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Police Guard Dallas Minister Who Scored City's Intolerance

By DONALD JANSON
Special to The New York Times.

DALLAS, Nov. 27 — The Derensiveness and resentment minister who charged Dallas against criticism from citizens with indifference to in-the outside continued as the tolerance was being kept under city attempted to return to normal. This was shown by the a flood of angry threats from Dallas citizens.

The Rev. William A. Holmes said in a sermon Sunday and repeated in a television interview last night that "the spirit of assassination" had flourished in Dallas for sometime.

He cited several examples, including clapping and cheering by fourth-grade children in a public school when their teacher told them of the assassination of President Kennedy Friday.

Today several teachers came forward to say that similar cheering had occurred in their schools, too.

Mr. Holmes said the children's action mirrored intolerance learned from parents.

Eleven other Methodist ministers issued a statement today endorsing the Holmes sermon, which called for a new climate of understanding of, and respect for, a variance of views.

"We can document times over the exclamations of approval by school children at the death of President Kennedy," they said in a statement.

"We believe they reflect home and community attitudes of disrespect for the office of the Presidency and for duly constituted Government authority.

"We believe the Rev. Holmes correctly assessed the situation. We affirm that he does not stand alone, and our voices to his appeal."

The faculty of 35 at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University here met and passed a resolution unanimously endorsing Mr. Holmes' sermon.

Among the teachers that told of students cheering President Kennedy's death was Miss Joanna Morgan, of Lake Highlands Junior High School. But she said those who whooped were a small minority.

"When tragedy struck so hard, so swiftly and so near, then suddenly, the game was no longer a game. It was a haunting presence—the ghost of our own bad conscience."

Mayor Earle Cabell said that "perhaps we have spoken too proudly of ourselves" because of the city's civic and commercial accomplishments. He said citizens should learn to "enter into controversy without hatred, disagreement without disparagement, and I ask that we allow ourselves to be intolerant only with intolerance."

Dan Smoot, who publishes a far-right newsletter called Dan Smoot Reports, said it was time that such "groveling apologies" for Dallas stopped.

"I don't see why they are putting out those ridiculous statements on the shame of Dallas," Mr. Smoot said. "I don't think they represent the majority of the people."

Mr. Smoot was asked if he agreed with the opinion of many in Dallas that the President's assassination and the subsequent shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald were part of a Communist conspiracy.

"I did not think it was until Oswald was killed," Mr. Smoot said. "But now I'm convinced that there was a connection between them [Oswald and the man charged with murdering him, Jack Ruby] and they were part of a bigger plot. These men were just tools of someone else."

The police have not been able to establish any connection between Oswald and Ruby.

Eric Johnson, president of the Dallas Citizens Council, a civic organization that has nothing to do with race, said that he tragedy could have happened anywhere.

A number of citizens have said publicly that the forces of hate have been allowed to fester in Dallas. Others have insisted that the city is no different from any other and that no soul-searching is needed.

"I think people are people," Mr. Johnson said. "We have a homogeneous city of American-born, English-speaking people. They are conservative."

He said the community suffered as never before as the result of the assassination, but he did not think there would be any permanent damage to the community.

"I think the emotional reaction has been very vocal," he said, referring to the criticism of Dallas by its own citizens. "It is a small minority that makes itself heard."

Joe G. Moody, a member of the City Council, demanded that Dallas conduct its own investigation of the killing of Oswald. "The whole world and nation is watching us," he said. "They would judge us if we don't judge ourselves."

Letters received by Dallas newspapers indicate a variety of opinions. One signed Ruth Findley and giving a Dallas address said:

"So many of Dallas' women's clubs have whole programs based on a hate theme . . . saying the most hateful things about our President and his staff at club meetings, and carrying on in general the terrible hate campaigns against the Administration is most un-American. And I do believe that it can lead to such as what happened Friday in Dallas."

A letter from another Dallas woman, Mrs. Robert A. Mitchell, said Dallas had been maligned.

"In recent weeks some newspapers have worked overtime in trying to prove to the nation that prejudice, close-minded illiteracy and small thinking certainly do exist in Dallas in large measure," Mrs. Mitchell said. "The atmosphere they have created in our city has reduced us, in the eyes of some, to no more than a barbaric civilization, void of any dignity or respect — and now even safety."

A move was under way for Dallas to establish a monument to President Kennedy, either here or in Washington, that would rank in size with the Washington and Lincoln Memorials.

Mayor Cabell said he favored a Kennedy monument in Washington, where it would be accessible to more Americans. A group of young business and professional men were organizing a fund-raising drive for the memorial.

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CUBA SCORES MEXICO ON OSWALD INQUIRY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 — Cuba has accused the Mexican authorities of complicity in a "reactionary plot" to link the regime of Premier Fidel Castro to the assassination of President Kennedy.

The Cuban Foreign Minister, Paul Roa, made the charge in a strongly worded note to the Mexican Government protesting the arrest of an employe of the Cuban consulate in Mexico City.

The consulate employe, Mrs. Silvia Duran, a Mexican citizen, was arrested last Saturday for questioning about a visa application by Lee H. Oswald, the accused assassin of Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Oswald, who was himself slain while being taken out of the Dallas police headquarters, was known to have applied for visas to Cuba and the Soviet Union while he was visiting Mexico last September.

The Cuban protest, charged that the Mexican police had used "coercion and brutality" in questioning Mrs. Duran before releasing her the same night. It said the Cuban Government considered the arrest "a flagrant complicity by members of the Mexican police and those who perfidiously intended to involve our fatherland with the dirty crime."

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