

"We feel with all these exposures of error of judicial and organizational misconduct before, after, and during the trial, the least that the governor, governor-elect, and attorney General can do is grant executive clemency to these innocent victims of North Carolina Klan justice," Ms. Moody said.



GREETING CUSTOMERS - JIM SHAW owner and president of Shaw Tire Company of Winston-Salem greets customers at the door of his prosperous business. Shaw, who started life as a sharecropper, went into business for himself several years ago. He was the first Black B. F. Goodrich tire dealer in the United States. Shaw received management and technical assistance from the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Helps Minority Business

Black businessman Jim Shaw, 39, owner of the prosperous Winston-Salem, based Shaw's Tire Company, has a word of advice to minority business people on what it takes to succeed.

"Work," says Shaw.

Shaw's Tire Company, recently wrapped up a nice, big slice of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's tire account. Reynolds was happy to see Shaw succeed in getting his share of the company's very active minority business purchasing program, coordinated by Joseph C. Grogan, a corporate purchasing agent who works closely with the Office Of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE) in seeking minority suppliers. OMBE is an agency of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

"But they only gave me the opportunity," Shaw says. "Reynolds is fair, but they demand good service, good prices and quality products and work."

Shaw started work early, helping his father sharecrop when he was five years old; hoeing cotton, carrying fertilizer, and doing other odd jobs. As soon as he was old enough,

he went off to school nearby, yet he continued to work the 40 acre farm with his three sisters and four brothers.

"It was hard work," says Shaw, who saw his brothers and sisters moving away to the North, one by one, leaving him, as youngest son, to take over more and more of the responsibilities to help his mother and father.

"Everybody had what they needed. But there was no opportunity in those days for any sort of advancement for blacks in the South. You worked the sharecropping farm and that was it."

Shaw moved to Winston-Salem in 1955 where he worked at a local hotel, furniture store, and drive-in restaurant. In 1957 Shaw got a job with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in "Number Sixty" tobacco factory.

Although his pay was \$1.65 per hour, he soon became known for his good work and was gradually promoted to jobs involving skilled labor. The foreman of "Number 60" was "Big Bud" Hunter, whom Shaw remembers with affection.

Hunter, a white man, befriended Shaw and the men

developed a warm friendship over the years. After Shaw married in 1960, and started his family, Hunter took an even greater interest in Shaw's work.

In 1967, Shaw had his own home, cars, and was pretty well situated, but he wanted more. He wanted to be his own man. So he turned in his resignation 30 days in advance to Hunter. Despite Hunter's appeals, Shaw remained firm and when he left the plant "Big Bud" had tears in his eyes when he told Shaw goodbye.

Shaw heard of a service station for sale through a friend, took his profit sharing money earned at Reynolds and bought the business, at the corner of 16th and Liberty in Winston-Salem. When he brought the station, it was selling 17,000 gallons a month. In two years, Shaw was selling 65,000 gallons a month.

In 1969, Shaw became the first minority B. F. Goodrich tire dealer in the United States, and he began calling on R. J. Reynolds for their tire account.

Reynolds kept sending him back for better prices.

"They taught me something about business," Shaw says of Reynolds. "They wanted to help me but they wanted even more to turn me into a businessman."

Eventually, his price was right and Reynolds started sending him business. When a downturn occurred in the economy, a Reynolds executive showed up to help Shaw over the hurdle with financial advice. Another Reynolds executive, who asks to be anonymous, personally arranged a business loan for Shaw during the same period.

Reynolds also arranged for Shaw to do the recapping of tires to service the needs of the giant Sea-Land Corporation in New Orleans, a subsidiary of Reynolds Industries.

Shaw's business is now very successful. He is vice president of the regional Boy Scout Council, serves on a Governor's Committee, and is involved in a leadership role in several community service organizations. Yet, he still works alongside his employees to get the job done.

Shaw's motto reflects his long struggle:

"Don't give me anything. Let me earn it."

He also believes that if it were not for a majority company like R. J. Reynolds there would not be a minority like Shaw's Tire Service.

L. W. Grantham To Operate Business Development Center

The Goldsboro Business Development Center officially opened its doors on December 30th for operation with an initial staff of one person. The Center is a branch of the Durham Business and Professional Chain.

The Chain has provided business management assistance to the small business community since 1938. The Goldsboro Business Development Center is a part of the total expansion program in which the Durham Business and Professional Chain has been engaged.

The opening of the Goldsboro Business Development Center will make the services of the Chain more accessible to small business persons in twenty-six Eastern North Carolina Counties.



L. W. GRANTHAM

The Goldsboro facility is conveniently located at 411 South James Street in Goldsboro.

The office hours will be Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Operating the new office is Leonard W. Grantham. He received a B. S. degree in Business Administration from Livingstone College in 1974. He is married to the former Miss Sheila Sherrod of Goldsboro. Mrs. Grantham is employed by the Wayne County Public School System as a secretary. Prior to joining the Chain's staff, Grantham was employed by Heilig-Meyers Furniture Company in Goldsboro.

Other facilities are located in Durham, Raleigh, Fayetteville and Wilmington. Individuals or businesses desiring the services of the Goldsboro Business Development Center may call (919) 735-5706 or stop by 411 South James Street in Goldsboro.



ALLOWED A HOLIDAY - Alfred Odell Martin holds daughter Star, 2 year old, and wife Ann holds son, Bakeeba, 4 years old. Gov. William G. Milliken, of Michigan, granted Martin asylum in Michigan, December 24, from a Virginia charge. (UPI).



HOLDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Zafa Temple 176, Zafa Court, Durham Consistory No. 218, 32nd degree, held a Christmas party for a cross-section of the community. The Zafa Temple is making great strides in community service.

The Carolina Times Photos by Ken Edmonds

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DCABP Expresses Faith In Stewart

During its October meeting the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People passed a resolution unanimously expressing profound appreciation for the years of faithful and unselfish service rendered by John S. Stewart. As the Committee's former chairman, as representative of the Black Community for more than 16 years, as a member of the City Council, serving as Mayor - pro-Tem, as chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, as chairman of the Building Committee directing the erection of the new City Hall, and numerous other committees Stewart was never flagging in the performance of outstanding service for all of the people of Durham without compensation. He was an outspoken advocate and champion of the rights of all of the people of Durham. The Durham Committee expressed its continuing esteem and confidence in the character and integrity of John S. Stewart, and felt certain that upon appeal to a high court the unfortunate situation in his life, will be cleared up.

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