

## 1034 SUBVERSIVE INFLUENCES IN RIOTS, LOOTING, AND BURNING

Upon legal counsel received by Mr. Callender, we were informed that the best way that the Bronx chapter could redress its grievances would be to make a civilian arrest upon the mayor. We went down to the mayor's office and attempted a "citizen's" arrest, and at that time Mr. Callender was arrested by the New York City Police Department.

Mr. SMITH. Were you arrested as a result of this attempt?

Mr. WOOD. Yes, sir, I was.

Mr. SMITH. What activities were you engaged in during the Harlem riot of 1964?

Mr. WOOD. Well, sir, actually I was told by CORE to act as a liaison between the various CORE chapters. Our particular purpose was to coordinate demonstrations carried on throughout the city of New York during these particular riots. The purpose of this committee was twofold. Number one, it was to draw the New York City policemen out of the Harlem riot area and, secondly, it was to, an attempt to weaken the powers of the New York City Police Department by dispersing its forces.

Mr. SMITH. In addition to CORE, were you affiliated with the Freedom Now Party?

Mr. WOOD. Yes, sir, I was.

Mr. SMITH. Did you subsequently meet a man named Robert Collier?

Mr. WOOD. Yes, I did.

Mr. SMITH. How did you make contact with him?

Mr. WOOD. On December 14, 1964, I attended a rally upon the suggestion of my superiors at the Manhattan Center, which is located on 34th Street in New York City. While I was there I met Mr. Paul Boutelle, who invited me to take a seat with him during this particular rally. At the conclusion of the rally I was invited by Mr. Boutelle to meet one Robert Collier.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, for the record, Paul Boutelle is a member of the Socialist Workers Party and has been designated as their candidate for Vice President of the United States in 1968.

Permission is requested to introduce into the record as Exhibit 2 an article by Mr. Paul Boutelle in the Socialist Workers Party official publication, *The Militant*, for Monday, May 24, 1965, titled, 'Why I Joined the Socialist Workers Party.'

The CHAIRMAN. Permission is so granted.

(Document marked "Wood Exhibit No. 2," appears on pp. 1035 and 1036.)

Mr. SMITH. Could you describe Freedom Now Party for us?

Mr. WOOD. According to Mr. Boutelle, the Freedom Now Party's central headquarters was located in Detroit, Michigan. The purpose of this particular organization, it was to serve as a political organization whereby so-called members who felt that they had no means of getting into the regular course or the regular stream of political life in America, this would be their means of getting into the stream.

Mr. SMITH. Did you have any further contact with Collier?

Mr. WOOD. Yes, sir, I did. I met Mr. Collier again on December 15, 1964, at a local rallying point or ballroom up in Harlem. The name of it is the Renaissance Ballroom. While I was there, Mr. Collier spotted me as I was coming in the door, and we had a brief conversation.

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WOOD EXHIBIT No. 2

THE MILITANT

Monday, May 24, 1963

A Harlem Rights Fighter's Decision

Why I Joined the Socialist Workers Party

By Paul Boutelle

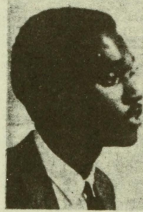
Since I have now decided to become part of the international socialist movement, I feel that briefly outlining my political development may help others to see that a world socialist revolution will free all mankind from many of the ills that now infect the world.

I was born 30 years ago in Harlem Hospital, New York City. My formal education was in the local elementary schools until 1950, when I attended Commerce High School for one year. At the age of 16, after ten boring years of school, I quit. I have no regrets at this time over that decision. When I started to acquire a real education in my early twenties, I did not have that much insidious brainwashing to get out of my mind.

The curriculum of the public schools I attended included such racist gems as "Little Black Sambo," "Dick and Jane" with their white middle-class suburban background, a white racist slaveowner "George Washington" who I was told is the father of "our" country and freed his slaves in his will. Also I was taught to sing the standard insidious nonsense, "My Country 'Tis of Thee," "America the Beautiful," "The Star Spangled Banner" and to recite that vicious lie, "The Pledge of Allegiance" about "liberty and justice for all."

To dissect and analyze the so-called system of education in America, which actually is a system of mass indoctrination, would be a vast task in itself. Let it suffice to say that I discovered that the main functions of the American school system, the entire mass media of communication, the world of entertainment and the churches are the teaching of the unshaky trinity: Christianity, Capitalism and Caucasianism, and attempting to persuade all Americans to judge everything from those points of view.

My godfather introduced me to some of the works of J.A. Rogers



PAUL BOUTELLE, Born 30 years ago in Harlem. Attended public schools until age of 16. Worked at many occupations including truck driver, gardener and salesman; now employed as cab driver. Spent past seven years studying different ideologies and organizations claiming to have answers to problems of contemporary society. Active since 1962 in trying to organize Freedom Now Party. Married and father of 8-year-old son.

on African and Afro-American history when I was around 12, but I did not really begin to delve into it seriously until my early twenties.

It was only during the last seven years that I began to acquire an awareness of the true history of Africans and Afro-Americans, knowledge of the world in general and the history of other ethnic groups that make up the human family.

My first awakening was a nationalist awakening, a feeling of pride in being black and a feeling of revulsion and hatred at what

this capitalist racist system did and is doing to people of color throughout the world. Around 1961 I began believing in many white, African and Afro-American leaders from Malcolm X to the non-obedient black nationalist.

I felt then, as I do now, that black nationalism is necessary to the healthy development of my people. We first have to respect, honor, know and love ourselves as human beings before we can establish a healthy relationship with others. The racist rulers of the Western world realize that as long as black people feel inferior to whites and are kept ignorant of their true history, the status quo can easily be maintained and black people kept enslaved. Any movement among blacks from the Congo to Harlem to recognize themselves as human beings and to strive to control themselves economically, culturally, politically or otherwise is detrimental to the United States government and all other ruling classes of the Western world.

However, black nationalism is a temporary phase in the development of black people as human beings; in the next 3,000,000,000 people of various ethnic groups must awaken too. Black nationalism can be detrimental under improper leadership and without a class understanding of society. All that glitters is not gold; and some of those that sell black nationalism can be manipulating under a false front when they claim an interest in the suffering black masses.

In 1962 the Chinese spies of three types of nationalism in one of their replies to Russia during the Sino-Soviet dispute — progressive, reactionary and chauvinistic nationalism. The latter two are what black people have to be wary of. I realized that as important as black nationalism and the study of African and Afro-American history are, it is difficult, without a broad outlook of the world as a whole, the hateless