

NAOMI'S VIEW



Naomi C. McLean

et the quiet tones
significance to
be drowned out by
confusion. Deep-
emotions control a
thinking and deter-
attitude toward
important to relax
faith and hope
true values and
of life. Main-
age is an impor-
tor, and if it is lost,
lost everything. You have daily blessings
you realize it or not, stopping for a few minutes,
those blessings will enable you to maintain
possible, you have not fully realized, having
Yourself Is The Root Of All Other Faiths." It
important to understand having that faith and ex-
what you are doing now, the future will take
with possibilities of reaping tomorrow what
today.
important for everyone to look upward and
Certainly, we cannot go forward by looking
are on the threshold of vast changes such as we
visualize, but in spite, we should try hard to
new day with gratitude. It is so true, each day
subjected to shocks that try our patience and op-
spirits - concerning these facts, the only way to
composure is to think calmly, develop poise,
"Thank God," situations aren't worse.
gain strength and wisdom by observing the
nature, our lot is cast in a time of ceaseless tur-
of one kind or another continually sur-
therefore, we must find inner satisfaction. It
done by keeping in mind the spirit of adventure,
amazement at the goodness of life, a never-
wonderment that we are permitted to share the
of home, the fellowship of friends, and the
work - when this is done, we shall face each new
with gratitude, appreciating the fact our lives have
into such pleasant places.
need to learn how to adjust ourselves to situations
stances. It can be done by developing faith,
we face life in the attitude of genuine faith, our
ways will gain in meaning and significance, and
up to the best that is in us.

Who Killed Malcolm X?

For more than 10 years now, I have been conducting journalistic investigations into the death of Malcolm X. And unlike the assassinations of John and Bobby Kennedy, and Martin Luther King to some extent, the assassination of Malcolm X gets very little official notice. However, each new development -- while seeming to further complicate the mystery -- does seem to shed new light, and insights.

Recently, the only man convicted of killing Malcolm, who admits that he is guilty, gave us his first filmed interview. And the interview -- after 14 years of silence -- provided a new way of looking at the case.

On February 21, 1965, one of five men who were part of the team that assassinated Malcolm X was caught re-handled at the scene of the crime in Harlem. He was identified at the trial as 22-year-old Talmadge Hayer, also identified as Thomas Hagan; his new name is Mujahid Abdul Halim.

Subsequently, two other men were convicted along with Hayer -- Norman Butler, now Muhammad Abdul Aziz, and Thomas Johnson, now Khalil Islam.

With hopes of freeing Butler and Johnson, Hayer consented to this exclusive first interview. Hayer insisted at the trial that neither Butler nor Johnson were with him. Four others were, but he would not name them.

Not only did he name them on the television program, but he explained the strategy. "That morning, I would say really, the night before, me and the other individuals that I mentioned, we had decided that we was going to move on Malcolm. We was going to kill him if we possibly could, on the 21st, and we drew up a strategy, how we was going to go into the ballroom, where we was going to sit, and what we was going to do. And, knowing that there would be a crowd there, we figured that it was a possibility that we could do it. That's what we did."

Hayer now suspects that he could have been selected as a "pawn" because of his deep religious convictions. "Because of the conflict between Malcolm and the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, most of the Muslims at that time just actually felt that Malcolm was slandering the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, that he was defaming him, that he was lying, and this led to me really getting involved," explained Hayer.

"Do you believe that you were used? That your deep devotion for the Honorable Elijah Muhammad was used to manipulate you?" I asked. "It's possible. At the time, you know, no one could convince me that was the case, but I realize now that it's possible. It's very possible that I could have been a pawn. It's very possible that someone just knew I was a good candidate to, you know, do this,



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and I could have been manipulated.

"It's hard for me to say, I couldn't say who may have done this. I really couldn't tell you who handed down the order to move on Malcolm. I was approached. Somebody approached the people who approached me, you know? And I can't say who approached them."

Hayer's admission has created some new questions and placed others in a new context. If he is telling the truth, the implications are frightening. It means that the Muslims were so infiltrated that many of those in the Nation of Islam were government infiltrators who could commit crimes and destroy the Muslims simultaneously or individuals who could profit from crime in the name of their alleged faith. In short, the Muslim organization was exploited.

My investigation could find no definite link to the Muslims, but a lot of new evidence that produced a lot of new questions. Who was the quote "thin-lipped, olive-skinned man, with slanted eyes," who followed Malcolm in Africa and Europe and fit the description of the mysterious second man allegedly arrested at the scene of the crime.

Was there a third man arrested at the scene of the crime as the early editions of the New York papers said? If so, and he disappeared while in the custody of the police, was there government complicity in the murder?

Hayer's naming of his co-conspirators now even stirs up the tempest further. He says he's not sure who above him in the Muslims gave the order -- if indeed it was the Muslims.

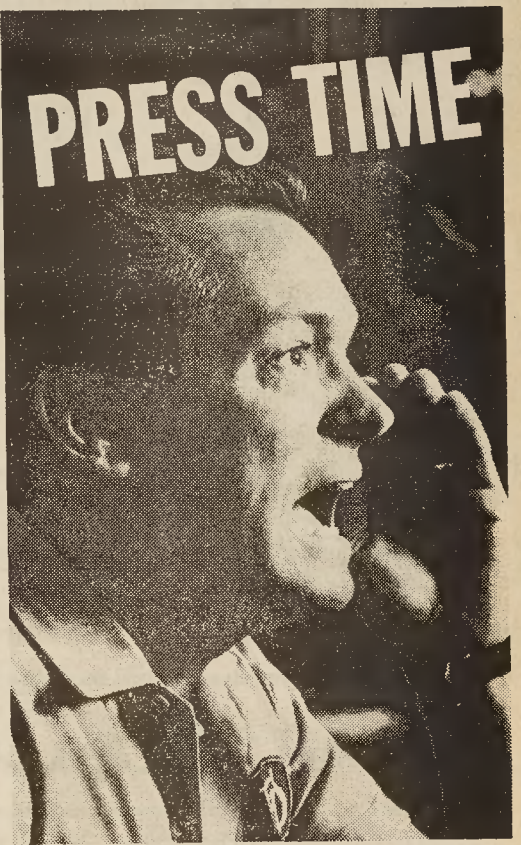
It's possible that we may never know -- for sure -- who killed Malcolm X. But those who love freedom and justice should never stop trying. If what Malcolm stood for can be silenced by intimidating his intended beneficiaries into silence, then he lived -- and died -- in vain. He didn't.

The great actor Ossie Davis, in giving Malcolm's eulogy, said: "Malcolm was our manhood, our living Black manhood. And in honoring him, we honor the best in ourselves.

Tony Brown's Journal, the television series, is shown every Sunday, on WGHP-TV, Channel 8 at 11:30 p.m.



A mural done by the great Mexican painter Diego Rivera for Rockefeller Center was destroyed by order of its sponsors because Rivera included a portrait of Lenin. The mural was reproduced in Mexico City at the Palace of Fine Arts.



Southern Bell is going to press with the new Winston-Salem Directory. The deadline is almost here. If you'd like to change your listing, call our business office now.



Clifton Graves From page 4

My fellow "Reggies" concluded the fight to save legal services must be tied or linked to the ever-growing grass-root mobilization being used to counter the cutbacks to the aforementioned social programs. "Package" is essential to survival if we are to avoid the "divide and conquer" strategy. "Fighting over crumbs" is a game system constantly plays with the black and white poor. Those of us in Winston-Salem, we need to rally support in this community that would not give a damn. The Legal Aid Society was phased out. Those who are agitated by certain lawyers, or who feel that some of our colleagues are overzealous in their quest for justice for the poor. To those of us we say only this: would you have opened your door to that poor farmer from Rural Hall about to be evicted? would you have opened

your door to the black welfare mother from Columbia Terrace who had been denied food stamps for the third time? Well, would you???

Granted, we are human and sometimes err, but our zeal emanates from our commitment - our dedication to make equal justice under law a reality in America. It ain't easy when you're understaffed, underpaid and overworked, but we do the best we can...ask the thousands of our clients...

To LSC supporters, the charge is simple; mobilize support in your churches, civic groups, fraternities and sororities; write your congressman, senator and mayor advocating the necessity to save not just legal services, but indeed the food stamps, medicaid and black-lung benefits programs as well.

For if these programs either are eliminated or drastically cut, more than poor folk will pay the price! Think about it...

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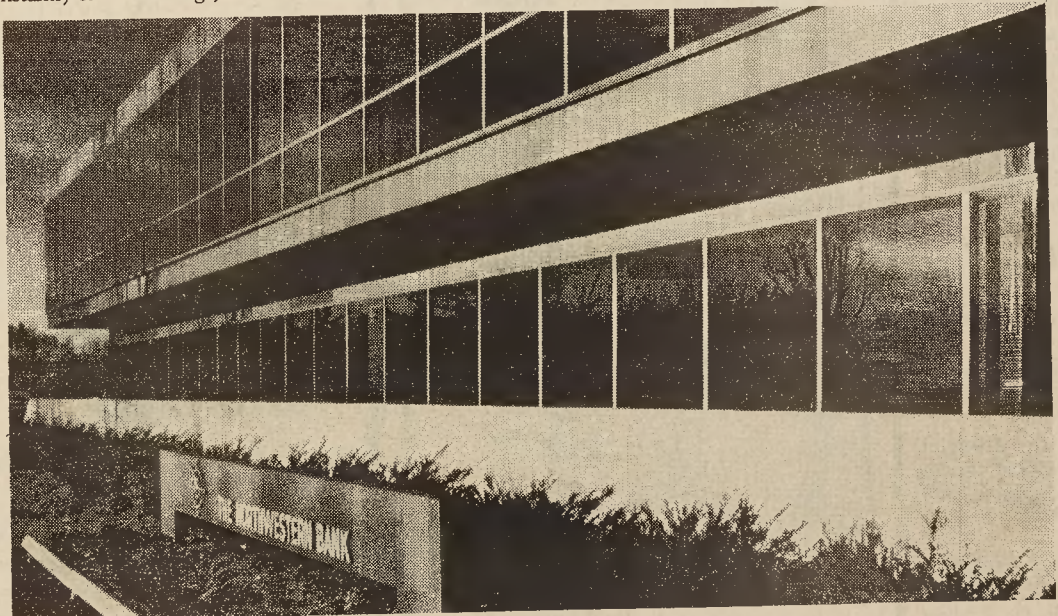
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