

let 10-7-71

People Are Talking About

*The sensational goings-on in that snooty, New York upper-class suburb and the row between that well-known and popular Black and his fetching wife, which wound up with her tearfully storming from the premises of their fashionable home, bag and baggage, and his moving in a pretty Japanese maiden.

*Well-known Washington, D. C., publicist Ofield Dukes and his invitation to visit Sweden where he will meet the prime minister, Olof Palme, and possibly, sociologist-author (*The American Dilemma*) Gunnar Myrdal. But mostly, Dukes confides, he will have an opportunity to talk with the Black GIs who have said, "Farewell to arms" and with Black expatriates about how it goes, race relation-wise, with Blacks over there.

*The sensational Black-directed, Black starred MGM film, *Shaft*, that is smashing box offices all over the place. Starring Richard Roundtree, *Shaft*, says one critic, is a "soul brother to Sam Spade (if you'll pardon the expression)," a white shamus who starred on the airways in the forties and fifties.

*Rodney Winfield, star of CBS-TV's Newcomers Show, and how he had patrons rolling in the aisles at St. Louis' (Mo.) Gold Palace, making Winfield's homecoming a rousing event.

*Afro-American correspondent Ollie Stewart and his report that a weekly Paris, France, newspaper, *Ici Paris*, sold out earlier this year with a sensational headline, "Kennedy Living," referring to the late President, John F. Kennedy. Stewart said the paper's story claimed that President Kennedy survived the tragedy at Dallas, Nov., 1963, and is hidden away "disfigured and helpless." It cited at least two American papers who made the claim. It was sensational yellow journalism at its worst—the circulating of this nauseous rumor—but it revealed once more the popularity of Kennedy with the millions who wish the affair never happened, as represented in the rush to buy out the edition of that Paris newspaper.

*That on-again-off-again, altar-bound romance of TV emcee David Frost and beautiful Black singer-actress Diahann Carroll and why the whole affair as far as marriage is concerned may be permanently off. Inside reports have it that Frost, a Briton, is seriously considering standing for an important national office, probably the Parliament, and having a Black wife would handicap him in his racist country in that effort—or so they say.

—CHESTER HIGGINS