

You'll have to excuse me, I have a fever and I have the flu so ... the five officers around me they finally went through the house, searching the house for ... There was one black officer that was standing next to me, after the other police went out of the room, he mumbled to me without moving his lips, he said, be cool man, these dudes want to kill you. His exact words. So, later they tried to question me as to what happened and I didn't know anything about it ... that evening I had gone to see a play, Ain't supposed to Die a Natural Death, and ... some friends of mine in the play so I had witnesses as to where I was the whole evening. As my sister was ... asking the officers who was in charge, my mother asking who's in charge and my sister was very upset, the policemen breaking down her front door and pointing rifles in ... faces and officers were making remarks and stuff. Later, oh yeah, I want to say something as my mother was asking who was in charge, she was talking to a policeman who was ... she was asking why did they break down the front door and why couldn't they come and knock at the door and she would open the door. And one policeman answered, we're here to protect your rights. So I was taken down to the police station ... without a coat, this was in the middle of winter time ... So they took me down to 1300 Beaubien and I was taken into a office, I think it was ..., fifth floor. And nobody ... and nobody said anything to me as why they're taking me down to the police station. So I was advised of my rights and nobody told me what the charges were. I found out later that I was arrested for attempted murder and resisting arrest. They proceeded to fingerprint me and they took my pictures and they interogated me about two or three different occasions. The officers ... same things, asking me to identify pictures of Mark Bethune and my cousin, Hayward Brown and my step-brother, John Boyd. Later they put me in a cell and I was not allowed a telephone call for which you are allowed. Your rights states that you are allowed one telephone call. They refused to let me make a telephone call. Finally, later, about 8:00 or 9:00 they would let me make a telephone call. This was from 6:30 in the evening. Later, I was, they let me out finally the next day around 11:30. And I was talking to one policeman and the conversation progressed to the part where he said that he knew that my brother, my brother John Boyd, was not a murderer or that he was not in narcotics which the press had stated, that the news media had stated over the last several weeks. And I said to him why do the police factitiously tell the public that these three men were narcotics runners when they all know that these guys were in the community trying to get rid of dope. I'm sure all the brothers and sisters ... know where all the dope houses around the city and if the police really wanted to get rid of dope that if they could break into my house without a warrant why can't they break into ... also, the next day when they let me out I went to my job to work for C.A. Howell Beauty Supplies, I'm sure a lot of people know who that is. I was fired on the premise that my attendance was bad ... Since then I've been evicted, I've been asked to leave from the place I live ... my landlady asked me to move. My mother and father were going to file an injunction against the city of Detroit, the Police Department to keep the policemen from harassing my family. They met before a police lawyer and he agreed that the police would not harass my family that they would not ... So the police came and interogated my landlady who was in St. Louis at the time. I think that's part ... she asked me to move because the police were constantly around the house with shot guns and rifles, harassing my ... anytime of day ... Police pulled around the front of the house there was three in the alley, two in the front, one had a shot gun in the front. He was walking up and down in the front of the house. This, I think, New Year's Day. He had a shot gun in his hand and my neighbor next door told me that

anytime a car would come by my house, that the man with the shot gun would put the rifle behind his back to keep the public from finding out that they had rifles. Since then the police ... last Friday. I took my sister back to school and I came back to my mother's house ... stay over there because I was scared that the police would break down my door ... So I stayed, we came home about 3:30 or 4:00 and I ... I was standing outside and an unmarked car came by, I'm pretty sure most of you know who STRESS is, they drive unmarked cars, we know who they are. So he pulled up about a car length and a half in front of me. They looked over at me for about 15 or 20 seconds, then they pulled down the street. Finally, my sister, Sandy, came outside and I told her to drive. We were going down the street and a Tactical Mobile Unit came down the street and he was doing about 15 or 20 miles an hour just fast enough to make us get irritated because it was a one lane street and can't move over and let us by. So we went down to the corner of Milwaukee and Spokane and all the way down the street kept it up. So I told my sister Sandy to turn the corner and do not stop until the police ... and pull over. So we proceeded down ... for about 3 or 4 blocks and the policemen were tailgating us, I mean tailgating us this far from my bumper. So finally she moved over to let the car by and as we stopped by the side of the street all three officers jumped out ... my sister ... (END TAPE A-1)(BEGIN TAPE A-2) ... going home I was at the wheel driving in the direction of my house. So two unmarked police cars ... I made a right going towards Conat. One police car swerved in front of me, another police car swerved in back of me and they all jumped out with their guns out on me asking me are you Boyd, are you Boyd. So I said, hey, you know my name, why go through these changes and everything. They proceeded to frisk me and went through my car ... so finally they found out who I was so I went home and I was scared as hell too. So the next morning we were headed to the westside so I pulled out of the driveway, at that time surveillance was on the next street which is Gallagher like police were in this car ... trying to check out the back of my house. Also a police car on the next street, we knew who he was because he had come to my house recently. There was a car down the street and there was a car ... going towards 7 mile. So as I pulled out of the driveway and proceeded towards 7 Mile, one of these cars made a U-turn and he followed me so I pulled over and he asked me for my I.D., so forth and so on. So three blocks later I was waiting for a friend of mine... to give him a ride and another police car pulled up behind me, that's three blocks later. I was sick and tired of police stopping me. So I ... my I.D., my driver's license, my registration... Fifteen minutes later we were waiting and I asked him why is it taking so long? He told me we didn't stop you. So why did you pull up behind me? He said we can't talk to you ... So the Sergeant finally ... 25 or 30 minutes later and at this time five police cars had pulled up and they all tried to check me out to find out what the deal was. (Voice from audience-"Let's hear from someone else.") Okay, anyway this is really all I got to say... that Commissioner Nichols, ... I want to know why I'm always followed, why police have to pull guns on me, everywhere I go and keep harassing my friends, like, you're supposed to be protecting me, not pulling guns on me ... (applause) say to Common Council to my family there is no such thing as police protection, that's all I have to say.

Sandra Overstreet ...

..... Overstreet and on December 4, Monday, I called Melba ... from work. Her mother, ... told me that she wasn't home, which seems rather strange since

she doesn't drive in the weather that we had that day. So I called her mother's house and when her mother answered, she was just frantic... come over and hurry up ... the police station, they're arresting John. So I thought initially, that they were calling John down for tickets or something. Anyway, ... there I witnessed just what Dorothy Clore said and Melba. The broken door, and the stuff behind the fireplace was all pulled out. The couch was torn ... in the middle of the floor all ... I saw the aftermath. As I came to the house, a group of policemen were leaving ... I guess my baby, she must have felt the fear that I had then. So I ... and waited for her husband... he had a heart condition ... So as I talked to them ... it was about 10:00 and I noticed first one police car ... So then I went to my mother's house and decided to spend the night with her ... the same thing to me as happened at the Clore residence. When I went in the house ... noticed a car cruising down the block ... Then, I said, well I guess we will be next so I tried to stay up as long as I could, but I had to work the next morning so at 11:00 I ... About 3:00 A.M. Tuesday, morning, I heard a banging on the door. So I quickly got up, I didn't want my family to be upset like happened at the Clore's house ... So I went, opened the door for them and they told me first they just wanted to question me. About twelve policemen came to the house to question me ... all through my house with flash lights, flashing their lights in the sleeping faces of my family, my baby, my mother and my father. My mother was scared crazy. So they began to question me and showed pictures, and asked me if I could identify them. I told them I couldn't positively identify any of them. They made insulting remarks, but mainly, I want to stress the inconvenience of the visits which are always unannounced. They had no search warrant, they had no warrant for arrest, but still they went through-out my house. Alright, if they wanted to question me, why ... come in my house. So, after these insulting remarks they decided to leave but they still went around the house searching. Anyway, the next day, Wednesday, they came back ... they came to the door flashing lights through the door, shouting my name and the name of my sister. I let them in. I told them... they began to ask the same questions that were asked Monday, Tuesday night, I'm sorry, Tuesday morning. So at that point, my baby started crying. I began to realize that she had the fear that I had. This made me angry. I said no, I refuse to ... and asked them to leave. They became upset because I wouldn't do what they wanted, I mean, I wouldn't cooperate, this is what they said, and a lot of other things. They were so loud that the noise had brought the neighbors out on their porches, which was quite embarrassing. Alright, they left that time. They came back that Friday, questioned my mother and father because I had gone then. They came back Saturday and kept my house under surveillance. They followed me constantly, I had Bell Telephone out. They confirmed that my telephone was tapped. I'd like to stress that the fear that the policemen are putting into small children, two years old, my daughter, and my little small son, he's just four. ... that kid was just terrible. Nobody could hold him or anything. He was just crying and screaming and he wasn't right for at least two days. He wouldn't go to anybody. No one could hold him but his parents. Now, my opinion, would Commissioner Nichols state that the car was a ... for narcotics shipment... then later confirmed by the police department that in actuality, the suspects ... Now, I want to know, okay, what car was ... Another point, after investigating this STRESS incident I've come up with several feelings for STRESS officers in the black community. The other one too, I'd like to stress, the sixteen year old boy that was shot down. Approximately fifty year old man whose house broken into illegally, who was killed on the stairway.

Who are the real... (applause)

My name is ... I heard a knock on the door. I got up to open the door. I thought it was ... it was a man in ... and he said, nigger, if you breathe loud I'll blow your brains out. (loud response) ... a man had my daughter by the right arm and had a gun to her head... by the fireplace and put a gun to her head and said if you don't stop hollaring, I will blow your head off. And my wife was pleading with my daughter to stop crying ... and my daughter, she was hollaring. By that time ... kitchen... bedroom... white Volkeswagon. I said my car is a 1972 Brown Fleetwood Cadillac. (loud response) ... (can't understand rest of speech)

...Sonovia Grantly, Sonovia Grantly... (loud talking in audience) Sonovia Grantly...

My name is Sonovia Grantly. I am the wife of a minister who is the pastor of ... Baptist Church. Last year my husband was the ... from the city of Detroit 1972 congress and he brought the city a half a million dollars. He had letters here from the mayor, the govenor and all the city officials. We are good citizens in this city here. We have cooperated 100%. ... Williams is my nephew. When the officers came there I gave them all the information. They were very nice... they didn't disturb anything. But ... they were very nice, but what upset us the most of all ... they came on January 1st... Now, the house next door to me is empty, they could have ... house next door. I got a ... out there. They could have surrounded my house if we ... My husband ... said, you don't have to knock that door in, I'll let you in. Nobody in this house but my wife, my mother-in-law and my brother...and they apologized for coming in there. But what gets me ... they should know isn't anybody in there...

My name is ... Grantly and I live at 3861 Gaylord. ... is my first cousin. If there is anyone else here who knows him, you know he's the type of guy who never ... anyone, talked about anyone... any ... what so ever. He's an engineer, an electrical engineer at Wayne State University. Okay, he used to live upstairs over me, but he moved. And because he used to live up there, this is why the police came to my house. My mother, as she said before, when the police came to hers, she was cooperating. She gave them the names of everyone in the family. And the police officers spoke with me over the phone, they called me and spoke to me over the phone and I told them I was cooperating, said okay. And then we started talking and he said that and he asked me about my cousin Ivy and everything. And the next statement that I did not like was the statement that he made asking where does Ivy work and what does he do and everything. I told him I'd rather not say where he works ... very good job is not just no regular job, its a very good job. Now, when I told him where he worked at, the police officer told me over the phone, if they catch him on the street, he won't get back there. Now, ... that this could mean anything but to me, I know what it meant. Okay, so, I spoke to the police again on New Year's day about 1:30. I'd been speaking with ... she said well they might come by your house and want to talk to you, I said okay. So, you know, my daughter was sick. I have a four year old daughter, she just turned five January 4, but at the time she was four. My son is eight. My daughter was sick, she still is. I have a son that is sick too. And so, I was going out of the bedroom and I walked to the dining room and I just glanced out of the window and as I looked out the window I saw police cars out there. I thought they were just going to come to the house, knock on the door and ask me some

questions. So ... my wife and said, the police are coming. She said okay. And I had the Christmas decorations on the door and I took them down. So I opened the door and at least twenty-five to fifty policemen, on this porch next door to me, on this porch next door to me, across the street, down the street ... I found out later, they went to my neighbors, there is only two black families on the block. They had gone to the neighbors on both sides of me and told them to go in the basement. (loud response) I didn't have on any socks or shoes, I didn't have on a shirt. When I came to the door, they said, put your hands up, put your hands up. So I put my hands up ... so I started walking out and all these shot guns, carbines and rifles, and everything else. So I told them, I said, my daughter ... they said who else lives in there. I said there's a guy lives upstairs ... Okay, so I came out, ... put my hands on the car. Another police officer came from across the street over to the car, just ran over, just aimed a gun at me ... Bring the kids out. Bring the wife and kids out. So they came out. My wife and both my kids in their pajamas. They're home sick now. My son, I didn't have shoes, no socks, no shirt ... So after, after, I got out there, put my wife and kids ... they got in the police car. They had me ... they told me to come across the street with my hands up, against the tree. Put my hands up against the tree and I felt something at the back of my head. And then, there was a uniformed policeman standing behind me. An un-uniformed policeman had a shot gun in the back of my head and he was saying - tell ... if you don't tell us there's a man behind you with a shot gun who will blow your brains out. I said, I know he will. (loud response) ... Okay so, they took the guy who lives upstairs, they took him down the back way. They handcuffed me and put me in the car. ... everything else. They went up and asked my wife, they were looking for ... is this all the telephones you got ... Okay, then they said - we're taking you downtown. I said okay. So we went down. And when we got down there I ... When they first started questioning me I asked him, I would like to make a telephone call and call my mother to come down here and pick up my four year old daughter and eight year old son because they're sick. The detective's response to that was we got ... He was writing down everything I said. Okay, then they got through questioning me and he said read and sign it. I said, I'm not signing anything. I said, you want me to get up and say what I just told you in front of anybody in any court or anywhere else, I'll do it. But I said I'm not signing something you can just add on what you want to add on to. He got mad at me. You want to take a lie detector test? I said, yeah. I went in there and took the test. Just before I took the test he came out with this paper and advised me of my rights. Okay, after I took the test and they found out that I didn't know anything and I hadn't spoken with my cousin Ivy. They provided us with a, they had a police car to take us back home, after detaining us for about four hours. Okay, ... this is what I would like to know. This is what everybody realizes this now. These men are not mad dogs. Regardless of whether they're wrong or right, they're not mad dogs ... (loud applause) ... students at Wayne State University and one of them has been a student at Highland Park Community College ... and you're not looking for three men, you'll continue not to find them. (loud response) (END TAPE A-2) (BEGIN TAPE B-1)

(new speaker - tape begins while man is talking)... (can't understand his whole speech)

Can we have some order please? Commissioner Nichols-