

6-25-67

On June 25, 1967 at 7:30pm, this date, a meeting was held in the conference room of the Chief's office. In attendance was Chief H.T. Jenkins, Lieutenants Dixon, Shattles and Wright; Reverends J.E. Boone, J.C. Ward, Robert Robinson, M.L. King Sr., others were Malcolm J. Dean, of the Atlanta University, Fred C. Burnette of the SCLC, W.Z. Miller, Robert Lee Baynes, Harcourt Klinefelter, W. Harris Jr., T.L. Smith, Esberry Fields and Attorney Hollowell.

The meeting began with Rev. Boone requesting that the following be looked into:

1. That police brutality and discourteousness be ended
2. That a minimum of 50 Negroes be hired to the department
3. That an up-grading of policemen be brought into being (Negro policeman)
4. That Negroes be included in the interviewing staff
5. That the police department be integrated
6. That both Negro and White men be sent to the Athens police academy
7. That a panel be selected to determine the fitness of an applicant
8. That trained men be placed on a riot squad

Rev Boone stated that he represented the concerned citizens of Atlanta and felt that he thought the officers should be more diciplined and also felt that there was a lack of restraint on their part. He stated if something was done about police brutality, no riots would ensue.

Rev Ward made comments on this and raised a question of what would be done if it was known that a group of officers had brutally beat and threatened a person. The chief stated that if he found out of such, the officer would be released from the force immediately.

Attorney Hollowell pointed out that only qualified men should be appointed to serve on the police department. He wanted to know the training and the qualifications of an officer, which he was told by the Chief.

Rev Ward again spoke on why one white officer and one colored officer couldn't ride in the car together. The Chief stated he was not against such an idea and that it was happening everyday.

The Rev. M.L. King Sr. spoke at this time stating that he had very seldom saw any Negro policemen riding a 3-wheel motorcycle. He stated that the Negro people wanted to see this and would not stop until they did.

At this point, a discussion was lead by Rev. Ward. The whole conversation was centered around integration of the police department. The Chief stated he would look into the matter, and for them to send him a copy of the 8 points.

The meeting was drawn to a close at 10PM.

Respectfully

Mrs. Linda Tucker