

# NATIONAL

## Nation of Islam Minister Khallid Muhammad Released from Hospital

▲ Ousted spokesman was shot following speech at University of California-Riverside

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) — Nation of Islam minister Khallid Abdul Muhammad was released from the hospital Friday, five days after he was wounded in an ambush shooting.

The black nationalist preacher, surrounded by bodyguards, was wheeled out of the hospital and into a van with an unknown destination. He didn't speak to reporters, leaving through a garage exit.

"I don't imagine he would want to stay in Riverside, but I don't know," said Robert Krull, vice president for administration at Riverside Community Hospital.

Muhammad underwent surgery for bullet wounds below his left knee. The wounds on his right leg did not require surgery. His immediate plans weren't clear.

"He will need some physical therapy. How much is up to his physician," Krull said.

Muhammad was shot May 29 after giving a speech at the University of California-Riverside. Four of his bodyguards and a bystander also were hospitalized with bullet wounds and released earlier.

James Edward Bess, 49, has pleaded innocent to charges of attempted murder and assault with a firearm. The motive for the shooting was unclear. Bess, from Tacoma,



Former Nation of Islam spokesman Khallid Abdul Muhammad (center) is carried back into the University of California-Riverside student recreation center after being shot while leaving a speaking engagement May 29.

Wash., has appeared on public-access television to preach his own version of Islam.

He was defrocked as a Nation of Islam minister three years ago, according to members of the organization. Some have said Muhammad

and a close associate were instrumental in his release.

Bess was beaten by onlookers after the shooting. He was taken to the county jail after treatment at another hospital. Police said they were looking for members of the

mob who nearly pulled Bess out of a police car as officers drove him away from the shooting.

"In California, that's called lynching," Police Chief Ken Fortier told reporters. State law defines lynching as "the taking by means of

a riot of any person from the lawful custody of any peace officer."

Police said they believe Bess acted alone, but their investigation was continuing.

Muhammad was suspended as senior aide to Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan after a

November speech in which he called Jews "the bloodsuckers" of the black community and urged the killing of South African whites.

Krull said the community hospital had beefed up security during Muhammad's stay, and there were no serious incidents.

## Jesse Jackson to Ask for Probe into Serial Murders

CHARLOTTE (AP) — Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson is calling for a federal inquiry into the way Charlotte-Mecklenburg police investigated the murders of 10 young black women.

Jackson emerged from a meeting Friday with the mothers of some of the victims of an accused serial killer with a vow to press the Justice Department to review the way homicide detectives investigated the string of killings.

"These mothers who lost their children deserve to get the best answers," the civil rights leader told reporters after meeting in private with Dee Sumpter and the other mothers prior to his pep talk on minority-voter registration at a Charlotte restaurant.

Jackson said the only way to get to the truth is through an outside probe.

"We need to get beyond the finger-pointing," he said. "We need a thorough, complete, impartial investigation."

Henry Louis Wallace, a former fast-food restaurant worker, is awaiting trial on charges of killing 10 women in Charlotte and one in South Carolina. He's being held without bond in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Both Jackson and Sumpter, the founder of Mothers of Murdered

Offspring, said the 30-minute meeting covered a wide range of issues, including the police investigation of the Wallace case.

They also discussed last winter's shooting of Windy Thompson, a black motorist who was killed by a Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer.

"We feel that in both instances the Justice Department ought to investigate the facts," Jackson said.

Sumpter and other community leaders have said police acted too slowly in the Wallace case. Had Wallace been arrested sooner, they claim, some of the victims might still be alive.

Sumpter's daughter, Shawna Hawk, was one of 10 Charlotte women police said were murdered by Wallace over a 20-month period. Investigators said Wallace knew many of the victims through work. Most of the women were strangled in their own homes.

Despite many similarities, the murders were not linked until the last three homicides, which occurred over a period of a few days this spring. Sumpter has criticized police for not listening to her after her daughter was found murdered in her apartment.

Police are conducting an internal investigation into the way



Jesse Jackson

homicide officers handled the string of killings. Some community leaders, including Sumpter, want an outside inquiry.

Sumpter said Jackson offered a sympathetic ear.

"He said he will act on all our concerns," she said.

In the Thompson case, police officer Mark Farmer was cleared of any wrongdoing by the department and the district attorney's office.

Both internal police investigators and prosecutors determined he was acting in self-defense when he shot Thompson several times when she drove off in her car with his upper body stuck inside the passenger-side window.

"The idea of a young woman

being shot... while she was unarmed and driving on four flat tires is wrong," Jackson said.

The civil rights leader came to Charlotte on his 17-city tour called "The Rainbow Hope Caravan-Voting Rights Crusade."

## Man Indicted for Sending 'Gorillagram' To Black New Jersey Congressman

TEANECK, N.J. (AP) — A Teaneck, N.J., man was indicted by a Bergen County grand jury on the anti-bias charge of harassing a black councilman by sending him a "gorillagram."

Dan Koenigsberg, 45, was charged Friday in connection with a Sept. 28 incident in which he hired a messenger dressed in a gorilla suit. The messenger delivered bananas, a

stuffed monkey and a telegram that read, "Congratulations from the wannabees," to Councilman Mel Henderson at a televised meeting.

Earlier that afternoon, Henderson, the only black council member, had been named to a 50-member task force studying hate crimes.

Two weeks ago, the state Supreme Court declared New Jersey's hate crime law unconstitu-

tional, but upheld the section of the law under which Koenigsberg has been charged.

Koenigsberg is expected to be arraigned on the indictment within the next three weeks, the Bergen County Prosecutor's office said.

If convicted, he faces up to 18 months in jail and \$7,500 in fines.

## Restaurant Subject to Racial Protest

MILLERSVILLE, Md. (AP) — About 25 people protested Saturday outside a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant where three black women claim they were racially insulted.

The women said they were waiting on line for lunch when an argument erupted over who should be served first and the counter person then uttered the racial remark.

The women said they have met with a Kentucky Fried Chicken official since the incident, but are not satisfied.

"We want a public apology; someone to recognize what happened," said Hazel Pinkcett, one of the three women. "The gentleman came up from KFC. He was very professional but he didn't give us what we wanted."

A company official said Saturday that disciplinary action has been taken against the employees involved.

Ms. Pinkcett said the three women want an apology from the company and a written agreement saying employees will be fired in the future for similar conduct.



## TODAY'S SCHOLARS. TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

These students represent the first graduating class of the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund. Dedicated young men and women who earned their scholarships through outstanding academic achievement and commitment to excellence.

The Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund is a national merit-based program, exclusively designed for students attending historically Black public colleges and universities. It provides young scholars with four-year scholarships to help them earn a college

degree and fulfill their highest potential.

The results have been exceptional. These scholars have an outstanding four-year academic average of 3.3 or better. In fact, more than 65% of them plan to go on to graduate school.

The Miller Brewing Company is proud to congratulate these very distinguished graduates. Supporting the best and the brightest students today means supporting the leaders of tomorrow.

Give to the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund.



THE THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP FUND. PUT A YOUTH IN A SEAT OF POWER.

For fundraising program information, call 612-835-7838. Write or send donations to: Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund, Processing Center, P.O. Box 39992, Washington, D.C. 20036

