



SHOOTINGS FORCE MEREDITH HOME—James Meredith, first Negro to enter the University of Mississippi, told newsmen in Chicago he is determined to remain at the University despite the shooting of his parents' home at Kosciusko, Miss. Meredith had planned to spend the Christmas holidays in Chicago, but the shooting incident forced him to return to his home in Mississippi. (UPI PHOTO).

Blast At Home Of Meredith Family To Be Probed By FBI

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — In the wake of charges by James H. Meredith that the federal government had refused to protect his family's home in Kosciusko, Miss., hit just before Christmas by shotgun blasts, the NAACP has asked the FBI to probe the incident.

Meredith, first known Negro to enter the University of Mississippi, reported in Chicago that he had been denied federal help in guarding his parents' home.

At a press conference in Chicago, he said that he had been told by "either the attorney general or justice department" that the federal government had no authority to post guards at the Meredith home in Kosciusko.

Meanwhile, Medgar Evers, field secretary for the NAACP here, said the FBI indicated it would enter the investigation.

Two shotgun slugs and a charge of pellets ripped into the Meredith home early Dec. 23 narrowly missing Meredith's teenage sister, and another blast struck a pickup truck parked near the house. The shots were fired shortly after midnight from a passing car.

Meredith's elderly parents and sister live in the house. All three were at home but escaped injuries. His parents were asleep and his sister, Willie Lou, 18, was cooking a snack after returning from a high school dance. The sister said she ducked behind the refrigerator as the blasts crashed through the kitchen window, shattering glass over the stove she was using.

Meredith, 29-year-old Air Force veteran, cut short a holiday trip to New York and Chicago and headed back to Mississippi when he heard of the attack. He was visiting in the home of comedian Dick Gregory in Chicago when he learned of the incident. Accompanying him were his wife, Mary, and their son, John, 3.

"You just can't convict white people for doing these things," said Meredith, speaking to newsmen in Chicago. "It's not my problem; it's a problem of all Americans." He spoke while waiting to fly to Mississippi.

"Why should they use my 71-year-old father, my mother and my 18-year-old baby sister for retaliation against me?" he asked. "They are not going to the University of Mississippi."

"My father is a good citizen. He raised 10 kids — sent them all to high school. It's a shame he has to live 71 years and then not be able to sleep."

The courageous Meredith said his father has not been able to sleep in peace since the outbreak of violence — a night of rioting that killed two — following his entry to the university under federal guards. Sent 30.

"It's a very serious thing," Meredith declared.

The shooting was the second at the home in the last three months. Meredith's sister said several shots were fired outside the house on the night of Oct. 1, just a few hours after her brother had enrolled at Ole Miss.

GRASS GREENER ON THE INSIDE

IDYLLWILD, Calif. — Folk singer Josef Marias and Miranda returned from a two-month concert to find they had a new carpet in the living room—made of grass.

They reached this conclusion: During their absence, a kitchen water pipe burst in cold weather and thoroughly irrigated the interior of their mountain cabin.

Sunlight streamed through the big picture window which looked out on the San Jacinto Mountains. The grass seed must've come in "with our boot," they said. Water and sunlight caused the grass seeds to sprout. The couple is now busy mowing their carpet.

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Meredith To Return To Miss.

CHICAGO, ILL. — A shooting incident at his parents' home cut short James Meredith's planned Christmas holiday. The Meredith home was pierced by three shotgun blasts recently. He had planned to spend the Christmas holiday at the home of comedian Dick Gregory.

When asked whether this incident will cause him to leave the University of Mississippi, Meredith told newsmen that he does not intend to leave "until it becomes absolutely essential. I have no more intention to leave now than I had two years before I got in," he said.

Meredith said that embarrassment of Negroes and the trouble over his enrollment at the university were parts of the same problem of racial discrimination and that is what he is trying to correct.

The enrollment of the only Negro ever to enroll at the University of Mississippi, backed by federal marshalls and soldiers over the opposition of the Mississippi State government, focused attention on the unequal treatment of Negroes, especially in the South.

"It is not my problem, it is America's problem," said Meredith.

Fire Damages Apartments

Fire damaged an apartment, one of four two-story apartments at 11-25 S. State Street here Sunday. No injuries were reported.

The fire, described by firemen as "considerable damage" in at least one apartment, apparently started on the second floor of the apartment of Venetia Williams, and burnt ten minutes and was extinguished within 20 minutes.

Fire Capt. V. G. Mims said that firemen were unable to determine the cause of the fire and that investigation will continue.

Damage to the Williams apartment was described as "extensive." Two adjoining apartments occupied by Rosa Williams and James Davis were damaged by smoke and water.

A fourth apartment occupied by John Christmas was not severely damaged. A fire wall prevented the fire from spreading to other adjacent apartments.

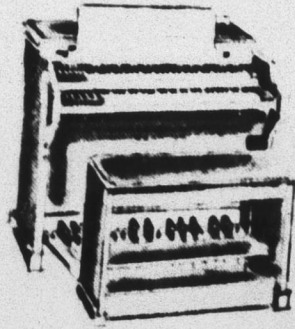
The apartments were in a group of about 10. They have two bedrooms on the second floor and a living room and a kitchen on the first floor. No estimate of the extent of the damage was available.

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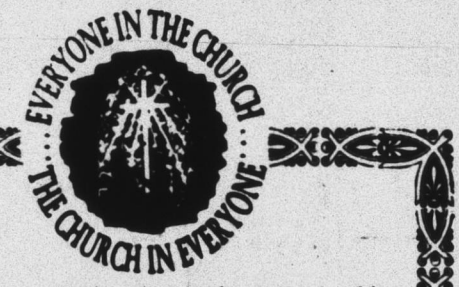
It Takes a Lot to Satisfy A HEALTHY APPETITE

Anyone that has ever tried to fill the bottomless pits of growing boys will tell you that it is practically an impossibility. Yet we must continue to feed them so that they will continue to grow.

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"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

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The Church is God's appointed agency in this world for spreading the knowledge of His love for man and of His demand for man to respond to that love by loving his neighbor. Without this grounding in the love of God, no government or society or way of life will long persevere and the freedoms which we hold so dear will inevitably perish. Therefore, even from a selfish point of view, one should support the Church for the sake of the welfare of himself and his family. Beyond that, however, every person should uphold and participate in the Church because it tells the truth about man's life, death and destiny; the truth which alone will set him free to live as a child of God.

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