

Landmark NOMINATION Application

Name: The People's Wall

Street Address: 1919 E Spruce St (formerly "173 20th Ave" pre-1973), eastern property retaining wall

Year Built: 1936 (earliest evidence of retaining wall) or 1930 (date of duplex remodel)

King County Assessor's Parcel No.: 8726620000

Legal Description: 20 Spruce Condominium

Plat Name: Dean's Addition

Block: 1

Lot: 10

Present Owner: Sherryl Lynn Standifer

Owner Mailing Address: 1919 E Spruce St., Unit B; Seattle, WA 98122

Present Use(s): Condominium (Residential)

Original Owner: Nissim Chiprut (1925 - 1937), *unconfirmed*

Original Use(s): Duplex (Residential)

Architect/Engineer/Designer: *Wall unknown* / mural artist: Dion Henderson

Submitted by: Ariel Paine, Stephanie Johnson-Toliver, Taha Ebrahimi

Mailing Address: Black Heritage Society of Washington State, Inc (P. O. Box 28647; Seattle, WA 98118)

Date Submitted: January 30, 2026

Reviewed: _____

Date:

Historic Preservation Officer

Seattle Landmark Nomination:
The People's Wall
1919 E Spruce St
(formerly "173 20th Ave" pre-1973)



People's Wall, 1919 E Spruce

Central District | Seattle, Washington

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1. HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The People's Wall (1970 - present)

The People's Wall is a mural originally completed on Oct. 6, 1970 by artist Dion Henderson¹, painted on a street-level concrete retaining wall facing 20th Ave at the corner of Spruce St in the Central District neighborhood of Seattle, Washington². The wall is on the eastern border of a site that once housed a duplex that was the second official headquarters of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party from 1969 to 1971³ (formerly "173 20th Ave" and currently "1919 Spruce St").

Founded in 1966, the national Black Panther Party was arguably one of the most revolutionary organizations in the United States in the late 1960s and early 1970s⁴ – and the Seattle Chapter was the Party's first branch outside California as well as one of the longest-functioning (running from 1968 to 1978)⁵. The Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party (SCBPP) had a major impact on the Puget Sound region, establishing community programs such as the Pacific Northwest's first free medical center which continues to operate today just a few blocks away as the Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center, the only remaining health care clinic out of 13 founded by the Black Panther Party around the nation.

The mural depicted on the People's Wall has been described by SCBPP co-founder Elmer Dixon as "a testament to the struggle of the Black Panther Party"⁶. Local Seattle artist Al Doggett, a friend of Henderson's, described the mural as "reflecting the story of Black American struggles and injustices the Black Panther Party was fighting to overcome." Painted on it are images of prominent Black American civil-rights icons and scenes of the 1960s and, while none of the figures originate from Seattle, their prominence on the wall illustrates the strong ties the Seattle Chapter felt towards a national ethos. Images on the wall depict (*from left to right on the mural*):

- **Angela Davis**⁸ (1944 – present: Party member originally from Alabama who was arrested for and later acquitted of being involved in the August 7, 1970 armed takeover of a courtroom in Marin County, California, in the midst of a deliberation on the fate of three Black inmates charged with killing a white prison guard⁹);
- **Charlie "Bird" Parker**¹⁰ (1920 – 1955: legendary Black American jazz saxophonist originally from Kansas, responsible for the development of the musical style known as "bebop"¹¹);
- **Bobby Seale**¹² depicted on the mural "chained and gagged to a chair"¹³ (1936 – present: co-founder of the national Black Panther Party, originally from Texas, and one of the "Chicago 8" charged with conspiracy by the U.S. federal government for participating in anti-Vietnam War protests during the 1968 Democratic National Convention¹⁴);
- The "**New York 21**"¹⁵ (a group of New York Black Panther Party members who were arrested and charged by police on April 2, 1969 in a pre-dawn raid – and later acquitted in 1971 after revelations that undercover police agents had played key instigator roles¹⁶);

¹ Fig. 19 "Images"

² Fig. 23 "Images"

³ Fig. 114 "Documents & Clippings"

⁴ "Black Panthers". *HISTORY*: March 29, 2023.

⁵ "[Seattle Black Panther Party History and Memory Project](#)", Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project, University of Washington.

⁶ Dixon, Elmer. p. 334.

⁷ Fig. 17 "Images"

⁸ Fig. 17 "Images"

⁹ Caldwell, Earl. "Angela Davis Acquitted on All Charges". *The New York Times*: June 5, 1972.

¹⁰ Fig. 18 "Images"

¹¹ "[Charlie Parker, Uptown and Down](#)". *The NY Times*: August 24, 2007.

¹² Fig. 17 "Images"

¹³ Dixon, Elmer. p. 334.

¹⁴ Hendrickson, Paul. "Revolutionary At Rest". *The Washington Post*: March 10, 1978.

¹⁵ Fig. 19 "Images"

¹⁶ bin-Wahad, Dhoruba. "55th Anniversary of the NY Panther 21 Case". *Black Agenda Report*: April 3, 2024.

- A drawing in the style of **Emory Douglas**¹⁷ (1943 – present: Black graphic artist and Minister of Culture for the Black Panther Party, originally from Michigan) of “a sister holding a gun and enjoying good times while preparing for an attack from the police” as described by SCBPP co-founder Elmer Dixon¹⁸;
- **Huey Newton**¹⁹ (1942 – 1989: co-founder of the Black Panther Party originally from Louisiana, convicted in 1968 of voluntary manslaughter in a shoot-out leading to the death of an Oakland police officer – which was later dismissed in 1970 before Newton’s murder at age 47²⁰);
- **Malcolm X**²¹ (1925 – 1965: Black nationalist leader and Muslim minister originally from Nebraska who advocated for Black empowerment, assassinated at age 45²²)

Henderson’s artwork reflected the Black American mood of the times, but it also contained a distinctly local element in that the first and last names of nine members of the Seattle Chapter – seven men and two women – are memorialized on it. Each was considered “fallen” in the battle for freedom and equality, whether they had died from gunshot wounds in altercations with local police officers or from preventable cancers, suicides, or even prison homicides: The Panthers viewed them all as having been lost prematurely young due to the core overarching cause of inequality, which they fought against.

The mural is “dedicated to the fallen,” with names listed in the following order:

1. **Sydney Miller**, of 1732 18th Ave in the Central District, passed away²³ on December 2, 1968 at age 26²⁴; the SCBPP’s free community clinic was originally named after Miller and was located at what was once the second SCBPP headquarters at 173 20th Ave where the People’s Wall is located (the clinic was later re-named in 1978);
2. **Welton “Butch” Armstead**, of 8426 37th Ave S in Rainier Valley, passed away at age 17 on October 5, 1968²⁵; the SCBPP’s community center was named after Armstead and was located at what was once the second SCBPP headquarters at 173 20th Ave where the People’s Wall is located;
3. **Alfred Postell***, of 3708 E Olive St in Capitol Hill, passed away²⁶ on February 28, 1971.²⁷
* Note: *Postell’s last name on the mural appears incorrectly as “Postel”; due to the date of his death, his name may have been added to the People’s Wall by artist Eddie Walker in 2008 when the mural was re-touched for the 40th Anniversary of the SCBPP;*
4. **Larry Ward**, a decorated Vietnam War veteran passed away²⁸ on May 15, 1970 at age 22²⁹;
5. **Lewis T. Jackson** (a.k.a. “LewJack”) a Seattle transplant from the Ninth Ward in New Orleans and the “self-appointed personal bodyguard” of SCBPP captain Aaron Dixon³⁰ passed away “in 1969 or 1970”³¹;
6. **Maude Helen Allen***, captain of the female contingent of the Seattle Chapter, a graduate of Garfield High School, a well-known caterer and entrepreneur, and a member of the choir at Peoples Institutional Baptist Church (located at 159 24th Ave, just a few blocks away from the People’s Wall) passed away in January 1985 at age 36 (see *photo of Allen from July 3, 1968, Fig. 28 “Documents & Clippings”*). At that time, she lived at 502 30th Ave in the Central District and was survived by her parents, two older sisters (two brother-in-laws), one son and three nieces (had she lived, she would have known her three granddaughters, great-niece, great-nephew and daughter-in-law.)

¹⁷ Fig. 17 “Images”

¹⁸ Dixon, Elmer. p. 334.

¹⁹ Fig. 17 “Images”

²⁰ Hevesi, Dennis. “Huey Newton Symbolized the Rising Black Anger of a Generation”. *The New York Times*: August 23, 1989.

²¹ Fig. 17 “Images”

²² Mitchell, Jason. “Malcolm X’s Influence on the Black Panther Party’s Philosophy”. *History in an Hour*: June 15, 2012.

²³ Dixon, Elmer. p. 160

²⁴ Dixon, Elmer. p. 214 & Fig 55 “Documents & Clippings”

²⁵ Wilma, David. “Seattle police shoot and kill Welton Armstead on October 5, 1968.” HistoryLink.org Essay 3605, October 9, 2001, Fig. 55, Fig. 56, Fig. 57 & Fig. 93 Documents & Clippings

²⁶ Dixon, Elmer. p. 286-287.

²⁷ Fig 115. “Documents & Clippings”

²⁸ Dixon, Elmer. p. 245

²⁹ Fig 84, Fig 95, Fig 96, Fig 97, Fig 98, Fig 101, Fig 102, Fig 104, Fig 105, Fig 106, Fig 107, Fig 108 “Documents & Clippings”

³⁰ Dixon, Aaron. P. 106

³¹ E-mail correspondence. Elmer Dixon: Jan 22 & 23, 2026.

* Note: Allen's first name on the mural appears incorrectly as "Maud"; her name was possibly added to the People's Wall by artist Eddie Walker in 2008 when the mural was re-touched for the 40th Anniversary of the SCBPP;

7. **Carolyn Downs**, a mother who managed the SCBPP's free clinic (originally located at what was once the second SCBPP headquarters at 173 20th Ave where the People's Wall is located) passed away at age 25 in 1978³²; the SCBPP changed the name of its clinic in 1979 to honor Downs after her passing³³ and the Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center continues to exist today in 2026 a few blocks away as the only remaining health care clinic out of 13 founded by the Black Panther Party around the nation.³⁴

* Note: Downs's name was potentially added to the People's Wall by artist Eddie Walker in 2008 when the mural was re-touched for the 40th Anniversary of the SCBPP;

8. **Jim Groves*** passed away after leaving the country in 1968 to avoid the draft.³⁵ According to SCBPP co-founder Elmer Dixon: "Groves was not originally considered a fallen comrade but was later added [to the People's Wall memorial] once we found out the circumstances of his death."

* Note: Groves's last name on the mural appears incorrectly as "Graves"; his name was potentially added to the People's Wall by artist Eddie Walker in 2008 when the mural was re-touched for the 40th Anniversary of the SCBPP³⁶;

9. **Henry Boyer, [Jr]**, passed away on August 23, 1968³⁷ at the age of 17; he was buried in his Panther uniform of black leather jacket and black beret.³⁸

The SCBPP left their second headquarters at 173 20th Ave in 1971 after the FBI attempted multiple raids. Key leaders were ordered to regroup at national Black Panther Party headquarters in Oakland, California, and the original duplex in Seattle where the People's Wall exists today was seized by the federal government³⁹ and razed a few years later in 1973⁴⁰. According to Dixon, the demolition was potentially due to "the police [not wanting] our headquarters to stand as a symbol of our defiance"⁴¹. Not only was the former headquarters building torn down, but the address was effectively erased from King County property records: After demolition, the lot remained vacant for ten years until a series of new townhomes were built on the site in 1983, this time facing Spruce St instead of 20th Ave, thereafter becoming "1919 Spruce St". The old address no longer exists.

Despite these forces, the People's Wall has remarkably survived. For 55 years, it has never been de-faced (even amidst a surge in graffiti and tagging since the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic⁴²), an indication that the story and meaning behind the wall have been carried across generations to the present day in 2026. Despite the People's Wall having never been officially or formally declared a landmark, there is an unspoken code in the community to respect it.

Today, the wall is one of the few physical sites that mark Seattle's part in the historic 1960s national movement for civil-rights, equity and justice. Only about 2% of all designated Seattle landmarks are directly linked to Black history.⁴³

³² Diane Pien, Diane. "[Carolyn Downs \(1953-1978\)](#)," BlackPast, April 24, 2018 & Dixon, Elmer. P 395. & [Fig 87](#) "Documents & Clippings"

³³ Dixon, Elmer. p 402.

³⁴ "[Our Roots](#)", Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center Website

³⁵ E-mail correspondence. Elmer Dixon: Jan 22, 2026.

³⁶ E-mail correspondence. Elmer Dixon: Jan 22, 2026.

³⁷ [Fig 85](#), [Fig 86](#) & [Fig 87](#) "Documents & Clippings", Dixon, Aaron. P. 134

³⁸ [Fig 85](#) "Documents & Clippings"

³⁹ "[Former Black Panther Party headquarters house, Seattle, 1973](#)." Museum of History and Industry.

⁴⁰ [Fig 31](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁴¹ Dixon, Elmer. (As told to Anisa Jackson.) "[Ghosts of Seattle Past, an Exclusive Excerpt: Seattle Black Panther Party Headquarters](#)." The Stranger: April 12, 2017.

⁴² Green, Sarah Jean. "[Inside Seattle's fight against graffiti: Millions of dollars and lots of paint](#)." *The Seattle Times*: February 16, 2025.

⁴³ "[DEIA Commitment](#)." Historic Seattle.org.

Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party (1968 - 1978)

The Black Panther Party was originally founded by college students Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale in 1966 in Oakland, California, and became arguably one of the most important revolutionary organizations in the United States in the late-1960s and early-1970s – once deemed such a priority by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that it was described as "the greatest threat to the internal security of the country." Chapters of the Party opened in every major city in America from New York to Chicago to L.A., but the first Black Panther chapter to be established outside of California was the one formed in Seattle in 1968, the same year Dr. Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated. The Seattle Chapter was active for ten years, which also made it one of the longest-running in the country. All that remains of the duplex where the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers (SCBPP) was headquartered from 1969 to 1971 is a mural painted on an eastern-facing street-level retaining wall called the "People's Wall".

Inspired by Marxist philosophies, Black nationalist traditions, and prominent civil-rights revolutionary figures like Malcolm X, members of the Black Panther Party rejected the type of nonviolent civil disobedience led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, believing these tactics had not adequately addressed the racism, poverty and violence that continued to persist for Black Americans, despite the official end of the Jim Crow system of inequality in the South. In search of better lives, tens of thousands of Black Americans had migrated from the South during World War II to the West and North, altering white-dominated cities – including places like Oakland in California, and Seattle in Washington – only to be confronted with new forms of segregation. This dynamic exploded in the 1960s, birthing the civil-rights movement, one of the most significant eras in the ongoing evolution of America. Responses to racial discrimination and tactics to fight for justice ranged from Dr. King's peaceful marches to more militant philosophies like those of the Black Panther Party.

1968

In many ways, the formation of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party (SCBPP) was a response to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr on April 4, 1968. Future co-founder and captain of the Seattle Chapter, Aaron Dixon, learned about Dr. King's death while in jail for "unlawful assembly" in connection with a sit-in he had attended just a few days prior to protest the mistreatment of a Black student at Franklin High School⁴⁴ (see "[Seattle Chapter Founders: Aaron Dixon & Elmer Dixon III](#)"). He heard about Dr. King's assassination while watching an "old black-and-white TV in the corner [of the jail's day cell], sitting high up on a metal shelf". Later, alone in his one-man cell, he recalled:

"Anger filled me that night. There would be no more tears and no more dialogue. The war began that night all across America."⁴⁵

A few days later, nearly ten thousand people in Seattle marched in honor of Dr. King, down Denny Way from Capitol Hill to a memorial service at Seattle Center. A few days after that, on April 11, 1968, the U.S. Congress finally passed the national Fair Housing Act – something Dr. King had spent years advocating for and had now seemingly paid for with his life.

It was in this charged context that Aaron (out on bail) and his brother Elmer traveled with members of the BSU to the Bay Area to attend the second annual West Coast BSU Conference. None of the workshops interested them and, after seeing a flyer, they decided instead to attend the funeral of "Lil' Bobby Hutton", a member of the Black Panther Party who had recently been killed by Oakland Police officers in a confrontation, "despite having come out of the house unarmed and his hands up."⁴⁶ The Dixon brothers heard Black Panther co-founder Bobby Seale speak for the first time that day. Aaron

⁴⁴ See [Fig 59](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁴⁵ Dixon, Aaron. p 74.

⁴⁶ Dixon, Aaron, p 76-78.

was so moved that he approached Seale afterward to propose starting a Seattle chapter of the Party. Seale liked the idea.

Almost simultaneously, sensing the cultural shift in the wake of Dr. King's assassination, Seattle City Council finally passed a fair-housing ordinance on April 19, 1968, long overdue after a 1964 ordinance was voted down more than 2 to 1 by Seattle residents. But it was too little, too late: Seale flew to Seattle to visit the Dixon brothers at their family home in the Madrona neighborhood (905 33rd Ave.) and gave his support for the new Seattle branch of the Black Panther Party – the first chapter outside California – appointing nineteen-year-old Aaron Dixon as captain and his younger brother Elmer as second-in-command. (New chapters of the Black Panther Party would soon open in Portland and Eugene in neighboring Oregon, and they would come under the authority of the Seattle Chapter as well.)

On April 20, 1968, the day after City Council passed their fair-housing ordinance, the *Seattle Daily Times* reported that the “militant, extremist organization”, the Black Panthers, was forming in Seattle. The University of Washington's “Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project” comments on the historic significance of the Seattle Chapter:

“[The Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party's] existence is an illustration of how peripheral branches of an organization would both adhere and diverge from the program established by the national headquarters [in Oakland, California]. The evidence suggests that the Seattle Panthers often respected the Party's national leadership and worked hard to follow the national agenda. However, to say that the SCBPP was completely dependent on Oakland's guidance and dictates would be an error. The behavior of the SCBPP was also influenced by its local leadership and local circumstances in the city of Seattle.”⁴⁷

The first SCBPP headquarters was a storefront in the Madrona neighborhood on 34th Ave & Union⁴⁸, near the Dixon family home (the storefront at 1127 1/2 34th Ave. still stands today in 2026, serving as a wine shop). They followed the Ten-Point Program, a set of guidelines written by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale in 1966 for the national Black Panther Party, with the first point being “We want freedom”.⁴⁹ The national Black Panther Party's political goals included advocating for better housing, jobs, and education for Black Americans, and they famously espoused the practice of self-defense by openly carrying arms to challenge and prevent police misconduct and brutality. Members were expected to become experts in weapons usage and they were required to attend political education classes.⁵⁰ Aaron recalls that time in 1968:

“On any given day, scores of young men and women in black berets and leather jackets congregated inside and outside our [Madrona] storefront office; sometimes they marched at the park, often carrying rifles and shotguns up the street.”⁵¹

The SCBPP was training to protect and defend the Black community. On July 1, 1968, Aaron was sentenced to six months of jail time for “gross misdemeanor”⁵² due to “unlawful assembly” while attending a sit-in⁵³ protesting the mistreatment of a Black student at Franklin High School that had occurred over three months earlier (see [“Seattle Chapter Founders: Aaron Dixon & Elmer Dixon III”](#)). To the community, the delayed charge against Aaron felt like retribution by the city for Aaron's involvement in forming the new chapter of the Black Panther Party in Seattle. The newly-formed Seattle Chapter promptly called a meeting to protest the sentencing of their captain, which led to multiple days of demonstrations in the Central District.⁵⁴

⁴⁷ Schaefer

⁴⁸ Dixon, Aaron. p 104.

⁴⁹ See [Fig 126](#) “Documents & Clippings”

⁵⁰ Schaefer, Kurt. [“The Black Panther Party in Seattle, Part 2”](#), Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project, University of Washington. 2005

⁵¹ Dixon, Aaron. p 108.

⁵² See [Fig 60](#) “Documents & Clippings”

⁵³ See [Fig 59](#) “Documents & Clippings”

⁵⁴ See [Fig. 61](#) & [Fig. 62](#) “Documents & Clippings”

Perhaps in retaliation to the Black community's demonstrations, the Madrona headquarters of the SCBPP was subsequently targeted and raided by police officers later that same month on July 29, 1968⁵⁵, under the guise of arresting Aaron for an allegedly stolen typewriter from the office of a local urban renewal program called Model Cities. A *Seattle Times* article from that time illustrates the effect this had on the community: the article titled "Negroes Criticize Amount of Force In Police Search" noted the community's perception that the presence of "four to six patrol cars and 11 to 14 officers" all because of a "mere typewriter" was excessive.⁵⁶ In protest of Dixon's arrest, demonstrations broke out in the Central District again.

Seattle Chapter co-founder, Elmer Dixon recalls the evening his brother Aaron was arrested:

"We gathered Comrades at the [SCBPP Madrona] office, and about 200 to 300 of us got in military formation – 10 abreast, 30 deep – and marched 15 blocks to Garfield Park. We were psyched to march through the Black community, straight down Cherry Street, in full uniform and in precise formation. Years later, I met a man who had been an eight-year-old boy on that day, watching us through the window in amazement. 'Come to the window!' he called to his mother. She [joined him] to watch us march in unity, shoulder to shoulder. His recollection of that day was that we were legendary heroes in our community."⁵⁷

Aaron Dixon was released from jail later that night and remembers driving back to his parents' house and seeing "throng of young people rampaging through the streets, overturning cop cars and throwing rocks and Molotov cocktails." He remembers:

"Police were attacked, cars with whites in them were stoned, windows of businesses were shattered, and police cars were overturned... the chairman [of the Black Panther Party] had never once informed me that I was to lead guerrilla attacks against police forces... I did not realize that new chapters and branches all over the country were grappling with this same dilemma. Across the country, that summer of '68 was seen by some as the beginning of the revolution."⁵⁸

Aaron remembers operating in those early days of the Seattle Chapter "without a blueprint or methodology to guide us, [which meant] we often had to learn how to operate on the fly, following our instincts."⁵⁹ In the first few weeks of opening the Seattle Chapter headquarters, "phones at the [SCBPP] office were constantly ringing with people calling for help." The calls came "from people within the Central Area who would ask the Panthers to attend to landlord issues, domestic violence, and numerous other problems that arose in a typical community." Aaron was instructed by national co-founder Bobby Seale that "the Black Panthers are not the police and therefore should not be responding to those types of calls". But the Seattle Chapter failed to follow national instructions and, instead, reacted autonomously in a particularly notorious incident in September 1968⁶⁰:

"The [SCBPP] office started to receive calls from a particular woman whose son was being accosted by white students at Rainier Beach High School. During her first call she was told that there was nothing that the Panthers could do. But she proceeded to call day after day. Then one day she called and it was obvious she was in tears. Around the same time three other mothers called and voiced the same concerns. Over a dozen Panthers were in the office when this particular set of calls came in and they decided to take action. So they grabbed their guns, piled into several cars, and drove to Rainier Beach. When they got there, the Panthers walked into the school with their weapons and found the principal. They told him why they were there and that he needed to start protecting students. They assured the principal that if the Panthers received more calls regarding the problem, they would return."⁶¹

⁵⁵ See [Fig 68](#), "Documents & Clippings"

⁵⁶ See [Fig 69](#), "Documents & Clippings"

⁵⁷ Dixon, Elmer. P 154.

⁵⁸ Dixon, Aaron. p 128.

⁵⁹ Dixon, Aaron. p 111.

⁶⁰ Dixon, Aaron. p 109.

⁶¹ Schaefer

After this controversial armed confrontation, Black students were no longer openly harassed at Rainier Beach High School. Aaron Dixon recalls, "When [BPP] headquarters in Oakland found out about this [incident], they thought we were pretty wild and crazy [in Seattle]." ⁶²

Indeed, Seattle was earning a national reputation. In the wake of Dr. King's assassination, cities across the country had erupted in unison. Aaron recalls:

"Time and Newsweek published charts of the ten cities with the highest rates of firebombing and sniping... and Seattle ranked number one in firebombing and number two in sniping... beating out New York, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, and others. The Panthers had put Seattle on the map." ⁶³

1969

The following spring of 1969, Washington State legislators proposed a rare state-level gun control law making it illegal to carry weapons in the open, a direct response to the incident with the SCBPP at Rainier Beach High School the prior year. In protest, an armed delegation of Panthers went to the capitol in Olympia and stood in formation on the capitol steps with their weapons pointed in the air. ⁶⁴ The 1969 "Unlawful Carrying" Law passed, ending the SCBPP's phase of openly carrying weapons. ⁶⁵ This law continues to exist today in 2026, one of the few gun regulations passed in state history. ⁶⁶

Around the same time, the FBI's counterintelligence program "COINTELPRO" (created in 1956 to undermine radical groups) decided to make the Black Panthers their primary concern, and Party offices from coast to coast were targeted and infiltrated with agents instigating Party members to commit crimes in hopes of delegitimizing and vilifying the Black Panthers as an organization. National Black Panther co-founder Huey Newton sent a directive from prison stating that "any Party member involved in participating in any criminal activities was to be effectively expelled from the party." This period was known as "The Purge" and it entailed weeding out SCBPP members who were acting as FBI informants or using the organization to further their own criminal activities. ⁶⁷

Elmer Dixon recalls:

"I led the Goon Squad in Seattle, and we would routinely discipline wayward or reactionary brothers in the Party. We were a young organization at the time and there were a lot of crazy n - - - s joining the Party, and they were doing stupid shit like robbing stores and beating up women. We had to weed them out of the Party, which meant, most of the time, we ended up kicking their asses." ⁶⁸

During this time, national headquarters also declared that "front offices were too vulnerable to police attacks" and "houses or duplex buildings in residential neighborhoods were safer and better suited for working with communities." So the SCBPP closed their storefront headquarters in Madrona and moved into a two-story duplex in a residential part of the Central District that once stood at the corner of 20th Ave and Spruce St at what is today "1919 E Spruce St" but was formerly "173 20th Ave" (since demolished).

Elmer Dixon remembers, "**We found a location on 20th and Spruce streets, which became our barracks and our central office – one of the most notorious Panther offices in the country.**" ⁶⁹ They rented the property from J. Cordell Jackson ⁷⁰ (a Black youth coordinator for Seattle's NAACP in

⁶² Schaefer

⁶³ Dixon, Aaron. p 128.

⁶⁴ [Fig. 29](#). "Images."

⁶⁵ Dixon, Aaron. p 147.

⁶⁶ Washington State Legislature, [RCW Title 9, Chapter 9.41, Section 9.41.270](#)

⁶⁷ Dixon, Aaron. p 147.

⁶⁸ Dixon, Elmer. p. 337.

⁶⁹ Dixon, Elmer. p. 210.

⁷⁰ [Fig 114](#). "Documents & Clippings."

1964⁷¹, later a marketing manager in 1971). The first floor of the duplex served as the main office (and later, the site of the SCBPP's first free medical clinic) and the upper floor served as "a hideout and bunker" for defending the building. Sandbags filled at Alki Beach were stacked against the walls upstairs and downstairs as defense.⁷² Elmer recalls that windows were fortified with sheets of plywood, corrugated steel, even "manhole covers, appropriated from wherever we could find".⁷³

From this second headquarters location, the SCBPP began organizing community outreach programs and distributing the Black Panther newspaper. By December of 1969, they had opened the Sydney Miller People's Free Medical Clinic, the first free healthcare clinic in the Pacific Northwest (later changed in 1979 to the Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center, which still exists today in 2026).⁷⁴ Regardless of the ability to pay, anyone in the community could come to the clinic at 173 20th Ave on "Monday and Thursday from 5:30pm until all patients are seen".⁷⁵ The original name for the clinic was in honor of Sydney Miller, an SCBPP member who had been "shot [in the back] by a West Seattle [7-11] store owner"⁷⁶ at age 26 on December 2, 1968⁷⁷ when the store owner claimed "he thought Sydney was going to rob the store".⁷⁸ (Miller's name would eventually be memorialized on the future People's Wall at this location.)

The SCBPP launched the Free Breakfast for School Children Program during this period as well. When local Safeway stores refused to donate, the SCBPP quickly organized a boycott of the two Safeway stores in the Central District (one on the corner of 23rd Ave & Union St where a PCC exists today, and the other at 23rd Ave & Jackson St where an Amazon Fresh is today), effectively closing both locations.⁷⁹ Safeway had already been the subject of boycotts going back as far as 1950 protesting hiring discrimination, but only now was the grocery chain driven out of the Black neighborhood. In Safeway's place, a group of Black grocery stores were organized with one "not far from the Panther office on 20th & Yesler", according to Elmer. (Safeway has since returned to the Central District at 23rd Ave & Madison St as part of a 2004 development that replaced the building that once housed the historic Birdland jazz club.)

But other things were afoot in this period as well: Unbeknownst to the SCBPP, the FBI had sent a memo to the offices of the Justice Department ordering the elimination of the Chicago, L.A., and Seattle Panther chapters. That December of 1969, under the auspices of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), a raid of the Chicago chapter of the Black Panther Party resulted in the death of the Party's deputy chairman, Fred Hampton. Just a few days later, the ATF attacked the L.A. offices of the Black Panthers and over 40 police officers used tear gas, employing helicopters and armored military personnel carriers, shooting and wounding several members. It was the first significant deployment of a new tactical unit originally created to combat the Black Panthers. The police called it the "SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team", and it marked the beginning of a new chapter for law enforcement in America.

1970

SCBPP membership peaked in 1970. At this period in their evolution, the SCBPP regularly advertised free clothing "10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily"⁸⁰ and free food "to aid the needy"⁸¹ at the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party's "Welton Armstead Community Center" at "173 20th Ave", but this kind of community social work was largely overlooked by U.S. Congress when they decided to launch a full-scale investigation of the Black Panther Party that year. While much of the

⁷¹ Guzzo, Louis R. "[NAACP Will Stage Theater-TV Spectacle May 14.](#)" *Seattle Daily Times*: Sunday, March 29, 1964.

⁷² [Fig 28](#). "Images"

⁷³ Dixon, Aaron. p 181. & Dixon, Elmer, p. 209-211.

⁷⁴ Dixon, Aaron. p 178 - 179.

⁷⁵ [Fig 99](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁷⁶ Dixon, Elmer. p. 160

⁷⁷ [Fig 94](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁷⁸ Dixon, Elmer. p. 214

⁷⁹ Dixon, Aaron. p 167-168.

⁸⁰ [Fig 100](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁸¹ [Fig 111](#) "Documents & Clippings"

investigation's attention focused on national leadership and the Oakland headquarters, several chapters were also investigated, including the one in Seattle.⁸²

Chapter co-founder Elmer Dixon was subpoenaed to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington, D.C.⁸³ When asked for his address, he stated "173 20th Ave" (where the People's Wall is located). After that, his only replies were to take the Fifth Amendment, which he did 17 times, infuriating senators.⁸⁴ In his autobiography, Elmer Dixon states:

*"I wanted to tell [Congress] that if it was Un-American to serve kids breakfast, if it was Un-American to provide free healthcare, and if it was Un-American to provide free food and clothing to the starving masses... then this America was not the America it pretended to be."*⁸⁵

In the incendiary summary of the investigation, the conclusion by Congress insinuated that failure to put an end to the Black Panthers could mean the end of the U.S.:

*"If a successful revolution should occur, the Panthers would replace the present form of government in the United States with a system comparable to Castro's in Cuba... There would be no millionaires. The Panthers' idea is to take from the Establishment and 'to give to the Negro people.'"*⁸⁶

It was not long after the hearing that the FBI demonstrated they were doing everything in their power to eliminate the Party. Flying back to Seattle from D.C., Elmer learned of a Seattle Chapter member having been shot. Larry Ward, a decorated Vietnam War veteran "had apparently been [tricked by a police informant to place] a bomb device at the front door of [Hardcastle Real Estate Co. on 24th & Union, across from Liberty Bank, the first Black bank on the West Coast]... and was shot to death at age 22⁸⁷ [by police] while trying to flee".⁸⁸

The Seattle Chapter became consumed with getting justice for targeted Party members, especially in the case of Ward's death. SCBPP members diligently showed up to the coroner's inquest-jury. Even when a majority verdict ruled that Ward's killing was "unjustifiable" and he had died by "criminal means", justice was not served: Area police "as far away as Tacoma" objected to the verdict and signed a petition "urging [police] work stoppages until a new inquest", leading to the county prosecutor refusing to prosecute the police officer who was responsible.⁸⁹ The Black Panthers' lawyer went as far as to file an application for a writ *directing* the prosecutor to charge the policeman responsible for Ward's death but, in June, a superior court judge ruled that the prosecutor couldn't "be forced to charge a policeman".⁹⁰ (Ward's name is memorialized on the People's Wall.)

Since the ATF had attacked the Chicago and L.A. chapters of the Black Panthers, they had turned their eye to Seattle, eager to use their new weapon, the SWAT team. Still unaware that the Seattle Chapter had been targeted for "elimination" by the FBI, the SCBPP was tipped off by a newspaper reporter that the ATF was planning on raiding the headquarters. The SCBPP prepared for the attack, but violence was deterred: Mayor Wes Uhlman, a Democrat, allegedly stood in their way, threatening he would dispatch local police in the SCBPP's defense if the ATF or FBI attempted to raid the SCBPP's office.⁹¹ The mayor was influenced by the fact that prominent civil-rights leader, Edwin T. Pratt, had been murdered outside his Shoreline home in 1969 just before Uhlman took office (a park named in Pratt's honor exists two blocks south of the People's Wall in 2026). At that time, Seattle had

⁸² "1970 Congressional Investigation". Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project, University of Washington.

⁸³ Dixon, Elmer. p 241.

⁸⁴ U.S. House of Representatives, Hearings Before the Sub-Committee of the Committee for Internal Security. "[Black Panther Party, Part 2: Investigation of Seattle Chapter](#)". May 12, 13, 14 & 20, 1970

⁸⁵ Dixon, Elmer. p 244.

⁸⁶ U.S. House of Representatives, Sub-Committee of the Committee for Internal Security. "[Summary of Executive Session Testimony on May 13, 1970.](#)"

⁸⁷ [Fig 101](#), [Fig 102](#), [Fig 104](#), [Fig 105](#), [Fig 106](#), [Fig 107](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁸⁸ Dixon, Elmer. p. 245

⁸⁹ [Fig 110](#) "Documents & Clippings"

⁹⁰ [Fig 110](#). "Documents & Clippings."

⁹¹ Dixon, Aaron. p 186. & Lieb, Emily. "[Uhlman, Wesley Carl \(b. 1935\).](#)" HistoryLink.org Essay 7854: Dec. 21, 2006.

the highest per capita level of bombs in the country. The mayor believed the Black Panthers were "fairly benign" despite some "fairly outrageous statements" by members of the Party elsewhere, and he refused active cooperation.

The People's Wall mural was not yet painted, but the wall on which it is painted made a cameo appearance in one telling incident of this period: SCBPP member Valentine Hobbes was stopped by police while selling newspapers just two blocks away from the 20th & Spruce headquarters and was accused of stealing a woman's purse. Several Panthers had already lost their lives in trumped-up altercations with police (Elmer remembers that "bullet holes in [SCBPP member] Larry [Ward]'s armpits showed he was trying to surrender when he was gunned down and murdered"⁹²), so Valentine had reason to fear for his life and he began running back to headquarters for safety. Police chased him. Aaron recalls:

*"Using every bit of his sprinter's speed, [Valentine] made it to **the concrete retaining wall at the edge of the office property** [at 173 20th Ave]. Taking a giant leap up from the sidewalk, he landed on the grass and continued to the office door. The cops were right on his tail. One of the officers jumped out of the squad car and was running behind him. Once inside the office, Valentine went straight for the front desk, reached in the drawer, and pulled out the .357 we had named 'Martin Luther King'... As more cops showed up, throngs of supporters and people from the community began to gather, protesting the cops' presence."*

Elmer remembers the same incident:

*"I dashed to the porch [facing 20th Ave]. Valentine Hobbes was running up the street with police in hot pursuit. Valentine **jumped over the top of the [property retaining] wall and into the office**, just as I slammed the door behind him and secured the bolt. We immediately went into Attack Mode, going down our checklist in preparation for an assault... Above our heads, the trap door to upstairs opened, and weapons began being passed down to the offices below, along with rounds of ammunition, body armor, and gas masks... Ironically, DJ Robert L. Scott from the local Black radio station, KYAC, was in the office for a feature story [and] we let him continue taping live on the radio station while we prepared for attack... Within 20 minutes, dozens of people gathered in front [of the headquarters], to stand between the police and the Panther office. Many of them came with their large dogs. Inside the office, Robert L broadcasted live."⁹³*

Police demanded Valentine be surrendered for the alleged crime he committed. Elmer demanded the police produce a witness. As part of a delicate negotiation, it was agreed that Valentine would be part of a lineup for a witness to identify the perpetrator. That same evening, members of the SCBPP along with their attorney accompanied Valentine downtown to the police precinct where they anxiously entered "the silent police lobby, where there wasn't a person in sight."⁹⁴ They waited, but nobody ever showed up. "They [the police] never had a witness in the first place," recalls Elmer. "So, we left, and never heard about that case again."

In fall of that year, legendary rockstar Jimi Hendrix asked the SCBPP to work as security guards for a hometown concert he was playing at Sick's Seattle Stadium in the Mt. Baker neighborhood (today a Lowe's hardware store). Elmer remembers meeting Hendrix backstage and that the musician "marveled at the thought of a Black Panther Party chapter in his hometown of Seattle, and [the fact] that it was started by cats from the high school that he had attended several years earlier [Garfield High]."⁹⁵ When Elmer asked for a donation to the SCBPP's Children's Free Breakfast program, Hendrix said he'd do more than just donate money and that he'd do an entire benefit concert for the SCBPP when he returned from Europe. Sadly, that would be the last concert he played in Seattle: several weeks later in London, Hendrix died at age 27 by aspiration. (Elmer remembers: "[Jimi

⁹² Dixon, Elmer. p 246.

⁹³ Dixon, Elmer. p 247-248.

⁹⁴ Dixon, Elmer. p 249.

⁹⁵ Dixon, Elmer. p 260.

Hendrix's] music was too inciteful and too revolutionary. And for that, I believe he was killed... assassinated, according to a CIA agent who gave a deathbed confession."⁹⁶)

It was in the wake of these struggles in October of 1970 when artist Dion Henderson completed a mural at the SCBPP headquarters on the street-level retaining wall facing 20th Ave, spelling out the names of each Party member in Seattle that had been lost. The headquarters continued to be targeted by police and FBI, and the People's Wall was often the last line of defense and the location of altercations. Members routinely resisted arrest in front of the headquarters, and second-in-command Elmer Dixon himself was accused of threatening officers when several police vans blocked the street in front of the house and he came out to complain.⁹⁷ Several years later, utility companies including Seattle City Light, Pacific Northwest Bell and Washington Natural Gas Co. admitted they supplied confidential information about 173 20th Ave to the FBI throughout 1970.⁹⁸

It was a tenuous time for the Party and increased vilification of the Black Panther Party by the mainstream press, coupled with infighting fomented by the FBI's COINTELPRO operation, led to an order given by national Party leadership for key members of each chapter to consolidate their efforts back at national headquarters in Oakland.

1971

The SCBPP vacated the Seattle headquarters at 20th Ave & Spruce in 1971 and the property was seized by the federal government.⁹⁹

Later that same year, The SCBPP reopened a block away at 169 19th Ave. where they developed the first free food program in Seattle, which became the forerunner of the city's food bank operations. The SCBPP also began a sickle cell anemia awareness campaign that year to combat a disease which disproportionately affected Black people, spurring the formation of the National Sickle Cell Disease Association of America.¹⁰⁰ A Busing to Prisons Program was also launched to make it easier for the Black community to visit loved ones in prison.¹⁰¹

Meanwhile, national Black Panther co-founder Huey Newton had a disagreement with Black Panther Minister of Information Eldridge Cleaver over the necessity of armed struggle, which led to a fatal split in the Party. Longtime Black Panther Party member Elaine Brown replaced Cleaver as Minister of Information.

1972 to 1978

In 1972, core SCBPP members including Aaron Dixon were ordered to move to national headquarters in Oakland. His brother Elmer was serving a sentence in prison at the time and would later return to Seattle on parole where he was required to stay.

The original building at "173 20th Ave" was razed by the federal government in 1973¹⁰² and remained vacant and overgrown for ten years, except for what remained of the lot's retaining wall and its mural, known as the People's Wall. According to Elmer Dixon, the demolition and erasure of 173 20th Ave was potentially due to "the police [not wanting] our headquarters to stand as a symbol of our defiance". Not only was the former headquarters building torn down, but the address was effectively erased from King County property records (a new building was later erected on the site in 1983 facing Spruce St instead of 20th Ave, thereafter becoming "1919 Spruce St"). The old address no

⁹⁶ Dixon, Elmer. P 260-261.

⁹⁷ [Fig 112](#) & [Fig 113](#), "Documents & Clippings"

⁹⁸ [Fig 120](#), "Documents & Clippings"

⁹⁹ [Fig 4](#), "Maps & Diagrams"

¹⁰⁰ Dixon, Elmer. p 288.

¹⁰¹ Dixon, Aaron. p 219.

¹⁰² Miller, Robert H., photographer. "[Notice on former Black Panther party headquarters house, Seattle, 1973.](#)" MOHAI, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer Collection*: 1973.

longer existed. Elmer recalls returning from prison to Seattle and visiting the site where the old headquarters had been:

*"Gone was the massive fortress that we had built to protect us... Gone were the sandbags, the thousands and thousands of rounds of ammunition, the gas masks, the bulletproof vests, and the steel and plywood sandwiches on the windows... The old synagogue directly across the street from the old Panther office was completely gone. I was stunned. **Only the People's Wall remained.**"¹⁰³*

In the absence of his brother Aaron, Elmer Dixon worked to sustain the SCBPP's programs, even introducing new aspects like blood pressure screening and prison tutoring.

In 1974, national Party chairman Huey Newton escaped to Cuba to avoid U.S. charges for murder and assault and, in his place, Elaine Brown became chairman of the Party (until 1977). In 1976, Elmer was summoned by Brown to national headquarters in Oakland where she accused him of disrespecting Ericka Huggins, a member of the Central Committee, over a disagreement about whether or not to provide red meat in the SCBPP's free children's breakfast program. As punishment, Brown ordered Elmer be transferred to the Oakland headquarters. He asked to return to Seattle to gather his things, but back in the Pacific Northwest, he contemplated the order, "knowing that if I did not return to Central, we [the Seattle Chapter] would most likely end up splitting away from the Black Panther Party."¹⁰⁴ Instead of complying, Elmer reached out to Brown to say, "Me and the 'rads are taking over the operation of the Seattle chapter and running the survival programs on our own."¹⁰⁵

By this time, Aaron Dixon had been assigned to act as Brown's bodyguard in Oakland, what he later terms as "the most difficult job assignment [he] ever had"¹⁰⁶. Brown, incensed by Elmer's insubordination, decided to travel to Seattle with Aaron to ostensibly persuade Elmer to remain in the Party. Aaron recalls of the trip, "Elaine was not used to Panthers defying the hierarchy, but Elmer refused to back down."¹⁰⁷

An armed standoff at the new Seattle headquarters at 19th Ave & Spruce St led to the two factions walking away from each other in a stalemate. "Secretly, I was proud of the way [Elmer] had stood up to Elaine," Aaron remembers. "We [Elmer and Aaron Dixon] had always been close as brothers could be... [and] as dedicated as I was to the movement and to the philosophy of the Black Panther Party, I was not about to stand by and watch my brother be eliminated." Elmer recalls:

"[Now, the SCBPP's] main focus was to make sure that there would be no retaliation [from Central headquarters]... we didn't know if the Squad or some individual would strike back at the rebuff that we had handed Elaine and her team... We maintained our programs, with the only difference being that we no longer had the Black Panther newspaper to sell."¹⁰⁸

Elmer continued to run the SCBPP's programs until the chapter office officially closed its doors two years later in 1978. After ten years of serving the community, the SCBPP ceased operation. It was the longest-functioning chapter of the Party. In recalling the SCBPP era, one member remembers:

"The Panthers were always there. They were the heart and soul of the Central District. They took care of us. They fed the community. They made sure we were medically taken care of. There was no other place to go. Going to the police was stupid. You would end up a murder victim or you'd get arrested."¹⁰⁹

¹⁰³ Dixon, Elmer. p 333-334.

¹⁰⁴ Dixon, Elmer. p 374.

¹⁰⁵ Dixon, Elmer. p 377.

¹⁰⁶ Dixon, Aaron. p 256.

¹⁰⁷ Dixon, Aaron. p 273.

¹⁰⁸ Dixon, Elmer. p 386.

¹⁰⁹ Dixon, Elmer. p 391.

Of the 13 original Black Panther Party-founded healthcare clinics across the U.S., Seattle's Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center remains the only one still in operation.¹¹⁰ Today, in 2026, the clinic is located just three blocks away from where it first started at the former SCBPP's second headquarters.

The People's Wall mural is all that physically remains linking this location in Seattle's Central District to a historic era for not just the city, but for an entire nation grappling with different aspects of the civil-rights movement. The SCBPP was a significant outgrowth of a much broader national movement that spanned the United States and evolved throughout the 1960s and 1970s. HistoryLink writer Linda Holden Givens describes the SCBPP as a unique necessity of the era: "The boldness of the Seattle Black Panther Party was matched by the boldness of the historical circumstances."¹¹¹

Events of that time continue to reverberate into and inform the present.

¹¹⁰ ["50 Year Legacy Lives on at Carolyn Downs."](#) *The Pulse*, Spring 2020.

¹¹¹ Givens, Linda Holden. ["Black Panther Party Seattle Chapter \(1968-1978\)."](#) *HistoryLink.org*: 10/16/2018.

Seattle's Black American History

Black American heritage in Washington began in the territorial era with the arrival of Black settlers in both rural and urban areas even prior to the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 which declared "that all persons held as slaves within the rebellious states are, and henceforward shall be free." Manuel Lopes arrived in Seattle at least ten years before Emancipation in 1852 becoming the first Black American resident of King County. Born in Cape Verde off the coast of Africa in 1812, he either traveled or was kidnapped to New England where he had become a sailor and eventually settled in Seattle only one year after the first white settlers arrived¹¹². He opened one of Seattle's first barber shops on First Avenue South, also becoming the first Black American property owner in Seattle.¹¹³

The second Black American in Seattle was ex-navy man William Grose, born in Washington, D.C. to free black restaurant owners¹¹⁴ and arriving in Seattle in 1860. He opened his own popular restaurant in 1876 on Yesler Way called "Our House," expanding it into a well known three-story hotel by 1883.¹¹⁵ (The future mayor of Seattle during the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, Robert Moran, credited Grose as giving him his first meal when he originally arrived in Seattle unable to pay.)

Prior to the 1890s, Seattle's Black population was small and grew very slowly--the federal census recorded only Lopes in 1860 and, twenty years later in 1880, only 21 other Black Americans had joined him.¹¹⁶ Passage of the 1875 Federal Civil Rights Act further reinforced Black American citizenship, forbidding discrimination in such places as theaters, restaurants, hotels, and trains (the repeal of the act in 1885 had little effect). The 1883 Territorial Suffrage Act further forbade discrimination, this time on the basis of religion or sex¹¹⁷, and the first Public Accommodation law went into effect in 1890 when the Washington State Constitution was adopted.¹¹⁸

Black families with women and children didn't appear in significant numbers in the Pacific Northwest until after the completion of the railroads in 1883.¹¹⁹ Shortly thereafter in 1886, the earliest Black church in the territory was established (eventually called First African Methodist Episcopal or AME).¹²⁰ By 1891, there were 24 Black American women reported in the City Directory.¹²¹

In contrast to Oregon, Washington Territory never had laws restricting Black American settlement.¹²² Many Black Americans migrated to the Pacific Northwest expecting a more tolerant environment than the rest of the country. Robert O. Lee, first Black man admitted to the Washington State bar in 1889, was reported in the *Daily Post-Intelligencer* as having come to the Northwest seeking a place where "race prejudice would not interfere with prosperity."¹²³ According to Quintard Taylor in *The Forging of a Black Community*, Seattle was "the end of the line both socially and geographically. There was no better place to go."¹²⁴ To an extent, Black Americans could find opportunities in the Pacific Northwest they couldn't find elsewhere, but there were also warnings. In 1879, the *Daily Post-Intelligencer* published the following commentary:

*"[Black Americans] coming North, we think a mistake. There is room only for a limited number of colored people here. Overstep that limit and there comes a clash in which the colored man must suffer. The few that are here do vastly better than they would do if their numbers increased a hundredfold."*¹²⁵

¹¹² Mumford: p. 66-7.

¹¹³ Mumford: p. 101.

¹¹⁴ Taylor, Quintard. "The Forging of a Black Community." University of Washington Press, 1994: p. 16.

¹¹⁵ Mumford: p. 73-5.

¹¹⁶ Mumford: p. 40.

¹¹⁷ Mumford: p. 30

¹¹⁸ Mumford: p. 31.

¹¹⁹ Mumford: p. 10-3.

¹²⁰ Mumford: p. 145-57.

¹²¹ Mumford: p. 121.

¹²² Mumford: p. 15, 20.

¹²³ Mumford: p. 14.

¹²⁴ Taylor: p. 9.

¹²⁵ "The Negro Exodus." The Daily Intelligencer, Volume VI, Number 150, 28 May 1879: p. 2.

The Black population saw a spike in numbers when the first black coal miners (some recruited to the area as strikebreakers) began to arrive in Roslyn and Franklin in the late 1880s.¹²⁶ Until the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, most Black people lived in the Pioneer Square area from 1st to 3rd Avenues, between Jackson and James Streets. After William Grose lost his hotel-saloon in the fire, he moved out in 1890 to a 12-acre property in the future Central District that he had purchased from Henry Yesler in 1882.¹²⁷

Near the end of the 19th century, Black Americans actively participated in local politics and campaigns, aiming for recognition and advancement of their interests. John Conna, a Black Civil War veteran became the first Black political appointee in the Washington Territory when Republican Party leaders appointed him Assistant Sergeant at Arms of the 1889 Washington Territorial House of Representatives.¹²⁸ The first local branch of the Afro-American League was organized and incorporated in Seattle in 1890 by Isaac W. Evans¹²⁹, who was hired later that year as the city's first Black police officer (although he would resign less than a year later).

There were only 22 Black Americans in Seattle in 1880 but ten years later that number would multiply to around 300 and, another ten years after that in 1900, another 100 Black Americans had moved to the city. As Black Americans sought to escape increasing discrimination and violence in the south, the following decade in Seattle saw the greatest increase in population: Between 1900 and 1910, the population of Black Americans increased over 450% to 2,296¹³⁰. As a result, racial tensions also increased, changing the relatively tolerant environment.

At the turn of the 20th century, Seattle had seven Black newspapers. In 1909, the prominent Black editor of the *Seattle Republican*, Horace Cayton, who lived in the largely white neighborhood of Capitol Hill was taken to court for allegedly "lowering real estate values". The Cayton family left their home in 1909, moving to the Central District which served as a center for the vast majority of the city's Black community beginning around 1910 until the 1980s.¹³¹ *The Seattle Republican* was forced to shut down in 1913 due to lost revenue caused by increasing racial discrimination and, in response, Black American leaders in Seattle decided it was time to establish a branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). It was one of the first branches west of the Mississippi, and Cayton served as one of the original leaders.¹³²

Tensions continued to accelerate in the Puget Sound area. Black workers became strikebreakers in the 1916 longshoreman's strike and the ship stewards' strike in 1921, protesting the all-white membership of the unions, which generated bitter animosity. By the 1920s, Black businesses were much more likely to have all or mostly Black customers and clients. This was financially problematic, as the entire Black population of Seattle never comprised more than 1% of the total until about 1940.¹³³

Right around this time, in 1927, white homeowners began campaigns to enact racially restrictive covenants that would bind their property and that of future owners from renting or selling their homes to non-white families. The campaigns yielded 38 neighborhood restrictive agreements involving 964 home owners, 183 blocks, and 958 lots. It was not long after, in 1938, that Seattle became the third U.S. city (after Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Birmingham, Alabama¹³⁴) to document law enforcement officers reportedly killing an unarmed Black American. (Berry Lawson was beaten to death by three officers after he was removed from a hotel where he worked and was arrested for

¹²⁶ Mumford: p. 19.

¹²⁷ Mumford: p. 10-4.

¹²⁸ Mumford: p. 184.

¹²⁹ Mumford: p. 170-1.

¹³⁰ Taylor: p. 244

¹³¹ Taylor: p.234.

¹³² Hobbs: p. 55.

¹³³ Taylor: p.7.

¹³⁴ ["List of unarmed African Americans killed by law enforcement officers in the United States."](#) Wikipedia: 2025.

"loitering in the lobby". All three officers were convicted of manslaughter by a judge and jury, though two of the officers were released only a few months later.¹³⁵⁾

In 1948, many of the restrictive covenants on homes in Seattle expired and petitions to extend them failed, followed by the Supreme Court declaring restrictive covenants unenforceable. Black American homeownership rates in Seattle became one of the highest in the country compared to other American cities, with roughly 30% of Black Americans owning their homes in 1940 in Seattle in contrast to only 7% who owned homes in Chicago and just 4% who owned homes in New York City.¹³⁶ Still, Black Americans were only allowed to buy homes in certain neighborhoods. Harsh residential segregation persisted and the unemployment rate among Blacks was double what it was for whites.¹³⁷ While Washington became the ninth state in the nation to enact a Fair Employment Practices Law in 1949, the "official" end of discriminatory restrictions did not mean the end of racism.

Throughout this era, the Negro Repertory Company of the Seattle Federal Theater Project (FTP) which operated between 1936 and 1939 was third in the nation in number of productions only after New York and Boston. (This was perhaps a harbinger for what was to come later in the 1950s and 1960s with legendary Black Seattle musicians such as Ernestine Anderson, Quincy Jones, Buddy Catlett, Floyd Standifer and Jimi Hendrix.)¹³⁸

Post-WWII, thousands of Black Americans had migrated from the South to places like Seattle. Many worked at companies like Boeing. For the first time, Black Americans became Seattle's largest minority. In 1950, Charles Stokes was elected to the 37th legislative seat, becoming Seattle's first Black American representative in Olympia. That same year, the Citizens Committee for Fair Employment formed, organizing boycotts against discriminatory hiring practices by the city's Safeway stores, joining other organizations throughout the decade that advocated for equal employment.

By 1960, there were 48,738 Black people in Washington and the following year, Seattle established a chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), a civil rights organization that first formed in Chicago in 1942, dedicated to gaining equality for Black Americans through the use of nonviolent means. Seattle CORE's first major operation in 1961 involved "selective buying campaigns" and "shop-ins" which targeted stores known to practice employment discrimination. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. made a single visit to Seattle in October 1961 in coordination with CORE's "Drive for Equal Employment in Downtown Stores"—the largest protest campaign involving racial discrimination ever undertaken in the state of Washington at the time. These protests resulted in the hiring of a small number of Black Americans at local department stores and supermarkets by the end of 1963 but, again, this did not end employment discrimination.

The same day as the "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom" and Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963, the Seattle Public School District became the first major school system in the country to initiate a voluntary desegregation plan¹³⁹ (see "[Seattle Chapter Founders: Aaron & Elmer Dixon](#)" for more about SCBPP co-founder Aaron Dixon's experience in Seattle Public Schools). Seattle CORE launched a second campaign that same year focused on housing discrimination and exposing racism in the Seattle housing market.¹⁴⁰ But, while there were vocal advocates for integration, Seattle voters still soundly defeated an "open housing" ordinance in 1964 that would have let anyone live anywhere. It lost by more than 2-to-1.

In 1967, Seattle's City Council got its first Black member, Sam Smith, who served for 24 years. It was only after the assassination of Dr. King in 1968 that an open housing ordinance passed. Three days after the assassination, nearly 10,000 people in Seattle marched in memory of Dr. King's life and legacy. The city council unanimously voted for an open housing ordinance just three weeks after his death.

¹³⁵ "[Berry Lawson's Death and African American Civil Rights in 1930s Seattle](#)". Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project, University of Washington: 2005.

¹³⁶ Taylor: p. 86.

¹³⁷ Taylor: p.63.

¹³⁸ Taylor: p. 149-151.

¹³⁹ Clark, Brooke. "[The Seattle School Boycott of 1966](#)", Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project, University of Washington: 2005.

¹⁴⁰ Smith, Rachel. "[CORE's Drive for Equal Employment in Downtown Seattle](#)." University of Washington "Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History Project."

It was a precarious time for race relations in Seattle. Later that same month in 1968, Seattle established the first and longest-running chapter of the militant Black Panther Party outside Oakland, California, where it was founded in 1966. The Seattle Chapter operated from 1968 to 1978 (see "[Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party](#)"). The following year, in 1969, the prominent civil-rights leader and Executive Director of the Seattle Urban League, Edwin T. Pratt – who had led the effort to desegregate Seattle Public Schools and who also spearheaded an initiative for equal housing and employment opportunities – was shot dead in the doorway of his home at 17916 1st Avenue NE in Shoreline¹⁴¹. Witnesses reported seeing two men fleeing the scene with a third person driving a getaway car. The day after the murder, the FBI entered the investigation at the request of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department but, despite this additional manpower, the case was closed after just three and a half months. (In a piece by the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* 25 years later in 1994, new information hinted that the shooters had been hired by local construction contractors due to Pratt's efforts to integrate Black people into the workforce, threatening white workers). A Central District park was named in Pratt's honor in 1976, although the case remains unsolved.

In 1977, Seattle became the largest city in the U.S. to voluntarily undertake district-wide school desegregation through a mandatory busing program. In the first year, the number of white students dropped by nearly 12 percent compared to the previous year. This program would continue for nearly two decades, only ending in the late 1990s when the School Board threw out zoning lines, allowing any of the district's students to attend any school they wanted -- so long as they could get into it.¹⁴²

Eighteen years after Dr. King's assassination, a federal holiday was dedicated to him in 1986.¹⁴³ That same year, it was discovered that the original 1852 namesake for Seattle's "King County" was Vice President William Rufus de Vane King, a slave owner and advocate for the Fugitive Slave Act. It took another 19 years for the Washington state legislature to formally vote to make Dr. King the County's official namesake in 2005.

Seattle would get its first Black mayor in 1990 with Norman Rice who served as the 49th mayor of Seattle, serving two terms from 1990 to 1997. Ron Sims would later become King County Executive in 1996 and, in 2009, he became deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the 44th president of the United States (and the first Black president), Barack Obama.

¹⁴¹ Trescases, Heather. "[Edwin Pratt is murdered outside his Shoreline home on January 26, 1969.](#)" HistoryLink: February 15, 2003.

¹⁴² Tate, Cassandra. "[Busing in Seattle: A Well-Intentioned Failure.](#)" HistoryLink: 9/7/2002

¹⁴³ "King County updates logo to reflect namesake" kingcounty.gov

Seattle Chapter Co-Founders

Aaron Dixon & Elmer Dixon III

Brothers Aaron Dixon and Elmer Dixon III were co-founders of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party, with Aaron serving as captain and Elmer serving as second-in-command. Both born in Chicago, the Dixon family moved to Seattle when their father took a job at Boeing (young Elmer was only 7 years old when they moved). They grew up in Seattle's Central District in the Madrona neighborhood, both graduating from Garfield High School. Their parents taught Aaron, Elmer and their other brother Michael the importance of fighting for social justice.

In Aaron's autobiography *My People Are Rising*, he recalls growing up in Madrona, a neighborhood within Seattle's predominantly Black Central District in the 1960s:

*"For the most part, Seattle was different from a lot of places in the United States at the time. Racism was not out in the open ... nevertheless, it was there, hidden, mostly in faraway neighborhoods.... I remember listening to the older [Black] teenagers in the neighborhood as they shared their battle stories of venturing out of the Central District, our safe haven, going to neighborhoods like Ballard, Queen Anne, and Shoreline, and being attacked by bat-waving white boys... Up on Madrona, we kids were largely insulated from the tentacles of racism. It was only when we ventured out that it reached us."*¹⁴⁴

Aaron recalls one of those pivotal experiences outside the Central District being when he and his brother Elmer's tennis team qualified for the Parks Department city championship, which was held at the Seattle Tennis Club, a prestigious club on Lake Washington which still exists today in 2026 in the Madison Park neighborhood. The Dixons competed in the only all-minority team, and they won, but Aaron describes how they were treated:

*"Besides receiving trophies, we were supposed to get lunch in the club dining room and a free swim in the Olympic-sized pool. To our astonishment, they would not allow us in the restaurant or the pool. Instead, they brought hot dogs out to us and directed us down to the beach, while we watched the white kids we had defeated being led into the club dining room."*¹⁴⁵

Aaron explains that his father would often "come home from work at Boeing filled with rage from dealing with some petty racism". His mother "had her share of stories of being told lies such as 'No, we don't have any jobs open,' despite a sign stating the contrary."¹⁴⁶ In November 1961 when Aaron was 13 years old, he recalls Martin Luther King Jr. making his one visit to Seattle:

*"I found myself marching down 23rd Avenue South, walking arm to arm with thousands of other people of all colors, singing 'We Shall Overcome' and other protest songs... culminating in a large rally and a speech by Martin Luther King... I made my way to the bandstand at Garfield Park, watching him and listening to his words – words that I had heard on TV, on the radio, and on record albums... All across the country, thousands of Black, white, Asian, Native American, and Latino kids, just like me, were slowly making an unconscious move, positioning for the big push to change America."*¹⁴⁷

One year later in 1962, the Seattle chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) sued the school district to end school segregation, a phenomena that was occurring as a result of decades of racial housing covenants and illegal federal government "redlining" which had created a de facto racial dividing line at the Lake Washington Ship Canal – with minority students concentrated in under-funded schools in the south and white students in well-funded schools in the north. (In a study of test scores between 2009 - 2012, Seattle's gap in

¹⁴⁴ Dixon, Aaron. p 50
¹⁴⁵ Dixon, Aaron. p 51
¹⁴⁶ Dixon, Aaron, 49-50
¹⁴⁷ Dixon, Aaron. p 35

academic outcomes between Black and white students was still one of the widest in the country.¹⁴⁸) In an attempt to resolve this inequity, the Seattle school district agreed to a voluntary school transfer program in 1963¹⁴⁹ and, inspired by Dr. King's message, young Aaron Dixon became one of only 250 students who signed up. (It would not be until 1977 when Seattle would become the nation's first major city to voluntarily integrate schools via mandatory bussing – one year before the future Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party would cease operation.¹⁵⁰)

Aaron transferred to what he described as “an all-white school called Denny Blaine, located in a white neighborhood of fine homes called Magnolia, which sat on a bluff overlooking Elliott Bay” and later continued on to Queen Anne High School, “an all-white high school on top of Queen Anne Hill, in a middle-class neighborhood of Victorian homes.”¹⁵¹ He remembers a turning point in February 1965 – around the same time Malcolm X was assassinated – when a high school basketball championship between white Queen Anne High and his neighborhood's Black high school, Garfield High, resulted in a referee calling a “phantom foul” that unfairly declared Queen Anne the victor. Aaron heard that white kids from Queen Anne “were attacked and beaten after the game” and when he went to school the next day, he “noticed that the white kids were looking at me strangely, staring at me like I had shit on my back.” By 1966, Dixon's junior year, he was “tired of the racism at Queen Anne [High School] and the whole idea of voluntary [school] integration” and he transferred to Garfield High School, joining his brother Elmer.¹⁵²

In the spring of 1967, Aaron and Elmer attended a lecture given at Garfield High School by Stokely Carmichael, the charismatic leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and one of the original “freedom riders”. The brothers “walked out of the auditorium transformed”.¹⁵³ Aaron graduated from Garfield in June 1967 and began attending the University of Washington that same year in September as one of “only thirty Black students”. He remembers writing a term paper at the UW about Malcolm X that “created a desire to know more about the plight of Black people”¹⁵⁴ and promptly joined a new Black student organization called the Black Student Union (BSU). He was energized and inspired by the radical lectures given by the organization's sponsored guests, and he and Elmer eventually both also joined the SNCC.

He remembers the first time he had “an actual physical conflict with the cops” was when he and his friends were arrested at a YMCA on 23rd St in the Central District. A dispute at a “Battle of the Bands” dance led to “cops showing up and... pushing, shoving, beating us with their batons”. He goes on to reflect, “They [the cops] did not have to come down on us the way they did. But through their actions, they brought us together, uniting us and politicizing us, all in one night.” A crowd formed to chase the cops away and “started throwing rocks and bottles at the white passersby, yelling obscenities... We erupted that night with Seattle's first little riot.” The Dixon brothers were arrested with others and taken downtown, but released a few hours later without being charged.¹⁵⁵

On March 29, 1968, Aaron joined roughly 30 other BSU members¹⁵⁶ at a “little sandwich shop across from Franklin [High School]” for a sit-in to protest the suspension of a Black Franklin High School student who had been punished while his white aggressor remained in school. The demonstration led to classes being canceled for the day and, the next day, the suspended Black student was reinstated at Franklin High¹⁵⁷ and, a few days after that, the biased vice-principal who had suspended him was transferred to another school.¹⁵⁸ Justice had seemingly prevailed, except there was a catch: Aaron Dixon along with other demonstrators were charged with “unlawful assembly” a few days later

¹⁴⁸ Balk, Gene. “Seattle schools have biggest white-black achievement gap in state.” *The Seattle Times*: May 9, 2016.

¹⁴⁹ Tiate, Cassandra. “Busing in Seattle: A Well-Intentioned Failure.” HistoryLink.org Essay 3939: September 7, 2002.

¹⁵⁰ Bazzaz, Dahlia. “Why Seattle schools are more segregated today than the 1980s.” *The Seattle Times*: May 28, 2023.

¹⁵¹ Dixon, Aaron. p 36.

¹⁵² Dixon, Aaron. p 43.

¹⁵³ Dixon, Aaron. p 58

¹⁵⁴ Dixon, Aaron. p 60-63.

¹⁵⁵ Dixon, p 69-70.

¹⁵⁶ See [Fig 49](#) “Documents & Clippings”

¹⁵⁷ See [Fig 51](#), “Documents & Clippings”

¹⁵⁸ See [Fig 57](#), “Documents & Clippings”

also.¹⁵⁹ They were handcuffed, taken to the police station and booked for the first time in King County Jail on April 4, 1968, the same day Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated.

Shortly after this, with Aaron out on bail, the Dixon brothers heard Black Panther co-founder Bobby Seale speak for the first time in Oakland, California. Seale later flew to Seattle to give his support for a new Seattle branch of the Black Panthers – the first chapter outside of California – appointing nineteen-year-old Aaron Dixon as captain and his younger brother Elmer as second in command (see [“Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party”, 1968](#))

Aaron Dixon went on to lead the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party with the help of his brother Elmer through its first four formative years (see [“Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party”, 1968 - 1978](#)), before being ordered to move to Party national headquarters in Oakland in 1972 where he worked with national leadership including Huey P. Newton, Bobby Seale, and Elaine Brown.

Meanwhile, Elmer (under parole and unable to move to Oakland), stayed in Seattle and reorganized the chapter, working to sustain the Party's free breakfast program and health clinic. Elmer maintained the Panther organization until 1976 when he had a falling out with national Black Panther Party leadership and parted ways. He worked strategically over the next years to set up the community programs for continued independent sustainability until the Seattle Chapter officially ceased operation in 1978.

After the Black Panther Party dissolved as an organization, Aaron worked for several non-profit organizations focusing on drug and gang violence and working with homeless youth. In 2006, he ran for the U.S. Senate seat held by Maria Cantwell of Washington state since 2001. Elmer Dixon went on to found his own diversity consulting firm where he continues to work as principal owner.

Today, Aaron Dixon is the father of six and lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Elmer Dixon III is the father of five and lives in Port Townsend, Washington.

Mural Artist(s)

Dion Henderson

Dion Henderson completed the mural on the People's Wall at the Seattle chapter of the Black Panther Party on Oct. 6, 1970.

Henderson was born to Eugene and Virginia Henderson on July 8, 1941 in Detroit, Michigan, before the family relocated to Inkster, Michigan, where Henderson graduated from Inkster High School in 1959 and enlisted in the U.S. Army. Henderson served in the military for seven and a half years with tours in Vietnam. After his service, he settled in Seattle, Washington with his wife Yvonne and children, Stacy and Sydney.

It was noted that Henderson had a gift and talent for art since early childhood. He studied art at the Burley School of Professional Art and the Seattle Art Institute, and he taught fashion illustration, graphic design and Black art history at Garfield High School in Seattle, Washington. SCBPP captain Aaron Dixon recalls that Henderson was associated with the Black Student Union at the University of Washington as well as the Black Panther Party, and it was Henderson that approached Dixon about painting a mural on the street-level retaining wall facing 20th Ave at the SCBPP headquarters at 173 20th Ave.

Local artist Al Doggett remembers: “When I arrived in Seattle in 1967, Dion Henderson was a very popular and successful Black artist. He was the visual voice of what was going on in the African American community. With his artwork, his paintings and posters reflected the mood of what African Americans were experiencing, not only here in Seattle but around the country.”

¹⁵⁹ [Fig 52](#) “Documents & Clippings”

The mural Henderson painted on the People's Wall is described by Doggett as "reflecting the story of Black American struggles and injustices the Black Panther Party was fighting to overcome." Doggett adds that "Dion left his mark on Seattle with the many artworks he produced, and he touched a lot of people with his ability to help and give of his time and to teach art classes to young people."

In 1980, Henderson moved to Washington, DC to become an investigative consultant working for the district government, which he did for 23 years. In 1999, he married Barbara Strother Herron. His artwork has since been exhibited in Washington and California and has been published in *Black Artists on Art* and *Essence Magazine*. He passed away on October 23, 2010.¹⁶⁰

Eddie Ray Walker

Local Black artist Eddie Ray Walker re-touched paint on the mural in 2008 for the 40th Anniversary of the SCBPP.

Walker was a graduate of Seattle's Cleveland High School and the University of Washington. He was a key figure in founding the Black Student Union (BSU) at the University of Washington around the same time the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party (SCBPP) co-founders Aaron and Elmer Dixon were involved. In 1968, the year the SCBPP was formed, Walker participated in a staged sit-in with the newly-formed BSU at the UW administration building to issue their demands that UW President Charles E. Odegaard take steps to make the UW campus more accessible and welcoming for current and future Black students (Walker climbed the side of the UW administration building to gain access to the UW president's office). The actions of Walker and others that day would ultimately lead to the UW's formation of what is known today as the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity and also the Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center.

Two of his paintings – portraits of Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth – hang in Seattle's Douglass-Truth Library a few blocks east of the People's Wall in the Central District. He passed away on December 4, 2023.¹⁶¹

Central District & Property History

The Central District neighborhood in Seattle, Washington, has a rich history of overlapping concentrations of diverse minority communities that have historically called it home, including Black and Jewish families as well as Chinese, Japanese and Filipinos.¹⁶²

William Grose, the second Black American settler in Seattle and a successful entrepreneur and owner of a famous three-story hotel and restaurant in present-day Pioneer Square (see "[Seattle's Black American History](#)"), created the anchor of the Central District's Black community when he purchased 12 acres of heavily wooded land in Madison Valley from Seattle "co-founder" and mill owner Henry Yesler in 1882. When Grose's hotel/restaurant burned down in the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, he moved to his Madison Valley property along present-day E. Madison St. & 23rd Ave where he built a home (which still stands today at 1733 24th Ave) and began selling smaller parcels of land to other prominent Black families in the city. The area became the Black community's northern anchor for what grew into the Central District.

Just two blocks south of the People's Wall, the Yesler Streetcar opened in 1888 as one of Seattle's first streetcar lines, operating on E. Yesler Way until its final run in 1940.¹⁶³ It ran from Henry Yesler's sawmill in Pioneer Square all the way east up the original "skid row" (Yesler Way) and across a giant trestle bridge that led down to Leschi Park on Lake Washington – once a seasonal Duwamish settlement frequented by Nisqually Chief Leschi (1808-1858) that was developed in 1889 as a ferry

¹⁶⁰ Doggett, Al. "Personal email correspondence with Stephanie Johnson-Toliver." July 20, 2018.

¹⁶¹ "Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity Remembers Eddie Ray Walker." University of Washington, Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity: 2023.

¹⁶² Fig. 8 "Maps & Diagrams."

¹⁶³ Banel, Felix. "Unwinding the history of the old Yesler Cable Car." [MyNorthwest.com](#): August 5, 2020.

landing, boathouse and, eventually, a six-story casino and theatre, roller-skating rink, dance pavilion, and zoo. (Chief Leschi had reportedly traveled on what would be later called "Yesler Way" to modern-day Pioneer Square to lead the "Battle of Seattle", the 1856 ambush of white settlers which resulted in Leschi's capture and hanging.) In the early 1900s, residents of 173 20th Ave would have had prime access to transportation that would take them directly into the business core of Pioneer Square. Indeed, even before a home was ever built on the site, advertisements in 1899 for lots in "Dean's Addition" (where 173 20th Ave was located) boasted the lots were "near Yesler."¹⁶⁴

From 1890 until about World War I, the specific part of the Central District where the People's Wall exists was a predominantly Jewish neighborhood with Eastern European Ashkenazi Jews and Mediterranean Sephardic Jews living together. This is corroborated by data collected in the 1939 Works Progress Administration (WPA) Seattle Residential Survey, which reveals that the block where the People's Wall exists appeared at that time during the Great Depression to be mostly inhabited by Ashkenazi Jews, while the block across 20th Ave was largely inhabited by Sephardic Jews¹⁶⁵ (Seattle has the third-largest Sephardic population in the country).

The name "**Nissim Chiprut**" is listed as the property owner on tax documents for 173 20th Ave (where the People's Wall is located) in 1925¹⁶⁶ and, later, the family of a grocer named "**Sam Azose**" is noted as living in the duplex in 1931.¹⁶⁷ Azose was the president of Sephardic Bikur Holim congregation in 1929¹⁶⁸, which constructed a synagogue that same year just one block south (see "[Nearby Landmarks – Tolliver Temple Church of God in Christ](#)"). Azose was the son of Solomon Azose, a Turkish immigrant who was the first Sephardic rabbi in Seattle,¹⁶⁹ and Nissim Chiprut was Azose's brother-in-law¹⁷⁰ and worked for the Pacific Coast Coal Company.¹⁷¹ (Sephardic Bikur Holim synagogue was sold in 1963 to a predominantly Black Christian congregation, becoming [Tolliver Temple Church of God in Christ](#), while the Jewish congregation moved to a new synagogue near Seward Park.)

Planned neighborhoods where developers put racially restrictive housing covenants in their deeds were widespread by the 1920s in Seattle as was "redlining" by insurers, which confined non-white families to living in the Central District since they were excluded from other neighborhoods. In the post-war 1950s, during the "Second Great Migration", more than 5 million Black Americans migrated from the South to northern cities like Seattle where many worked for companies like Boeing. By the 1960s and 1970s, the Central District was a majority-Black neighborhood and the epicenter of Seattle's civil-rights movement. Institutions like Mount Zion Baptist Church and Garfield High School served as organizing grounds for activists, who fought against segregation in housing, employment, and education.

In the late 1960s, the Central District neighborhood became home to the first Black Panther Party chapter outside of California, creating vital community programs like free breakfasts for children and a free family medical clinic. This history of activism and self-sufficiency has cemented the Central District's legacy not just as a place where Black people were forced to live, but as a place where they built their own institutions, fought for their rights, and nurtured a strong cultural identity that continues to influence the city today.

The Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers (SCBPP) occupied the duplex at 20th Ave & Spruce St beginning in 1969, renting the property from **J. Cordell Jackson**¹⁷² (a Black youth coordinator for Seattle's NAACP in 1964¹⁷³, later a marketing manager in 1971). The People's Wall mural was painted on the retaining wall at 173 20th Ave and completed on October 6, 1970 (see "[The People's](#)

¹⁶⁴ [Fig. 34](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁶⁵ [Fig. 8](#). "Maps & Diagrams."

¹⁶⁶ [Fig. 32](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁶⁷ [Fig. 45](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁶⁸ [Fig. 44](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁶⁹ [Fig. 48](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁷⁰ [Fig. 48](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁷¹ Khan, Esther Chiprut. "[Who is Ben Barokas?](#)"

¹⁷² [Fig. 114](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁷³ Guzzo, Louis R. "[NAACP Will Stage Theater-TV Spectacle May 14.](#)" *Seattle Daily Times*: Sunday, March 29, 1964.

[Wall](#)” for further description of the mural itself) before the SCBPP was forced to vacate the location in 1971. The federal government seized the property and, in 1973, the duplex at 173 20th Ave was razed, leaving only the southern portion of the People’s Wall. The lot remained vacant for ten years until a new series of townhomes were built in 1983.

James Berle Standifer, a local Garfield High School graduate with foresight ahead of his times, recognized the worth of the property and purchased it in 1988, five years after the new townhomes were built. Born in 1940 in Portland, Oregon, he had moved with his family to Seattle, Washington, in 1945 and graduated from Garfield in 1958, before going on to play football for Pasadena Community College and later enlisting in the Washington State National Guard in 1962, one year after Martin Luther King Jr made his one visit to Seattle. His older brother, Floyd Standifer, was a celebrated Seattle jazz musician and member of the 1960 Quincy Jones Big Band.¹⁷⁴ James Standifer went on to marry Gloria Jean O’Neal and, three years before the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers was founded, they had their only child in 1965, **Sherryl Lynn Standifer**. At the time of his daughter’s birth, Standifer was one of the founding members of the Kingsmen Social Club and Seattle’s first African American Antique Car Club, the “Old Rides”¹⁷⁵. At the age of 48, when his daughter was 23 years old, he made an investment in the neighborhood he grew up in by purchasing the property at Spruce St & 20th Ave. James Standifer passed away in 2019, leaving the property to his daughter who has continued her father’s legacy of stewardship for future generations.

In recent decades, the Central District has undergone rapid gentrification and redevelopment, driving up property values and displacing many long-standing residents. Once home to a population that was over 80% Black in the 1970s, Black households make up only 10% of the Central District in 2026—a stark demographic shift that reflects the broader pressures of urban development.

Nearby Landmarks

Based on the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Landmarks Map¹⁷⁶, the following are nearby landmarks:

- **Douglass-Truth Library (2300 E Yesler Way)**
The Douglass-Truth Library at 2300 E Yesler Way is a cornerstone of the Central District, and its history reflects the evolution of the neighborhood itself. Built in 1914, the building, designed in the Italian Renaissance style, was originally named the Henry L. Yesler Memorial Library. It was unique for its time as the only Seattle library built with city funds rather than a grant from Andrew Carnegie. For decades, its collection mirrored the diverse community, holding books in 13 different languages, including the city’s main Hebrew, Yiddish, and Japanese collections. As Black families moved to Seattle post-WWII and discriminatory housing practices concentrated the community in the Central District, the library was slow to adapt. In the 1960s, a campaign led by local Black community leaders, including the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, successfully advocated for the establishment of a dedicated African American literature and history collection. This grassroots effort not only saved the branch from a potential closure but also cemented its role as a cultural hub. In 1975, a community vote led to the library being renamed in honor of abolitionist leaders Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth, making it a powerful symbol of the neighborhood’s identity and a tribute to the people who fought to ensure their history was represented and celebrated. In 2026 today, the library is home to the largest collection of African American literature on the entire west coast. (Two paintings – portraits of Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth – hang in the front lobby, created by the artist [Eddie Ray Walker](#) who also re-touched the People’s Wall in 2008.)

¹⁷⁴ de Barros, Paul. “[Floyd Standifer | Member of Seattle Jazz Hall of Fame loved city.](#)” *Seattle Times*: January 24, 2007.

¹⁷⁵ “[Obituary for James Berle Standifer.](#)” Dignity Memorial: 2019.

¹⁷⁶ [Fig. 3](#) “Maps & Diagrams”

- **Fire Station #6, Africatown Community Land Trust William Grose Center for Cultural Innovation (101 23rd Ave S)**

The Fire Station at 23rd and Yesler (now known as the Africatown Community Land Trust William Grose Center for Cultural Innovation) was constructed in 1931 and completed in 1932 by architect George Stewart. It was built on the site of an even older 1894-era firehouse. For decades, it served its original purpose, housing firefighters and their equipment to protect the surrounding community. The city decided to decommission it as an active fire station in 2013 and moved the new Fire Station 6 to a different location. At that time, the neighborhood was predominantly Black.

The decommissioned building became a focal point in the community's struggle against gentrification and for the preservation of its cultural heritage. Led by the Africatown Community Land Trust, community leaders and activists argued that the property should not be sold for private development – a process that has historically displaced Black residents from the Central District. Instead, they demanded that the property be transferred back to the community, making it a symbol of the neighborhood's resilience and a tangible step toward land ownership and economic empowerment. It was officially designated a Seattle landmark on June 15, 2005, and is today in 2026 dedicated to William Grose, the second Black American to settle in Seattle.

- **Garfield High School (400 23rd Ave)**

Garfield High School, located at 101 23rd Avenue, is a historic and cultural landmark in Seattle's Central District, noted for its central role in the lives of Seattle's Black community. Opened in 1923, the Jacobean-style building was designed by architect Floyd Naramore and its student body initially consisted of Jewish, Japanese, and Italian students until World War II when the Central District's demographics began to change. By the 1960s, Garfield had become a majority-Black high school due to discriminatory housing practices that concentrated the Black community in the neighborhood. The school became a prominent site for activism during the civil-rights era, hosting notable speakers like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Stokely Carmichael.

The energy from these school events and the student body's own organizing efforts led to the formation of one of the first high school Black Student Unions in the state and the birth of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party (SCBPP). Celebrated American jazz greats like Quincy Jones and guitar legend Jimi Hendrix graduated from the high school as well as both Aaron and Elmer Dixon, co-founders of the SCBPP – along with many of the SCBPP's members. Garfield High School remains a symbol of this legacy, recognized for its contributions to Seattle's civil-rights movement and its continuing role as a central gathering place for the community.

- **Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center (104 17th Ave S)**

The Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute at 104 17th Avenue S was originally a synagogue built in 1915 for the Orthodox Jewish congregation Chevra Bikur Cholim, which was a prominent fixture in the neighborhood's early history. As the demographics of the area shifted in the mid-20th century, the congregation relocated to the Seward Park neighborhood. The building was acquired by the City of Seattle in 1969 through the federal Model Cities Program, a government initiative for urban renewal. This was a direct result of advocacy by Central District citizens who saw the need for a dedicated community center.

Renamed in 1974 to honor the renowned Black writer and poet Langston Hughes (born in Joplin, Missouri on Feb 1, 1902, and passing away on June 22, 1967, two years prior to the City's purchase), the center quickly became a vital hub for Black arts and culture in Seattle. It has served for decades as a space for performances, film screenings, and educational programs, nurturing generations of Black artists and performers.

- **Providence Hospital, 1910 Building (528 17th Ave S)**

The 1910 building of Providence Hospital at 528 17th Avenue South, now part of Swedish Medical Center's Cherry Hill campus, is a landmark with a history deeply intertwined with the development of healthcare in Seattle. It was built by the Sisters of Providence, a Catholic order who had been providing care since the 1870s. Originally opened in 1878, the hospital began in a remodeled house at 5th and Madison St. It was the first hospital in Seattle. The 1910 structure was a significant expansion of the hospital's mission and remains an enduring architectural presence in the neighborhood. For decades, it was a central pillar of medical care for the growing city.

Beyond its general medical function, the hospital has a particularly important, if complex, history with the Central District's Black community. During a period when other hospitals in the city denied admitting privileges to Black physicians, Providence was one of the few places where they could practice. For Black doctors who came to Seattle, Providence Hospital was a crucial institution, allowing them to serve their community and establish their medical practice. The hospital's presence and its more inclusive policies made it a vital healthcare provider for Black residents who faced discrimination and limited access to care elsewhere. This legacy, while part of a larger history of racial disparities in healthcare, highlights the hospital's role as a point of access and a place of professional opportunity for a community that was systematically excluded from other medical institutions.

- **Tolliver Temple Church of God in Christ (1915 E Fir St)**

The Tolliver Temple Church of God in Christ at 1915 E Fir Street is an example of the Central District's layered history and demographic shifts. The building itself was originally constructed in 1929 as the Sephardic Bikur Holim Synagogue, a vital cultural and religious center for the Turkish-Sephardic Jewish community that had established a significant presence in the neighborhood at that time (Seattle has the third-largest Sephardic population in America). The president of Sephardic Bikur Holim congregation in 1929 – the year it was built – was a grocer named [Sam Azose](#) who lived in the duplex where the People's Wall is located, just one block north of the temple. (Azose's father, Solomon Azose, had been the first Sephardic rabbi in Seattle, having immigrated to Seattle from Turkey.) The temple was designed to be a hub for worship, education and social gatherings, and remains a visible reminder of the Jewish community's early presence in the Central District.

In 1963, the temple building was sold to a predominantly Black Christian congregation, the Tolliver Temple Church of God in Christ, while Bikur Holim synagogue moved to a new location in South Seattle near Seward Park. The temple building transformed into Tolliver Temple Church of God in Christ, a place of worship and a community hub that played a vital role in providing a support network for Black migrants arriving in Seattle starting in 1969, offering everything from spiritual guidance to a safety net of meals and temporary accommodations. The building's recent designation as a Seattle landmark recognizes this dual history, symbolizing how a single structure can embody the complex and evolving narratives of two distinct communities who have both called the Central District home.

Other notable sites nearby include:

- **Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center (2101 E Yesler Way)**

The Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center was originally founded in 1968 by the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party and it exists in 2026 just a few blocks south and east of the People's Wall. Originally named the "Sydney Miller Free Medical Clinic" to honor a member of the SCBPP who had been shot (see ["The People's Wall"](#) for information about Miller, whose name is memorialized on the People's Wall), it was renamed in 1978 to honor Downs, an early Black Panther community organizer who ran the clinic and who died from cancer that year¹⁷⁷ (Downs' name is also memorialized on the People's Wall). In 2026, the

¹⁷⁷ Zhong, Michelle. ["Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center \(1968-\)"](#), *BlackPast*, April 5, 2018.

medical center is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with a mission “to improve the health of our community by providing caring, high quality, and culturally appropriate primary healthcare which addresses the needs of people regardless of their ability to pay.” Of the 13 original Black Panther Party-founded health care clinics founded across the country, the Carolyn Downs Medical Family Center is the only one still in operation.

- **Pratt Park (201 20th Ave S)**

Just two blocks south of where the People's Wall is located is Pratt Park, a piece of land that was first purchased by the City in 1958 as part of the grounds planned for Washington Junior High School, then later became the site for a park and low-income housing project in 1966, and finally was named in honor of Edwin T. Pratt in 1976. Pratt was a prominent local civil-rights leader and Executive Director of the Seattle Urban League, responsible for leading the effort to desegregate Seattle Public Schools as well as initiatives advocating for equal housing and employment opportunities. In 1969, he was shot in the doorway of his home in Shoreline (17916 1st Avenue NE). Witnesses reported seeing two men fleeing the scene with a third person driving a getaway car. At the request of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department, the FBI entered the investigation the day after the murder but, despite this additional manpower, the case was closed after just three and a half months. (In a piece by the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* published 25 years later in 1994, new information revealed the shooters were potentially hired by local construction contractors concerned about Pratt's efforts to integrate Black people into the white workforce). The case remains unsolved¹⁷⁸.

- **R&L Home of Good Bar-B-Q, permanently closed (1816 E Yesler Way)**

A few blocks south and west of the People's Wall is the building that formerly housed R&L Home of Good Bar-B-Q, a restaurant which was originally located a block to the east when it was founded in 1952 by Rev. Hasting Mitchell along with Rev. Robert and Mrs. Louise Collins (permanently closed in 2018, although the building still stands in 2026). During the week of November 8, 1961, when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made his one and only visit to Seattle at the age of 32, Dr. King requested to be taken to a barbeque restaurant by his host Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney (a former classmate from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia). Mary L. Davis, daughter of the Collins' (who later purchased the restaurant in 1962), recalled: “Martin Luther King came when we were closing [for the night], but because my dad was an enthusiastic follower of Dr. King, he had to open the door for him and Rev. McKinney.” They spent several hours eating, talking and reminiscing until the early morning when Dr. King had to leave on a flight back to Atlanta¹⁷⁹.

¹⁷⁸ Trescases, Heather. “Edwin Pratt is murdered outside his Shoreline home on January 26, 1969.” HistoryLink: February 15, 2003.

¹⁷⁹ Allen, Aaron. “[R&L Home Of Good Bar-B-Que – The End Of A BBQ Dynasty](#).” *Seattle Medium*: November 20, 2018.

Houtz, Jolayne. “[Louise Collins, barbecue matriarch, dies at 80.](#)” *The Seattle Times*: January 13, 2002.

2. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Site/Wall Description

The People's Wall is a non-structural, street-level, property line retaining wall facing 20th Ave on the east border of 1919 E. Spruce St (formerly "173 20th Ave"), first evident in aerial photographs of the property taken in 1936¹⁸⁰ and in photos of the duplex taken in 1937.¹⁸¹ Although the duplex that once stood on the lot was permitted in 1904¹⁸², built in 1905¹⁸³, and later remodeled in 1930¹⁸⁴, no earlier photos of the property exist to verify whether the retaining wall was present prior to 1936.

The wall itself is roughly 3 feet 8 inches tall (44 inches total), 38 ½ feet long (462 inches), and 7 inches thick, slightly curving around a corner on the north side where a set of six steps used to be.¹⁸⁵ The wall retains approximately 3 ½ feet of level backfill and is built of concrete, scored to appear as if it were made of cinderblock.¹⁸⁶ In 2025, a wooden fence sits on top of the People's Wall with no visible attachments, screening a townhouse and driveway built on the property in 1983.¹⁸⁷

A structural engineering analysis conducted in October 2025 by Francesca Renouard of Swenson Say Faget notes the wall is "visually plumb" and does not appear to be reinforced, further adding "though the wall likely does not meet current code [based on the age of construction], we do not expect the wall to pose a life safety risk at this time." The analysis concludes that the wall appears structurally sound with only signs of weathering, including "visible vertical cracks" with the most prominent crack located approximately 12"-18" from the north end of the wall", likely caused by "temperature and shrinkage cracks caused by temperature fluctuations."

(See "[The People's Wall](#)" for a detailed description of the mural painted by [Dion Henderson](#) on the wall in 1970.)

Alterations

Local artist Eddie Ray Walker re-touched paint on the mural in 2008, adding additional names to the list of "fallen" members that are memorialized on it (see "[Mural Artist\(s\): Eddie Ray Walker](#)").

Lot Setting & Plantings

Lot Setting

Between 1870 and 1940, a popular landscaping style was to enhance a property by building a house on a flat site roughly one to four feet higher than street level, creating a grade change between a house and the public street.¹⁸⁸ This is consistent with the People's Wall, which is a street-level retaining wall that sits roughly 3 feet lower than the original duplex built on the property in 1905.¹⁸⁹ At the time when the original property was built, the transition between the two grades was most often accomplished with "a short section of lawn that sloped up at an angle from the sidewalk."¹⁹⁰ This may

¹⁸⁰ [Fig 13](#). "Images."

¹⁸¹ [Fig 14](#). "Images."

¹⁸² [Fig 30](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁸³ [Fig 32](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁸⁴ [Fig 32](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁸⁵ [Fig 14](#). "Images."

¹⁸⁶ Jackson, Mike. "[Block by Block: The History of CMUs, a Construction Staple](#)." Architect, Dec. 3, 2020.

¹⁸⁷ [Fig 17](#). "Images."

¹⁸⁸ McAlester, Virginia Savage. "A Field Guide to American Houses." Alfred A Knopf, New York, 2019: p 93.

¹⁸⁹ [Fig 32](#). "Documents & Clippings."

¹⁹⁰ McAlester, Virginia Savage. "A Field Guide to American Houses." Alfred A Knopf, New York, 2019: p 93.

have been the case with 173 20th Ave in 1905, but there is no photographic evidence until 1936 when the retaining wall structure is already present.¹⁹¹

Street & Block

Luxury amenities such as sidewalks and utility connections were typical at the turn of the 20th-century for lots that had been platted adjacent to streetcar lines like the Yesler Streetcar which began operating just two blocks south of the site in 1888.¹⁹² In tax records, it is noted that 173 20th Ave sat on a street that was “graded” with a “concrete” surface, and “concrete” sidewalk.¹⁹³

The block where the People's Wall is located is square-shaped with different-sized lots and houses facing in four directions by 1905¹⁹⁴ (unlike the more common rectangular shape of blocks at that time with houses facing out in only two directions¹⁹⁵). While the neighborhood was effectively a “streetcar suburb” made possible by the Yesler Streetcar, the relatively random mixture of lot sizes as well as the varied placement of the houses and outbuildings on the lot¹⁹⁶ is characteristic of more rural neighborhoods.¹⁹⁷ (Indeed, as late as 1923, a resident at 173 20th Ave advertised a “big Guernsey cow” for sale.¹⁹⁸) The lack of uniform front and side lot setbacks on the homes built on this block also indicates there were no deed restrictions mandating visual unity, characteristic of lower-income neighborhoods that lacked “protective covenants”,¹⁹⁹ which conversely meant that there were also no racially-restrictive covenants in place either, allowing a wide range of Seattle's minorities to make their homes here.

Plantings

In 2025, the sidewalk planting strip in front of the People's Wall is planted with grass and a single, young ginkgo street tree (*Ginkgo biloba*).²⁰⁰ Ginkgoes are the world's oldest living tree species, known as “living fossils” because their lineage dates back over 250 million years ago, pre-dating dinosaurs. The distinctive fan shape of the ginkgo's leaves have remained virtually unchanged since they first appeared. Once spanning the world (a petrified ginkgo forest exists in Washington state), these trees were decimated by global changes 65 million years ago and thought to be extinct until they were “re-discovered” in China in the mid-1700s. Considered to be one of the most fire-resistant trees, Buddhist monks planted ginkgo trees around shrines to protect these sacred buildings from burning in potential fires. In Japanese culture, these trees are revered as powerful symbols of life's ability to endure and thrive even after immense destruction. Indeed, when the atomic bomb was dropped by the U.S. on Hiroshima, Japan, during WWII in 1945, the first sign of life was reportedly several ginkgo “survivor trees” that began growing leaves again after the blast.²⁰¹ Since then, ginkgoes have proliferated and come to be known as some of the most resilient trees on the planet, famous for having survived multiple ice ages and major extinction events. The street tree in front of the People's Wall was snapped by vandals in 2024 but – true to the nature of a ginkgo – it is growing again.

Surrounding Streetscape

The streetscape surrounding the People's Wall is a tableau of different eras of rapid change. Neighborhoods in less desirable areas or with fluctuating populations often had their street rhythms interrupted by vacant lots created by fires or code-enforcement efforts – indeed, after 173 20th Ave was seized by the federal government and razed in 1973, it was left as a vacant lot for ten years before several new townhouses facing Spruce St were built in 1983. Further west down the block on

¹⁹¹ Fig 13. “Images.”

¹⁹² Banel, Felix. “Unwinding the history of the old Yesler Cable Car.” [MyNorthwest.com](#): August 5, 2020.

¹⁹³ Fig 32. “Documents & Clippings.”

¹⁹⁴ Fig 5. “Diagrams & Maps.”

¹⁹⁵ McAlester, Virginia Savage. “A Field Guide to American Houses.” Alfred A Knopf, New York, 2019: p 86-87.

¹⁹⁶ Fig 5. “Diagrams & Maps.”

¹⁹⁷ McAlester, Virginia Savage. “A Field Guide to American Houses.” Alfred A Knopf, New York, 2019: p 60.

¹⁹⁸ Fig 42. “Documents & Clippings.”

¹⁹⁹ McAlester, Virginia Savage. “A Field Guide to American Houses.” Alfred A Knopf, New York, 2019: p 90.

²⁰⁰ Fig 17 to Fig 20. “Images.”

²⁰¹ Matsuda, Will. “The Trees That Survived Hiroshima.” [The New York Times](#): May 5, 2023.

Spruce St, several older, narrow, working-class Victorian-era homes with no front yards remain from the early-1900s.²⁰² (These houses appear on Sanborn maps dating from 1904²⁰³, pre-dating any structures built at 173 20th Ave.)

Across from the People's Wall on 20th Ave, the Herzl Congregation synagogue²⁰⁴ was completed in 1925²⁰⁵ around the same time the U.S. Immigration Act of 1924 drastically reduced quota limits on Jewish immigration to America from Europe. (The Herzl Congregation was founded in 1906 by progressive Orthodox Sephardic Jews two years after the death of its namesake, Theodor Herzl, an Austro-Hungarian Jewish journalist who founded the World Zionist Organization in 1897 and acted as its first president, urging Jews to establish their own homeland in what was known then as British Mandatory Palestine.) A few years later, in 1929, the Seattle congregation voted to become part of the conservative movement, making it the oldest and largest Jewish conservative congregation in the city.²⁰⁶ By 1939 when WPA data was collected for the Central District, America was regularly turning away Jewish refugees seeking entry to the U.S. to flee the rise of Nazi Germany (in one famous case that same year in 1939, a ship carrying over 900 Jewish refugees was turned away from the U.S., resulting in many of its passengers later perishing in the Holocaust).

In 1970, around the same time the Black Panthers occupied the duplex across the street where the People's Wall is located, the Herzl Congregation sold the synagogue building to the City of Seattle, and merged with Congregation Ner Tamid in Mercer Island. The building was remodeled in 1985²⁰⁷ and converted to the Odessa Brown Neighborhood Health Center. In 1994, the clinic moved into a new facility shared with the Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center nearby which, of course, was originally founded by the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers in the duplex that once stood across the street at 173 20th Ave. (Today, the former Herzl Congregation synagogue is the location of First Place, Washington state's first charter school serving children 3 to 5 years old from families experiencing or at risk of homelessness.²⁰⁸)

South of the People's Wall on 20th Ave and across from it on Spruce St., newer "decoupage"-style townhouses were developed in 2015²⁰⁹ ("decoupage" is listed in the 2013 edition of Virginia Savage McAlester's *A Field Guide to American Houses* as "the most common 21st-Century Modern house", characterized as "an orthogonal box, or boxes, designed with two, three, or more wall-cladding textures and materials" with each wall-cladding "in a slightly different plane"). As demand for Seattle homes have increased (along with average prices), the streetscape in the Central District has rapidly changed every year with developers purchasing older homes to raze and redevelop for profit.

²⁰² [Fig. 26](#) "Images."

²⁰³ [Fig. 4](#) "Maps & Diagrams."

²⁰⁴ [Fig. 11](#) "Maps & Diagrams."

²⁰⁵ "[Summary for 172 20th AVE.](#)" Seattle Department of Neighborhoods.

²⁰⁶ Micklin, Lee.

²⁰⁷ [Fig. 27](#) "Images."

²⁰⁸ Riddle, Margaret. "[First Place Scholars in Seattle opens as Washington's first charter school on September 3, 2014.](#)" HistoryLink: December 2, 2014.

²⁰⁹ [Fig. 24](#) "Images."

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148. "Warrant issued for Panther leader." *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, May 27, 1971.
149. "Panther leader sentenced." *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, June 16, 1971.
150. "Gas company gave F.B.I. information on two customers." *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, July 23, 1973.
151. "To F.B.I.: City supplies Panther data." *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, July 26, 1973.

3. LIST OF FIGURES

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 - [Clippings - 1970](#)
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 - [Clippings - 1972 to 1979](#)

Maps & Diagrams

Figure 1. Location of The People's Wall at 1919 E Spruce St in the Central District of Seattle, Washington. (GoogleMaps: 2025)

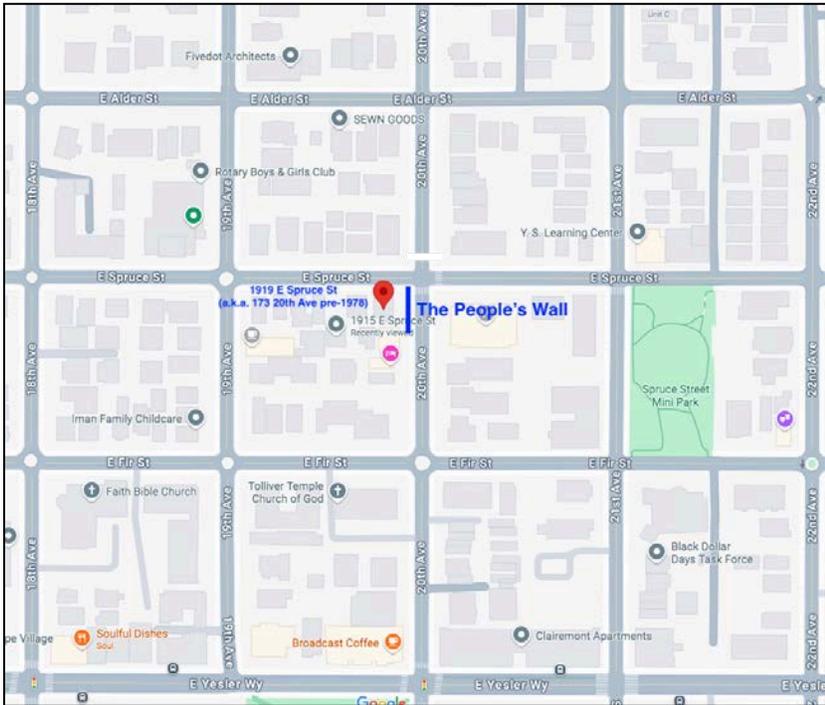


Figure 2. In 2025, nearby Landmarks to 1919 E. Spruce. [Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Landmarks Map](#)

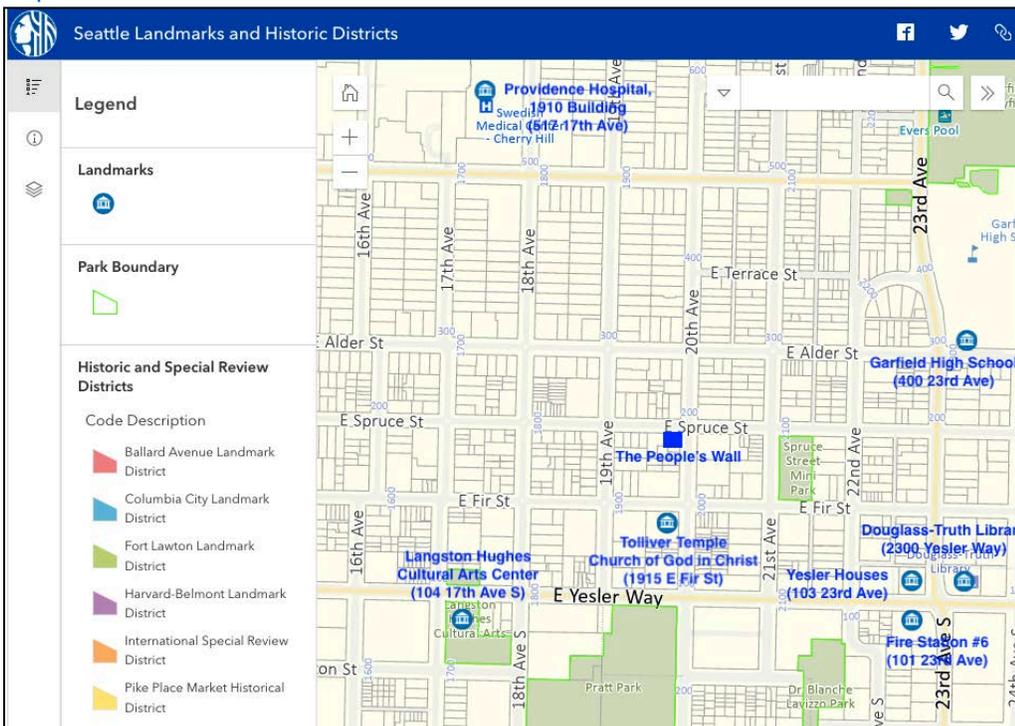


Figure 3. In **2025**, the property records for 1915, 1917 and 1919 E Spruce are incomplete/missing. (iMap Standard Layer 2025, [King County Department of Assessments Property Records](#))

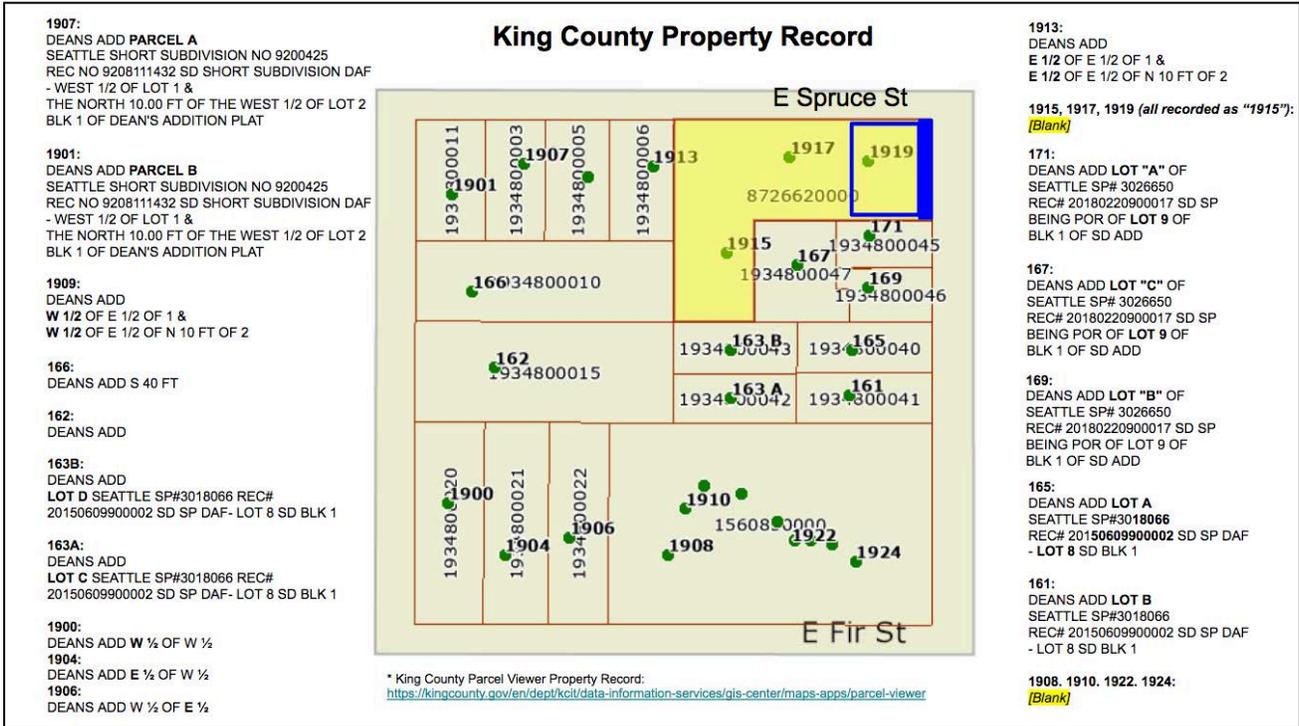


Figure 4. No structure exists on the lot yet even though a building permit was granted in 1904. (Sanborn Map **1904-1905**, Volume 2, Library of Congress)

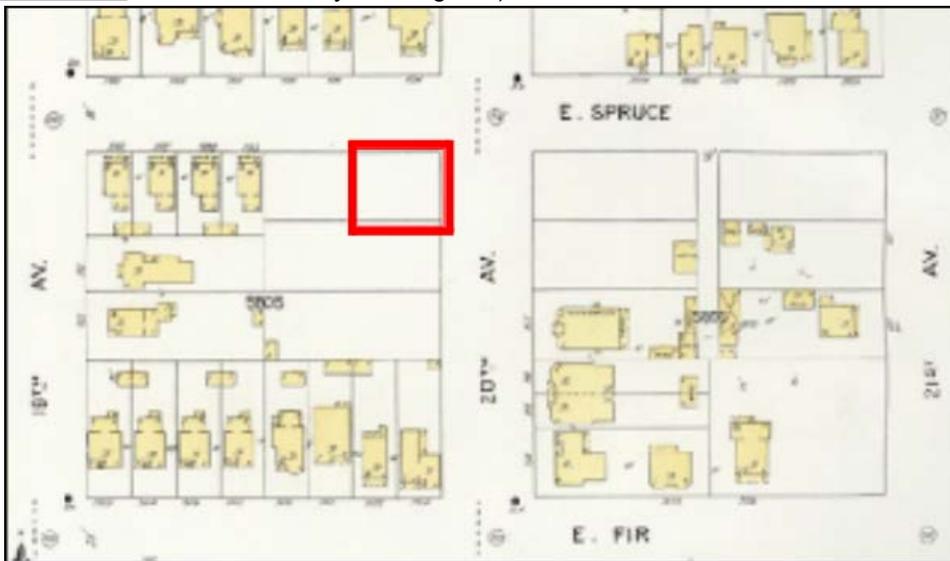


Figure 5. A structure now exists on the lot. (Sanborn Map 1905-1949, Volume 2, Library of Congress)

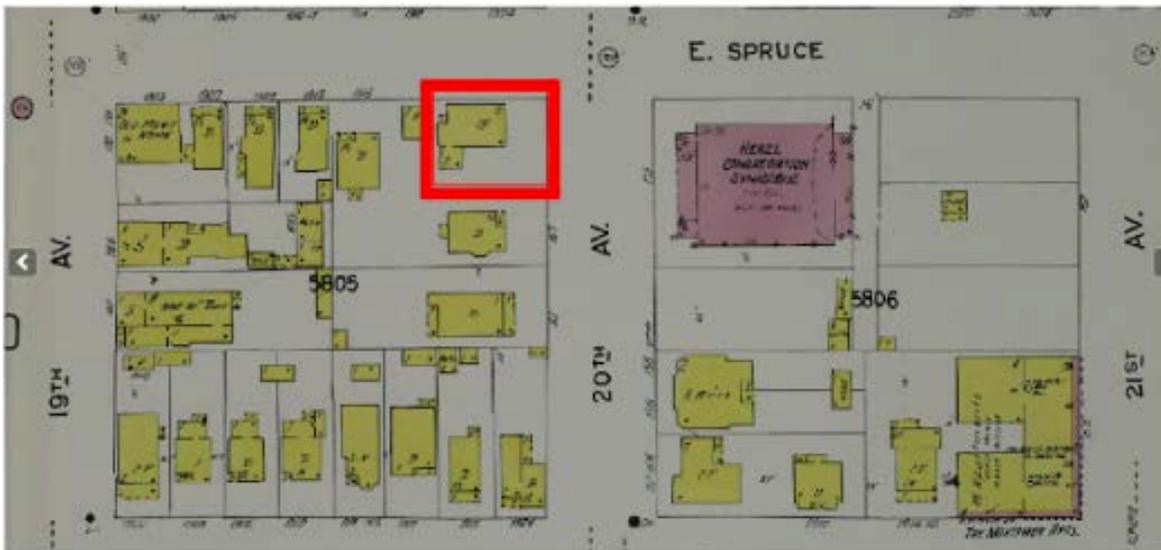


Figure 6. "Sewer Card# 466, Front View", lists address as "173 20th Ave", dated "Sep 27, 1926". [Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections - Side Sewer Cards and Maps](#)

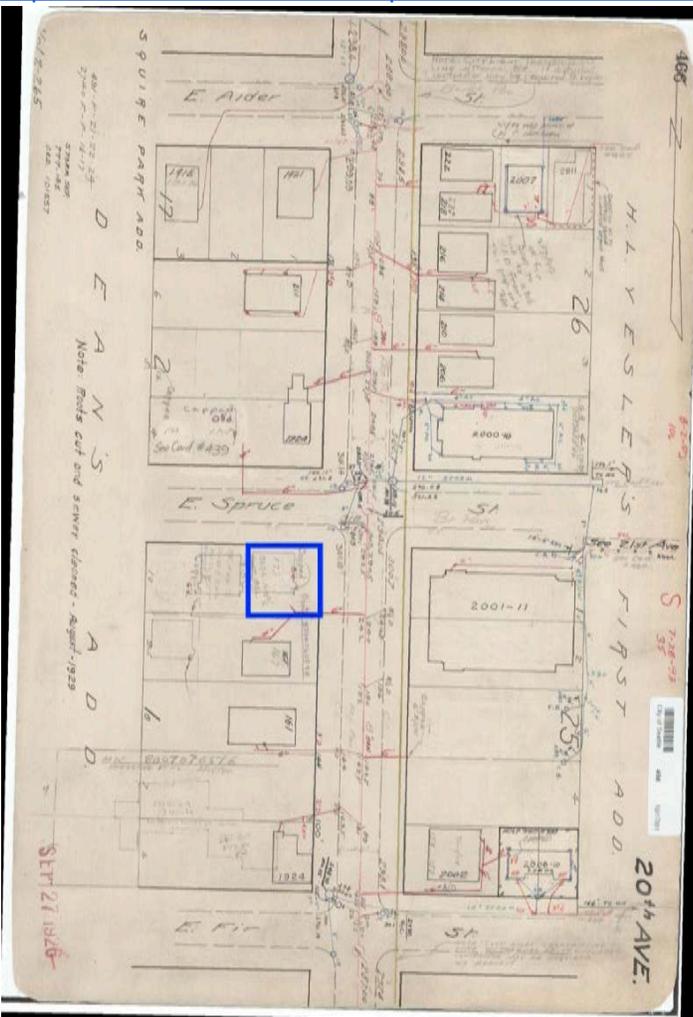


Figure 7. Diagrams of "173 20th Ave"; associated date unclear (see Fig 3 "Documents & Clippings"), although "owner or contract purchaser" name is dated **May 29, 1969** (Puget Sound Regional Archives)

OTHER BUILDINGS	CONSTRUCTION	FLOOR	ROOF	STY.	DIMENSION	AREA	VALUE
GARAGE 2 Car	Double	Conc	Paper	1	16 x 18	288	\$ 115.110
							X
							X
							X
							X

O	C	OWNER OR CONTRACT PURCHASER	DATE	FILE NO.	PRICE	MTGE.	STAMP
		James C. Jackson	5/29/69	071146	18,000.00		

REMARKS Old class # 3 apts & stores, but houses are mostly 2's.

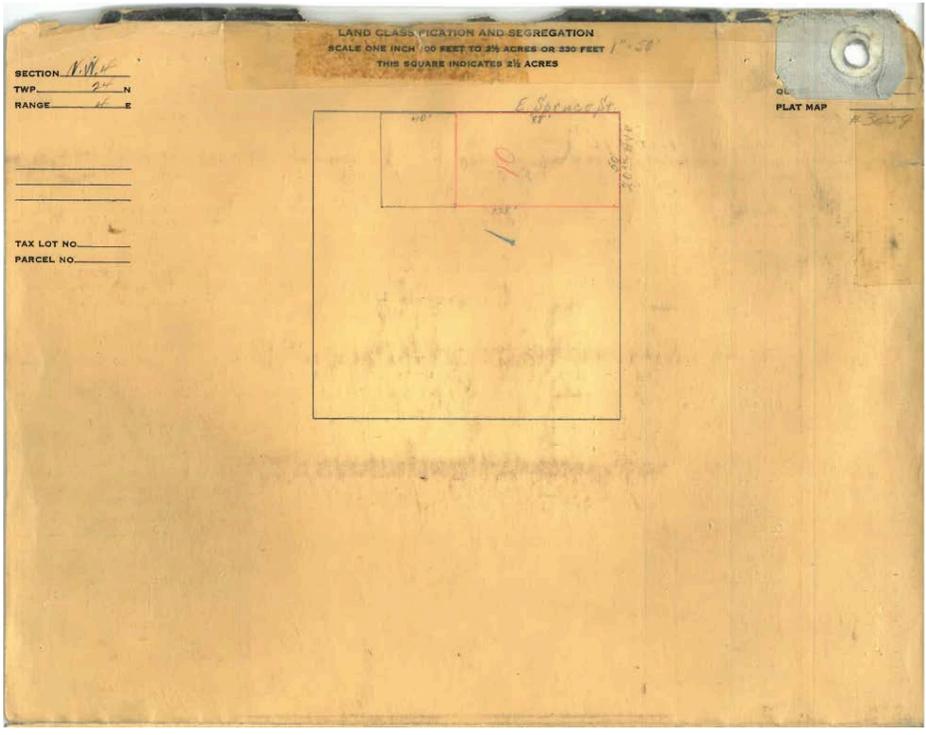
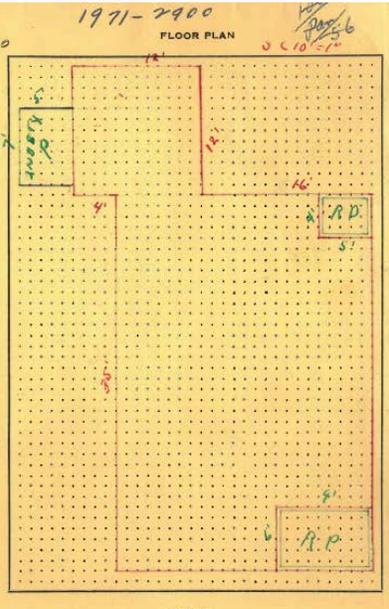


Figure 8. WPA map illustrating that the block where the People's Wall exists was largely inhabited by Ashkenazi Jewish households in 1939. (Hatt, Paul. "[A Study of Natural Areas in the Central Residential District of Seattle in 1939.](#)" Ph.D. dissertation, University of Washington, 1945.)

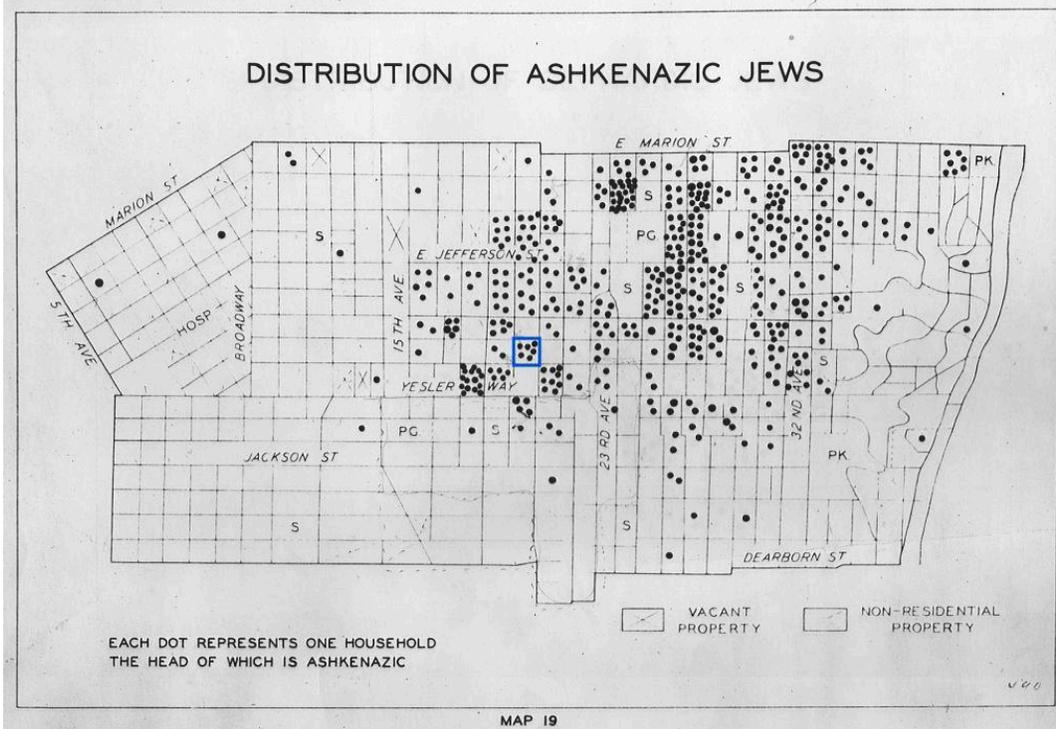


Figure 9. WPA map illustrating one Japanese household in 1939 lived on the block where the People's Wall exists. (Hatt, Paul. "[A Study of Natural Areas in the Central Residential District of Seattle in 1939.](#)" Ph.D. dissertation, University of Washington, 1945.)

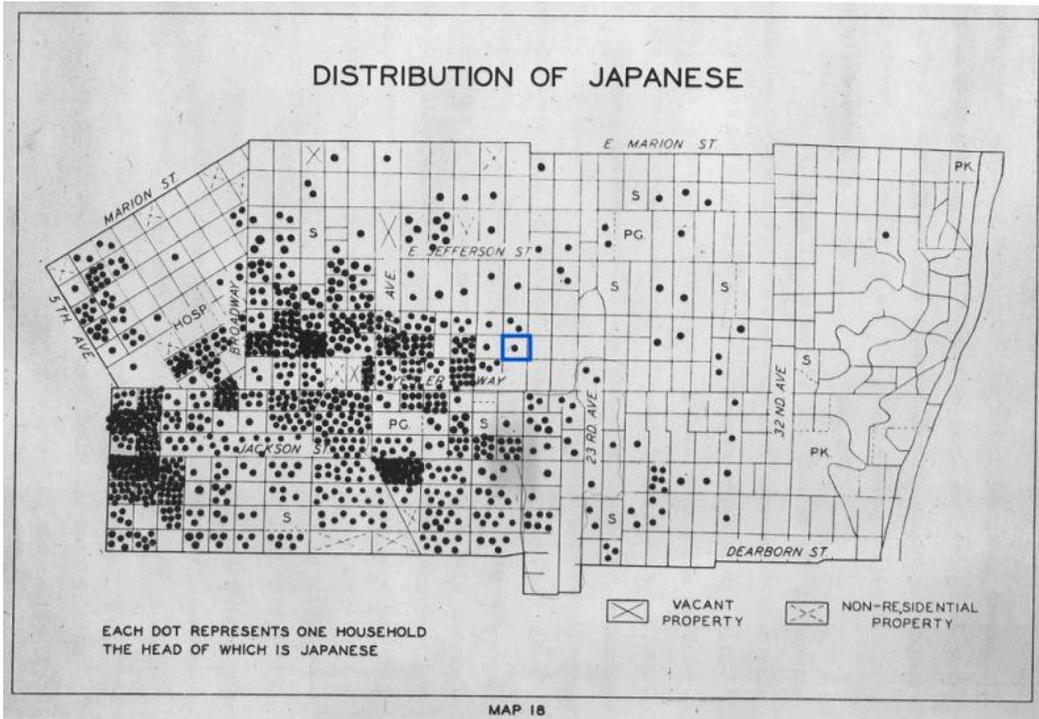


Figure 10. WPA map illustrating no Black households in **1939** lived on the block where the People's Wall exists, but the block to the north is made up predominantly of Black households. (Hatt, Paul. "[A Study of Natural Areas in the Central Residential District of Seattle in 1939.](#)" Ph.D. dissertation, University of Washington, 1945.)

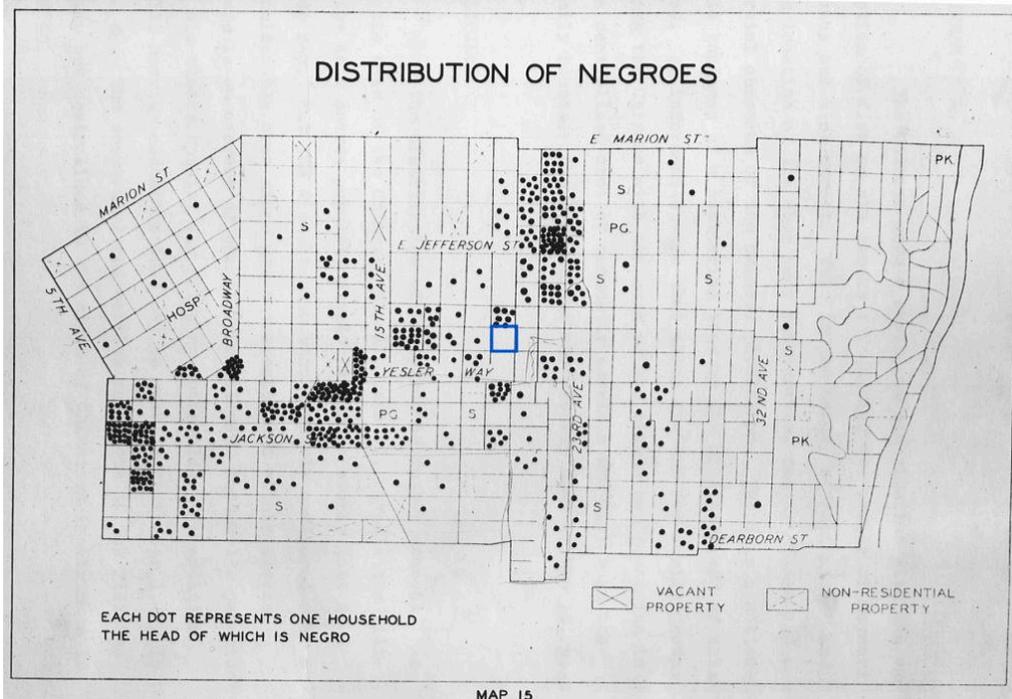


Figure 11. WPA map illustrating no Sephardic Jewish households in **1939** lived on the block where the People's Wall exists, but the block to the east is made up predominantly of Sephardic Jewish households. (Hatt, Paul. "[A Study of Natural Areas in the Central Residential District of Seattle in 1939.](#)" Ph.D. dissertation, University of Washington, 1945.)

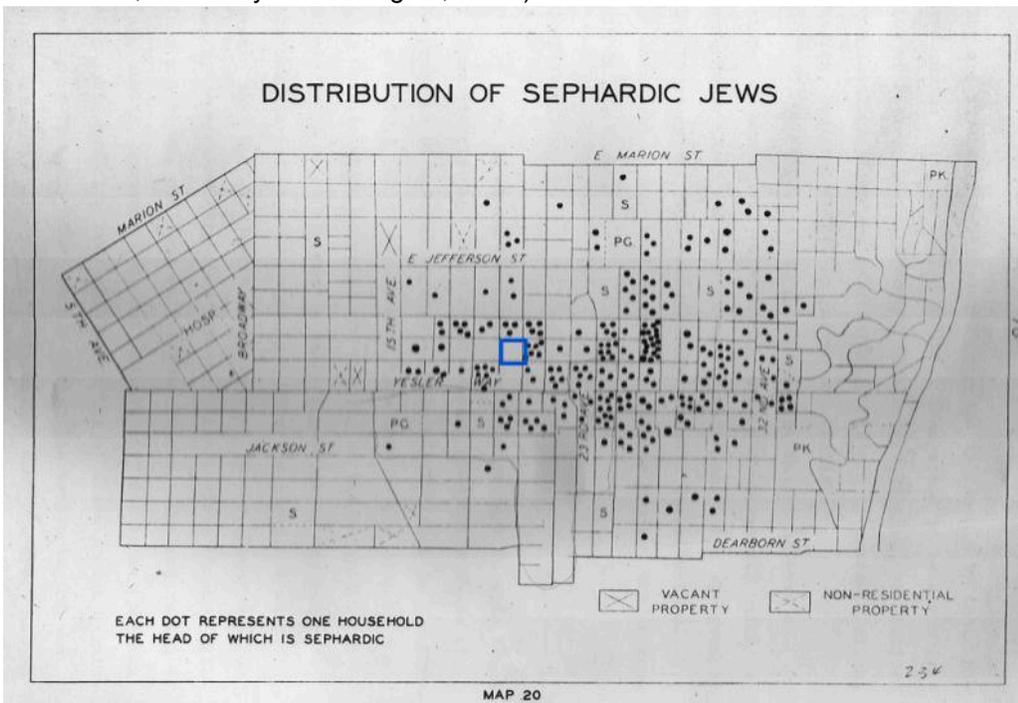


Figure 15. Dated **March 22, 1970**, this photo of the second headquarters of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers at “173 20th Ave” shows a duplex residence set above street-level with a small front yard facing 20th Ave (note front window is different from earlier [Fig. 2](#) “Images”, and evergreen trees flanking front window are more mature). (*Congressional Committee on Internal Security Hearings, Exhibit No. 7, 1970*)

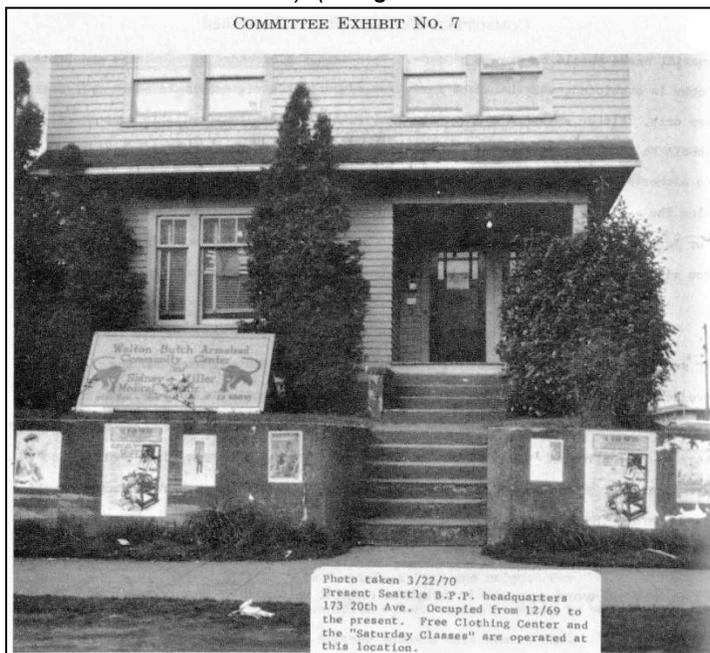


Figure 16. Photograph of Aaron Dixon, captain of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party, in front of their second headquarters at what was formerly known as “173 20th Ave”, circa 1970. He shows off a sign advertising the “Welton Butch Armstead Community Center and Sidney Miller Medical Clinic”, both of which operated from the headquarters during this period. (*The Black Panther Party in Seattle, University of Washington Seattle Civil Rights & Labor Project*)



Figure 17. The People's Wall, facing 20th Ave. It is topped with a wooden fence, and the sidewalk planting strip is covered with grass. There is a single young ginkgo street tree. (Photo: Carlos Imani, Elite Collective, 2014)

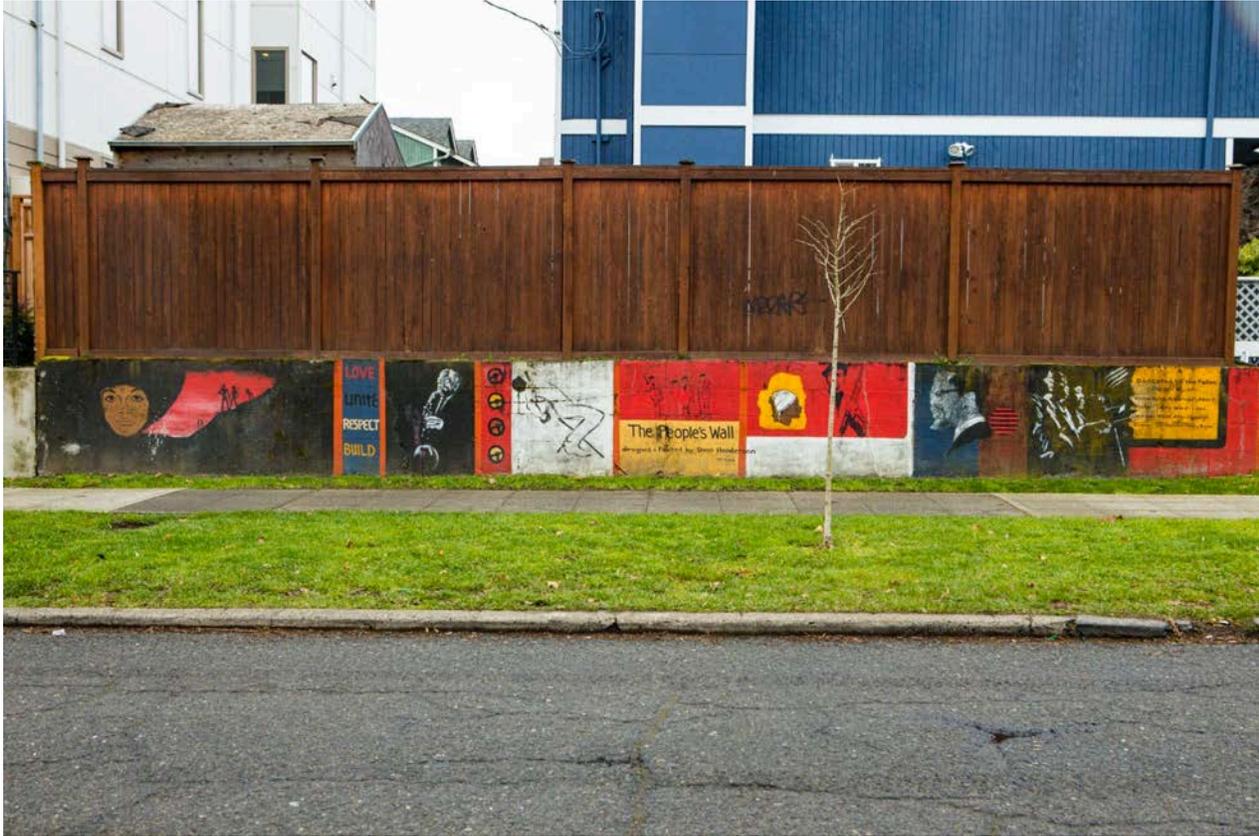


Figure 18. The People's Wall detail of Charlie "Bird" Parker. (Photo: Carlos Imani, Elite Collective, 2014)



Figure 19. The People's Wall detail of the "New York 21" above the mural's title and the artist's name and date of "Oct. 6, 1970". (Photo: Carlos Imani, Elite Collective, 2014)

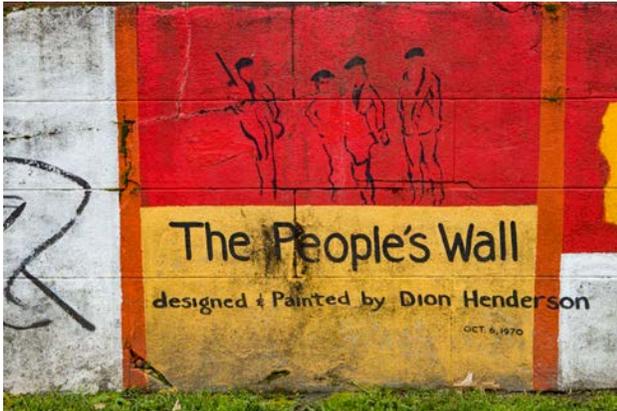


Figure 20. The People's Wall detail with names of nine Seattle Black Panther Party members ("Dedicated to the Fallen"). (Photo: Carlos Imani, Elite Collective, 2014)



Figure 21. Photograph of Aaron Dixon, captain of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party, in front of the People's Wall. (Photo: Date & photographer unknown)



Figure 22. Facing Spruce St in 2025, “1919 Spruce St” is the blue building on the left; the People’s Wall is on the far left side of the property facing 20th Ave. (GoogleMaps: **2025**)



Figure 23. View of “1919 Spruce St” shows the People’s Wall facing 20th Ave and a newer, blue townhouse facing Spruce St (a large, white “decoupage”-style townhouse towers to the left of it). (GoogleMaps: **2025**)



Figure 24. Newer, “decoupage”-style townhouses to the south of the People’s Wall; the wall is visible on the right. (GoogleMaps: **2025**)



Figure 25. Facing Spruce St., one of the townhomes from the 1980s on the left is set much further back than the other homes on this side of the block – a lack of visual unity that is perhaps a remnant of the irregular size of the lots on this block; indeed, Sanborn maps from pre-1940 ([Fig. 5 “Maps & Diagrams”](#)) reveal a structure that was similarly set back. (GoogleMaps: **2025**)

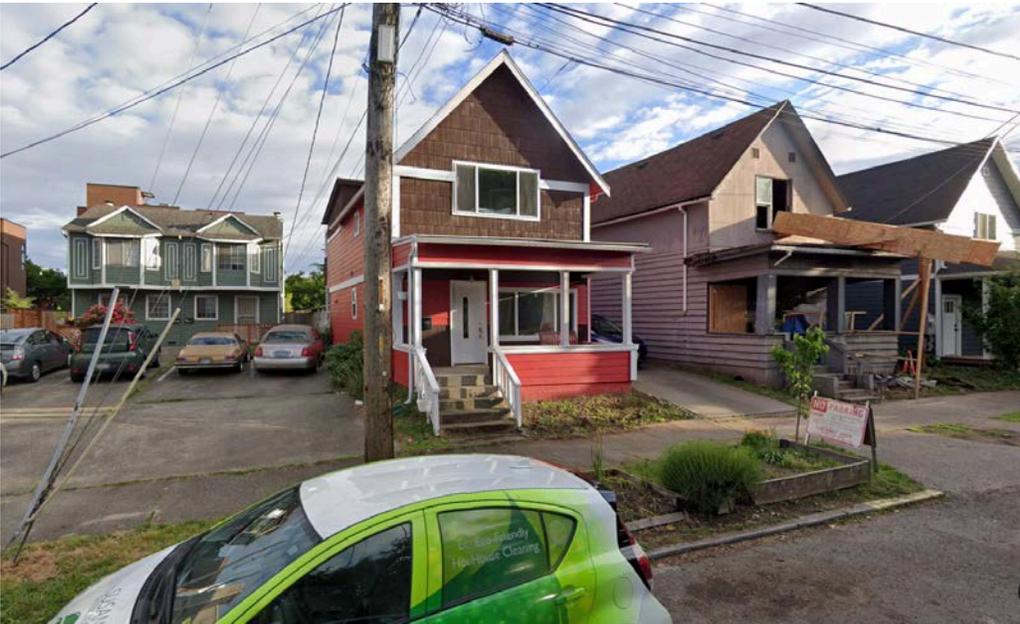


Figure 26. These modest, Victorian-era homes facing Spruce St. to the west of 1919 Spruce St are noted in Sanborn maps from pre-1940 (See [Fig 4](#) "Maps & Diagrams"). (GoogleMaps: **2025**)



Figure 27. Across from the People's Wall on 20th Ave is where the Herzl Congregation Synagogue once stood, listed as being built in 1925 and later re-built in 1985. (GoogleMaps: **2025**)



Figure 28. Photograph of front room of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party headquarters at 20th Ave, lined with sandbags for defense against potential attacks ([MOHAI, 1971](#)).



Figure 29. Photograph of members of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party on steps of capitol in Olympia, Washington, protesting bill restricting carrying firearms. ([Washington State Archives, 1969](#))



Figure 32. Tax records show "173 20th Ave" is noted as being built in 1905 and remodeled in 1930, with "Fee Owner" name included on **September 5, 1925** and "Improvement Value" recorded on **September 1, 1937** (lower right first page); the land information notes the "grade" is "above 4". (Puget Sound Regional Archives)

Dean's
CON. 4 TWP. 34 N. RANGE 4 E.W.M. BLOCK 1 TRACT OR LOT NO. 10 E. 88' OF 10
DESCRIPTION 4th 2450

193480-0050 1450 0010

1 CODE NO.
1 PERMIT NO.
239179 DATE

3. ADDRESS OF PROPERTY 173-20th Ave
4. FEE OWNER NISSIM, CHIPRUT. 9-5-25
5. ARCHITECT.
6. ORIG. BUILDING COST \$
7. CONDITION OF EXTERIOR Medium INTERIOR Fair FOUNDATION Good FLOOR PLAN Accept

8. BUILDING 2-Only Dwl
2-Stories
9-Rooms
4-1st Floor
5-2nd Floor

INTERIOR WALLS 9-Plaster

FLOORS 9-Flr

FIRE PLACE None

INTERIOR TRIM 9-Flr

PLUMBING 11-Fixtures
2-Tub-Leg
2-Basins
2-Toilets
2-Sinks
2-H.W. Tanks
1-Ldy Tray
Average

TILE WORK None
PORCHES 2-1 Story
EXTRA FEATURES 1-Bay Wd: 1sty
ATTIC None
BUILT-INS Usual
HEATING Stove; 2nd Flr
Pipeless Furn
CEILING HEIGHT Basmt 6'
1st Flr 9'
2nd Flr 8'
FOUNDATION Concrete
ROOF Shingle
EXTERIOR WALLS Cedar Siding
Shingles-Upper

9. CORNER JOINTS Mitered
10. FIRST FLOOR JOIST SIZE 2 x 8 AND 16 INCH CENTERS BRIDGED Yes
11. FIRST FLOOR JOIST SUPPORT COLUMN OR POST SIZE 6 x 6
12. CLASS OR GRADE NO. 2
13. BUILDING FINISHED OR UNFINISHED Finished
14. DEPRECIATION: CONDITION 58 % OBSLSE % ECON. SUIT. % TOTAL 50
DATE BUILT 1905 REMODELED 1930
EFFECTIVE AGE 23 YEARS FUTURE LIFE 77 YEARS

LAND INFORMATION
1. SIZE x TOPOGRAPHY Level GRADE Above 4' FEET
2. STREET ROAD Graded SURFACE Concrete ALLEY No
3. SIDEWALK Concrete SEWERAGE Sewer WELL ELECT. PUMP
4. LANDSCAPING Lawn & Shrubs COND. Medium
5. TREND Static VALUE OF LAND
6. USE OF DISTRICT Res-apt-Bus VIEW No
7. RESIDENTIAL Poor-old ZONED 2nd Pas

REMARKS

F2450



DEAN'S 2-1 Story
173-20 Ave.

MAIN BUILDING	
DIMENSION	SG. FT. AREA
24 x 35	984
12 x 12	
x	
Pch 5 x 7	35
PCH. 4 x 5	20 (Rea)
PCH. 6 x 9	54
IMPROVEMENT VALUE	
MAIN BUILDING	\$ 980,000
OTHER BUILDINGS	\$ 80,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,060,000
ASSESSED VALUE 50%	\$ 530,570
DATE	9/1/37

193480 9050

DISTRICT:	ROAD	SCHOOL	WATER	FIRE	METRO	DECREASE OR INCREASE IN ASSESSED VALUATION					
Seattle-1						LAND		BUILDING			
YEAR	AC.	LAND	BLDG'S.	TOTAL	DATE	BY	REASON	DECREASE	INCREASE	DECREASE	INCREASE
1938		390	530	920							
1938		380	670	1050							
1945		230	570	800	10-18-43	NS	RV				
1948		230	850	1080	1-4-47	G.D.W	Reval				
1955		300	850	1150	10-14-53	RS	R.V.				
1958		300	1000	1300	8-30-56	EE	R.V.				
1960		300	1000	1300	9-3-55	LL	Rw				
1960		400	1000	1400	1-15-59	LL	Rw per E.O				
1964		400	1450	1850	2-3-62	RS	Reval				
1965		530	1450	1980	3-5-64	RS	Reval				
71 L	1060 B	2900 T	3960*193480-0050-0	8/9							
1972		2990	5220	8200	5/15/72	ME	R.O.C.I				
172 L	2358 B	4153 T	6511*193480-0050-0	9/71							
173 L	2970 B	5230 T	8200*193480-0050-0	9/71							

Figure 37. Newspaper sale announcement mentioning Dean's Addition (not Block 1). *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, October 14, 1906.

The latter part of September the sale was made of lot 9, block 5, **Dean's Addition**, by C. Pierce Wilson to Julia White, for the sum of \$4,000, the deed being just placed of record. The property is on Eighteenth Avenue, near East Spruce Street.

Figure 38. Newspaper ad mentioning Dean's Addition (on 19th Ave & E Spruce St, one block west). *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, September 22, 1907.

DEAN'S ADDITION.
\$10,500—19th Ave. and E. Spruce St.; 7-room house; entirely modern; lot 50x128; terms cash or its equivalent. (32-5x)

Figure 39. Newspaper sale announcement mentioning Dean's Addition (not Block 1). *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, March 05, 1911.

The east 40 feet of lots 4 and 5, block 4, **Dean's Addition**, have been sold to Geo. P. Rossman by Lottie B. Rowley, for a consideration of \$7,500. This property is on Eighteenth Avenue between East Spruce and East Fir Streets.

Figure 40. Newspaper sale announcement mentioning Dean's Addition (not Block 1). *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, August 06, 1922.

To Jack Israel for Frank J. McDougal, lot 6, in block 2, of **Dean's Addition**, 50x128 feet, on west side of 20th Avenue, between Spruce and Alder Streets, for \$900.

Figure 41. Newspaper sale announcement mentioning Dean's Addition (on 19th Ave & E Spruce St, one block west). *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, March 23, 1924.

tion and three lots for H. I. Adler in **Dean's Addition** at 19th and Spruce.

Select Clippings Mentioning "173 20th Ave". Ordered by Date

Figure 42. Ad mentioning a "big Guernsey cow" available at "173 20th Ave" on corner of Spruce St. *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, May 06, 1923.

FOR SALE—Big Guernsey cow. inquire **173 20th Ave.** corner Spruce.

Figure 43. Ad mentioning "6-room modern home" at "173 20th Ave" near "4 good car lines". *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, July 03, 1921.

BY OWNER—\$4,500: 6-room modern home, basement, furnace, fine corner lot 50x88; 4 good car lines. **173 20th Ave.** Phone East 5126.

Figure 44. Article mentioning building of Sephardic Bikur Holim Synagogue and Sam Azose as president. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, July 08, 1929.

Seattle Jewish Community Celebrates Event for Structure Due for Services in Fall.

Hundreds of members of Seattle's Jewish community yesterday celebrated the laying of the cornerstone of the new Sephardic Bikur Holim Synagogue, which is expected to be ready for services this fall on Rosh Ashana, the Jewish New Year.

Among the speakers at the ceremonies were Rabbi Abraham Maimon, Rabbi David Bahar; P. Allen Rickles, president of the Bikur Holim congregation; Dr. Harry Tarica; Morris Hannan, president of Ezra Bessaroth Synagogue; Jack Caston, chairman of the new synagogue, and Sam Azose, president of Sephardic Bikur Holim congregation.

Figure 45. Announcement mentioning the April 20th birth of a boy for a couple living at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, May 01, 1931.

BIRTHS.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Christopherson, Preston, April 24, girl.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Azose, 173 1/2 20th Ave., April 20, boy.

Figure 46. Article noting the 5-year old son of a couple living at "173 20th Ave" involved in an accident. *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, November 12, 1931.

Two 5-Year-Olds In Hospitals After Auto Accidents

Two 5-year-old boys were in hospitals today after being hit by automobiles.

Solomon, the son of Samuel Azose, 173 1/2 20th Ave., suffered a broken leg and was taken to Harborview Hospital when he attempted to run across the street in front of Ernest Porter's automobile. Porter lives at 115 23rd Ave. N. The accident occurred at 23rd Avenue and East Fir Street.

Joseph Kiyoshi, the other child, was taken to City Hospital for treatment of cuts and bruises, after he was hit at First Avenue South and Main Street when he attempted to pass in front of W. H. Williams' machine. The boy lives at 120 Fifth Ave. S. Williams lives at 602 W. 86th St. He was accompanied by Ed Cummins, 29 years old, of 2929 16th Ave. S. W.

Figure 47. Article mentioning a resident of "173 20th Ave" was threatened by a man "throwing dishes and whirling a chair around his head" at a "religious fete". *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, October 22, 1935.

Man Accused Of 'Threats' At Religious Fete

Leon Altras, 1824 Yesler Way, was charged with "voicing threats" at a religious banquet in a complaint filed in Justice William Hoar's court yesterday by Deputy Prosecutor B. Gray Warner.

The complaint charged Altras of threatening Isaac Maimon, 1807 E. Alder St.; Eli Calderon, 337 27th Ave., and Sam Azose, 173 20th Ave. Warner said Altras, 54 years old, threw the banquet into an uproar Sunday when he started throwing dishes and whirling a chair around his head.

Figure 48. Obituary for Rachel Azose, wife of Solomon Azose, the first Sephardic rabbi in Seattle at Sephardic Bikur Cholim from 1911-1919; she came to Seattle from Turkey and her children included son "Sam S. Azose" and daughter "Nessim Chiprut". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, April 09, 1964.

The Seattle Times 69
Thursday, April 9, 1964

Rites Set For Mrs. Solomon Azose, 96

Funeral services for Mrs. Rachel Senyora Azose, 96, who came to Seattle in 1911, were held yesterday in the Jewish Chapel, with burial in the Sephardic Brotherhood Cemetery.

Mrs. Azose, who lived at the Galland Home, 7500 Seward Park Av. S., died Tuesday in a hospital. Her husband, Rabbi Solomon Azose the first Sephardic rabbi in Seattle, died in 1920.

Mrs. Azose came here from Turkey, her birthplace. Her husband was spiritual leader of the Sephardic Bikur Cholim Congregation from 1911 to 1919.

Mrs. Azose was a member of the Bikur Cholim Ladies' Auxiliary and of the Sephardic Sisterhood.

Survivors are two sons, Leo, Seattle, and Sam S. Azose, Los Angeles; three daughters, Mrs. Nessim Chiprut, Mrs. Esther Amira and Mrs. Marco J. Calvo, all of Seattle; 20 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests that remembrances be made to Bikur Cholim Congregation's building fund.

Select 1968 Clippings Mentioning "Black Panther Party", Ordered by Date

Figure 49. *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, March 29, 1968.

Classes Let Out Early During School Sit-In

Classes at **Franklin High School** were dismissed at 1:45 p. m. today, before the last class period, during a sit-in by young persons protesting the suspension of one or two students at the school.

Dr. Forbes Bottomly, superintendent of schools, said 50 to 75 students participated in the sit-in in and around the principal's office which began about 12:30 p. m.

"There seem to be some older outside students involved, a group of S.N.C.C. (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee) young people protesting the suspension of one or two students," Bottomly said. He said he did not know the details of the suspension.

Bottomly said that the group conferred with Loren Ralph, principal, after the dismissal and that "others drifted in."

Figure 50. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, March 30, 1968.

Non-Franklin Students Led Negro Sit-In, Says Principal

By DON HANNULA

A sit-in by an estimated 100 Negro youths which resulted in early dismissal of classes at Franklin High School yesterday was led by several who were not Franklin students, Loren Ralph, principal, said.

However, he estimated that between 60 and 70 of the youths who refused to leave his office in protest over the suspension of two Negro students at the school were from Franklin.

RALPH SAID the leaders were identified as members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the Black Student Union, which has chapters at the University of Washington and at Garfield High School. Ralph said he was told some of the demonstrators were from Garfield High School as well as the University of Washington.

The youths took over his office at about 12:45 p. m. They did not leave the school until about 3:45 p. m. Classes were dismissed at 1:45 p. m.

Before the youths left, it was agreed that the entire problem would be aired at 10 a. m. Monday in the Seattle Human Rights Commission office.

Some of the demonstrators also were to meet today at the Central Area Motivation Program headquarters.

Five detached workers from C. A. M. P. and other area leaders were called to the school by officials to talk to the demonstrators. They included Tom Givan, C. A. M. P.'s youth-services specialist, Vince Hayes, director, and Bob Flowers, assistant director, of the State Multiservices Center and Y. Philip Hayaska, the Human Rights Commission director and John C. Eichelberger, assistant director. All are Negroes with the exception of Hayaska.

The demonstrators virtual-



LOREN RALPH

ly took over the principal's office shortly after Ralph talked to one of the two suspended students, and refused to rescind the suspensions. The two Negroes were suspended Thursday after a hallway scuffle with a white student. Ralph said one of the Negroes reportedly made "a direct or implied threat" to Charles F. Shearer, assistant principal, when the scuffle was broken up.

RALPH SAID the student who was reported to have threatened Shearer came to Ralph's office, asked to be reinstated, then walked across the street after the refusal and brought back a group of Negro youths from The Beanery across the street.

The principal said they demanded that "our black brothers be put back in school" and promised not to leave until this was done.

The suspension of the complaining student, a senior, was for an indefinite time. The other was suspended only until Monday.

Ralph said about 100 students crowded into his 16-foot-by-16-foot office, making demands for 15 or 20 minutes. He said they wanted to talk to Shearer, but he had sent the assistant principal home.

He said some of the youths suggested he be held hostage until he could be traded for Shearer, but the Franklin students interceded on his behalf and he left the office after about 20 minutes.

Then the demonstrators drifted in and out of the of-

fice and around the first floor of the school. The plumbing in an office rest room was knocked from the wall, several eggs were splattered on walls and some windows were broken. Police estimated damage at \$1,000.

Students gathered in the auditorium for talks before finally leaving.

A sizable contingent of police was standing by in a parking lot at Sicks' Stadium to clear the school if necessary.

Word was spread in the school that at 5 p. m. police would clear the building.

The demonstrators had several other grievances, and some sought the ouster of Shearer.

When it was all over, Ralph said:

"Monday we will discuss the whole problem of interrelations at Franklin. But there is a bigger problem — can a mob or a group of protestors go into any public establishment and force their will on the administration whether the administration is right or wrong?"

WHETHER OR not there will be further suspensions because of the demonstration will be discussed Monday. Ralph said the Human Rights Commission's "good offices will be used, but it will have to be a school decision."

About 20 per cent of Franklin's 1,900 students are Negro. Ralph said he felt relations had been good and pointed out that three of the past four student-body presidents have been Negroes. However, he said he had noticed tension building among Negro students for the past few days. He said some had been meeting with outside groups.

Ralph agreed to have four students represent the demonstrators at Monday's meeting. "However, they must be Franklin students," he said.

He said all of the problems of the situation would be discussed at the meeting.

Figure 51. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, April 01, 1968.

Franklin Student Is Reinstated

A student whose suspension led to a sit-in at Franklin High School Friday was ordered reinstated by school officials this afternoon after an all-day meeting at the Human Rights Commission office in the City Hall.

Jack Greaves, assistant superintendent for secondary schools, said the student was reinstated because of

discrepancies in reports of events which led to the suspension.

Greaves also said that Franklin students who took part in the sit-in Friday would be disciplined and that outsiders who participated would be charged with violation of the city's loitering ordinance.

(See Page 8 for earlier details.)

Figure 52. Seattle Daily Times, Thursday, April 04, 1968.

5 Face Imprisonment

Charges Filed in Franklin Sit-In

Disciplinary action was taken today by the prosecutor's office and the Seattle School District against youths involved in a demonstration Friday at Franklin High School over the suspension of a Negro senior there.

Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll filed charges of unlawful assembly against five young men.

Two other youths, both 17, were charged in Juvenile Court with coercion, unlawful assembly and vagrancy for activity in and near the office of Loren Ralph, Franklin High School principal.

One juvenile is a student at Garfield High School and the other at Franklin. Their names were not disclosed.

At the same time, the school district suspended nine Franklin students, eight boys and a girl.

Some students gathered in the auditorium and around the principal's office after news of the disciplinary action was learned at the school, but they later returned to classes.

All of the five charged with unlawful assembly are Negroes. They are:

Carl Miller, 23, of 2800 E. Madison St., president of the Seattle Chapter of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and a University of Washington freshman.

Larry Gossett, 23, of 2356 22nd Ave. S., Washington-Oregon coordinator for the Black Students Union and a University of Washington student and a 1963 Franklin

graduate.

His brother, Richard Gossett, 18, of 2356 22nd Ave. S., a Highline Community College student and 1967 graduate of Franklin.

Trolice Flavors, 18, of 2402 S. Irving St., a Franklin junior.

Aaron Dixon, 19, of 905 33rd Ave., a student at the University of Washington.

Dr. Forbes Bottomly, superintendent of schools, said the nine students suspended were identified by Ralph "as being in his office and participating in the defiance of authority."

"They will have an opportunity to seek readmission by appealing to the superintendent and this will be determined through discussions

with their parents about their future," Bottomly said.

"I am convinced that the parents of the students at Franklin High School want order and good discipline to be maintained at that school. I am also convinced that the vast majority of the students of Franklin want to continue their studies and pursue their programs free from the turmoil inflicted by outsiders.

"Therefore, disciplinary action is being taken with Franklin students who have been identified as having taken part in the disturbance last Friday. Also, charges are being filed against those outsiders who unlawfully entered the building and participated in the demonstration.

"While the district stands ready at all times to discuss grievances with students and parents, it will also, with the support of the city and county, use whatever means are

required to maintain order and a good learning environment in its buildings."

William L. Kinzel, chief criminal deputy prosecutor, and Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy, said the unlawful-assembly charge is a gross misdemeanor that carries a penalty of up to six months imprisonment and a \$500 fine.

Justice Court Judge Evans D. Manolides set bail on each of the five charged at \$1,500.

The charge asserts the five willfully and unlawfully did assemble with two or more persons with intent to carry out a purpose in such manner as to disturb the public peace. The charge accuses them of attempting or threatening an act tending toward a breach of the peace and of injury to persons or property.

Reports were that up to 100 Negro youths, between 60 and 70 of them Franklin students, demonstrated at the school Friday and entered the principal's office. Classes were dismissed early on that day because of what was called a "sit-in."

The suspended student was reinstated after the Human Rights Commission held a five-hour hearing Monday and made that recommendation.



PARTLY SUNNY

Weather Bureau forecast: Showers tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow. High, 48; low tonight, 40. South winds, 10 to 20. Chance of rain: 60% tonight; 20% tomorrow. High yesterday, 61; low overnight, 49. (Report, Page C-15; pass, ski report, Page 76.)

Figure 53. Seattle Daily Times, Friday, April 05, 1968.

Money Given for 4 In Franklin Protest

Money, primarily from the white community, poured in last night and today to meet bail set on four young Negroes charged yesterday with unlawful assembly at Franklin High School Friday.

The fifth youth, Richard Gossett, 18, was released on \$750 bail last night.

ALONG WITH the money came outcries of excessive bail set for the youths.

There was at least \$5,000 available today as attorneys for the four went to court to further argue reduction of the bail.

The arrests resulted from a demonstration by about 100 Negro youths in the principal's office at Franklin over the suspension of a Negro senior there. The senior was reinstated, but nine Franklin students who participated in the demonstration were suspended yesterday.

Remaining in jail last night were Carl Miller, 23, president of the Seattle Chapter of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; Larry Gossett, 23, Washington-Oregon coordinator for the Black Student Union at the University of Washington; Trollics Flavors, 18, a senior at Franklin, and Aaron Dixon, 19, University of Washington student.

Bail on Miller and Larry Gossett had been set at \$1,500 apiece, \$1,250 for Dixon and \$1,000 for Flavors.

At a meeting last night of the Municipal League of Seattle and King County's new Urban Social Problems Committee, the Rev. Mineo Katagiri called for raising money to free Miller.

bail fund was called for, but no vote was taken. Instead, LeSourd took up a collection, which netted \$1,500.

LeSourd tried to free Miller, but his personal check would not be accepted at the jail. LeSourd also learned at that time three others were in jail. Miller told LeSourd that under the circumstances he would prefer to remain in jail. He told LeSourd not to waste \$150 fee to get a bail bondsman to take care of the matter.

LeSOURD said the \$1,500 would be used toward the bail of all four, if necessary.

Before taking up the collection, LeSourd said:

"I ask you to do this not because Martin Luther King was killed, not because it might stop a riot but because it is fair for him (Miller) to be out and not be in jail. It isn't whether you believe he is guilty or not guilty or whether he should have done what he did, but whether he should be in jail for a misdemeanor under this sort of bail."

John Sorenson, a board member of the American Civil Liberties Union, mobilized fund-raising efforts in Bellevue and Medina. A total of \$950 was raised there. The Bellevue First Congregational Church committed its entire discretionary fund of \$500, Sorenson said. The Rev. John A. Huston, Episcopalian priest in Medina acting as an individual, collected a major share of the remaining \$450.

Alex Gottfried, University of Washington professor and president of the Free Prisoner Bail Fund, said his group was ready to give as much

Figure 54. Seattle Daily Times, Friday, April 05, 1968.

4 in Franklin Protest Plead Not Guilty

Four of five young men charged with unlawful assembly in connection with the Franklin High School demonstration last Friday pleaded innocent yesterday before more than 50 of their friends and relatives.

The spectators rose and applauded the four as they entered the courtroom. Justice court judge Evangeline Starr called for quiet three times during the hour-long hearing.

At the hearing a request was made for bail reduction. William L. Kinzel, chief criminal deputy prosecutor, and Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief, opposed the reductions.

Michael Rosen and Mrs.

Kenneth Young, both of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Gary Gayton represented Carl Miller, 23; Aaron Dixon, 19, and Trollics Flavors, 18. Andrew Young represented Richard Gossett, 18. Gossett's brother, Larry, 23, also charged, surrendered last evening.

WHEN THE judge refused to allow the four to go free without bail, Rosen said he would renew his motion today before Justice Court Judge James Dore.

However, the bail-reduction matter was referred to Superior Court Judge Frank James. A hearing was scheduled this afternoon.

Some 200 youths milled in corridors outside the court-

room waiting for the hearing to begin. About 25 deputy sheriffs were standing by.

Judge Dore will be the trial judge in the case. A. C. L. U. attorneys filed an affidavit of prejudice against Justice Court Judge Evans D. Manolides who had set bail at \$1,500.

Bail for Richard Gossett was reduced to \$750. Bail was posted and he was released last night.

Judge Starr refused to reduce the bail for Miller, but dropped it to \$1,250 for Dixon and to \$1,000 for Flavors.

During one of the outbursts, Rosen said: "The

reason they are excited and I am excited is that they see four of their friends being told, in effect, they are dangerous people."

Rosen said "denial of justice" is one of the offenses against black people. All of those charged, he said, are members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Council.

ROSEN SAID he would assume personal responsibility for Dixon and Miller. He contended a high bail serves as punishment and deprives those charged of their education.

Flavors is a senior at Franklin, Gossett goes to Highline Community College and Dixon and Miller attend

the University of Washington.

After the hearing, a number of spectators, obviously upset, said violent criminals are freed with lower bail.

Rosen argued there was no violence or injury at the Franklin demonstration. He said it was a protest. But Kinzel said facts produced at the trial would prove there was violence.

Up to 100 Negro youths demonstrated at the school last Friday and entered the principal's office. Classes were dismissed early because of the "sit-in." It began over the suspension of a Negro senior who was reinstated following a hearing before the city's Human Rights Commission.

Figure 55. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, April 06, 1968.

400 Cheer Bail Rejection In Franklin High Sit-In Case

Nearly 400 courtroom spectators cheered yesterday when presiding Superior Court Judge Frank D. James freed four youths charged with unlawful assembly.

The decision, pending a trial, freed all five charged in connection with a Franklin High School demonstration.

Before he heard any argument, Judge James elicited a promise from the leadership of the spectators that there would be no demonstration.

HE BEGAN the hearing by calling for all to stand in a moment of silence "out of respect for the loss of a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King."

The courtroom was ringed by deputy sheriffs, some in uniform and some not. The issue of bail was taken to Superior Court on a petition contending the \$1,500 bail set was excessive and in violation of the state and federal Constitutions. But that issue never really was argued.

Judge James freed four of the defendants without bail on their own assurance they would appear for trial. A fifth, Richard Gossett, was freed on \$750 bail Thursday night.

The others were released from the county jail shortly after 4 p. m. yesterday. They are Trilce Flavors, 18; Aaron Dixon, 19, Carl Miller and Larry Gossett, both 23.

When Justice Court Judge Evangeline Sarr declined to eliminate bail, American Civil Liberties Union attorneys said they would renew their motion before the trial judge, James J. Dore. But Judge Dore said he preferred the motion be heard in Superior Court, Judge James said.

The trial will be held in Justice Court before Judge Dore. No date has been set.

Before the hearing, defense attorneys said bail money was available for all the defendants, but they would prefer a hearing on the question of excessive bail.

Most of the spectators began waiting for a hearing at 11 a. m., but it was put off until the afternoon because Michael Rosen, A. C. L. U. attorney, was preparing a petition for the hearing.

Judge James started out by saying, "This is a court of justice. It belongs to all of us."

Before the judge took the

bench, one of the leaders of the spectators told the others about the promise of no demonstration and explained that it was Judge James who last year ruled that Stokely Carmichael could speak at Garfield High School.

THE QUIET during the hearing was in marked contrast to periodic applause during the Justice Court hearing Thursday.

William L. Kinzel, chief criminal deputy prosecutor, and Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy, argued that Judge James did not have jurisdiction to hear a bail reduction motion.

"I think technically you are right," Judge James said. But, he added, "I believe that public policy requires that this matter be disposed of. We're going to function."

In releasing the defendants on their personal recognizance, Judge James noted that bail is only to assure appearance at the trial. He said there has been a misconception of the function of bail.

"There is a new recognition that this use of bail has been wrong in principle and actually harmful," he said.

Figure 56. Article mentioning Black Panther Party "will be formed soon in Seattle". *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, April 20, 1968.

Black Panther Group Plans Seattle Unit



JIMMY GARRETT

A Black Panther Party for Self Defense unit will be formed soon in Seattle, Jimmy Garrett, Western coordinator for the Black Students Union, said here yesterday.

Garrett, of the San Francisco Bay area, said the chapter unit will be formed in part to combat "police harassment."

Garrett, who also is chairman of the party's advisory council, said at the University of Washington that "integration is an empty notion" and refused to discuss it further. He was the final speaker in a "black struggle" program sponsored by the Political Union.

The militant extremist organization will stage an "International Day of Protest" May 6 to coincide with the beginning of the Huey P. Newton trial, Garrett said.

Newton, the Panthers' "defense minister" is in prison on charges that he killed a policeman and wounded another.

Figure 57. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, May 18, 1968.

Franklin High Complaints To Be Answered

A response will be made Monday by the Seattle School Board to complaints of a Mount Baker Improvement Club committee about the racial climate at Franklin High School and its principal, Loren Ralph.

The club's Franklin High School committee has asked that Ralph be replaced.

Dr. Forbes Bottomly, school superintendent, said the board's positions on the complaints will be made privately to club leaders.

Three members of the committee are scheduled to meet with an investigator for the State Board Against Discrimination Monday regarding the situation. They appeared at Thursday's anti-discrimination board meeting, seeking to file a discrimination complaint against Ralph.

Franklin was closed early March 29 when 100 Negro youths, including many from outside the school, took over Ralph's office to protest the suspension of two Franklin students. The school was closed early and several arrests and student suspensions were made later.

At that time protestors demanded reinstatement of the two students and the ouster of Charles F. Shearer, Franklin vice principal. The students were reinstated and Shearer has been transferred.

Figure 58. Article mentioning failed challenge to the "trial of five young men charged with unlawful assembly in connection with a [March 29th] demonstration at Franklin High School". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, June 06, 1968.

Challenge to Sit-In Trial to Be Dropped

The trial of five young men charged with unlawful assembly in connection with a demonstration at Franklin High School will proceed as scheduled in Justice Court Monday rather than being delayed by a challenge of the court's jury-selection system.

Carl Miller and Aaron Dixon, two of those charged after the March 29 sit-in, today announced they have instructed the American Civil Liberties Union to drop the challenge of the jury-selection system as part of their case.

THE SYSTEM does not provide for questioning of prospective jurors, Michael Rosen, A. C. L. U. attorney, said. The system also has the effect of excluding Negroes from the juries, he said. The five defendants are Negroes.

The system will be challenged, however in a separate case, Miller and Rosen said.

The trial will be in the court of Judge James J. Dore.

Miller said the decision not to take any action delaying the trial was based on a feeling that the case should be kept in "public focus."

Judge Dore yesterday rejected a challenge of the jury selection system. Rosen and Frederic Tausend, associated with Rosen in the case, argued the system is unconstitutional.

Neal Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy prosecutor, had argued that jurors are selected at random.

DIXON SAID also the Black Panther Party believes Negroes should be tried by all-Negro juries because "a peer group is someone from the same racial and historical background as you."

To go on trial are Miller, 23, Dixon, 19, Larry Gossett, 23, his brother Richard, 18, and Trollice Flavors, 18.

Following the press conference Rosen filed a motion in Superior Court seeking a hearing on the Justice Court jury system. Superior Court Judge Frank D. James set a hearing for this afternoon.

Figure 59. Article mentioning Aaron Dixon is convicted of "unlawful assembly in connection with a disturbance at Franklin High School March 29". *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, June 14, 1968.

Three Convicted in Franklin Demonstration

By LARRY BROWN

A Justice Court jury yesterday found three young men guilty of unlawful assembly in connection with a disturbance at Franklin High School March 29 and acquitted two others of the same charge.

The jury of three men and three women deliberated about an hour before returning the verdict to Judge James J. Dore. Sentencing was set for July 1.

Convicted were Larry Gossett, 23, Aaron Dixon, 19, and Carl Miller, 23. Found innocent were Richard Gossett, 19, and Trilice Flavors, 18.

WITNESSES testified during the four-day trial that the demonstration developed from the suspension of two

Franklin students, Flavors and his cousin, Charles Oliver.

Loren R. Ralph, Franklin principal, told the jury that up to 50 Negroes forced their way into his office and "took it over completely" about 12:50 p. m. March 29.

Ralph said he had met earlier that day with a group of Negroes concerning the suspensions. Oliver, Flavors and three other Franklin students were in his office to get his decision on the suspensions just before the sit-in occurred, Ralph testified. He said Oliver left the office just before the group burst in.

Dixon led the group, Ralph testified. The principal testified that one of the demonstrators held his arms from behind. He said he was able to get out of the office, but

when he returned after the demonstrators left he found it a "shambles." He said there were cigaret burns in the rug, carvings on the window sills and broken fixtures in an adjoining restroom.

Defense attorneys argued that the state had failed to produce any evidence the defendants were responsible for the damage or that they had advocated violence.

"We have the wrong people on trial," Michael Rosen, American Civil Liberties Union attorney, who represented Carl Miller, told the jury. Rosen said Miller "recognized as a responsible leader that the only way to avert violence at the school was to have a discussion with the administration" and that he tried to organize the group of aroused students for an orderly march into the principal's office.

MILLER, a University of Washington student, is chairman of the Seattle Chapter of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and a member of the Black Student Union.

Mrs. Kenneth Young, representing Aaron Dixon, told the jury her client had talked to the students about racial problems they believed existed at the high school, realized there was serious unrest and "felt a moral obligation to remain and try to prevent violence from occurring."

Gary Gayton, attorney for Flavors, reminded the jury that his client was an invited guest in Ralph's office. Flavors testified that Ralph had told him he would be reinstated, but that his cousin, Oliver, would remain on suspension. "This is the most ludicrous

complaint that has been brought into any court in this county," Gayton said.

Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy prosecutor, contended that Flavors was guilty of unlawful assembly and that his invitation to be in the office ended when he remained with the demonstrating group.

"The common thread that seems to have run through each defense argument is that the ends justify the means," Shulman said. "In our society there is no justification for force."

The prosecutor said the administration, faculty and students who did not participate in the sit-in were denied their right to uninterrupted education. The school was closed a period early the day of the demonstration.

Andrew Young, attorney for the Gossett brothers, said

Richard, a graduate of the high school, was attracted by a crowd, but in no way participated in the demonstration. The defense attorney said Larry, a University of Washington student and a coordinator of the Black Student Union there, made every effort to keep the group orderly and in no way advocated violence.

ASSISTING with presentation of the case for the state was Deputy Prosecutor Laurence A. Mosler.

Two youths who also were arrested in connection with the demonstration received juvenile court hearings last month. Superior Court Judge Robert F. Utter ruled that one, 17, violated the state vagrancy statute and dismissed the case against the other, also 17, because of insufficient evidence.

Figure 60. Article mentioning Aaron Dixon being sentenced for the Franklin High School sit-in earlier on March 29th. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, July 01, 1968.

Three Sentenced in Franklin Case

By LARRY BROWN

Three young men, convicted of unlawful assembly in connection with a demonstration at Franklin High School, were sentenced today by Justice Court Judge James J. Dore to six months in the county jail.

Judge Dore set appeal bonds at \$300 each. The defendants had been free on their recognizance. They were taken to jail, but arrangements for their bail were expected.

Sentenced were Larry Gossett, 23, Aaron Dixon, 19, and Carl Miller, 23.

A JURY June 12 found the three guilty and acquitted two others tried on the same charge.

The offense is a gross misdemeanor carrying a penalty of up to six months imprisonment and a \$500 fine. Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy prosecutor, recommended the six-month sentence.

Shulman told the court he was asking for the jail sentence "because of obvious disregard for law and order and open advocacy of civil disobedience" on the part of the defendants.

Witnesses testified during the four-day trial that the demonstration developed from the suspension of two Franklin students. Loren R. Ralph, Franklin principal, told the jury that up to 50 Negroes forced their way into his office and "took it over completely" about 12:50 p. m. March 29.

The principal testified that one of the demonstrators held his arms from behind. He said he was able to get out of the office, but when he returned he found it a "shambles." He said there were cigaret burns in the rug, carvings on window sills and broken fixtures in an adjoining restroom.

BEFORE ANNOUNCING his decision, Judge Dore told

the defendants and others in his courtroom that the demonstration was "a very disheartening thing."

About 1,800 students had their education halted when it became necessary to close school early, a principal who has devoted more than 30 years to education was man-handled and about \$50 property damage occurred, Judge Dore said.

"A school can't function without disciplinary instruction," the judge said. "People have the right and sometimes the obligation to dissent, but when they do it has to be within the framework of law and order."

Defense attorneys — Andrew Young for Gossett, Mrs. Kenneth Young for Dixon and Michael Rosen for Miller — asked the judge to defer sentencing and place the men on a probation program so that they would have a chance to clear their records.

The attorneys argued that the state had failed to produce any evidence that the defendants were responsible for damage or that they advocated violence.

THE ATTORNEYS repeated today that the defendants were trying to keep the students calm.

Miller and Gossett are University of Washington students and Dixon attended the university. Miller is chairman of the Seattle chapter of Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and a member of the Black Students Union at the university. Gossett is a coordinator for the Black Students Union.

Human Failure

KANSAS CITY — Safety authorities say 80 per cent of occupational accidents involve human failure.

Figure 61. Article mentioning "twelve persons were arrested" for "disturbances that began with rock throwing near Garfield High School" that occurred "after a meeting called by the Black Student Union and the Black Panther Party... to protest six-month jail sentences given... to three young Negroes [including Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party's captain Aaron Dixon] involved in a "March 29 disturbance at Franklin High School". *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 02, 1968.

12 Arrested in Outbreak In Garfield High Area

By MIKE WYNE
and ROBERT A. BARR

Twelve persons were arrested last night and early today during disturbances that began with rock throwing near Garfield High School and ultimately involved about 175 young people.

A number of persons, including police officers, suffered minor injuries. Police cars and other vehicles were pelted with rocks. Windows of businesses were broken and some firms were entered.

Police Chief Frank C. Ramon credited citizens from various central-area groups with helping end the disturbance, which began about 8:30 p. m. after a meeting called by the Black Student Union and the Black Panther Party.

The meeting was called to protest six-month jail sentences given yesterday to three young Negroes involved in a March 29 disturbance at Franklin High School.

"A LOT OF citizens were out here all night trying to break the kids up," Ramon said. "They have been trying real hard and we were glad to have their assistance."

"The response came from various groups and committees in the area and it was tremendous," Ramon said. "It would be unfair to try to single out any group because they all contributed substantially."

"At 2:30 a. m. they were still out there trying to keep things quiet."

The damage was confined mostly to automobiles driving in 23rd Avenue or in East Cherry and East Jefferson Streets. Windows were broken in Assistant Police Chief M. E. Cook's car as he drove past the high school with Mayor Braman as a passenger.

Assistant Fire Chief Frank Hanson reported several windows were broken in his Fire Department vehicle as he took charge of Fire Department units in the area, which were summoned to eight false alarms between 11:06 p. m. and 12:31 a. m.

John Nonnenmacher and his wife, Lorraine, both 25, of 210 12th Ave. E., reported they were set upon as they rode their bicycles in East Cherry Street toward 23rd Avenue shortly before 9 p. m.

"It seemed like 100 guys came out and started throwing rocks and hitting us with sticks," Nonnenmacher said. "We finally forgot the bikes and ran."

The Nonnenmachers were treated for bumps, cuts and bruises at Virginia Mason Hospital.

Two youths were assaulted by a group of youths in 23rd Avenue near East Marion Street about 10 p. m. Alfred Dallas Harvey, Jr., 23, of 1886 E. Shelby St., and Hilare L. Dufrene, Jr., 24, of 3124 Harvard Ave. E., were treated at Harborview County Hospital for cuts and bruises.

The two are reporters for The Helix, University District "underground" newspaper.

NUMEROUS motorists calling police to complain about their vehicles being damaged by rocks were told to file complaints later today.

Several policemen were injured when windows of their police vehicles were broken with bricks and rocks.

Police Officer Alex Thole was struck on the back by a brick that broke the rear window of his car. Officer Richard Zuray, working his second shift on the force, suffered minor cuts on his face and neck when a brick shattered the window of a patrol car.

James A. Gunstone, 33, of 8177 Delridge Way S. W., suffered a wrist cut when a window of his car was shattered at 19th Avenue and East Union Street at 12:15 a. m.

Gunstone told police he saw a crowd of about 200 persons and three youths tried to stop his car. He said he accelerated and his vehicle may have brushed the three.

Five to eight youths knocked the glasses off Virgil Lee Severe, Jr., 27, of 1819 E. Republican St., and then knocked him down and kicked him while they stole \$8 from his pockets in 23rd Avenue near East Pine Street at 9:10 p. m. He suffered bruises on the head and chest.

Others who reported their cars were stoned included John J. Martens, 20, of 1226 N. W. 175th St.; Mary H. Shepherd, 4264 92nd Ave. S. E., Mercer Island; Thomas M. McLaughlin, 24, of 2422 E. Rossmore St., and Pietro Durante, 25, of 8839 17th Ave. S.

The windshields of the Shepherd and McLaughlin cars were shattered.

All those arrested are Negroes.

Evelyn Riggins, 18, of 208 21st Ave., and Lillian Simmons, 27, of 218 21st Ave., were arrested at 21st Avenue and East Terrace Street on a charge of unlawful assembly.

Evelyn Riggins also was accused of profanity and carrying a concealed weapon, a knife. She was held in lieu of \$200 bail. Bail on Lillian Simmons was \$30.

Tweedie Boyd, 19, of 1814 E. Fir St., was arrested for unlawful assembly near 22nd Avenue and East Jefferson Street at 11:15 p. m. Joseph Bowie, Jr., 24, of 4118 37th Ave. S., was arrested on the same charge at 26th Avenue and East Cherry Street about 1:30 a. m.

The charges against Bowie and Lillian Simmons were stricken in Municipal Court this morning.

Mrs. Sharon Johnson, 19, of 2202 E. Olive St., was arrested near her residence about 2 a. m. on a charge of consuming an alcoholic beverage. Richard Boyd, 18, of 112 18th Ave., was booked on the same charge after being arrested at 2100 E. Jefferson St. at 11 a. m.

A YOUTH, 17, was placed in the Youth Service Center after police halted him near 22nd Avenue and East Pine Street about 2:15 a. m. and found a pellet pistol in his waistband.

Virgil L. Walker, 21, of 206 25th Ave. S., a marine, was picked up in East Cherry Street near 24th Avenue about 1:45 a. m. and was booked in city jail after a routine record check disclosed a \$79 traffic warrant outstanding against him.

Police said four other juveniles were arrested. Two were charged with inciting a riot, one was charged with resisting arrest, and one was charged with violating curfew. One youth was released to his parents and the others were referred to the Juvenile Court.

Goldwater Glad Warren Retires

PHOENIX, Ariz. — (AP) — Barry Goldwater issued a statement today saying he is glad to see Chief Justice Earl Warren leave the Supreme Court but he is sorry that President Johnson will name the replacement.

The 194 Republican presidential candidate, who is running for the Senate from Arizona this year, said:

"I am sure that the six months between now and January would not age Mr. Warren so greatly as to further endanger the country and that his resignation at this time is strictly political."

Rumor Center Volunteers Learn How Stories Change

By WILLIAM GOUGH

Start a rumor by telling a friend that you saw two boys about to be hit by some falling bricks at a construction site.

By the time the rumor has made the rounds and returns

nity becomes tense. It also will seek out the truth from various agencies and relay it to concerned citizens, David Lester, a co-administrator of the center, said.

"We want to lower tension.

sion, the volunteers played a game. Under the direction of Seymour H. Kaplan, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, one person would study a picture for a few moments, then relate what she saw to

Figure 62. Article mentioning protests and "rock-throwing" at Garfield High School area. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 02, 1968.

Police Sealed Area, Brought In More Help

Police began assembling in the Garfield High School area in strength about 9:30 p. m. yesterday after reports of rock-throwing and other complaints began to mount.

The first reports had been received about 8:30 p. m. from motorists who said their way was blocked in 23rd Avenue.

A total of about 125 police officers were involved in quelling the disturbances.

HERE IS A chronology of events last night and early today.

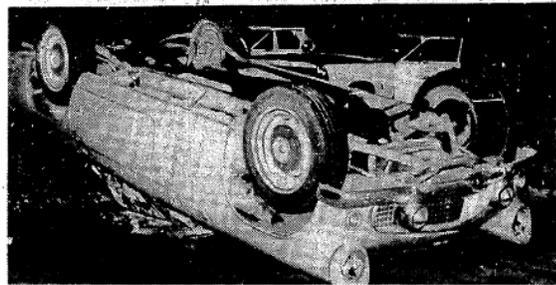
At 10:09 p. m. Assistant Police Chief M. E. Cook reported that rocks were being hurled at his car from a group sitting on the lawn of Garfield High School. He directed the special-patrol squad to the scene.

At 10:20 p. m., police were ordered to proclaim to the group that it was assembled unlawfully and that it must disperse. A 10-minute time limit was given, but police rescinded the limit at the request of citizens' groups until 10:55 p. m. when the special squad moved in force to the scene and the group of about 100 fled.

About the time the proclamation was made, police sealed off the general area between 14th Avenue and Empire Way and East Union Street and East Yesler Way.

At 10:39 p. m. police went in force to a service station at 23rd Avenue and East Cherry Street when reports were received that youths were attempting to purchase gasoline in cans and bottles. No sales were made.

At 10:40 p. m., Capt. E. M.



This car was rolled over and its occupants were robbed at 24th Avenue and East Columbia Street during central-area disturbances shortly after last midnight. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Olson, 374 Highland Drive, said they lost \$15 to a group of youths, who then broke the windows and rolled over the car. The victims were given refuge by the occupants of a nearby home.—Photo by Dennis Law.

Wesselius, commander of the special squad, advised Chief Cook that the mood of the crowd had begun changing and missiles were being hurled at all moving vehicles in the area. He was granted permission to equip his men with tear gas. (The gas was not used.)

At 10:55 p. m. the squad moved into position at the school and the crowd dispersed quickly. As it spread through the area around the school 20 cars were summoned from the outlying police precincts.

A SKELETON force was left in the North and South Ends to handle emergency calls as the precinct forces were assembled as a reserve force at 11 p. m.

At 11:06 p. m. the first of eight false fire alarms was turned in.

At 11:28 p. m. police went to a grocery at 525 21st Avenue in response to a report the store was being broken into. The police apparently frightened away the intruder, but two and half hours later the grocery was entered and damaged.

Police said about five youths threw groceries from shelves and damaged the front of the grocery extensively. The grocery is owned by Mrs. May Toyoji.

At 11:29 p. m. patrol units requested assistance at 23rd Avenue and East Cherry Street where a crowd was gathering and was antagonistic. Minutes later, police were ordered to turn off their red traffic-control lights because they were only attracting attention.

At 11:33 p. m. police went to 17th Avenue and East Jefferson Street on a report a drugstore had been broken into.

About midnight flammable liquids were used to ignite a Rolls Royce automobile, parked at the home of Lutha Losey, 3815 E. John St., the owner. Damage was estimated at \$200.

At 12:01 a. m. police units near Garfield reported the youths were dispersing into groups of 15 persons. A po-

lice drawback from the area was ordered by Chief Ramon to allow "detached workers" a chance to encourage the youths to go home.

At 12:10 a. m. police began receiving reports of broken windows at commercial establishments in the area. The crowds shortly after assembled in groups estimated at 50 in one, 50 in another and 75 in a third.

POLICE concentrated their efforts until nearly 2 a. m. in the area between 21st and 22nd Avenues on both sides of East Jefferson Street where rocks were hurled from upper floors and

At 2:27 a. m., Precinct 2 and 3 cars were sent back to their districts.

At 2:31 a. m. a bag containing two fire bombs was discovered in East Marion Street near Empire Way.

The bombs were behind a City Light substation where a caller told an Associated Press reporter they would be found. The caller had identified himself as a Negro militant.

At 3:02 a. m. the special-patrol squad was sent back to headquarters.

At 4 a. m. the new patrol shift took over from the night shift.

Blacks, Whites Post Bail for 3 Negroes

More than \$1,500 in cash was raised among black and white groups yesterday to post bail for three black students sentenced to six months in jail in connection with a riot at Franklin High School May 29.

Larry Gossett, 23, Carl Miller, 23, and Aaron Dixon, 19, were released from the county jail about 3 p. m. yesterday after spending about five hours there. They had been sentenced at 10 a. m. by Justice Court Judge James Dore.

JUDGE DORE imposed a \$500 appeal bond on each of the University of Washington students, even though they had remained free on their personal recognizance between the time of the incident and the trial and again between the end of the trial about two weeks ago and sentencing yesterday.

A statement made public by attorneys for the three said that because all are university students, because all have no previous convictions and because all appeared at the hearings which they were required to attend, they should have been released without posting cash bail.

Michael Rosen, one of the attorneys and staff counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, said:

"The immediate and positive community reaction clearly demonstrates the concern of black and white Seattle citizens with the existing abuses in the bail system — abuses which have for years discriminated against poor people and black people. It is hoped their concern will help effec-

tuate a change in the system."

CONTRIBUTORS to the \$1,500 bail fund yesterday in-

cluded the Ecumenical Metropolitan Ministry; the Free Prisoners Bail Fund of Seattle; the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the Black Student Union; the Congress of Racial Equality; the Law Students Civil Rights Research Council at the University of Washington; and the Black Panther Party.

Contributions from individuals also were received. A collection was taken up at a meeting of a Municipal League subcommittee.

At a press conference after their release, all three students maintained their innocence and said they had gone to Franklin March 29 to keep things cool. They said they would do the same again in similar circumstances.

The case will probably reach Superior Court sometime in September, attorneys said.

Dairymen Pick Grimm Family In Arlington

The George Grimm family of Arlington has been selected as Snohomish County's dairy family of the year.

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15 SEATTLE AREA STORES



Figure 63. Article mentioning Black Panther Party "worked to quell outbreaks of trouble in the central area" and "tried to stop rock-throwing near Garfield High School". Note photograph of Maude Allen (whose name was later memorialized on the People's Wall after she passed away at an early age). *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, July 03, 1968.



Organized along military lines, the Black Panthers have their own signs and symbols, like the hand shake. From left were Maude Allen, Aaron Dixon, Gwen Morgan and Curtis Harris.—Photo by Gil Baker. (See Page 14 for more photos.)

Seattle Panthers— What's Their Goal?

(Gil Baker, author of this article, is a professional photographer who long has been active in central-area affairs. He is a former president of the East Madison Commercial Club and a former director of the Mardi Gras festival. He also was editor of The Puget Sound Observer, a community newspaper, and was active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Baker said his purpose in writing about the Black Panthers is to inform Seattle of what their objectives and methods are — "I think it is healthy for the community to know what is going on.")



GIL BAKER

By GIL BAKER
"Mayor, Take Your Mercenaries Out of the Community."

Words on a poster. Angry and demanding.

I saw them recently — not in Chicago or Los Angeles, but in Seattle.

Another poster said, "Sam Smith's Immortals Cause Brothers to Kill Brothers" (an apparent reference to plans for a youth patrol for the central area with which Councilman Smith has denied any affiliation).

THESE are pretty clear indications, I think, of what Seattle's young black people think about conditions in their city.

I was talking to a group of them the other day in Seattle's central area. These kids were highly vocal and intelligent. Full of purpose and dedication to the cause they believe is right.

They were all members of the Black Panthers, a group organized in 1965 in Lyons County, Alabama, by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Originally a national political, nonviolent group, they now are militant.

As their Seattle and Washington State leader, Captain Aaron Dixon, 19, said:

"It became obvious that a nonviolent attitude was not the answer and that the whites controlled the destiny of groups like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Congress of Racial Equality and the Urban League."

The Black Panthers are all young people, mostly in their late teens and early 20s. Most of them work or are students. The Panthers are not the trouble-making drop-outs usually associated by the white person with this type of group.

Panther headquarters in Seattle is a modest store front in the central area. It is full of posters, some blatant, some clever. One I noticed showed Huey Newton, Black Panther minister of defense, holding a rifle in

There have been consistent reports from many quarters that members of the Black Panther Party have worked to quell outbreaks of trouble in the central area. A spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union said Panthers patrolled an A. C. L. U. street dance Sunday evening, keeping the crowd in check. There also were reports they tried to stop rock-throwing near Garfield High School Monday night.
(For editorial comment, see Page 11.)

one hand and an African spear in the other.

Newton, who is awaiting trial on a charge of killing a policeman in California, is the Black Panther and Peace and Freedom Parties' candidate for the United States Congress.

IN SEATTLE, Curtis Harris is deputy of defense. Along with his other responsibilities, he controls a woman's auxiliary and medical corps. The entire Black Panther organization, both national and local, is organized on a military basis.

National headquarters is in Oakland, Calif. Stokely Carmichael is prime minister.

I asked Captain Dixon why they call themselves Black Panthers.

"The panther is a beautiful black animal that will not attack unless attacked," Dixon explained. "The Panthers are a political organization which will use the necessary tactics to reach goals and objectives. We're not a racist-oriented group like the Ku Klux Klan or other extremist groups."

He told me that the platform of the Black Panthers is freedom, full employment, decent housing, education for black people, military exemption and justice for all.

I noticed that the Black Panthers take great pride in

their Negro heritage. All hair was "au naturel." Many of the girls wear African print dresses and scarves. The boys seem to dress any style, and they all looked comfortable.

Their backgrounds are varied, ranging from upper middle-class professional to welfare recipient.

"There is room in the Black Panthers for any Negro," Dixon said. "All he needs is an interest in our objectives."

One thing is clear, the Black Panthers are not going to turn the other cheek. A reversal of the old saying, "If you're black, stay back," is their main goal.

And, believe me, they are a dedicated group.

(Third night of violence disrupted central area. Page 4.)

Chief Ra Central-

Chief of Police Frank C. Ramon today issued the following statement in connection with disturbances in the central area:

"For the past three nights the residents of the central area of Seattle have been subjected to acts of assault, vandalism and property destruction by a numerically small group of hoodlums. The Seattle Police Department has taken action against these hoodlums, but these unlawful acts have continued.

"The people who live in the central area and who do business there will receive the police protection for their person and their property to which they are entitled.

"This means that the Seattle Police Department will take every action necessary . . . to provide protection to the citizens of Seattle . . ."

Figure 64. Article mentioning "three nights" of "assault, vandalism and property destruction by a numerically small group of hoodlums". *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, July 03, 1968.

Chief Ramon Appeals To Central-Area Residents

Chief of Police Frank C. Ramon today issued the following statement in connection with disturbances in the central area:

"For the past three nights the residents of the central area of Seattle have been subjected to acts of assault, vandalism and property destruction by a numerically small group of hoodlums. The Seattle Police Department has taken action against these hoodlums, but these unlawful acts have continued.

"The people who live in the central area and who do business there will receive the police protection for their person and their property to which they are entitled.

"This means that the Seattle Police Department will take every action necessary . . . to provide protection to the citizens of Seattle . . .

"One of the elements that should be of concern to every adult person is the ages of the persons committing these acts of vandalism. Far too many of them are juveniles. Many taken into custody have been in the ages of 13, 14, and 15. Many of the most violent acts of assault . . . have been committed by children of school years.

"It is obvious that every child in our community is the responsibility of some adult. I make a direct appeal to every person in this city, particularly those in the areas which have experienced disturbances, to live up to their responsibility to these children.

"Know where your teenager is; know who he is with; be absolutely certain he or she is at home at a reasonably early hour and be sure that he is not part of this small group of hoodlums.

"One of the techniques used by the hoodlums is to obscure their identification by mingling with a group of spectators. The most cursory observation of these incidents shows that only a small percentage of the people on the street are involved in unlawful acts. The decent people, however, are providing cover for them by being there. I encourage you not to be there . . .

"It is apparent that new and more drastic police action must be expedited to obtain the security and protection to which the people of this community are entitled. Therefore, there will be arrests for failure to disperse, for unlawful assembly and

for other activities which either directly affront the security of persons and property or give aid and cover to such activities on the part of other people.

"I appeal to the overwhelming majority of self-respecting, law-abiding citizens to aid their police department in coping with this problem by not being out on the street in large numbers, not congregating in crowds and not giving cover by their very presence to these engaged in criminal acts.

Chief Ramon's statement was made at a press conference in the office of Mayor Braman, who said he concurred fully with the chief.

THE MAYOR commented that for the past several days the police have used a policy of "limited restraint."

"So far, the policy has worked well and there has been a minimum of injuries," the mayor said. "Unfortunately, we may not be able to continue this reasonable policy and may have to take other measures such as keeping crowds from gathering."

The mayor said the curfew would not be used except as a last resort because it could adversely affect the normal lives of many law-abiding persons.

Figure 65. Article mentioning Black Panther Party unites with a coalition of 16 groups urging youth "to end their 'destructive behavior'". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, July 04, 1968.

16 Groups Unite, Seek 'End To Destruction' in Central Area

By MARTY LOKEN

Youth involved in central-area disturbances were urged yesterday by a coalition of 16 organizations to end their "destructive behavior" and "air their grievances by more positive and effective methods."

In a hastily called press conference, Charles V. Johnson, acting chairman of the Central Area Committee For Civil Rights, expressed the "grave concern" of central-area representatives over the rock-throwing incidents.

"LET'S ALL join together to protect our community," Johnson said.

"Let's also begin to communicate with youth to begin solving the problems that led to this outburst. For our part, we are taking steps to do both. We need your help."

The organizations also called on central-area parents to keep their children, and themselves, off the streets at night.

Police Chief Ramon warned yesterday that police were prepared to take "new and more drastic" action to protect the community from disturbances.

He said hoodlums have been mingling with spectators, and urged residents to stay off the streets so that hoodlums will not have this cover.

THE CHIEF said the more drastic police action could include measures to prevent crowds from gathering.

Johnson's statement said: "We also urge all citizens to avoid being part of hearsay and rumor which lead to misunderstanding, thereby creating unnecessary situations and incidents."

The groups recognized "restraint on the part of the police" during the disturbances, and called for continued "law enforcement for the protection of all citizens."

The statement was issued by The Black Panther Party, Central Area Motivation Program, Seattle Urban League, Baptist Ministers Alliance, Central Area Committee For Civil Rights, East Madison Y. M. C. A., National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Madrona Hill Community Workers, Willing Neighbor Club, Madrona Block Club, Central Area Tenants Association, First Afro-Methodist Episcopal Church, Seattle Opportunities Industrialization Center, Seattle-King County Economic Opportunity Board, Caritas and Seattle Council of Churches.

ATTENDING the press conference, in addition to Johnson, were Chester Northington and Bruce Hayes of The Black Panther Party; Walter Hundley, director of the Model Cities program; Michael Ross, chairman, Seattle Congress of Racial Equality, and George Clark, communications director, C.A.M.P.

In an effort to bridge the communications gap between adults and youths involved in the disturbances, central-area organizations will continue their appeal during disturbances "tonight, tomorrow night or any night," Johnson said.

"We have been urging the young to join our organizations to bring about some of the changes they seek, but it is difficult," he said.

The communications gap, Ross added, "is the same in the central area as it is in Bellevue."

"The need is to discover new ways to reach youth — now," Hundley said.

(Disturbances in central area less than three previous nights. Page 35.)

Fireworks Blaze Damages Garage

Fireworks caused a blaze that did \$1,100 damage to a double garage at the David Hoos home, 513 N. 49th St., about 5:25 p. m. yesterday.

Harrison Jenks, acting battalion chief, said the fire caused about \$300 damage to the building and about \$800 damage to the contents, including two new rungs.

Aussie Reef Longest

SYDNEY — Greatest coral structure on earth is the Great Barrier Reef off Australia. It is 1,250 miles long.



target-detecting device is an open house aboard missile destroyer were Paul, 7, center, and a 6th Ave. S. The Coontz at Pier 9) until Saturday in a break in sum-

Figure 66. Article mentioning members of Seattle's Black Panther Party "considering running one or two candidates for the Legislature from the central area". *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, July 06, 1968.

Black Panthers May Run Candidate

Seattle's Black Panther Party is considering running one or two candidates for the Legislature from the central area's 37th District.

E. J. Brisker, Black Panther minister of education and president of the Black Student Union at the University of Washington, disclosed the possibility at a meeting last night.

He said a rally will be held at 7:30 p. m. tomorrow at Madrona Park to discuss running black candidates from the 37th District independent of the Democratic and Republican Parties.

BRISKER substituted for Ron Tenneswell, New York Black Panther field marshal, as speaker at a meeting sponsored by the Young Socialists at the Militant Forum in the University District. About 75 attended.

If Black Panther Party candidates are entered in the fall election, it would add more sparks to what already is expected to be one of the state's most spirited district elections.

The 37th District, with about 40 per cent Negro voter registration, has been a Democratic stronghold. Its two representatives, Dan O'Donnell and David

Sprague, are Democrats. So is its senator, Fred Dore. All are white.

The King County Democratic Central Committee angered many Negroes in the district when it recommended O'Donnell, 22, a Seattle University student, to fill the vacancy left when Sam Smith was elected Seattle's first Negro city councilman. It left the Legislature without a Negro member.

THE CENTRAL committee reversed the recommendation of the 37th District Democratic Committee, which gave a Negro, Mrs. Marjorie P. King, as its first choice, another Negro, George Fleming, as its second, and O'Donnell as its last.

It would be the militant Black Panther Party's first try for political office in this state.

Brisker outlined the goals of the Black Panther Party, terming them as "pragmatic and positive." He said the immediate concern of the Black Panthers is to protect blacks from what he called their white oppressors.

Rusk Plans

Figure 67. Article mentioning arrest of Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party member. *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, July 11, 1968.

Black Panther Arrested Over Hidden Weapon

Curtis Ray Harris, 21, of 638 34th Ave., defense minister of the Black Panther Party here, was arrested by the police special patrol squad on charges of having a concealed weapon and a dangerous weapon about 11:50 p. m. yesterday.

Harris was arrested by Sgt. Mike Slessman and officers John Chytil, G. D. Thomas and Paul Knapp in a parking lot at 17th Avenue and East Madison Street after the officers saw him with a knife as they approached.

Slessman said Harris made a motion toward the glove box of his car and the officers found in it a knife with a five-inch blade. A hose weighted with sand also was found in the vehicle. Bail was set at \$200.

Harris pleaded innocent today in Municipal Court. His trial was set for 2 p. m. August 21.

Figure 68. Article mentioning arrest of two members of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party at their Madrona headquarters. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, July 29, 1968.

2 Arrested After Black Panther Search

Two men were arrested when police served a search warrant for stolen property about 11 a. m. today at the Black Panther Party office at 1127 1/2 34th Ave.

Police Lt. Robert Hanson said police found two stolen typewriters, one of which was reported taken recently from the Legal Services Center, 1700 Cherry St.

Hank Roney, co-chairman of The Group, a civil-rights

organization told The Times he was in the Panthers office, when six police cars, containing about 12 policemen, arrived. Roney said the

search warrant was for the wrong address. He said the warrant was for 1134 1/2 34th Ave., but that the Panther office is at 1127 1/2 34th Ave.

Seattle Youth Hurt in Crash

Robert L. Dean, 16, of 2426 Pacific Highway S., was injured yesterday in a two-car collision four miles northeast of Ogallala, Neb., the Associated Press re-

ported. Killed in the accident was Raymond Christensen, 55, Ogallala. Dean formerly lived in Ogallala and was on a visit.

Figure 69. Article mentioning community criticism of police's "excessive force" in their search for "two stolen typewriters" at the Madrona headquarters of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 30, 1968.

Negroes Criticize Amount of Force In Police Search

By DON HANNULA
Seattle police were criticized today by several Negro spokesmen for using four to six patrol cars and 11 to 14 officers in the search of the Black Panther Party headquarters here yesterday for stolen property.

Police said two stolen typewriters were found in the headquarters, 1127 1/2 34th Ave., in the search shortly after noon. Aaron Dixon, Black Panther Party captain for Washington, and Curtis Harris, defense minister, were arrested, but Harris was released after being held in jail overnight. Dixon was charged with grand larceny by possession.

Michael Ross, acting president of the Seattle Congress of Racial Equality, said police "acted out of fear and ignorance" by responding to the search warrant effort with "excessive force."

EARLIER, Police Chief Frank Ramon had said there was a definite connection between Black Panther demonstrations for release of Dixon and Harris and last night's disturbances in the central area.

Police said four cars and 11 officers were used in the search. Witnesses from the central area said there were six cars and 14 officers.

Ross blamed the incident on King County Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll. He said: "There was no probable cause to arrest Harris. These trumped up charges are another in a series of incidents precipitated by the county prosecutor. The charges were initiated by the state, and Charles O. Carroll is the state here."

The Central Area Peace and Improvement Committee and the chairman of the Central Area Civil Rights Committee also were critical of the use of so many officers to process a search warrant.

Arthur Palmer, CAPI president, termed the search as police over-reaction.

Charles V. Johnson, C. A. C. R. chairman, said the use of so many police on a stolen-property search warrant appeared excessive.

"I've been saying for a long time that the excessive use of police to make arrests in the central area from traf-

fic violations on up is a mistake," Johnson said. "I feel that one or two good trained officers could have made the same kind of arrest."

Waverly Davis, former co-chairman of the Negro Voters League and a militant spokesman, said:

"If it takes that many police to go and arrest these persons, it either means the police are tremendously afraid of the Black Panther Party or they don't give a damn about laws and justice in this country."

"It's just another example of the constant harassment of black people by the police."

POLICE SAID one of the two confiscated typewriters was stolen from the Legal Services Center headquarters at 1700 Cherry St. July 19.

When the typewriter was found missing, there was no evidence of a break-in at the anti-poverty agency, Robert Ashley, Legal Services Center director, said.

Black Panther officials said the typewriter was donated to them.

The charge against Dixon does not accuse him of stealing the typewriter. It accuses him of possession of stolen property.

Dem Gor Vod

Gordon's Vodka is the growing brand. And Gordon's is the only U.S. patent on smooch of Gordon's is screen produce the clear: mixable vodka mad

Figure 70. Article mentioning captain of Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party, Aaron Dixon, "charged with grand larceny by possession of a typewriter taken from the Legal Services Center." *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 30, 1968.

Panther Leader Charged in Theft

Aaron Dixon, 19, captain of the Black Panther Party here, was charged today with grand larceny by possession of a typewriter taken from the Legal Services Center.

No charge was filed against Curtis Harris, 22, the Panthers' defense minister, who was arrested with Dixon yesterday afternoon at Panther headquarters. He was held in jail overnight and released shortly before noon today.

Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll accused Dixon of having the typewriter and of knowing that it had been "wrongfully appropriated."

Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy prosecutor, said the typewriter had been loaned to the Legal Services Center as a demonstration model. The typewriter was discovered missing from the center office at 1700 E. Cherry St. July 18.

On a search warrant, police found the typewriter in the Panther headquarters at 1127 34th Ave. yesterday.

Elmer Dixon, 18, Aaron's brother, said at a press conference called by the Black Panthers last night that the typewriter and other one "taken by police" were donated. He declined to name the donor.

Aaron Dixon was convicted recently of holding an assembly.

High School sit-in March 29 and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, Shulman told the court. The conviction in Justice Court is on appeal to the Superior Court.

Superior Court Judge Lloyd Shorett set bail of \$3,000 on Dixon on the larceny charge.

Superior Court Judge Story Birdseye this afternoon refused to reduce Dixon's bail.

Michael Rosen, American Civil Liberties Union attorney, pleaded with the judge to free Dixon without bail or reduce it to \$1,000.

Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy prosecutor, described Dixon as a danger to the community.

Correction:

Frank Hennessy, 6202 35th Ave. N. E., is a past president of the Washington State Funeral Directors Association. An article in Saturday's Times on Mr. and Mrs. Hennessy's golden wedding anniversary erroneously reported Mrs. Hennessy had headed the association.

The Continuing Study of Newspaper Reading shows newspapers are read thoroughly by both men and women. The Times' telephone number is MA 2-0300.

Figure 71. Article mentioning 9 injured in "rally called by the Black Panther Party to protest the arrest" of two of their members for "two typewriters [police] said had been stolen". *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 30, 1968.

9 Injured in Gunfire-Marked Outbreak in Central Area

By MIKE WYNE

Seven police officers and two civilians were injured and several police officers damaged in disturbances marked by gunfire, rock-throwing and fire bombs in the central area last night.

Fourteen persons were arrested.

One officer, Don Marquart, suffered fragment wounds when a bullet from a high-powered rifle pierced the roof of a police car. He underwent leg surgery.

Most of the disturbances centered near the Garfield Playfield and came after a rally called by the Black Panther Party to protest the arrest of two of its officers yesterday. They were arrested when police executed a search warrant at Panther headquarters and impounded two typewriters they said had been stolen.

POLICE SAID the trouble began about 9:30 p. m. The crowd in and about the disturbance area fluctuated between 100 and 200 persons.

There were an additional 100 persons in vehicles in the area, hindering police activity and blocking firebombing. The crowd broke up about midnight, although police report sporadic incidents until about 2:30 a. m.

The two civilians, 18 and 20, both Negroes, were wounded by shotgun pellets by a man, 48, a white resident of the area, who accused them of attempting to rob him at his home about 9:30 p. m. The 20-year-old was hospitalized for chest and back injuries. The other youth was treated for minor injuries.

The other injured officers included: Russ Stallman, brain concussion caused by a rock-thrower; Tom Witkowski, bitten on the arm by a prisoner; Dale A. Nelson, hit in the injury and K. C. Wallenberg, Dave Grimrud and Don Frickens, cuts.



From left, ELMER DIXON, ART PALMER and E. J. BRISKER They spoke at Black Panther press conference

AT A PRESS conference preceding the protest rally, E. J. Brisker, president of the Black Student Union at the University of Washington and the Panthers' deputy minister of education, called the arrests of two Panther members "another example of a deliberate attempt to provoke violence and bloodshed" and demanded that such "provocation" stop.

Brisker demanded withdrawal of white policemen from the central area, formation of a police-review board of black citizens and ouster of Charles O. Carroll as King County prosecuting attorney.

Elmer Dixon, a Panther officer, said his party has 25 to 30 members in Seattle. Art Palmer, an officer of the Central Area Committee

for Peace and Improvement, said he appeared at the press conference to give his group's support. He is a member of the Police-Citizen Liaison Committee formed recently to try to improve relations between militants and police.

ABOUT 100 persons were present when the protest rally began at Garfield High School. About 50 persons most of them whites, appeared at police headquarters about 9 p. m. and began a picketing demonstration. They called for the release of the two prisoners.

Police called in four patrol cars to secure their headquarters and began waiting until the pickets left about midnight. No incidents were reported.

Firemen were kept busy fighting fire-bomb fires, beginning with a grass fire at 8:40 p. m. at 2111 E. Jefferson St., where the blaze was halted just as flames spread to the vacant building.

A large bomb fire that broke out at Empire Way South and South Winthrop Street about 11:30 p. m. was attributed to fire bombs.

A fire at Ben's Market, 423 21st Ave., at 8:20 p. m. caused \$80 damage and also was blamed on a fire bomb.

A fire bomb thrown at the Special Patrol Squad on the Garfield school grounds at 8:30 p. m. resulted in a fear-gas dispersal. There was no damage to the headquarters, police said.

At 11:45 p. m., a fire bomb was found in the Dry Dock headquarters, 312 Rainier Ave. S. Damage was esti-

ated at \$125, mostly from smoke.

A fire bomb at the O. K. Rubber Store, Empire Way South and South Hudson Street, caused \$840 property damage.

Employees of a Chevron station at 2001 Rainier Ave. S. reported putting out the fire before firemen arrived.

Police reported they treated about 50 youths taking part in raking fire bombs behind Garfield High School about 8:30 p. m.

POLICE ARRESTS during the night and morning included four arrests for carrying concealed weapons, three for assault, five for disturbing the peace, two for failing to disperse.

Four of the prisoners were juveniles and were referred to Juvenile Court for charge.

Police said tear gas was used at Garfield and also in East Cherry Street at several locations. A flare was used to illuminate the scene as police attempted to clear the playfield.

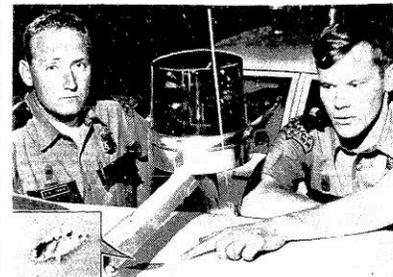
During the evening police reported several incidents of fireworks being mistaken for gunfire.

Police said that rocks were hurled about 8:40 p. m. The police car in which Officer Marquart was injured was fired on at 25th Avenue and East Cherry Street about 8:40 p. m.

The incident involving the two injured youths occurred at 2008 E. Cherry St. The man who fired the bullets was taken into police custody.

Firemen were summoned to the house about 10:25 p. m. when fire bombs were thrown at the building. Damage was slight.

Police said three officers assigned to guard the building were fired on at least six times about 2:15 a. m. Officer Stallman, admitted to St. Virginia Mason Hospi-



Police Patrolmen R. W. Lowman, left, and Mike Tipton examined a bullet hole in the roof of a patrol car. Inset, lower left, shows where the bullet came through the car's roof—Times Staff photo by Bruce McKim.

tal was hit by a rock as he attempted to assist other police in making an arrest at 24th Avenue and East Columbia Street.

Les J. Winston, Washington, 15, of 1415 E. Columbia St., was charged today with second-degree assault by hitting Stallman.

Judge Court Judge William Four set bail of \$3,200 on Washington.

Officer Witkowski said he was bitten by a young man suspected of throwing the

The Seattle Times 3
Tuesday, July 30, 1968

RING SIZING
WHILE YOU WAIT
FREE STRETCH AND
FREE A LETTER
CLOSED SATURDAYS
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& Son
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THE INCIDENT involving

Klopfenstein's
SEATTLE'S LARGEST AND FINEST
GROUP OF QUALITY MEN'S STORES

Figure 72. Article mentioning the "arrest of two Black Panthers" is blamed for the "violent disturbances that erupted in the central district" Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 30, 1968.

Ramon Blames Disturbances on Arrests

The arrest of two Black Panthers yesterday was blamed for violent disturbances that erupted in the central district last night, Police Chief Frank Ramon said today.

The chief pointed out that

a rally of about 50 demonstrators, many of them white, paraded around the Public Safety Building yesterday evening and shouted for the release of Aaron Dixon, 18, and Lurtis Harris, 22, from the city jail.

ANOTHER RALLY at Garfield High School Playfield during the evening also drew supporters of the two black militants.

The chief said, "I feel it is safe to assume there is a connection.

Police and observers in the area of the disturbances also noted last night that the age of many of the participants seemed to be older than the teen-agers who have dominated previous disturbances.

"This is the second time this older group has appeared without a screen of juveniles," Ramon pointed out.

The previous time was during the July 2 disturbances, he said.

"IT IS IMPORTANT to emphasize that the police department did not fire a shot. We did use gas once to disperse a group. Also there were many firecrackers. It appears this was an attempt

to draw fire from police officers."

The chief said he was at home during the disturbance, but never more than 15 minutes from the scene, as Assistant Police Chief M. E. Cook directed police in the area.

"I spent a great deal of time on the phone and was fully informed and I talked on more than one occasion with Acting Mayor Floyd Miller." (Mayor Braman is in Miami to address the Republican Platform Committee.)

30 Police-Action Protesters Crowd Into Chief's Office

A group of about 30 young persons crowded into Police Chief Frank Ramon's reception office shortly after noon today in protest over police action in the Central District.

The group left peacefully when they found the chief was not in his office.

Members of the group, both white and black, expressed anger over the handling of blacks. One youth said he has marks on his

arms suffered at the hands of police last night.

Several uniformed officers met the crowd as it moved toward the chief's fourth-floor office. One white youth was forcibly ejected when he pasted a poster calling for the release of Huey Newton on a wall in the office.

Newton, a Black Panther leader, is on trial in Oakland, Calif., accused of the murder of a policeman.

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Figure 73. Article accusing police of "political act" against Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, July 31, 1968.

Police Persecution Charged by Leader Of Black Panthers

Aaron Dixon, captain of the Black Panther Party, and Curtis Harris, assistant captain, yesterday evening accused the Police Department of attempting to destroy their group as a political entity through arrests.

"My real concern about this thing is that I'm running for political office and they've arrested me twice — for carrying a concealed weapon — a water hose and a 3-inch-blade knife — and again Monday," Harris said. He said he will be a candidate for the State House of Representatives from the 37th District.

Harris and Dixon were arrested as police served a search warrant at Black Panther headquarters, 1127 34th Ave., at noon Monday. Harris was freed without being charged shortly before noon yesterday.

Dixon, 19, was charged with grand larceny by pos-

session of a typewriter taken from the Legal Services Center. He was freed after posting \$3,000 bail.

Black Panther sources have said the machine was donated to the party.

Harris said the arrests were made to achieve publicity against him.

"I believe this is a political act against me as a representative running for candidate for the 37th District," Harris said. "For Brother Dixon's case, I really believe they're trying to put him behind bars.

Harris said that he saw only violence as a way to get the white policeman out of the black community.

Dixon denied a report provided to The Times by the Associated Press yesterday that membership in the Black Panther Party totals 25 to 30 persons. He said there were "several hundred" members, both active and inactive.

Figure 74. Article mentioning "several arrests of Negroes under 18 for violation of the city-wide 10 p.m. curfew" will not stop central district festival. *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, August 01, 1968.

Central Festival Goes On

Central-area Summer Festival activities, including outdoor dancing until 11:30 p. m. today, were to continue as scheduled, Harold Whitehead, director of the sponsoring Central Area Motivation Program, said today.

However, the possibility remained that plans could be changed by evening.

Concern had been expressed because of disturbances and mass arrests in the area last night and early this morning.

Programs of entertainment began at 10 a. m. today at the T. T. Minor Elementary

School playground. The program is scheduled to continue at T. T. Minor tomorrow and Saturday from 10 a. m. until 11:30 p. m. with an outdoor dance each night from 10 until 11:30.

"Right now we are planning to go ahead as scheduled," Whitehead said. "We are expecting no problems."

At a press conference yesterday, Whitehead expressed disappointment over the cancellation of the central area's Mardi Gras parade. He said many area residents have suggested an all-black parade to be held in the area in late August.

Whitehead said meetings will be held next week to discuss the desirability and feasibility of such a parade.

Whitehead said cooperation from organizations within the community has been pledged.

Aaron Dixon, Black Panther Party captain, said:

"I pledge Panther support and responsibility for the black community, but I also say that if there is abnormal police activity in the area we will relinquish all responsibility."

LAST NIGHT there were several arrests of Negroes under 18 for violation of the

Classified Advertising

FIFTH SECTION

Thursday, August 1, 1968

41

city-wide 10 p. m. curfew, tend organized functions which generally is loosely after 10 p. m. but must go enforced. directly home afterwards to avoid arrest for curfew violation. The chief said youths under 18 are allowed to at-

Figure 75. Article mentioning mass arrests of youth in Central District; Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party also reports "rocks were thrown through windows of their [Madrona] headquarters". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, August 01, 1968.

More Than 50 to Be Charged in Unrest

By MIKE WYNE

More than 50 of the 69 persons arrested during last night's disturbances in the central area were expected to be charged today.

The mass arrests resulted from a stepped-up police enforcement ordered by Police Chief Frank Ramon and Mayor Brman as incidents of rock throwing and fire bombings continued for the third night in the area.

FIVE PERSONS, two motorists and two pedestrians, were injured. Firemen responded to 13 arson fires, including a fire bombing in a portable at the Horace Mann School that caused an estimated \$200 damage.

Four youths accused of assaulting a police officer were placed in the Youth Service Center. There were police reports of gunfire but no reports of injury or damage from firearms.

Ramon said today 15 of the

persons arrested were juveniles.

Most of the adults are expected to be charged with unlawful assembly, a gross misdemeanor. The juveniles are expected to be charged with curfew violations and failure to disperse.

Fifty-five persons were held in the city jail.

Forty-nine of the arrests were made at 23rd Avenue and East Cherry Street about 10:30 p. m. as crowds failed to leave the area after police warnings, that they would be arrested if they did not. All those arrested were Negroes.

The injury reports include: Mrs. Wilma Lanza, 38, of Aberdeen, a passenger in an automobile, face cuts when a rock was thrown through a window of the car in 23rd Avenue at 9:50 p. m.

Michael Steel, 21, of 4234 1/2 Rainier Ave. S., scrapes and cuts when he was pulled from his motorcycle by a

group of youths at 23rd Avenue and East Jefferson Street about 9 p. m. The motorcycle was set afire and the fire spread to a utility pole.

Harold Hudson, 53, of 303 N. E. 57th St., head cuts when his car was hit by rocks and bottles at 23rd Avenue and East Jefferson Street about 9:45 p. m.

Joseph Kirke, 46, of 319 15th Ave., and his wife, Cornelia Ella, 44, scrapes and bruises when they were assaulted by a group of six to 10 youths in 15th Avenue near East Alder Street about 11 p. m. Kirke said he was punched in the face and slashed on the ankle, apparently by a knife.

Fire Chief Gordon Vickery said a shot was fired at firemen in the 500 Block of 23rd Avenue while on the way to the Mann School fire. Vickery said two fire bombs were thrown at a portable, causing damage of about \$200.

Other fires included a can

of gasoline ignited at the door to a market at 331 York Road S., causing \$150 damage, and several firebombs that ignited grass and a vacant building at 2111 E. Jefferson St.

A firebomb at the Denny-Blaine Pharmacy, 3425 E. Denny Way, caused \$100 damage about 9:45 p. m.

A spokesman for the Black Panther Party said rocks were thrown through windows of their headquarters at 1127 1/2 34th Ave. about 2 a. m.

A 20-YEAR-OLD youth was held without charge after he was accused of firing a shot at the fire engine responding to the Mann fire. Police officers Robert Fitch and R. W. Lowman reported that they found a .25-caliber loaded automatic pistol in the youth's hand when they arrested him near Garfield High School.

During the mass arrests, William J. Cox, 3rd, 19, of 773 32nd Ave., was seized by Officer Doug Fritschy who said he saw a pistol in Cox's hand.

Cox was charged with carrying a loaded weapon under the concealed-weapon section of the municipal code. Bail was \$500.

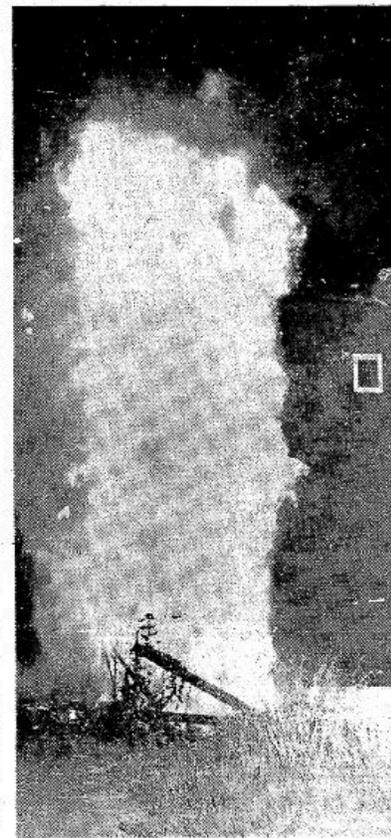
POLICE SAID that as they seized their prisoners tear gas was fired to disperse the balance of the crowd.

Akonzo Fields, 27, of 2800 S. King St., reported to police that two fire bombs were thrown at his tow truck as he drove in Boren Avenue and East Fir Street about 12:25 a. m. today. Both fell to the street, he reported.

Police said that after the 18:30 arrests the streets were cleared.

Mayor Brman made a surprise visit to police units at 23rd Avenue and East Yesler Way about midnight and told the assembled officers that their efforts were appreciated.

Marvin Genauer, 25, of



Flames roared up the side of a vacant building at 21st Avenue and East Jefferson Street. Firemen said the blaze was set.—Photo by Tim Burgess.

4005 15th Ave. N. E., re-he walked across the Gar-ported to, police he was field playfield about 2:10 p. seized and robbed of \$30 as m. yesterday.

Ramon Promises Police Action

Police action necessary to establish peace in the central area will be taken, Chief Frank Ramon said today.

He said his department has tried to maintain order without arresting large numbers of persons but that these efforts have been unsuccessful.

RAMON issued the following statement regarding mass arrests made during the night:

"Last night the Seattle Police Department made 69 arrests for offenses directly connected with disturbances that have been occurring in the central area. Of the 69 persons arrested, 19 of them were juveniles.

"In a four-month period, in nearly a dozen nights, groups of individuals in the same geographic area have assaulted people, destroyed property and caused a disruption of a normally peaceful neighborhood.

"During this period of time the Seattle Police Department, indeed all agencies of city government, have been directly involved with every identifiable community organization in a continuing attempt to restore order without arresting a great many people. There efforts have not been successful.

"THE ACTIONS of a numerically few people have caused a threat and disruption of normal community activities which cannot be permitted to continue. This disruption has involved repeated attacks on business property, automobiles, city equipment and individuals.

"The indiscriminate throwing of fire bombs has caused substantial monetary loss as well as creating grave fears in the minds of many people. The use of some streets for normal traffic has been denied to the residents of this city.

"Transit service has been curtailed or stopped to the great inconvenience of many innocent persons.

"Every attempt by the community itself to control this small number of persons has met with complete coordination and cooperation by governmental agencies. This kind of situation cannot continue night after night.

"The arrests last night did, for at least the night of July 31 and the early morning of August 1, bring peace and order to this community. The police action necessary to continue to maintain this peace will be taken. One resident in the community said to me at 12:30 a. m., "For the first time in a long time, I will be able to sleep tonight. He and all the rest of the residents in this community can be assured they will be able to sleep in peace with their normal sense of security from now on."

Figure 76. Article mentioning Black Panther Party captain Aaron Dixon says "Seattle's black community wants its own police force" due to "harassment of... blacks in general". *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, August 02, 1968.

\$100 Donated to Black Panthers at Bellevue

By DAVE SUFFIA
A black beret was passed among 150 Bellevue-area residents last night and returned with more than \$100 in donations for the Black Panther Party.

While the hat was circulating at the Bellevue First Congregational Church, Aaron Dixon, Seattle Black Panther captain, and four fellow members proclaimed their party platform: "Political power comes out of the barrel of a gun."

The meeting was sponsored by the East Side Conference on Religion and Race.

"Self-defense is our first concern," Dixon said, explaining the motivation of the national political party that is made up of black persons generally between 18 and 30 years old.

"We have to arm all our brothers to protect themselves," Dixon said.

DIXON SAID Seattle's black community wants its own police force. He charged Seattle police with harassment of his party and blacks in general and with brutality against blacks.

Dixon received frequent applause from the Bellevue

audience, made up mostly of teenagers and young adults. Many were barefooted; some were bearded. Almost all appeared sympathetic.

John Sorensen, a Bellevue High School teacher who resided in Seattle's central area as a youth, moderated the discussion.

"We do not believe in riots," one of the young blacks said, "we believe in revolution."

Asked what their demands were, one of the Panthers replied, "Just get off my freedom or get blown off."

"Is that what it comes down to, violence? Isn't there any other way?" a woman asked.

"What's left but violence," Sorensen said.

DIXON SAID the Panthers have been responsible for quieting central-area disturbances in recent weeks.

Curtis Harris, assistant captain of the party in

Seattle, at a press conference earlier yesterday, said he and E. J. Briskr, a Black Panther member, planned to file their candidacies for state representative Positions 1 and 2 in the 37th

District. He also complained that windows were broken at Black Panther headquarters at 1127½ 34th Ave. Tuesday night.

rally for the support of Huey P. Newton at Garfield High School at 7 p. m. tomorrow.

Newton, a Black Panther leader in Oakland, Calif., is on trial on charges of slaying an Oakland policeman.

Rocks Injure 2 As Central Area Calms

By MIKE WYNE

Two persons were injured by rocks thrown by youths along 23rd Avenue last night as police spent a comparatively quiet evening in the central area.

Francis Haupt, 2738 Garlough Ave. S. W., a building contractor, was admitted to Providence Hospital with head cuts and possible further head injuries after he was struck by bricks at East Jefferson Street about 9:45 p. m.

Maynard Wege, 44, of 3817 N. E. 78th St., suffered face cuts at East Yesler Way about 8:25 p. m. in a hail of rocks. He was treated at Providence.

Police said Haupt's vehicle is equipped with a citizen's band radio, which may have been mistaken for a police radio.

FIREMEN responded to three arson fires, including a fire in an abandoned house at 523 22nd Ave. that destroyed the porch and roof about 10:35 p. m.

Two robberies were reported. Richard L. Murphy, 44, of 809 15th Ave., reported losing \$80 to a man armed with a pistol near 15th Avenue and East Marion Street at 9:35 p. m.

Alan Johnson, 32, of 3807 S. McClellan St., reported six youths, armed with a pistol and a rifle, forced him from his car in the Mount Baker Beach parking lot at 11:10 p.

m. and ordered him to go swimming when they found he did not have a wallet.

Johnson said that when he returned to his car, his \$150 camera was missing.

POLICE reported there were no concentrations larger than 15 persons last night.

Police Chief Frank Ramon termed conditions calm compared to the past three nights.

Police said the district was quiet until about 9:30 p. m. when police responded to a report that youths were attempting to break into an automobile in the parking lot of Garfield High School. Rock throwing began as police moved into the 23rd Avenue and East Jefferson Street area.

A youth, 17, who had a knife, was taken into custody, questioned and released to his parents.

MOST OF THE groups of youths disappeared from the streets about 11 p. m. About that time detectives said they stopped a group of youths from entering Minor School.

Several false alarms were reported as the youths moved noisily through the area to their homes.

Joyce Rasmussen, 36, of 1521 17th Ave., reported two windows in her home were broken.

(Human Rights Task Force, Council of Churches criticize mass arrests. Page 9.)

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Figure 77. Article mentioning 13 charges filed against people "in connection with a disturbance in the central area". *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, August 02, 1968.

13 Charged After Mass Arrests

Charges against 13 persons were filed yesterday and today in connection with a disturbance in the central area Wednesday night.

The newest charges came this morning when four young men were accused in Justice Court of remaining after a police warned a crowd to disperse. The misdemeanor charge was filed today against Clifton Byrd, 22, of 178 27th Ave.; Tommy Lee Fuller, 23, of 201 22nd Ave. E.; Jack Mines, 23, of 521 21st Ave., and Frank Monroe Wilcher, 27, of 916 22nd Ave. S.

Identical charges were filed yesterday against Robert Curtis Robertson, 23, of 2700 E. Union St.; Seymon A. Gray, 22, of 2123 James St.; David Leslie Dinish, 22, of 2121 E. Jefferson St., and Raymond Norwood, 25, of 907 15th Ave.

THE CHARGE carries a maximum penalty of a \$250 fine or 90 days in jail. Justice Court Judge James J. Dore set bail of \$500 for each suspect.

Also filed today was a second-degree-assault charge against Michael Donald Bentley, 20, of 523 30th Ave., in the firing of a pistol at Seattle firemen responding to an alarm Wednesday at Horace Mann School.

Deputy Prosecutor William Dowell said the pistol was fired at a truck carrying Lt. George E. Money and five other firemen. No one was hit. The truck was at 23rd Avenue and East Jefferson Street.

Judge Dore set bail of \$5,000 on Bentley.

The nine charges were filed after the staff of Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll reviewed 45 cases arising out of Wednesday's incident. A total of 69 persons, including 19 juveniles, were arrested that night, according to Police Department figures.

The cases on which the prosecutor's office declined

to take action will be reviewed by the city corporation counsel for possible charges in Municipal Court.

FOUR PERSONS also were charged in Municipal Court yesterday in connection with the disturbance.

William J. Cox, 3rd, of 773 32nd Ave., was charged with carrying a concealed weapon and released on \$500 bond.

Jerry E. Carson, 24, and I. Ronald Carson, 35, both of 903 33rd Ave., were accused of refusing to obey an officer. Both posted \$50 bail.

Robert E. Parker, 19, of 12810 S. E. 29th St., Bellevue, was accused of disorderly conduct. He was being held in lieu of \$100 bail.

Superior Court Judge Lloyd Shorett yesterday granted a writ of habeas corpus releasing most of the 69 persons who had been held in jail on suspicion of unlawful assembly. No charges had been brought against those released.

JUDGE SHORETT said he realized the mass arrest in the central area Wednesday night placed a burden on the Police Department in preparing cases. But he said that in making his decision he had to balance that fact against the rights of individuals.

The judge told deputy prosecutors that after the prosecutor's office has had time to study the cases, charges could be filed, warrants issued and the persons arrested again.

Mayor Braman said yesterday the mass-arrest tactic used by police Wednesday night was successful because it stopped trouble in the central area.

THE MAYOR said he regretted having to use force to halt the disturbance and recognized that some innocent people will be taken into custody in mass arrests.

Figure 78. Article mentioning 78 people arrested by police "after several nights of fire bomb throwing, sniper-shooting and rock-throwing" in the central area. *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, August 04, 1968.

THE WEEK WAS A tense one in the central area. Seventy-eight persons were arrested by police one night after several nights of fire bomb throwing, sniper-shooting and rock-throwing.

Two police officers were wounded when bullets were fired through the roof of their patrol car. One of the fires caused an estimated \$220,000 damage to a large building at 120 Lakeside Ave. S., used for boat-building and sail-making.

Also, two leaders of the **Black Panther Party** were arrested and one of them was charged with possession of stolen property — two typewriters. The other was released without being charged.

By the end of the week, tensions appeared to have subsided.

Figure 79. Article mentioning campaign to get charges dropped against captain of Seattle's Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, August 06, 1968.

Coalition Hopes To Clear Panther Chief

A campaign to get a charge against the captain of Seattle's Black Panther Party dropped was announced today by a coalition of groups.

The plans include a demonstration at noon tomorrow at the Municipal Building.

The Panther captain, Aaron Dixon, 19, was charged with grand larceny by possession after police raided the party's office July 29. Two typewriters which the police said had been stolen were confiscated.

The campaign to get the charge dropped was announced at a press conference at the University of Washington Student Union Building by representatives of the Young Socialist Alliance, Draft Resistance, the Peace and Freedom Party and the U. W. Committee of Black and White Concerned.

Spokesmen said the ad hoc committee has invited Mayor Braman and Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll to meet with representatives of the demonstrators tomorrow to hear why the charges should be dropped.

Figure 80. Article mentioning rally of "75 persons, predominantly white" protesting charges against captain of Seattle's Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, August 07, 1968.

Whites Attend Rally on Behalf Of Jailed Black

About 75 persons, predominantly white, massed on the Fifth Avenue plaza of the Public Safety Building about noon today to protest a charge against an officer of Seattle's Black Panther Party.

The group sent a delegation to meet with Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll and held a meeting to discuss ways of achieving their goal.

The rally was announced yesterday by a coalition of liberal student groups at the University of Washington.

A spokesman told the crowd the mayor had agreed to meet with representatives at 2:30 p. m. Tuesday.

The group was protesting a charge of grand larceny by possession brought against Aaron Dixon, 19, after police raided the Black Panther headquarters July 1. Police confiscated two typewriters they said were stolen.

While a delegation of six went to meet with Carroll, the demonstrators, whose number had grown to more than 100, marched in front of the Fourth Avenue entrance of the County Courthouse.

About 1 p. m., a large group moved into the Courthouse lobby, where they began chanting slogans. They were met by the delegation returning from the prosecutor's office and the group returned to the Public Safety Building plaza.

Spokesmen for the delegation reported that Carroll had refused to meet with all the demonstrators.

At the second meeting, one demonstrator suggested the group go to Carroll's office and throw him out. Another made violent threats. One woman suggested another rally be held later in the week.

The group debated "action now" or "later" and voted to wait.

Police questioned one man who was carrying a small hunting knife in a sheath attached to his belt. The man was released and the knife returned to him.

Figure 81. Article mentioning Seattle School District bus used to transport people to a rally supporting the captain of Seattle's Black Panther Party; accompanying article mentions he pleads as innocent. *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, August 08, 1968.

Officials Probe Use Of School Bus To Aid 'Panther' Rally

Officials of a state-funded summer - education program, primarily for central-area youth, of the Seattle School District were checking today on how one of their buses was used yesterday to transport about 25 Negro youths to a rally supporting Aaron Dixon, **Black Panther Party** leader.

The black and yellow bus is owned by the Mountlake Christian School, a conservative private school at 23605 54th Ave. W., but is being leased to the Seattle School District.

IT IS BEING used in the state-funded Summer Emphasis on Education and Knowledge, which is under the direction of the Seattle School District. SEEK is a

Landscaping Economy
AUBURN, N. Y. — (AP) — Members of the school board and school administrators, feeling that \$5,000 was too much to pay for landscaping, did the work themselves. They completed the five-acre site at Cayuga Central Junior-Senior High School at a cost of \$350.

summer enrichment program, primarily for central-area youth.

A SEEK official said he knew of no authorization to use the bus for the rally.

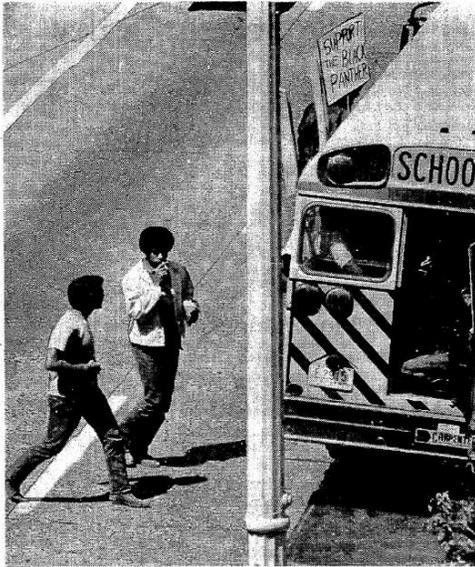
The rally at the Public Safety Building Plaza was to protest the recent arrest of Dixon on a charge of grand larceny by possession of a stolen typewriter. Dixon, free on \$3,000 bail, said the typewriter was donated to the Panthers.

ORGANIZERS of the rally were the Students for a Democratic Society, the Young Socialist Alliance, the Peace and Freedom Party and the Socialist Workers Party.

Edgar Atkinson, president of the Mountlake Christian School, said that he did not know anything about the situation because the bus was leased. "We certainly would not approve of such use," he said.

Youths held signs out the windows of the bus reading "Free Aaron" and "Support the Black Panthers."

As the bus took them from the rally, several shouted "pigs" at police in passing cruiser cars.



Two black youths ran to a school bus, leased to the Seattle School District for a state-supported, summer-education program, yesterday after leaving a rally protesting the recent arrest of Aaron Dixon, **Black Panther Party** captain.

Panther Pleads Innocent

Aaron Dixon, 19, captain of the Seattle **Black Panther Party**, pleaded innocent of grand larceny by possession today when he was arraigned before Superior Court Judge Story Birdseye.

Deputy Prosecutor Patricia G. Harber accused Dixon of having a typewriter that was taken from the Legal Services Centers between July 18 and 29, and with knowing that it had been "wrongfully appropriated." Mrs. Harber said the typewriter had been loaned to the anti-poverty legal program as a demonstration model. The typewriter was discovered missing July 19.

ON A SEARCH warrant, Seattle police found the typewriter in the Black Panther headquarters at 1177 1/2 34th Ave.

A trial date will be set later. Dixon appeared for arraignment with William L. Dwyer, attorney.

Three of the four youths charged with second-degree assault by throwing firebombs at police officers during a central-area disturbance July 3 pleaded innocent.

They were John T. Brakes,

Jr., 18, Michael Jay Parker, 19, and Arthur Lee Sinclair, 18. A fourth youth, Ronald Lee Lewis, 20, will be arraigned later.

The trial was set for November 20.

MRS. HARBER said each of the four is accused of throwing firebombs at six police officers in the 2400 Block of East Union Street. She said the officers were attempting to disperse a crowd when the bombs were thrown into the street immediately in front of them.

Velma Moore, 56, charged with second-degree murder for the shooting of Sam Burks, Jr., 45, July 25, pleaded innocent. Her trial was set to begin November 20.

Mrs. Moore is accused of shooting Burks with a .22-caliber revolver in an alley off South Main Street between First and Occidental Avenues South.

Witnesses told police the shooting followed a quarrel about a bottle of wine.

Charles Walter Young, 47, who was charged with first-degree murder in 1961, pleaded innocent. His attorney, Charles M. Stokes, told

the judge he plans to enter a special plea that his client is innocent by reason of insanity.

YOUNG is accused of shooting Mrs. Linda E. Nutting, 42, with a .38-caliber revolver December 3, 1961. She was shot as she fled from a man in front of 1618 E. Fir St.

Young surrendered to police four days after the crime but said he remembered nothing about the shooting. After psychiatrists examined him the court determined that he was not competent to stand trial and he was committed to Eastern State Hospital.

In May the hospital reported that Young had recovered from his mental illness and he was returned to county jail. His trial was set to begin September 25.

South Africa Exports Brandy

OTTAWA — Canada obtains more than one fourth of its imported brandy from the Republic of South Africa.

Tall's CAMERA SUPPLY Seattle's largest

Figure 82. Article mentioning "demonstrators, predominantly white" protest grand larceny charges of the captain of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, August 08, 1968.

Panther Supporters Decide Not to Storm Prosecutor's Office

A group of about 100 demonstrators decided against proposals to storm Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll's office yesterday but pledged their continued support for Aaron Dixon, **Black Panther Party** captain.

The demonstrators, predominantly white, massed in the Public Safety Building Plaza to protest both the recent arrest of Dixon and police harassment of the Panthers and the black community.

Dixon has been charged with grand larceny by possession of two stolen typewriters confiscated by police at Panther headquarters. He has been free on \$3,000 bail.

The demonstrators demanded that the charges be dropped.

THEY CARRIED signs reading: "Free Aaron or the Sky's the Limit," "Black Control of the Black Community," and "Remove Prosecutor (Racist) Carroll."

The rally at noon was organized by the Students for a Democratic Society, Draft Resistance of Seattle, the Young Socialist Alliance, the Peace and Freedom Party and the Socialist Workers Party. Robbie Stern, S. D. S. leader, led most of the rally.

During the rally, construction workers for the courthouse remodeling leaned out seventh-floor windows, heckling the demonstrators. A crude sign was displayed by a worker reading: "Go Home. Get a Job."

Several black youths rushed to the building but were turned back by a deputy sheriff at the floor where the construction workers were.

A vote was taken to send six delegates to Carroll's office rather than the entire group. Carroll met with representatives of the group for

about 20 minutes, turning down their demand that he meet with all of them in public and with the press. He said he could not discuss Dixon's case because it is pending in court.

While the meeting was going on in Carroll's office, demonstrators marched outside the Fourth Avenue entrance to the County Courthouse and some black youths wearing black berets marched through the entrance and inside the building.

AFTER the meeting with Carroll, demonstrators met again in the plaza and debated whether to storm Carroll's office or take action later. Black speakers called for storming the office "now . . . now . . . now."

Several speakers referred to Carroll as O'Carroll. One black youth shouted: "We should go in O'Carroll's office and throw that racist dog pig out of there."

Some started toward the building but were headed off by Larry Gossett, Washington-Oregon coordinator for the Black Student Union.

Just before a vote on the next move was taken, Gossett told the gathering a black caucus had been held and it was decided to act later. He said:

"We decided we're going back to the community and run this down to them and try to get more support. We advise you not to move on the man right now. There are not enough of you and he will bust you."

"We're not running. We want to work out some strategy and be better prepared."

The demonstrators pledged to garner support to build a strong defense fund for Dixon.

Figure 83. Article mentioning "five white residents of the central area" calling a press conference decrying "police brutality, abuse of bail, excessive fines and sentences and harassment of the Black Panther Party." *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, August 16, 1968.

Justice Broken Down, Say Central-Area Whites

Five white residents of the central area today called a press conference to "express concern" over what they contend is breakdown of justice for central-area residents.

Contending that there is police brutality, abuse of bail, excessive fines and sentences and harassment of the **Black Panther Party**, they appealed to the mayor, police chief and prosecutor to "bring justice to the central community" by halting the abuses.

PARTICIPATING in the press conference were Morris Young, a salesman; Douglas Palmer, an attorney; Elizabeth Yates, a Garfield High School teacher, and Sheila Bodemer and Frances Padelford, housewives.

"We know the lack of justice to be a threat to both black and white," a statement issued by the group said. "And we also know corrective changes can come about only if the general public recognizes the urgency of the situation."



MORRIS YOUNG

Miss Yates said the public statement resulted from a meeting of about 30 white residents at her home Monday.

"**WE LIVE HERE** and we know there is a lack of justice," Young said. "There is a lack of faith with law enforcement, and order will not return until that faith is restored."

"We need a change of attitude and of conduct on the part of the Police Department," Palmer added.

"We don't justify the violence that has taken place in the area — no one does," Young said in reply to a question.

Figure 84. Article mentioning the shooting of Lewis T. Jackson, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers, by a white man. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, August 17, 1968.

He Was Shot By White Man, Says Negro

Lewis T. Jackson, 21, of 1707 Bellevue Ave., who said he is a member of the **Black Panther Party**, told The Times he was shot by a white man after being followed from the central area early Sunday morning.

From his bed at Harborview County Hospital, Jackson, a Negro from New Orleans, yesterday related these events to reporters:

Jackson and a friend were returning to Jackson's apartment about 5 a. m. Sunday morning. The friend noticed a car following them about a block and a half behind.

Jackson said the shooting occurred after the friend had dropped him off at the Bellevue Avenue address.

He said the car which had been following them waited until his friend drove away, then came speeding up the street.

He said the shot came from the driver, a white man. Jackson did not notice if there were others in the car.

Before the shot, he heard someone shout, "Nigger."

Jackson made his way to his apartment, where he summoned aid. He suffered a fractured rib, collapsed lung and partial paralysis from the wound in the left side of his chest. He was expected to be released from the hospital today.

Jackson said there were no eyewitnesses to the incident as far as he knows.

Figure 85. Article mentioning shooting death of Henry Boyer, Jr., member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, August 27, 1968.

Inquest in Shooting Of Youth Requested

Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll today asked Coroner Leo M. Sowers to call an inquest into the shooting death Friday of Henry Boyer, Jr., 17, of 2961 36th Ave. S.

The inquest will be at 9:30 a. m. Friday in the coroner's offices.

Henry was shot in his home with a .12-gauge shotgun. A man, 54, was arrested. Witnesses said the shooting followed a quarrel.

Funeral services for Henry will be conducted by members of the **Black Panther Party** at 11 a. m. tomorrow

at the Angelus Funeral Home. Burial will be in Mount Pleasant.

Henry was a founding member of the party here.

The funeral home said Henry will be buried in his Panther uniform, which includes a black leather jacket and a black beret.

A eulogy written by party members says in part that "to die by the gun is to die in a state of beautiful blackness and serenity."

"Henry as well as others blazed a trail of black nationalism and self pride," the eulogy says. "Henry died in dignity and freedom."

Henry would have been a senior at Cleveland High School. He had been working this summer at the Queen Anne Branch Post Office.

Henry is survived by his mother, Mrs. Beatrice Davis, Seattle, and his father, Henry Boyer, Detroit, and two half-sisters.

Play Will Help Rumor Center

Thursday night's Ensemble Theater performance of "The Mother of Us All" will benefit the Seattle Rumor Center.

Tickets, at \$3.50, may be reserved by calling the Ru-

Figure 86. Article mentioning jury verdict for death of Henry Boyer, Jr., a member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, August 30, 1968.

Jury Calls Youth's Death 'Justifiable'

The shooting death of Henry Boyer, Jr., 17, was ruled "justifiable homicide" today by a coroner's jury.

Henry was shot to death by Edward McNeal, 54. McNeal testified that the youth repeatedly had threatened he was going to kill McNeal.

"I am going to kill you, I am going to kill you tonight," McNeal quoted the youth as saying the night of the shooting.

TESTIMONY showed that McNeal and Mrs. Beulah Davis, Henry's mother, quarreled before the shooting. McNeal told the jury of four men and two women he had been living with Mrs. Davis for two years.

Henry was a founder of the **Black Panther party** here and would have been a senior at Cleveland High School next month.

"I felt about like he was my own kid," McNeal said, under questioning by John Aitken, deputy prosecutor.

Mrs. Davis and McNeal both testified young Boyer confronted McNeal with the bolt-action rifle and said he was going to kill McNeal.

This occurred in the home at 2961 36th Ave. S. Mrs. Davis said she took her son into a bedroom and closed the door and talked to Henry 20 minutes.

"He told me he would put the gun down, so I let him out," Mrs. Davis said. She said Henry then picked up the gun and fired it at McNeal.

McNEAL SAID the bullet caused a minor wound on his side and that he grabbed a .12-gauge shotgun as Henry ran to another part of the home.

"The gun was pointed right at me," McNeal said, answering a question from Aitken. McNeal said he then fired.

The jury deliberated an hour before returning its verdict.

McNeal has been in the county jail since the shooting. The prosecutor's office will review the verdict and is then expected to order McNeal's release.

Figure 87. Article mentioning jury verdict for death of Henry Boyer, Jr., a member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, August 31, 1968.

Shooting Death Called Justifiable

The shooting death of Henry Boyer, Jr., 17, yesterday was ruled "justifiable homicide" by a coroner's jury.

Henry, who would have started his senior year at Cleveland High School Wednesday, was shot to death August 23 by Edward McNeal, 54.

McNeal testified during the inquest that he had lived with Mrs. Beulah Davis, Henry's mother, two years. He said Henry told him "I am going to kill you, I am going to kill you tonight."

THIS THREAT followed a quarrel between Mrs. Davis and himself, McNeal testified.

The disagreement developed in Mrs. Davis' home, 2861 36th Ave. S., after Henry had returned late and McNeal was preparing to go out, McNeal said.

Mrs. Davis and McNeal both testified young Boyer

threatened McNeal with a bolt-action rifle.

Mrs. Davis said she talked with her son for 20 minutes and that the youth agreed to "put down the gun."

She said Henry then picked up the weapon and fired it at McNeal, McNeal said the bullet inflicted a minor wound on his side.

McNEAL SAID he picked up and loaded a shotgun as Henry ran to another room in the home. McNeal said he followed and found Henry.

"The gun was pointed right at me," McNeal said.

McNeal said he then fired the shot which killed the youth.

Henry was a founding member of the **Black Panther Party** in Seattle.

Deputy Prosecutor John Aitken said the prosecutor's office would review the verdict and probably order McNeal's release from the county jail where he has been held since the shooting.

Figure 88. Article mentioning Rainier Beach High School principal's reaction to armed confrontation by the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, September 09, 1968.

Rainier Beach Unrest Principal Talks to Students

By CONSTANTINE ANGELOS

Education Editor, The Times

"Some of your customary freedoms will be infringed upon," Donald S. Means, principal of Rainier Beach Junior-Senior High School, told the student body this morning as a security task force patrolled the school, inside and outside.

In a 40-minute talk on the school's closed-circuit television system, Means told the youngsters that the task force is to assure parents that the school will be maintained from outside and inside interference.

"We're certainly hoping that this will be a very temporary situation . . . for a few days, maybe this week," Means explained.

PARENTS AT A meeting Saturday demanded that measures be taken after disturbances at the school, fed by rumors of racial unrest, spread through the Rainier Beach community.

After school Wednesday, the first day of school, a 16-year-old white youth beat up a 14-year-old black youth. The older boy was suspended. About 200 white youngsters were drawn to the fight



after school, when the rumor began that about 200 white youngsters had invaded about a dozen Negro youths.

Black Panther Party members appeared at the school during the lunch hour Thursday. They were back Friday afternoon, 8 or 10 carrying rifles, apparently unloaded.

Parents have offered to help patrol the school, but school officials are "determined to leave this in the hands of professional people," Means told the students.

Members of the task force including uniformed police, security officers, Central Area Motivation Program "detached workers," and teachers — "are professional people who have had experience with these things," Means added.

The principal said parents are invited to go to the school as observers.

"It's abnormally quiet this morning. I hope very much it stays that way from now on," Means repeated.

MEANS ASKED the students to discuss the situation in their roll rooms this morning, to look at facts and not rumors. The principal urged the students to write down "anything you know personally or by hearsay, either because you were an eyewitness or it happened to you."

Means said this could help "to isolate the parties causing troubles within our own student body."

The students were informed that for the time being Atlantic Street Park, across the street from the school, is "off limits" during the day and lunch periods and that senior off-campus privileges and the daily "snack break" are canceled.

"No one wants a loss of liberty . . . of freedoms," Means asserted.

"I really don't believe we need action of this magnitude, but if I were to object or protest, I would be accused of minimizing or whitewashing. It's going to take measures of this severity to guarantee security to parents and community."

The principal told the students that their school spirit, their reputation and the future of the school are involved.

"JUST WHO in this building is afraid of whom?" Means asked.

"The person most fright-



Donald S. Means, principal of Rainier Beach Junior-Senior High School, addressed students this morning on the school's closed-circuit television system as two Seattle police officers, part of a security task force, patrolled school hall—Times staff photos by Vic Conditto.

ened should be the seventh- or eighth-grader from a minority background . . . He's the person who should be afraid. Yet, the reaction seems to come from the other side, too. This isn't logical. Less than one half of 1 per cent of the student body is trying to stir disunity."

(The school's enrollment of about 2,800 students includes about 100 black youngsters. About 60 of the blacks are transfer students.)

Plans called for a panel of students to discuss the situation in a telecast this afternoon.

MEANS READ from his official report to the school security office about the arrival of the Black Panther members Friday, some carry rifles.

The principal said that about seven were in his office at one time, that the rifles apparently were unloaded and that they were pointed toward the ceiling. He said a Panther spokesman reported that the Panthers had heard a transfer student had been mistreated in the lunchroom about two hours earlier.

They left by the front door after assurances that no one had been mistreated, as Seattle police officers entered another entrance of the school.

Means said police told him they would make arrests in future cases of disturbing the peace. "I'm sure the peace was disturbed . . . my own peace was," the principal said.

"I'm sure they came in with the rifles for purposes of show, but those things

EARLIER, MEANS said he had been accused by some parents and students of perhaps minimizing the situation.

Conditions changed rapidly, the principal explained. "Things true at one minute were not necessarily true at another," he said.

But he urged the youngsters to beware of rumors. On two occasions the Seattle Rumor Center had reports that "one of our students had been killed," Means noted. He added:

"As far as I know, no students have been seriously injured. I have been called at 11 o'clock at night by the Rumor Center about reports that I had been stabbed and attacked and there wouldn't be school. This was one (rumor) I know was absolutely untrue."

Another was that the principal had been spat upon and a teacher had been hit over the head with a chair.

"Here's where you come into the picture and where your help is needed," Means told the students. "No doubt there have been some confrontations and scuffles and fights among students."

SCHOOL OFFICIALS are not aware of every incident, he pointed out. That is why he asked the youngsters to write things that they had seen and things that had happened to them.

"Were any of you present when the boy was hit Thursday? Was anyone manhandled, verbally threatened . . . had anything taken from him?"

"We're asking quite a bit, but I think it's vital to re-establish the atmosphere with-

Seattle Dentist
On Board For

Figure 89. Article mentioning tighter gun laws as a result of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party's armed confrontation at Rainier Beach High School. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, September 13, 1968.

Tighter Gun Law Sought

Mayor Warns Black Panthers

Mayor Braman today issued a statement warning the Black Panther Party that the city will not tolerate anyone trying to take the law into their own hands.

The mayor, who said that Monday he will ask the City Council to pass a tighter gun-control law as an emergency measure, cited last week's incident at Rainier Beach High School when a group of Black Panthers entered the principal's office with apparently unloaded rifles.

"It has boiled down to about 1 or 2 per cent of our black population causing all our racial troubles," the mayor said. "This cannot be tolerated. I am very proud of the vast majority of our black population for their cooperative attitudes.

"But people who seek trouble are in for trouble."

The mayor said there "are apt to be more guns in evidence unless we act promptly."

The mayor said he has an agreement with Dr. Forbes Bottomly, school superintendent, that no policemen will enter schools unless they are called by school officials.

"We realize that the mere presence of police officers in a school can be disruptive to educational processes. But when police are called, and they do enter a school, they are going to take charge of any trouble situation."

Braman said he wanted to compliment students at Garfield and Rainier Beach High Schools for their desire to work out peaceful solutions to racial tensions.

Police Chief Frank C. Ramon has proposed city legislation making it unlawful to carry or display any weapon in a manner intended to intimidate or annoy another person.

The mayor said Corporation Counsel A. L. Newbould has a draft prepared.

"We believe it will meet court tests, taking into account basic laws dealing

with rights to bear arms," Braman said.

Braman said the Black Panthers have, in effect, been displaying two viewpoints — "one of purportedly seeking to allay racial tensions, and the other of causing serious trouble, such as appearing with guns at a school meeting."

(Black Panther official here cited in bumping of firemen, Page 8. Youth in Panther garb arrested in harassment at grocery, Page 14. Youths in Panther garb visit Roosevelt High School, Page 14.)

Credentials Presented

WARSAW — (UPI) — Walter J. Stoessel, Jr., newly appointed United States ambassador to Poland, presented his credentials yesterday to Polish President Marshal

Transit OK's Improved Service For High Point

The Transit System has agreed to give residents of

Transit patrons, especially those in the High Point pub-

Figure 90. Article mentioning shooting of Welton Butch Armstead, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, October 06, 1968.

Youth Fatally Shot in Struggle With Police

(See Page 6 for photograph.)

Welton Butch Armstead, 17, was wounded fatally by a police officer as they grappled for control of the officer's pistol and the youth's rifle behind 1708 Melrose Ave. at 4:20 p. m. yesterday.

The victim was identified by police.

The officer, Erling J. Buttedahl, said he had fired two shots after twice warning the youth to drop a rifle pointed at the officer.

Buttedahl said that as the youth walked toward him he was muttering something about the officer not having the right to fire the two shots at him.

Buttedahl said he told the youth to stop as the youth held the rifle at his hip and approached the officer. Buttedahl said that as the youth grabbed his pistol and started to push it away, he fired the third shot and grabbed at the rifle.

The shooting incident followed the arrest of two young men, both 21, in a small automobile parked near Melrose Avenue and East Olive Place about 4:10 p. m.

Relatives of the dead youth said he had been in the automobile and had run to a nearby apartment, where he obtained the rifle. Armstead argued with the occupants of

the apartment, then left telling them he had to do it, witnesses said.

Relatives of the dead youth said he had been in the automobile with two other Negroes and ran to a nearby apartment, where he obtained the rifle. Armstead argued with the occupants of the apartment, whom he knew, then left, telling them he had to do it, witnesses said.

An occupant of the apartment at 1707 Bellevue Ave. told police Armstead gave instructions that a pistol be taken to one of the occupants of the car and that he would cover the motorist from the rear.

The youth was seen jumping from the rear of the apartment house into the backyard, where Buttedahl found him.

Police Capt. Frank Moore said numerous police were sent into the area in response to a report that the car, suspected in a robbery in rural King County Tuesday, had been found and one occupant had fled.

Police Officers A. H. O'Brien and Pat Powers saw Armstead in the backyard. When they saw the rifle they dropped back to advise Buttedahl of what they had seen.

Lt. Ken Myers said Buttedahl went to the north side of the building and found the youth as he reached the elevated backyard.

Buttedahl said he ordered the youth to drop the rifle and fired a shot when the youth did not. The youth fled to the opposite corner of the yard behind a small frame building near the apartment house.

The officer said he fired the second shot when he looked around the corner of the small building and saw the rifle pointed at him.

Buttedahl said the youth then emerged and walked toward him with the rifle still pointed ahead. The officer said he ordered the youth three times to drop the rifle, but that the youth only muttered the statement about the officer having no right to shoot at him.

The rifle could not have been fired unless the lever was closed completely, police said.

Coroner Leo M. Sowers said the youth was found about five paces from where he was wounded in the left front of his body. He was pronounced dead at Harborview County Hospital at 4:25 p.m.

Detective Lt. Dick Schoener said the .30-30 rifle in the youth's possession was found with the lever action about one-third open.

"It's impossible to tell for sure if it was in this position at the time he was shot or if it fell open when he fell to the ground," Schoener said.

A live shell was found in the chamber, and another shell was available to be loaded into the chamber, police said.

The youth, a Negro, was dressed in a black leather jacket and tan trousers.

Russian Missile Sites Seen Closer to China

LONDON — (AP) — The Sunday Times here said in its first edition last night that the Soviet Union has set up new missile sites near the Red Chinese border.

It said the sites have ground-to-air missiles with a range of 2,500 to 3,000 miles. They would be able to neutralize China's nuclear test sites in Sinkiang, cover a vast industrial

area in Manchuria, or strike Peking, the capital, only 760 miles away.

The report, attributed to "good sources," said the new Mongolian sites, manned exclusively by Russians, are 200 miles farther east—closer to the Chinese frontier—than are previously reported mobile batteries manned by mixed Mongolian-Russian crews.

Figure 91. Article mentioning inquest into the shooting of Welton Butch Armstead, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, October 07, 1968

Inquest To Be Held In Shooting By Policeman

An inquest will be held at 9:30 a. m. October 15 in the death of **Welton Butch Armstead**, 17, who was shot by a policeman at the rear of an apartment house at 1706 Melrose Ave. about 4:20 p. m. Saturday.

The inquest was scheduled by Coroner Leo M. Sowers at the request of Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll. Inquests always are held in deaths involving policemen. William L. Kinzel, chief criminal deputy prosecutor, was assigned by Carroll to help conduct the inquest, to be held in Sowers' office.

Carroll said that Presiding Superior Court Judge Frank James has agreed to furnish 15 Superior Court jurors from the regular panel. Six will be chosen to make up the inquest jury.

The prosecutor said he also was assigning Neal J. Shulman, assistant chief criminal deputy, to assist Kinzel at the inquest.

Sowers said Armstead died as a result of a wound that pierced his heart and a lung.

POLICE SAID Armstead had been absent without leave from the Green Hill School for Boys, state juvenile correctional institution at Chehalis. Robert Quant, an official of the school, said Armstead disappeared from there July 26 between classes.

Aaron Dixon, Seattle captain of the Black Panther Party, said Armstead was a member of that group. The youth was clad in a leather jacket and beret, Panther garb.

The shooting occurred after several police cars had been sent to the Melrose Avenue area in response to a report that a car believed used in a robbery in King County Tuesday had been sighted.

Police found Armstead in the backyard. Police said Officer Erling J. Buttedahl fired two shots, warning Armstead to drop the rifle he was pointing at him. Buttedahl fired the fatal shot after Armstead failed to heed the warnings and grabbed Buttedahl's pistol and started to push it away, police said.

Detective Sgt. Ivan Beeson said today that Buttedahl's first two shots were fired low and away from Armstead, not directly at him.

THE CAR believed used in the robbery was found in the area. Two Negro men in it were arrested.

Relatives of the slain youth said he also had been in the car and left it to go to a nearby apartment to get the rifle.

Armstead's mother, Mrs. Gladys Mapps, 50, of 8426 3/4th Ave. S., was arrested on a charge of interfering with police after the shooting. Police Sgt. Bob McNeilly said she struck him on an arm with a pop bottle. She was released on \$50 bail.

Lynn Greeley, 23, of 1707 Bellevue Ave., and a girl, 16, were arrested on the same charge.

OFFICIALS of the Black Panther Party today said they will begin circulating petitions door to door in the central area asking for the removal of white policemen from the central area and the decentralization of the police force. The Panthers criticized police conduct in the Armstead shooting.

They said they would present signed petitions to city officials in about a week.

Figure 92. Article mentioning memorial service attended by "about 125 persons, including about 40 whites" for Welton Butch Armstead, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, October 13, 1968



—Times staff photo by Greg Gilbert.

Members of Seattle's Black Panther Party stood in formation at a memorial service yesterday for one of their members. The speaker, center rear, was Aaron Dixon, leader of the party here.

125 Attend Rites for Dead Black Panther

About 125 persons, including about 40 whites, attended an hour-long memorial service last evening for **Welton Butch Armstead**, 17, who was shot to death by a Seattle police officer October 5.

The service was conducted by members of Seattle's Black Panther Party, who say that Armstead was one of their members. Several speakers, in praise of Armstead, said he had given the supreme sacrifice for his people.

"Butch Armstead was beautiful and he was black,

and in 1968 that is an invitation to death," said one speaker.

"YESTERDAY, his death would have been a shadow," the speaker said. "Today it is the voice of black liberation by any means necessary."

Aaron Dixon, captain of the party here, said black people are beginning to realize that "the black revolutionary struggle lies on the backs of the young."

"We have to face the fact that death is inevitable," Dixon added.

Curtis Harris, the party's minister of defense, said it must be remembered that Armstead had "undying love for all black people, for all oppressed people."

Harris and other speakers called Armstead's death murder, Harris said that, as in other instances of blacks being shot by white police, the ruling in the coroner's inquest will be justifiable homicide.

"Which of us will be next?" he asked.

One of the speeches was presented by a tape record-

ing made by a party member from a hospital bed.

"WE HAVE to forget about dying in order to go forward with this revolution," the tape-recorded speech said. "We will go on because his (Armstead's) spirit lives on."

Another speaker urged older black people to support, financially and otherwise, the Black Panther Party.

The memorial service was at the Encore Ballroom, 1214 E. Pike St. Funeral services were held earlier in the day

at the King Street Church of Christ.

The memorial service closed with about 30 members of the party standing at silent attention for three minutes.

Armstead was shot in the back yard of an apartment house at 1706 Melrose Ave. Police say the youth was shot as he ignored a warning to drop a rifle he was pointing at an officer.

An inquest into the shooting has been set for 9:30 a. m. Tuesday in Room 402 of the King County Courthouse.

Figure 93. Article mentioning jury proceedings in shooting death of Welton Butch Armstead, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, October 15, 1968.

'Either He or I Was Going to Get Shot,' Policeman Tells Jury

A Seattle police officer told a coroner's jury today that he shot a Negro youth when it became apparent to him that "either he or I was going to get shot."

The officer, Erling I. Buttedahl, Jr., testified at an inquest held under heavy security on the fourth floor of the County Courthouse.

The shooting victim was **Welton Butch Armstead, 17**, a member of the Black Panther Party. He was shot by Buttedahl in a yard behind an apartment at 1706 Melrose Ave. October 5.

Armstead was "absent without leave" from the Green Hill Training School, state correctional facility near Chehalis. He fled from the school last July.

Buttedahl, 24, told the jury of four women and two men that he had gone to the area after other officers called for assistance. The other officers had arrested two men as suspects in a robbery. A

third suspect had eluded them.

Buttedahl said he helped handcuff the two men and was told that the third had gone into the building at 1706 Melrose Ave. Two other officers came from next to the building and told him there was a man in the backyard with a rifle, Buttedahl said.

The officer said he walked behind the building and saw Armstead about 30 feet away, pointing a rifle at him.

Buttedahl said he told Armstead to drop the weapon. When Armstead failed to do so, Buttedahl fired a shot from his .38-caliber police revolver.

The officer said Armstead fled into a passageway between two buildings. Buttedahl said he ran to the entrance of the passageway and saw Armstead at the other end, again pointing the rifle at him.

Buttedahl said he again told Armstead to drop the weapon and when Armstead failed to do so the officer fired a second shot.

BUTTEDAHL SAID Armstead then began walking out of the passageway, carrying the rifle in his right hand. As the youth emerged, he reached with his left hand for Buttedahl's pistol and began to raise the rifle, the officer said.

It was at this point, Buttedahl said, that he fired the shot that killed Armstead.

Asked why he fired, Buttedahl replied:

"He was bringing up the rifle and I felt that either he or I was going to get shot." Buttedahl said about a minute elapsed between the time he first saw Armstead and the third shot.

After he was shot, Armstead ran past him about five paces and fell face down, Buttedahl said. The officer said he picked up Armstead's rifle and ran to his car to radio for an aid car.

Buttedahl was questioned by William L. Kinzel, deputy chief criminal prosecutor, and Neal J. Shulman, Kinzel's deputy. Gary Gayton represented Armstead's family and Richard J. Glein, an attorney for the Seattle Police Officers Guild, represented Buttedahl.

About 40 police officers patrolled hallways outside

Curtis Harris, outside the hearing room. He was booked in the city jail on a charge of making an obscene gesture at a television photographer who was taking pictures in the hallway. Bail was set at \$50.

AS BUTTEDAHL left the hearing room, several spectators said aloud, "Murderer."

In searching the persons who entered the hearing room, police confiscated a pistol from Johnny Mapps, Armstead's stepfather. Acting Police Capt. John Leitch said Mapps had a permit to carry the weapon, but the pistol was being held until after the inquest.

Mapps was allowed to enter the county commissioner's hearing room and sit beside his wife, Gladys, the dead youth's mother.

The coroner's jury included a Negro woman.

The first witness was Dr. Gale Wilson, chief autopsy surgeon for Coroner Leo M. Sowers.

Dr. Wilson said Armstead suffered a gunshot wound in the left chest. The bullet emerged from the right side of the youth's back. The appearance of the wound indicated Armstead had been shot at close range, Dr. Wilson said.

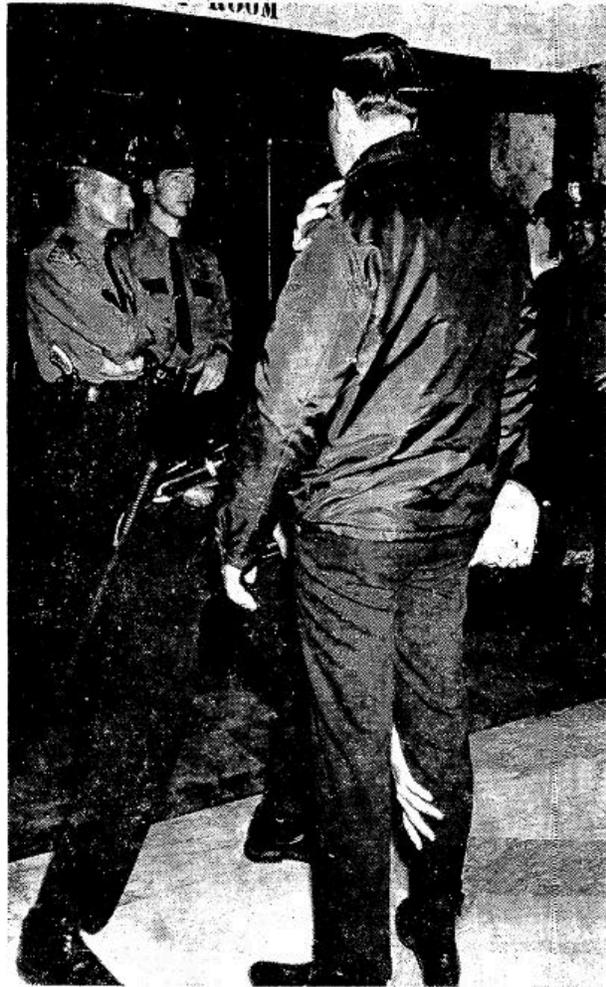
Inquests always are held in deaths involving police officers.

George Thompson, 1711 Bellevue Ave., told the inquest jury he heard "about five shots, then two more."

"**THERE WERE** cops running all over and it was mixed up," Thompson said.

Arley A. Hudson, 1740 Melrose Ave., said he heard no shots but looked out his fourth-floor window and saw Armstead on the ground.

Hudson said he had seen men earlier working on the car Armstead had been in. The witness said he thought the men were repainting the car another color with paint in spray cans.



—Times staff photo by Pete Liddell.
A SPECTATOR WAS SEARCHED AT INQUEST

Seattle Transit System Driver Is Assaulted

Minnell Stuehall, 60, a Seattle Transit System driver, was assaulted in his bus at 15th Avenue South and South Lucile Street about 3 p. m. yesterday.

Stuehall told police he was punched and struck about the face by a youth, 16 to 20, to whom he had refused to issue an "illegal" transfer.

Stuehall reported that when he went to get assistance the youth attempted to drive away in the bus, which rolled back against an automobile.

Man Grabs \$210

A 28-year-old man was arrested after \$210 was snatched from the hand of a Seattle Transit System loader at First Avenue and Pike Street about 4:20 p. m. yesterday.

Police Officers B. K. Gray and T. L. Wilson said the man had \$197 when he was arrested about two hours later.

Fact Sheets on Charter Available

Fact sheets on the proposed county charter are available for distribution, Richard Albrecht, chairman

Copies of the fact sheet have been distributed to all libraries in Seattle and King County. Copies of the fact sheet

Lila Woods, 1855 68th Ave. N. E., Kenmore. Seattle, Central Seattle Community Council, 417 Rai-

Way; Northeast Seattle, Mrs. George C. Gunby, 2540 N. E. 60th St.; Queen Anne, Queen Anne Neighbors, 8 W. D.

Select 1969 Clippings Mentioning "Black Panther Party". Ordered by Date

Figure 94. Article mentioning shooting of "Sidney Miller" [sic], member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, February 04, 1969.

Suspect Charged In Attempted Robbery

Sam Curtis Kline, 28, of 820 15th Ave., was charged yesterday with the attempted robbery December 2 of the 7-11 Store at 8856 35th Ave. S. W. in which one of two suspects was shot fatally by the store owner.

Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll said Kline and **Sidney Miller**, 26, of 1732 18th Ave., attempted to rob the store about 11 a.m. He said the store owner produced a pistol and fired several shots, hitting Miller.

Miller, who was identified as a Black Panther, staggered outside and collapsed in a parking lot. The other suspect fled.

Kline was arrested on another charge, the prosecutor said, and investigation led to the attempted robbery charge.

Justice Court Judge Charles M. Stokes set Kline's bail at \$5,000.

Figure 95. Article mentioning SCBPP member Lewis Jackson charged with robbing the Rainier-Empire Branch of Fidelity Mutual Savings Bank. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, March 11, 1969.

3 Charged With \$22,000 Rainier Bank Robbery

Three men were charged yesterday with the \$22,000 robbery Friday of the Rainier-Empire Branch of Fidelity Mutual Savings Bank.

Lewis Jackson, 21, of 1618 15th Ave. E., was bound over to the Federal Grand jury after a preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner Walter J. Reseburg, Jr.

Dennis Calhoun, 23, of 308 27th Ave. E., arrested at his home early today by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents, was to appear before Reseburg this afternoon.

Willie Brazier, 27, of 139 26th Ave., is being sought by the F. B. I.

Agents also are seeking three unidentified persons in connection with the robbery.

Reseburg continued Jackson's bail at \$20,000, despite an attempt by his attorney, C. T. Hatten, to have it reduced to \$2,500. After the hearing Jackson identified himself as a member of the Black Panther Party.

Jackson was arrested near 34th Avenue South and South Plum Street, where the robbers abandoned their getaway car. It had been chased by police from the bank at 3100 Rainier Ave. S.

Five armed men entered the bank and took money from the vault and two teller's cages.

Mary Elizabeth Enslow, a teller, suffered a minor leg wound from material knocked loose when a robber fired inside the bank.

Figure 96. Article mentioning SCBPP member Lewis Jackson arrested for the March 7th "robbery of the Fidelity Mutual Savings Bank at Rainier Ave & Empire Way (today known as MLK Way). *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, May 10, 1969.

2 'Panthers' Jailed On Federal Writs

Willie Brazier, Jr., of 139 26th Ave. E., and Lewis Jackson, of 1618 15th Ave., both 21, were arrested on federal bench warrants revoking their bail bonds yesterday afternoon.

The arrests were made of the two Black Panthers by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents, J. E. Milnes, special agent in charge here, said.

Brazier and Jackson were free on bail from a bank-robbery charge arising from the March 7 robbery of the Fidelity Mutual Savings Bank, Rainier Avenue South and Empire Way South.

Both are being held in the county jail without bail.

Figure 97. Article mentioning SCBPP member Lewis Jackson found guilty in the "robbing of a Rainier Valley bank of \$30,000". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, October 23, 1969.

2 Found Guilty in Bank Holdup

A jury of nine women and three men which deliberated until 12:30 a. m. today convicted two men of robbing a Rainier Valley bank of \$30,000 last March 7.

The jury, in the court of United States District Judge William G. Dixon, received the case late in the afternoon after Aaron Dixon, leader of the Black Panther Party here, testified that Willie Brazier, one of the defendants, was with him at the time the bank was robbed.

Another defense witness, Frank Tisino, said both he and Lewis Jackson, the second defendant, are members of the Black Panther Party. Tisino said he saw three men run from the Rainier-Empire Branch of the Fidelity Mutual Savings Bank, 3100 Rainier Ave. S., but that Jackson was not one of them.

Prosecution witnesses had testified in the three-day trial that five armed men robbed the bank. The wit-

nesses identified Brazier and Jackson as two of the robbers.

Dixon said Brazier was with him on the University of Washington campus and later at the Black Panther office and that he could not have been involved in the robbery.

Jackson testified that his automobile ran out of gasoline near the bank and that he was walking to a friend's house when he was taken into custody by Seattle police officers searching for the robbers.

No date for sentencing has been set.

5%
**master savings
certificates**

Available in amounts of \$100 or more.
Automatically renewable for five years

Figure 98. Article mentioning SCBPP member Lewis Jackson sentenced to prison. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, November 25, 1969.

Bank Robbers Get 25-Year Terms

Two men convicted of bank robbery were sentenced to 25 years each in prison by United States District Judge William Goodwin here yesterday.

Willie Brazier, Jr., 27, of 139 26th Ave. E.; and Lewis Jackson, 21, of 1618 15th Ave. E., were sentenced to 20-year terms for robbery and to 25-year terms for using a dangerous weapon during the robbery. The terms were set to run concurrently.

They were convicted by a jury last month in Judge Goodwin's court of robbing the Rainier-Empire Branch of the Fidelity Mutual Savings Bank March 7.

The sentences on each charge were the maximum allowed.

Figure 99. Article mentioning Black Panther Party's free clinic "Monday and Thursday from 5:30pm until all patients are seen" at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Sunday, December 14, 1969.

Five Low-Income Neighborhoods Get Free Medical Clinics

By AL DIEFFENBACH
Medical Editor, The Times

Five, free, public medical clinics will be caring for a total of 1,000 patients a month by mid-January, and more than 100 volunteer physicians will be providing the care in the patients' own neighborhoods.

The clinics are at the High Point, Holly Park and Park Lake housing developments, in the Central Area at 473 20th Ave. and at the Open Door, 5012 Roosevelt Way N. E.

The clinics were opened to meet a need for routine, accessible medical care, primarily among low-income groups. Community representatives asked for volunteer medical help from the Seattle unit of the Medical Committee for Human Rights.

Such a request from the community was considered to be the necessary first step toward successful clinics organized and directed by the community residents themselves.

So far, the system has

been working well. The High Point Clinics' 20 volunteer physicians saw 240 patients last month. Park Lake and Holly Park, established later, are expected to reach that level soon.

THE CENTRAL AREA Clinic, founded a few weeks ago by the Black Panther organization, is "working out real well," according to Elmer Dixon, a field lieutenant in the Panther group here.

In the planning stage for about five months, the clinic now is seeking a dental chair

so that a wider variety of

health services can be offered, Dixon said. The older High Point Clinic reached a milestone of sorts recently when it was reimbursed by the State Department of Public Assistance at the rate of \$4 for each office call by a welfare recipient.

Although the D. P. A. pays \$7 for a welfare patient's call to a private physician's office, a spokesman for High Point said, "We're not complaining. We can sure use the income."

The five clinics are able to operate in a somewhat crazy-quilted fashion using volunteer workers, donated quarters, gifts of medicine and agreements for the use of some specialized equipment in nearby hospitals.

Residents of the surrounding neighborhood direct the clinic operations. All except the Open Door have one or two medical-student representatives on an informal group that coordinates the schedules of volunteer doctors.

In addition, the clinics

have formed a cooperative, central clearinghouse for pooling and apportioning supplies.

THE PATIENTS' medical problems continue to range from common colds to relatively serious problems of long-standing, some with complications that result frequently from neglect.

The clinics seek to provide high-quality care in a friendly and informal atmosphere, without long waits and in the patient's home neighborhood.

The clinic locations and their office hours are:

Holly Park, 3120 S. Van Asselt Court, Monday and Thursday from 8 to 9 p.m.; High Point, 6536 32nd Ave. S. W., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:30 p. m. until all patients are seen by a doctor.

Park Lake, 417 S. W. 113th Place, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 p. m.

Sidney Miller (Black Panther) Clinic, 206th Avenue and East Spruce Street, Monday and Thursday from 5:30 p. m. until all patients are seen.

Open Door Clinic, 5012 Roosevelt Way N. E., every evening except Sundays from 7:30 p. m.



Seattle Minister
Gets New Post



Select 1970 Clippings Mentioning "Black Panther Party". Ordered by Date

Figure 100. Article advertising free clothing "10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily" at the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party's Welton Armstead Community Center at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, April 08, 1970.

Free-Clothing Outlets Open

Two free - clothing outlets have been opened by the Black Panther Party here and another is scheduled to open this month, Panther officials said.

The Panthers said the clothing has been donated.

An outlet at the Welton Armstead Community Center, 173 20th Ave., is open from 10 a. m. until 5 p. m. daily. Another, at Neighborhood House, 45 Empire Way S., is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 3:30 p. m. A free-clothing center also is planned for Yesler Terrace.

Figure 101. Article calling for the "immediate suspension" of police officers involved in the shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, May 18, 1970.

Officers' Suspension Urged

By PAUL HENDERSON

Gathered to protest the "indiscriminate shooting of black people by so-called law-enforcement officials," an angry group of blacks called last night for the immediate suspension of two police officers involved in the shotgun death early Friday of Larry Ward, 22.

The demand was made at an outdoor rally at Garfield High School attended by about 300 persons.

THE RESOLUTION, one of seven approved by the group, also called for second-degree-murder charges against officers John R. Hannah and John W. Garner.

Hannah and Garner, tactical-operations officers, said

Ward was shot after he attempted to blow up the Hardcastle Real Estate Co., 24th Avenue and East Union Street, at 2:30 a. m. Friday.

They said Ward ran from the building and ignored two shotgun blasts and orders to halt before he was killed by a third blast in the chest. An inquest into the shooting will be held at 9:30 a. m. Friday in Room 402 of the County Courthouse.

THE GROUP approved a resolution calling for at least half of the inquest jury to be selected from the black community.

Other resolutions called for:

—An investigation by the Justice Department into Ward's death.

—An end to "indiscrimi-

nate shooting of black people by so-called law-enforcement officials."

—An end to the presence of National Guard troops in black communities and on college campuses.

—A city-wide holiday tomorrow in honor of Malcolm X, to be declared by Mayor Wes Uhlman.

More than 10 persons took the microphone, ranging from state representative George Fleming to Black Panther leader Elmer Dixon.

THE SHOOTING of Ward was the central issue. A black attorney, James E. McIver, said the physical evidence does not support the police account of Ward's death.

Leonard Ward, 24, brother of the dead man, called the police account of circumstances leading to the shooting a "fabrication."

"Why would police shoot a bombing suspect who might have told them about where the explosives came from and who was behind them," he asked.

David Llorens, assistant

English professor at the University of Washington, told the crowd that the shooting was not justified whether Ward was "trying to blow up some damn real-estate company or just walking down the street."

Dr. Roland Patterson, Central Area school administrator, told the rally that he had no authority to close Central Area schools tomorrow. He advised residents to make their wishes known to the Central Area School Council. Patterson said there was one other option:

"My advice if you want the schools closed is, don't go."



Committee Criticizes U. W. For Closing Classes Today

The Greater Seattle Sum-

strations

Figure 102. Article mentioning demonstration demanding "suspension of two policemen involved in the fatal shooting of a black, Larry Eugene Ward, in the Central District", a member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, May 19, 1970.

Blacks Demand Ouster of Policemen

About 125 blacks marched on the City Hall today to demand, among other things, the immediate suspension of two policemen involved in the fatal shooting of a black, Larry Eugene Ward, in the Central Area early Friday.

Mayor Wes Uhlman and other officials rejected the demands.

Police said Ward, 22, was shot while fleeing from the Hardcastle Real Estate Co. after attempting to set off dynamite.

At a rally Sunday, a group of blacks demanded the immediate suspension of the two officers, John R. Hannah and John W. Garner, that the two be charged with first-degree murder, and that half of the inquest jury for Ward's inquest be selected by the black community.

The inquest will begin at 9:30 a. m. Friday in Room 402 of the County Courthouse.

The demonstrators gathered today at Garfield High School shortly after 9 a. m. and marched to the City Hall where they gathered at the Fifth Avenue entrance. The door was guarded by a line of police.

Demonstrators, mostly young, taunted officers with chants of "off the pig."

Six blacks went into the City Hall to meet with Mayor Uhlman, Leo Sowers, county inquest officer, Joseph McGavick, administrative assistant to King County Executive John D. Spellman, and Acting Police Chief Frank Moore.

The black delegation included Larry Gossett, of the Black Student Union at the

University of Washington. Michael Ross and Leonard Ward, 24, brother of Larry Ward.

Gossett returned and told the rally that the demands had been rejected.

Gossett said: "If they're not going to give us our representation on the coroner's jury, we're going to have to have our people down here to fill that inquest room."

He repeated an earlier call for a mass black demonstration at the inquest.

He then urged demonstrators to go back to the Central Area. As they left one demonstrator threw an "Off the Pig" sign at one of the officers guarding the door. The officer was not hurt by the light-weight sign.

A gray-haired white woman who had made her way through the crowd at the Fifth Avenue entrance was jostled by a black girl. Some police started to move toward the two but the woman moved on without further incident.

Otherwise, aside from taunts, the demonstration was peaceful.

Sowers told the delegation of blacks that the inquest jury would be selected in the regular way by lot.

The blacks asked Uhlman and Sowers to go out on a City Hall balcony and tell their decisions to the crowd. Both refused and told the representatives to report back to the crowd.

Uhlman said he will not suspend the two officers unless a Police Department investigation shows there is evidence of wrongdoing on their part. The blacks said Sowers'

Car Not Connected With Bomb Attempt, Say Police

Police have identified the owner of a car seen cruising near the Hardcastle Real Estate Co. but have not been able to connect the vehicle with the attempted bombing of the Central Area business Friday.

"Nothing at this point ties that car in with the bombing," said Maj. Neil W. Moloney, chief criminal investigator.

Moloney said officers saw a car with two occupants about a half hour before Larry Eugene Ward, 22, attempted to set off a dynamite bomb at the door of the real-estate firm and then was killed by an officer as he attempted to flee.

method of selecting a jury to whites, a push-button crimes by police against blacks.

Ross, one of the representatives, said Uhlman was letting the Police Department run him instead of him running the department.

Ross said Uhlman, Sowers and Acting Chief Moore were insensitive to the black community.

"Every citizen has been treated to the best of my ability just like every other citizen, and we're going to continue that," Uhlman said. "We're going to continue to treat criminal activity as criminal activity whether it's

perpetrated by a black person, a white person or a green person," the mayor said.

Gossett, another black representative, chided Uhlman.

Uhlman said he would wait for the inquest jury to see if police officers committed a felony in shooting Ward.

McGavick said County Executive Spellman stands behind the inquest-jury selection system.

After the return from the City Hall, about 75 youths gathered in the Garfield High School playground. A few threw rocks at cars passing in 23rd Avenue.

About 20 police moved into the playground, but there was no immediate confrontation.

Figure 103. Article mentioning House Internal Security Committee investigation of "gun purchases, a Black Panther boycott of a [Safeway] supermarket, and assorted attacks and threats against the Seattle bus drivers stopping in front of the Panther headquarters" at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, May 21, 1970.

Black Panthers Guns, Boycott, Threats Discussed at Hearings

WASHINGTON—(UPI)—Aaron Dixon, Seattle Black Panther leader, bought three rifles from a Seattle pawnshop last month, an investigator for the House Internal Security Committee said yesterday.

The investigator, Thomas Q. Simmons, testified Dixon paid \$278 for the three rifles even though his gross income for the month was \$200.

Hearings on the Seattle black militants ended with testimony by Simmons on the gun purchases, a Black Panther boycott of a supermarket, and asserted attacks and threats against the Seattle bus drivers stopping in front of Panther headquarters.

INVESTIGATION of the Black Panthers had included a boycott of a supermarket in Bellevue, Simmons said. He testified Aaron's brother, Elmer Dixon, had sent the store a letter demanding payment of \$100 a week. The boycott followed refusal of store officials to make the payments.

Simmons said the store reported a \$10,000 drop in business during the first week of the boycott, which occurred in the summer of 1969.

He said there had been "threats" to customers and employees of the store and at

one point Aaron Dixon had used a bullhorn to warn customers to get out because "we're going to bomb the store."

THERE WERE no arrests, Simmons said, and the King County prosecutor had decided Dixon's letter had been so cleverly worded, prosecution would be useless.

The committee investigator said repeated threats and assaults on bus drivers who stopped in front of Panther headquarters had resulted in only one arrest. In that case, he said, Aaron Dixon was convicted and fined \$50 for petty larceny after he ripped out a two-way radio in a bus.

Simmons said bullet holes in shop windows and breaking of windows in delivery trucks of the O'Brien Oil Co. ceased in January of this year with the delivery of 100 gallons of fuel oil as a contribution to the Panther headquarters at 173 20th Ave.

The investigator said the oil company office manager reported that the request for the fuel-oil contribution came in four phone calls from a person identifying himself as Aaron Dixon.

SIMMONS ALSO said he had interviewed a mother who had withdrawn her three children from a break-

fast program operated by the Black Panthers at the Atlantic Street Center.

She said she had determined that there was an "unhealthy influence" on her children and that Black Panthers had tried to teach the children to "hate the police."

Simmons said he also interviewed a 12-year-old boy who had taken part in the program. The boy, he said, had reported being told that "it was okay to kill the pigs."

The committee investigator said the boy had not remembered who had made the remark but recognized the names of the Dixons as being associated with the breakfast program.

Harvey Blanks Charged With Assault

A charge of third-degree assault was filed today by Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll against Harvey C. Blanks, a University of Washington student who was suspended from the football team last fall. Neal J. Shulman, assistant

Figure 104. Article mentioning inquest into the shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, May 23, 1970.

Coroner's Inquest Recessed After Dramatic Interruption

By DON HANNULA and
MICHAEL J. PARKS

The coroner's inquest into the fatal police shooting of Larry Ward had to be recessed until Monday after a dramatic interruption yesterday afternoon by an attorney who condemned the inquest system and was wildly cheered.

About 350 persons, mostly blacks, crowded into the courtroom of the presiding Superior Court judge for the inquest into the death of Ward, 22, a black, who police said was shot as he ran from the scene of an attempted dynamiting in the Central Area on May 15.

John Caughlan, long-time controversial Seattle attorney who had no connection with the inquest proceedings, surprised the hearing by lashing out at coroner's inquests as "outmoded" and a "mockery of justice."

Leo Sowers, inquest officer, tried to stop Caughlan's interruption of the proceedings. When he could not control Caughlan nor the cheering audience, he asked the six jury members to leave, then recessed the inquest until 1:30 p. m. Monday in the County Courthouse.

AFTER THE HEARING Sowers said he would refer the Caughlan interruption to Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll for possible action. Sowers said contempt proceedings can be brought in inquests.

Caughlan, 60, a white attorney, whose stormy career included contempt-of-court citations in 1949 and 1950, interrupted the questioning of Sgt. Rodney V. Jackson, explosives investigator for the Seattle Police Department.

Caughlan walked up alongside James E. McIver and Lem Howell, black attorneys representing the Ward family, and declared:

"Mr. Sowers, unless Mr.

McIver and Mr. Howell are given the right of full cross-examination of witnesses, the public is going to know this for what it is — another justified killing . . . of a black man."

IN CORONER'S inquests, the inquest officer and deputy prosecutor are allowed to question witnesses but attorneys for the family of the victim or the police officers must have written questions approved and asked by the inquest officer.

Sowers interrupted Caughlan, asking him to identify himself. Caughlan said: "I am a member of the bar." He later gave his name.

Caughlan said: "There is no excuse for this type of hearing. It is long out of date. This is a mockery of justice."

The audience gave Caughlan a standing ovation, cheered and some shouted: "Right on!"

Caughlan added: "The sole purpose of an inquest is to give the police an opportunity to say why they killed a man — their side of the story."

In an interview later, Caughlan said:

"I came here because I had to say this. Somebody has got to say this. There shouldn't be any coroner's juries. The place to find out if a killing is justified is in a court of law."

ONLY THREE witnesses had been called when the inquest was recessed.

It took until 2 p. m. to select a six-member jury. Thirteen prospective jurors were excused, some with and some without cause. Final makeup of the jury was two black men, two white women and two white men.

Delegations from the black community had requested that at least three members of the jury be black. It takes four jury votes to make a finding.

Earlier in the proceeding, Billy Jackson of the University of Washington Black Student Union rose from the audience to speak and Sowers ordered him to sit down.

Asked why he let Caughlan continue to speak, Sowers said his microphone had gone dead. "I tried to stop him but he continued, so I just recessed," Sowers said. The inquest officer added: "If he comes back, he'll go to jail."

QUESTIONING of Dr. Gale E. Wilson, King County medical examiner, centered on the position of Ward in relation to pursuing police officers when one of them fired the fatal shot.

Dr. Wilson, who conducted the autopsy, testified that two shotgun pellets, entered the upper left chest, causing the fatal wounds.

He said the pellets struck rib bones and virtually merged in a single path, piercing a lung and the base of the heart.

Dr. Wilson also testified two pellets entered the left forearm, one near the wrist. He said it was his opinion those wounds came from the same shotgun charge which resulted in the fatal wounds.

He said there was a wound from a pellet which entered the back of the right shoulder but that this wound was from another shotgun blast. He said there also was a pellet crease on the right elbow.

Police said they fired three shotgun blasts at Ward, one with a slug that missed him and the two others with double-ought pellets (large pellets with nine to a cartridge).

Dr. Wilson, asked whether Ward could have been running or standing still, when the fatal shot was fired, said either was possible.

QUESTIONS by Sowers, relayed from McIver and Howell, sought an explanation from Dr. Wilson on

how Ward was shot in the chest while running from officers and what position his arms were in when the fatal shot was fired.

Dr. Wilson said, in his opinion, the position of the left arm, judging from the wounds on it, was raised with the palm toward the body. He gestured with his own arm, raising it similar to a swinging motion while running.

However, Dr. Wilson did not say definitely whether Ward was running or standing still and turning when struck by the shot that killed him.

Police originally said two officers, in a pursuing police car, were virtually alongside Ward who was running north in 24th Avenue when the fatal shot was fired.

The shot was fired by Officer John Hannah from the back window of an unmarked car driven by Officer John Garner. They had been sent to stake out the Harbucastle Realty Co. at 24th Avenue and East Union Street, which had been bombed April 19.

THE ORIGINAL police report said the two officers saw a young black man place a package in front of the realty-office doorway about 2:30 a. m. That report said the officers saw a flash come from the front of the suspect and they shouted for him to halt.

Benjamin W. Smith, illustrator for the Seattle Police Department crime laboratory, brought diagrams of the area to the inquest.

The third witness was Sgt. Rodney V. Jackson, a member of the police unit which investigates arson and bombings.

He testified the package in front of the realty office contained three sticks of dynamite, a cap and a fuse.

Jackson testified that burnt matches were found next to the package.

(Photo, A 3)

Figure 105. Article mentioning resumption of inquest into the shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, May 25, 1970.

5 Remain On Jury As Inquest Resumes

By DON HANNULA

The coroner's inquest into the fatal shooting by police May 15 of Larry Ward resumed this afternoon in the Seattle Center Rainier Room with about 600 persons in attendance.

Leo Sowers, inquest officer, excused one juror, Terry C. Golden, because Golden's mother was critically ill.

Sowers polled the five remaining jury members to see if they had been prejudiced by an interruption of Friday's opening session by John Caughlan, attorney, who condemned the inquest system.

ALL SAID they had not been influenced. Sowers decided to continue with five jurors.

The inquest was moved from the County Courthouse to the Rainier Room, which has a capacity of about 750 persons. Only about 500 chairs were set up and about 100 persons stood.

Ward, 22, a black Army veteran who was unemployed, was shot fatally by John Hannah, Seattle police officer, shortly after 2:30 a. m. May 15 in 24th Avenue just north of East Union Street.

Police said Ward was shot while running from the scene of an attempted dynamiting of the Hardcastle Realty Co.

THE INQUEST was recessed Friday when Caughlan, who had no connection with the case, interrupted proceedings and called coroner's inquests "outmoded" and a "mockery of justice."

ORIGINALLY police said three shotgun blasts, one from a cartridge with a slug, and the two others cartridges with pellets, were fired at Ward in front of the realty office and as he ran north in 24th Avenue.

Today Lt. Robert DeForrest of the Seattle Police Department Internal Investigations Division said a subsequent investigation by police revealed that four shots were fired. He said all indications were that Ward was struck by two of the shots, both by pellets.

DeForrest was asked if it appeared if any warning shots were fired. He answered: "To the best of my knowledge there were no warning shots." He added: "According to department regulations there are no warning shots."

Earlier Detective Phillip T. Cruse testified that the first shot, the slug, entered a window of the realty office 51½ inches above street level.

Asked if the shots were at the level to kill a standing human, he answered: "I would have to speculate that they possibly were, but that is only my opinion."

Figure 106. Article mentioning police officer's testimony during inquest into the shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, May 26, 1970.

Officer Who Shot Ward Testifies at Inquest

By DON HANNULA and
MARTY LOKEN

Police Officer John R. Hannah, who fired the fatal shot at **Larry Ward** early on the morning of May 15 in the Central Area, took the stand in the coroner's inquest in Ward's death today and testified:

"I yelled to him to freeze — police officers. He then spun on us . . . at that moment I either feared he was going to shoot at us or . . . I didn't know what."

HANNAH was asked by James Jackson Jr., one of two black jurors, "Couldn't that man be kept alive?" Hannah replied: "Yes he could of . . . if he would have stopped."

Hannah was asked by Edward Russell, Jr., the other black juror, if the fact that Ward was black might have influenced the decision to fire at him. Hannah answered:

"It made no difference to

me. I was out to get a bomber, no matter what color he was."

About 400, mostly blacks, were in attendance at the Seattle Center's Rainier Room for the third day of the coroner's inquest into the death of Ward, 22, a black resident of the Central Area who was shot and killed by Officer Hannah shortly after 2:30 a. m. May 15 along 24th Avenue, just north of East Union Street.

Police said Ward was shot running from the attempted bombing of the Hardcastle Real Estate office at 24th Avenue East and East Union Street.

The coroner's jury was called to determine if the killing was justified.

TESTIMONY yesterday revealed a police informant was the driver of the car which took Ward to the bombing scene.

Police witnesses testified they knew in advance — almost to the exact time — an

attempt would be made to bomb a real-estate company. They said the unnamed man who drove Ward to the area was working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Highlights yesterday included:

1. Testimony by Capt. John W. Williams, Police Department intelligence-division commander, that the F. D. I., working with the informant, made three notifications about the bombing at 5 p. m., May 14, that there would be a bombing attempt a confirmation about 11:30 p. m. and word about 2:30 a. m., May 15, that the bombing would be in a few minutes and "the informant might be in the car with the bomber."

The informant was identified as another black man. Police said they never give the names of informants.

2.—Testimony by Lt. Robert DeForeest that only 24 seconds elapsed between the time Hannah and his stake-out partner, John W. Garner, reported Ward was attempting to light the bomb and the time they called for an aid car after he was felled by a shotgun blast.

DeForeest, who investigated the shooting for the Police Department, testified that four shots were fired by Hannah instead of three as originally reported by Hannah.

3.—Testimony by Garner that Hannah fired the fatal shot from a pursuing car while Ward was running in

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JUST ADD UP THE HIGH COST OF DIRT:

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Figure 107. Article mentioning inquest-jury verdict in shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, May 28, 1970.

The Verdict...



EDWARD RUSSELL, JR.
Foreman announced jury's decision

Inquest-Jury Findings Explained

When the jury in the coroner's inquest into the police shooting of Larry Ward returned its finding early today, the majority ruled only that the killing was not justifiable or excusable.

The three jurors who determined that Ward met death by "criminal means" made no finding, though they could have, whether the fatal shooting constituted manslaughter or murder. The two dissenting jurors merely said it was not by criminal means, which made it either excusable or justifiable.

IN INSTRUCTIONS to the jury, excusable homicide, justifiable homicide, manslaughter, second-degree murder and first-degree murder were defined.

The instructions were that manslaughter, second-degree murder and first-degree murder constituted "criminal means" and that justifiable or excusable homicide did not.

It was spelled out that possession of a bomb with intent to use (testimony was given that Ward tried to light three sticks of dynamite at the Harcastle Real Estate Co.) is a felony.

Jurors also were instructed that the law states officers may use all means necessary to effect the arrest of a person in the execution of a felony.

A key instruction said: "Manslaughter is the unintentional killing of a human being done without excuse or justification by a person while engaged in the commission of an unlawful act not amounting to a felony or in doing a lawful act in a negligent manner. It is not necessary to constitute manslaughter that there be an intent to kill."

"Negligence as used in this instruction means the doing of some act which ordinarily careful and prudent police officers, under like circumstances, would not do."

THE JURORS listened to four days of testimony by 19 witnesses, 17 of them police officers, before beginning deliberations last evening.

After all the testimony, they were taken on a tour of the area where Ward was shot. A pot of flowers had been placed on the spot where Ward fell, on the lawn of 1418 24th Ave.

There were two cards on the foreman's table. One said: "To the memory of Larry Ward." The other said: "Larry Ward, your life has not been lived or taken in vain."

Jurors also were taken to the front of the Harcastle Real Estate Co., 24th Avenue and East Union Street, where police testified that Ward placed a three-dynamite-stick bomb and unsuccessfully attempted to light it.

George Ishii, Seattle Police Department criminologist, was the witness. He testified that a microscopic examination made of the bomb's fuse showed there was an attempt to light it.

Ishii also testified that four shots, rather than three as originally reported by Officer John Hannah, were fired. Ishii speculated that Hannah's third, a blast of "00" shot, was the fatal one.

Ishii estimated the fatal shot was fired from a distance of about 60 feet, rather than the 100 feet estimated by Hannah.

WARD'S FATAL wounds entered his left chest, Hannah said. Ward was running and turning toward the pursuing officer when the fatal shot was fired, Hannah testified that he feared Ward was going to fire at him when the youth turned. It was later determined that Ward was unarmed.

Earlier testimony revealed that Ward was driven to the scene by another black man who was working as an informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that the F. B. I. notified police almost the exact time the bombing attempt would be made.

THERE WAS testimony by Hannah that the first shot, a shotgun slug, was fired at Ward after he ignored an order by Hannah's partner, John Garner, to halt. It missed.

Hannah said he fired a second shot, shotgun pellets, as Ward began to run north on 24th Avenue. He said the third and fatal shot was fired while Ward was running on the sidewalk a half-block north of the real-estate office. Hannah said he remembered firing only three shots but could have fired a fourth.

Ishii testified yesterday that Ward probably was struck in the back of his right shoulder by a pellet from the second shot. Ishii said he found blood, though he could not determine if it was Ward's type or even his man, trailing from the real-estate office.

ATTORNEYS for the Ward family asked questions to determine how Ward was shot in the right shoulder when he reportedly was running north and Hannah was firing from Ward's left side.

JURORS also repeatedly questioned why, since officers knew in advance that the bombing was going to take place, preparations could not have been made to capture Ward alive and determine whether he was armed.

Hannah testified that persons committing felonies usually are armed.

Police said they did not want to saturate the area with officers because it would have scared Ward off. All officers involved testified that police regulations were followed at all times.

Moore said the policy clearly upheld the use of a weapon.

The coroner's jury early this morning concluded there was "criminal means" involved in Ward's death.

POLICE officers obviously were angered by the verdict.

Copies of a petition urging work stoppages until there is a new inquest were handed out to officers who reported for work at 7 a. m.

The Police Department switchboard reportedly began receiving a flood of telephone calls expressing support of officer John Hannah, who shot Ward.

An operator at the City Hall switchboard called the office of the chief of police to tell a secretary of the citizens' calls to City Hall.

"They're mad as hell; what do we do with all these calls?" she was quoted as saying.

ultimate verdict of death by criminal means.

At a press conference today Sgt. Pat Murphy, guild president, criticized the manner in which the jurors were selected. He questioned whether the jurors expressed a "fair and impartial judgment."

In a "open letter" to Mr. and Mrs. Seattle, the guild said:

"Under your laws which we enforce, a police officer is obligated to effect the arrest of a fleeing felon by whatever means necessary. There is no question that Larry Ward was twice given the opportunity to surrender — yet he continued to flee after attempting to dynamite a place of business which had once before been bombed."

Chief Cites Rule in Shooting

Amid angry reactions to the inquest verdict in the Larry Ward death, the city's acting police chief today said the officer who fired the fatal shot was acting within the scope of Police Department policy.

Frank Moore cited General Order 123 which, in part, says an officer may discharge a firearm when necessary to effect the arrest or prevent the escape of a felon.

THE ORDER prohibits warning shots and use of firearms in cases not involving felonies.

But it allows an offer to discharge a firearm if he is "virtually certain from evidence that a felony has been committed and the suspect committed it." Bombing is a felony.

The regulation states that, before using a firearm, every other reasonable means of apprehending a suspect must be exhausted.

Officers testified that Ward was shot as he fled, despite shouted police warnings to stop, after a bombing attempt May 15.

Police Guild Expresses 'Frustration, Disgust'

The Seattle Police Officers Guild has expressed "frustration, disgust and bitter anger with the procedures of the inquest which led to the

Pesticide Blamed In Deaths of 51 Cattle

By LYLE BURT
Times Olympia Bureau
OLYMPIA — Use of the wrong pesticide was blamed by the State Agriculture Department today for the death of 51 head of cattle and the illness of a ranch hand in Okanogan County.

mals are sick and may die. The ranch hand has recovered.

Moos said the rancher apparently failed to read instructions on the chemical package which warned that the pesticide was dangerous to humans and animals.

...and the Reaction

Figure 108. Article mentioning police objection to inquest-jury verdict in shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, May 29, 1970.

Police Officers Back Hannah, Will Stay on Duty

By MIKE WYNE

A mass meeting of police officers last night backed Officer John Hannah against an inquest-jury verdict and voted to stay on duty with no change in their approach toward fleeing felons.

The meeting was called as officers reacted angrily to the 3-2 verdict which held that Larry Ward died by "criminal means" when he was shot in the Central Area early May 15 by Hannah.

About 700 officers, including about 50 from outlying law-enforcement agencies as far away as Tacoma, attended the meeting in the Seattle Center Raiser Room, where the final sessions of the inquest were held.

PETITIONS had been circulated in the Seattle Police Department yesterday calling for an immediate work stoppage until a new inquest was held.

During the inquest police testified that Ward, 22, was shot while fleeing from an attempted bombing of the Harcastle Real Estate Co., 24th Avenue and East Union Street, shortly after 2:30 a. m. May 15.

Police officers at the meeting made angry comments about the way the inquest was conducted and its outcome. The final resolution was adopted after Hannah addressed the angry officers, sources reported.

The resolution specified that officers "will take whatever means necessary to stop a bomber, robber or any felon."

Patrick Murphy, president of the Seattle Police Officers Guild, said that the meeting was open to commissioned police officers of any department, not just to members of the guild.

"We would have restricted the voting to guild members if there had been any division," Murphy said. "There just wasn't any opposition to the resolution."

MURPHY SAID that about 3,000 telephone calls had been received by the department indicating support for Officer Hannah and objection to the inquest verdict.

Speakers at the meeting told of other indications of support, including a note found by his parking-control vehicle.

The resolution stated:

"Be it resolved that the Police Guild as a body supports the action taken by Officer John Hannah; that we give notice we will uphold our oath of office and will take whatever means necessary to stop a bomber, robber or any felon; that we will not be intimidated by a so-called inquest or other radical elements, whether they be black or white."

The work-stoppage petitions had described the inquest as being held in "the entertainment center of Seattle Center, with police officers as entertainers."

MURPHY SAID the public now should show the officers it will support them.

Acting Police Chief Frank Moore attended part of the meeting. He said he told the officers he knew they would act like professionals.

The Police Department, he told them, has withstood "bumps" before.

Police service was not interrupted by the meeting.

One veteran officer who attended the meeting said he was surprised and delighted by the attitude of professionalism that was manifest.

Another, younger officer commented: "The resolution is fine, but if Hannah is charged, I'm going off the job."

(Photo: A.3.)

Uhlman Urges Change in Officer's Image

Mayor Wes Uhlman last night called for a change in the image of the policeman from "law enforcer" to "peace officer" who is visible in neighborhoods as a friend and protector.

"Most citizens have only negative contacts with policemen," he told the Seattle Chapter, Retired Officers Association, at the Pier 91 Officers Club.

Police uniform in Seattle agree that "we need a better and more effective police department. . . . And (we) are working toward that goal."

THE MAYOR said the modern police officer is faced with many problems. Like members of the military he finds the public feelings for him are mixed and there are no longer clear-cut

"Change will come, whether we like it or not," he said. "I can only call for people to know change, to try and understand its causes, to distinguish between peaceful, serious change and change for the sake of destruction."

"When 10,000 people march peacefully in the rain to express their opinions about war, senseless killings

HE LAMENTED the fact that the "quiet and prudent voice today is often drowned out."

He also expressed concern about the "false alarm" and "badly distorted" statistics suggesting that law and order have broken down.

"The President's Crime Commission report of 1968 continually stressed thefts and nonviolent crime that

the first quarter of this year, when compared to 1969 levels. Murder was down 52 percent, negligent manslaughter was down 60 percent and robberies of all kinds were down 14 percent."

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Figure 109. Article mentioning attempt to prosecute police officer responsible for shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Saturday, June 13, 1970.

Attorney Seeks Writ To Prosecute Hannah

Lem G. Howell yesterday renewed his attempt to gain prosecution of Seattle Police Officer John Hannah in connection with the shooting death of **Larry Ward**.

Howell, attorney for the Ward family, filed an application for a writ directing Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll to charge Hannah.

Presiding Superior Court Judge Stanley C. Soderland signed an order scheduling a show-cause hearing June 22.

Howell said the laws of the state provide that county prosecutors must prosecute when persons are reasonably suspected of felonies.

Carroll announced earlier last week that there was in-

sufficient evidence to charge the officer.

A coroner's jury ruled in a 3-to-2 decision, that Ward died by "criminal means" when he was shot fatally in the Central Area early May 15. Police said Ward was running from the scene of an attempted bombing of a real-estate office.

Tuesday Judge Soderland denied Howell's application for a writ that would have required Leo M. Sowers, King County inquest officer, to issue a warrant for Hannah's arrest.

The judge ruled that the responsibility for issuing warrants is with the judicial branch of government, not the administrative.

Figure 110. Article mentioning refusal to prosecute police officer responsible for shooting of Larry Ward, member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, June 23, 1970.

Judge Rules

Carroll Can't Be Forced To Charge Policeman

By LARRY BROWN

Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll cannot be forced to file a charge against Seattle Police Officer John Hannah in connection with the shooting death of **Larry Ward**, a visiting judge ruled yesterday.

Superior Court Judge George H. Freese of Adams County said prosecutors have discretionary power.

Lem G. Howell, a lawyer for the Ward family, had filed an application for a writ directing Carroll to charge Hannah.

Howell said the laws of the state provide that county prosecutors must prosecute when persons are reasonably suspected of felonies.

Carroll has announced that there was insufficient evidence to charge the officer.

A coroner's jury on May 29, found in a 3-to-2 decision, that Ward died by "criminal means" when he was shot

fatally in the Central Area early May 15. Police said Ward was running from the scene of an attempted bombing of a real-estate office.

Howell argued that the jury verdict was comparable to a grand-jury indictment, and that Carroll had a duty to file a charge of manslaughter or second-degree murder against the officer.

Judge Freese agreed with William L. Kinzel, chief criminal deputy prosecutor, that a coroner's verdict is advisory only, not binding on the prosecutor.

Because the verdict was split, it was a nullity, the judge said. Criminal trials require a unanimous verdict.

Assuming that the verdict was valid, a magistrate could issue an arrest warrant, Judge Freese said, but once the case got into Superior Court it would not be binding on the prosecutor to charge.

Howell said the split verdict should be interpreted as probable cause that a crime had been committed and sufficient evidence for trying the case in court, rather than as evidence beyond a reasonable doubt.

Kinzel said a prosecutor is required to charge when he "reasonably believes" a crime has been committed, and that investigation of the evidence did not show the shooting was by criminal means.

Earlier this month Presiding Judge Stanley C. Soderland denied Howell's application for a writ that would have required Leo M. Sowers, the officer in charge of the Ward inquest, to issue a warrant for Hannah's arrest.

Judge Soderland ruled that the responsibility of issuing warrants is with the judicial branch of government, not the administrative.

Figure 111. Article mentioning "first day" of a "food bank" to aid needy persons" at the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party's Welton Armstead Community Center at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, July 14, 1970.

New Group Offers Food To Aid Needy

Twenty boxes of food were collected overnight in the first day of a new organization designed as a "food bank" to aid needy persons.

Judy Von Thun, a registered nurse, organized the project over the weekend and has set up four distributing centers to get the food to individuals and families.

Distribution sites have been established at the Red Cross branch office, 1700 E. Yesler Way; the FOCUS-CHOICE Office, 101 14th Ave. E.; Francis House, 1719 E. Yesler Way; Salvation Army, 925 E. Pike St., and the Welton Armstead Community Center, [173 20th Ave.](#)

Figure 112. Article mentioning man "arrested on charge of assaulting a police officer and resisting arrest in front of 173 20th Ave", headquarters of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers. *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, December 23, 1970.

Man charged with assaulting police officer

Malcolm Williams, 23, of 3013 S. Morgan St., was arrested on a charge of assaulting a police officer and resisting arrest in front of [173 20th Ave.](#) at 11:15 p. m. yesterday.

Police said Williams pushed Officer John Garner after Williams' van had blocked traffic. As officers seized Williams and wrestled him to the ground, a youth came from the Black Community Information Center at [173 20th Ave.](#) holding a shotgun and threatening to kill the officers, police said.

The youth was pushed back into the building by another youth.

Figure 113. Article mentioning Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers co-founder, Elmer Dixon, pleading innocent to a charge of "making threats" against a police officer in an incident "in front of Panthers headquarters at 173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, December 31, 1970.

Panther leader pleads innocent to threat charge

Elmer Dixon, 21, a Black Panther Party leader, pleaded innocent in Municipal Court yesterday to a charge of making threats against Police Officer J. W. Garner.

The charge stems from an incident last week in front of Panther headquarters at 173 20th Ave. in which Dixon was accused of displaying a shotgun while threatening the officer.

The incident began with a dispute between officers and another man, whose van had blocked the street.

Dixon's trial was set for February 24. He was released on his recognizance.

Select 1971 Clippings Mentioning "Black Panther Party". Ordered by Date

Figure 114. Article mentioning Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers fail to pay rent debt at 173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, January 28, 1971.

Panther's rent lags; eviction ordered

Superior Court Judge George H. Revelle today granted a motion to evict Elmer Dixon from his Central Area duplex for failure to pay a \$300 rent debt.

Dixon has been active in the Black Panther Party.

The suit was filed by J. Cordell Jackson, a marketing manager who owns the duplex at 173 and 175 20th Ave.

Jackson said he rented the duplex in November of 1969 to Elmer Dixon and his brother, Aaron, for \$200 a month with an oral understanding it would be used only for residential purposes.

The rent later was reduced to \$175 a month. Jackson said he later learned that the property also was being used as a political headquarters.

When Jackson last visited the duplex in September, he

found that doors had been reinforced with boards, there was chicken wire on the windows and sand bags stacked across the living room.

Jackson said it will cost him "a tremendous amount of money" to restore the duplex.

Elmer Dixon was served October 30 with a notice to vacate the residence effective December 14. He, his brother, and their wives have continued to occupy the duplex.

Princess travels

LONDON — (AP)— Princess Margaret flew to Barbados today to join her husband, Lord Snowdon, for a month's Caribbean vacation. Lord Snowdon flew to Barbados last week to convalesce after minor surgery.

Figure 115. Washington State Department of Health Certificate of Death for Alfred V. Postell Jr., whose name is memorialized on the People's Wall.

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
 8358
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DECEASED
 NAME: ALFRED V. POSTELL JR. SEX: Male
 AGE: 26 DATE OF BIRTH: 2-9-1945
 PLACE OF BIRTH: Seattle, King
 OCCUPATION: Scaler
 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: 453-70-7260
 COUNTY: King
 CITY/TOWN: Seattle

PARENTS
 NAME: Alfred V. Postell Sr. MRS. Ella L. Slaughter
 ADDRESS: 100 Duane St., Seattle, Wash. 98108

CAUSE
 DEATH WAS CAUSED BY:
 1. PNEUMONIA
 2. GENERALIZED PERITONITIS
 3. PUNCIATING GUNSHOT WOUND OF ABDOMEN
 DATE OF DEATH: 4/23/71
 TIME OF DEATH: 10:00 P

ACCIDENT
 HOW INJURY OCCURRED: Shot with handgun.
 LOCATION: 5708 E. Olive St., Seattle, King Co., Wash.

CERTIFIED
 BY: Gail S. Wilson, M.D.
 DATE: 4/26/71

BURIAL
 PLACE: Los Angeles, California
 DATE: APR 27 1971

Figure 116. Article mentioning lawsuits dropped against the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers for not paying rent at 173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, April 07, 1971.

Lawsuits to evict Dixons are dropped

Lawsuits that sought to evict Elmer and Aaron Dixon from their Central Area duplex, for failure to pay rent, have been dropped.

Robert H. Larson, lawyer for J. Cordell Jackson, a marketing manager who owns the duplex at 173 and 175 20th Ave., said nearly all the back rent has been paid since the court actions were filed.

The Dixons have been active in the **Black Panther Party**, Jackson testified that he rented the duplex with the understanding it would be used only for residential purposes, but he learned later that it also was used as a political headquarters.

Jackson said the brothers had owed about \$300 in rent.

Figure 117. Article mentioning warrant issued for Aaron Dixon, captain of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party, for failing to appear in Municipal Court for a "trial on charges of hindering a policeman". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, May 27, 1971.

Warrant issued for Panther leader

A bench warrant was issued yesterday for the arrest of Aaron L. Dixon after the Black Panther leader failed to appear in Municipal Court yesterday afternoon for trial on charges of hindering a policeman. Dixon, 22, of 173 20th Ave. was arrested February 16 when police stopped a car at 23rd Avenue and East Alder St. after a high-speed chase. The driver was cited for numerous traffic violations. Police charged that Dixon, a passenger in the car, he came belligerent and attempted to interfere with the arrest. Dixon had been free on \$250 bond. Bail on the failure to appear charge was set at \$1,500.

Figure 118. Article mentioning Aaron Dixon is sentenced to 90 days in jail for "hindering Seattle police officers". *Seattle Daily Times*, Wednesday, June 16, 1971.

Panther leader sentenced

Aaron Dixon, 22, Seattle Black Panther Party leader, yesterday was sentenced to 90 days in jail, suspended, and placed on probation for one year for hindering Seattle police officers attempting to make an arrest February 16.

Dixon was found guilty June 2 of interfering with policemen who were attempting to arrest a motorist in the Central Area after a chase.

The sentence was imposed by Municipal Court Judge Patrick T. Corbett.

Select 1972 to 1979 Clippings Mentioning "Black Panther Party". Ordered by Date

Figure 119. Article mentioning gas company gave information to the FBI about Black Panther Party at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Monday, July 23, 1973.

Gas company gave F.B.I. information on two customers

The Washington Natural Gas Co. assisted the Federal Bureau of Investigation three years ago in an investigation by giving confidential financial information about two Seattle customers, but a company attorney said today it has never been the firm's policy to give out such information without a court order.

The firm released information to the F. B. I. in 1970 and 1971 concerning the Black Panther headquarters and the home of one of its officers following a request from the F. B. I., signed by J. E. Milnes, special agent in charge here.

Robert Tomlinson, on-house counsel for Washington Natural Gas and secretary of the firm, said today he was not sure why the exception was made in releasing the information concerning the two residences occupied by Elmer Dixon and his brother, Aaron, and others active in the Black Panther Party.

TOMLINSON, who was not with the firm at that time, said, "It might have been because the company already was involved in litigation in Superior Court with the Dixons."
The litigation pertained to meters the gas company contended were stolen.
The F. B. I. had asked for information regarding hous-

es at 173 20th Ave and 616 26th Ave. E., including the name of the individual applying for gas service, the amount of the bills, the amount paid or owing and the identity of the persons making payment and the method of payment.

Tomlinson said the information might have been given to the F. B. I. "in the spirit of cooperation."

MILNES SAID today that his July 15, 1970, letter to the gas company requesting information was "in connection with an official investigation being made by the F. B. I., dealing with a matter within its investigative jurisdiction."

Milnes would not comment further.

F. P. Hayes, an assistant attorney general assigned to the State Utilities and Transportation Commission, said the state statutes on utilities are silent on whether information about customers may or may not be released.



Figure 120. Article mentioning utility companies such as Seattle City Light, Pacific Northwest Bell and Washington Natural Gas Co. gave information to the FBI about Black Panther Party at "173 20th Ave". Article about Black Panther Party activity at "173 20th Ave". *Seattle Daily Times*, Thursday, July 26, 1973.

To F. B. I. City supplies Panther data

By RICK ZAHLER
The Federal Bureau of Investigation received assistance from one city utility in a 1970 investigation of the Black Panther Party, and probably would have been given information by a second if it had asked, city lighting and water superintendents said yesterday.
Gordon Vickery, City Light superintendent, said the F. B. I. requested and received information in 1970 regarding customers at two addresses, 173 20th Ave. and 616 26th Ave. E. Both were Black Panther Party

headquarters at the time, occupied by Elmer and Aaron Dixon.
"We told them who resided there and the status of the account," Vickery said. "This was a onetime thing, and we did not make an investigation ourselves."
Kenneth Lowthian, superintendent of the city water department, said, "As far as I can tell, they (the F. B. I.) did not approach the department for information."
He said customer information is generally considered confidential, but added, "If a legitimate organization, such as the F. B. I.

or police department, asked for it, we would probably make it available."
TWO private utilities — Pacific Northwest Bell and the Washington Natural Gas Co.—have said they provided the F. B. I. with information regarding customers at the addresses.
Robert Tomlinson, counsel for the gas company, said the information provided in 1970 and 1971 included customer names, the status of the account, the identity of persons making payment and the method of payment.

Howard Woodworth, public-information manager for the telephone company, said the firm can make disclosures to law-enforcement agencies if ordered to do so by a court "or on demand of other lawful authority."
Pacific Northwest Bell provided names, addresses and telephone numbers "and things like that" to the F. B. I. during the investigation, he said.
BOTH VICKERY and Lowthian said the only information available to law-enforcement agencies from

a city utility would be the customer's name and the status of his account.
"We simply don't have anything like credit information available," Lowthian said.
Chuck Rowell, another telephone-company information officer, said his firm could provide more detailed billing information, such as records of long-distance calls, if it was requested to do so "through a lawful procedure."
A non-court ordered request by an agency head would be considered a law-

ful procedure, he said, although the telephone company has discretion in such cases.
"There is a judgment factor involved," Rowell said. "If there is any question in our mind about a lawful need for the information, we can go back to the agency and make sure they justify the request."
He said a plain request for information on a customer's name and telephone number is not normally considered sensitive enough to warrant such double-checking.

Figure 121. Article mentioning "array of community service programs" operated by the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Friday, November 21, 1975.

Their claws are sheathed, but Black Panthers continue work

By LEE MORIWAKI

A national news magazine once wrote that the Black Panthers came across as the "bad niggers of white America's nightmares." Indeed, the public may long remember the Panthers for their guns and militant rhetoric.

But there is another, less publicized side of the party that seems to transcend bullets and bombast.

In Seattle, as elsewhere in the country, the Black Panther Party is engaged in an array of community-service programs ranging from free breakfasts for school children to bus rides for prison visitors.

The Panthers, who at one time openly brandished rifles and dressed in black berets and leather jackets, have maintained such a low profile here recently that when a law-enforcement officer was asked to comment on the party, he replied:

"Quite frankly . . . Sheez, it's been so long since I've heard anything about them . . . I haven't heard any-

one even mention them in so long it's pathetic."

THE PANTHERS still are around, operating out of the Sydney Miller People's Free Medical Clinic at 169 19th Ave.

Miller was the 26-year-old Panther shot to death in 1968 during an attempted robbery of a West Seattle grocery.

The party coordinator in Seattle is soft-spoken Elmer Dixon, 25, who says he isn't surprised at the public's obliviousness to the Panthers' present activities.

"The press seems to have been ignoring our activities because there's nothing inflammatory to report about. The types of things we're doing now — organizing and unifying the community — I don't think they're too much interested in that," he said.

The Black Panther Party was back in the news this week with the return to the United States of Eldridge Cleaver, the one-time Panther

information-director-turned-fugitive.

David DuBois, the Panthers' official spokesman in Oakland, said in a telephone interview that Cleaver's return is "not of great importance" to the party. Cleaver was expelled from the party in 1971, DuBois said.

WHILE CLEAVER has at least temporarily captured the public's attention, the Panthers are, without fanfare, continuing to go about their business of building what they see as a more humane society in America today.

Although the Panthers still draw suspicion from law enforcement, Maj. Charles R. Connery, head of the Seattle Police Department's inspection-services division, which includes intelligence operations, said cautiously:

"It appears to us that the Panthers are working very hard to change their public image and to take a different approach."

"If the Panthers have in fact decided to work in a lawful manner, I'm all for them." He emphasized the word "if."

Mike Shanahan, chief of the University of Washington police, said his department has received complaints from time to time regarding the Panthers' soliciting of money on campus to support their breakfast program.

SHANAHAN ADDED, however, that the complaints were "unsubstantiated" and "very sporadic."

"You have to realize that there are people who will feel intimidated by individuals saying they are from the Black Panther Party and are asking for contributions—or from any other high-profile group associated with campus or social issues," Shanahan said.

He said that his department gets complaints involving "everything from magazine salesmen in the dormitories to itinerant preachers on campus."

(Other details, A 16.)

City Council debates rules on final budget voting

The City Council, minus two members, argued today over rules for final voting on the 1976 budget and prepared to possibly meet through the night to finish budget work.

Upset over the absence of Council President Sam Smith and Councilman Wayne Larkin, the seven members present finally agreed to a motion by Councilman John Miller that only a majority of those present was needed to approve or defeat motions to reconsider budget votes made this week.

Council members Randy Revelle and Phyllis Lamphere wanted to

take into account the way Smith and Larkin had voted. But Councilmen Paul Kraabel and Miller argued that would give Smith and Larkin votes by proxy.

Larkin returned to City Hall about 2:30 p.m., however, after having been gone all day at an Association of Washington Cities meeting. Smith has left Seattle en route to Miami.

The Council members listed about 100 items to be reconsidered, including the vote earlier this week to abolish the police horse patrol.

(Earlier details, A 8.)

Figure 122. Article mentioning Carolyn Downs, "a young black women who died of cancer last summer"; Downs was a member of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party. *Seattle Daily Times*, Tuesday, February 20, 1979.

Black militants put energy in kids now

by SUSAN GILMORE
Times staff reporter

Billy Williams eats breakfast out, and it doesn't cost him a cent.

The menu may lack the variety of a ritzy eatery, and customers often must bolt down the meal to beat the school bell.

But, sponsors maintain, the breakfasts are hot, nutritious and a good investment.

Billy, 7, is one of several hundred schoolchildren who start their days with a full stomach, courtesy of the Sydney Miller Free Clinic. This month the free-breakfast program is celebrating its 10th anniversary feeding kids in South, West and Central Seattle.

The program began in February, 1969, under the umbrella of the Black Panther Party. The party here has since shed its name and its militant image, but the breakfasts are still going strong.

The commitment to provide a hot breakfast for schoolchildren continued after the Black Panthers disbanded here two years ago and regrouped under the clinic's name, said Elmer Dixon, the clinic director and former Black Panther.

Since the first breakfast was served at the Madrona Community Church 10 years ago, Dixon estimates 300,000 schoolchildren have started their days with a hot meal.



Billy Williams, 7, bit into an orange.

"We originally started the breakfast program because kids in low-income neighborhoods were not getting nutritious meals — or any meals at all — before school," Dixon said. "Kids just don't do well in school without food."

Now, volunteers flip pancakes and fry eggs for their young customers at five places in Seattle: the Atlantic Street Center, the Yesler Terrace Project, Rainier Vista Project, Holly Park Project and High Point Project.

Dixon said 800 to 1,000 breakfasts are served each week. This is less than last year's peak because of problems finding volunteer cooks and because the new mandatory-busing schedule often conflicts with the 7:30-to-9 a.m. mealtime.

"We try to provide a hot, nutritious breakfast every morning," Dixon said. He said volunteers serve eggs or pancakes, juice and fruit — but no meat.

"We don't serve meat because of the additives," he said. Dixon said it costs about \$1.35 to feed each child. The money comes from private donations; the cooks are all volunteers.

Since inaugurating the free breakfasts, the Black Panther-Sydney Miller Clinic has jumped into other programs geared primarily for Central Area residents.

Each Wednesday the clinic distributes more than 50 bags of groceries to hungry area residents. On Saturdays through Mondays the clinic offers free

busing to Western Washington prisons so families without transportation can visit inmates.

The Sydney Miller Health Clinic, which closed its doors two years ago to "reorganize," Dixon said, will reopen later this month in new quarters.

Called the Carolyn Downs Family Health Center, after a young black woman who died of cancer last summer, the new clinic will employ two half-time doctors, a full-time practitioner and five Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) workers.

The center is part of a five-clinic consortium in Seattle funded in part under a grant from the National Health Services Corp.

Dixon said his group bought the new clinic building on the corner of 34th Avenue and East Union Street after Homer Bergren, a Seattle businessman, donated \$13,000 for the down payment.

Dixon said the clinic will offer examinations, child care and an eye clinic. He said there will be no billing system — patients pay what they can afford.

"Our main emphasis will be on preventative health care," Dixon said. "We find the highest cost of health care is emergency care. Blacks and low-income people are crisis-oriented. They wait until an emergency to see a doctor."

Figure 123. Article from Black-owned Seattle newspaper *The Facts* (Week of May 11, 1972 to May 17, 1972), reporting on the arrest of national Black Panther Party leader Huey P. Newton in Oakland, California.

Newton in trouble again

Three cheers for a job well done!

Dry cleaning, it is!

ILT EDGE CLEANERS
657 South Jackson
MA3-7532

OAKLAND, Calif. — Black Panther Leader Huey P. Newton was arrested with his bodyguard late Thursday on misdemeanor charges involving assault.

The 30-year-old Panther Party co-founder was arrested along with Robert L. Bay, 28, in the garage at Newton's plush apartment overlooking Lake Merritt.

They were arrested on a warrant, sworn out by Marion Scott, a disc jockey for Radio Station KDIA. Scott said Newton and Bay beat him April 16 during an argument at the Rainbow Lounge.

Newton, leaving the City Jail after posting \$750 bail, said 15 policemen "pushed me around," when the arrests was made. He said he was "outraged" at the Police Dept, which he said had a "personal vendetta" against him. Bay was released on \$1,250 bail.

"None of this was necessary," said Newton, who was tried three times for the slaying of Oakland Police Officer John Frey in 1967.

He was convicted on manslaughter and served 18 months before an Appellate Court ordered a new trial on a judicial error. The last two trials ended in hung juries and the prosecutor decided against a fourth trial.



Figure 124. Advertisement in Black-owned Seattle newspaper *The Facts* (Week of May 11, 1972 to May 17, 1972) for a Seattle event with national Black Panther Party chairman and co-founder, Bobby Seale, to be held May 16, 1972 at the University of Washington.

**Black Panthers Co Sponsor
To Speak In Seattle**

BOBBY SEALE



Bobby Seale, Chairman and Co-founder of the Black Panther Party, defendant in the Chicago Conspiracy case, and author of the book *Seize the Time*, will be appearing at:

Place: University of Washington HEC Edmondson Pavilion
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 1972
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Ticket Prices: \$.75 ASUW Students; \$1.00 Non-ASUW
Ticket Outlets: University of Washington, HUB Ticket Office
Campus Music (4208 University Way N.E.)
Washington House of Sound (2202 East Union)

Chairman Bobby will be speaking on the general topic of "Community Survival Programs." This event will be open to the public and proceeds will go to benefit the University of Washington EOP Scholarship Fund.

Sponsors: Associated Students University of Washington
Graduate and Professional Student Senate
Black Student Union

For further information contact:
Tony Orange, Student Activities Advisor
Student Activities Office - 207 HUB
Phone: 543-2380

Figure 125. Article from Black-owned Seattle newspaper *The Facts* (Week of February 17, 1972 to February 23, 1972), reporting on Black Panther Party leader Huey P. Newton in Oakland, California.



Figure 126. The Ten-Point Program, a set of guidelines written by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale in 1966 for the Black Panther Party:

- 1. We want freedom.** We want power to determine the destiny of our black and oppressed communities. We believe that black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions which exist in our communities.
- 2. We want full employment for our people.** We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every person employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the American businessmen will not give full employment, then the technology and means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all of its people and give a high standard of living.
- 3. We want an end to the robbery by the capitalist of our black and oppressed communities.** We believe that this racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules were promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of black people. We will accept the payment in currency which will be distributed to our many communities. The Germans murdered 6,000,000 Jews. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over 50,000,000 black people; therefore, we feel this is a modest demand that we make.
- 4. We want decent housing, fit for the shelter of human beings.** We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then the housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people in our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people.

5. We want education for our people that exposes the true nature of this decadent American society. We want education that teaches us our true history and our role in the present-day society.

We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self. If you do not have knowledge of yourself and your position in the society and the world, then you will have little chance to know anything else.

6. We Want All Black Men To Be Exempt From Military Service.

We believe that Black people should not be forced to fight in the military service to defend a racist government that does not protect us. We will not fight and kill other people of color in the world who, like Black people, are being victimized by the White racist government of America. We will protect ourselves from the force and violence of the racist police and the racist military by whatever means necessary.

(Alternate:) We want completely free health care for all black and oppressed people.

We believe that the government must provide, free of charge, for the people, health facilities which will not only treat our illnesses, most of which have come about as a result of our oppression, but which will also develop preventative medical programs to guarantee our future survival. We believe that mass health education and research programs must be developed to give all black and oppressed people access to advanced scientific and medical information, so we may provide ourselves with proper medical attention and care.

7. We want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of black people, other people of color, all oppressed people inside the United States.

We believe that the racist and fascist government of the United States uses its domestic enforcement agencies to carry out its program of oppression against black people, other people of color and poor people inside the United States. We believe it is our right, therefore, to defend ourselves against such armed forces, and that all black and oppressed people should be armed for self-defense of our homes and communities against these fascist police forces.

8. We Want Freedom For All Black Men Held In Federal, State, County And City Prisons And Jails.

We believe that all Black people should be released from the many jails and prisons because they have not received a fair and impartial trial.

(Alternate:) We want an immediate end to all wars of aggression.

We believe that the various conflicts which exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desires of the U.S. ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the U.S. government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars that it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressors.

9. We want freedom for all black and poor oppressed people now held in U.S. federal, state, county, city and military prisons and jails. We want trials by a jury of peers for all persons charged with so-called crimes under the laws of this country.

We believe that the many black and poor oppressed people now held in U.S. prisons and jails have not received fair and impartial trials under a racist and fascist judicial system and should be free from incarceration. We believe in the ultimate elimination of all wretched, inhuman penal institutions, because the masses of men and women imprisoned inside the United States or by the U.S. military are the victims of oppressive conditions which are the real cause of their imprisonment. We believe that when persons are brought to trial that they must be guaranteed, by the United States, juries of their peers, attorneys of their choice and freedom from imprisonment while awaiting trials.

10. We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice, peace and people's community control of modern technology.

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

Figure 127. Elmer and Aaron Dixon standing at the People's Wall, date unknown ([Instagram @SeattleSpectator](#), March 9, 2026; Photo courtesy Aaron and Elmer Dixon)

