

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM
Tactical Mobile Unit

Date March 16, 1968

To: Commanding Officer: Tactical Mobile Unit

Subject: ALERT AND BUREAU ACTION TAKEN AT POST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

At approximately 12:10PM on 3-15-68 Lieut. Enners, the writer, and Units #11 through #19 were on alert in anticipation of a student disorder at the aforementioned school.

At approximately 12:15PM a fire alarm was pulled in the school, and approximately 300 students emerged from the school in a boisterous and unruly manner. The students then milled about the intersecting streets of Midland and Greenlawn. When the fire apparatus arrived, the students began throwing chunks of frozen snow and snow balls at the firefighters. As one of the ladder trucks began to leave, the students again began throwing missiles at the firefighters, striking the firefighters on the truck. One of the firefighters who was struck in the head by one of the aforementioned missiles, alighted from the truck in an attempt to apprehend the youth who had thrown the missile. At this juncture, a group of approximately forty youths crowded around the firefighter, Unit #19 manned by Patr. John Klock and Patr. Walter Smith, observed the melee and sped to assist the firefighter, and were able to extricate the firefighter from six youthful assailants who were severely assaulting the firefighter.

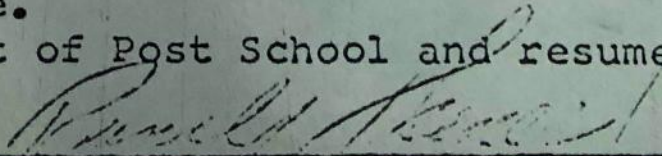
Unit #19 then arrested Leon Williams 15/N 16232 Prairie, and attempted to remove the subject from the scene when a group of adults, teachers, and students attempted to interfere with the officers, the writer then formed the remaining seven units into a squad and assisted Unit #19 in effecting the arrest and removal of the prisoner.

At 12:30PM a large crowd of students accompanied by adults began milling about the Greenlawn entrance of the school, after the C.O. of this Bureau and Lieut's. Enners and Tuttle attempted to move the crowd by requesting that they leave the scene by loud-hailer, and such attempt having failed, the writer was ordered to disperse the crowd. A squad of sixteen men was employed in the task of dispersing the crowd which was completed with several incidents occurring when members of the faculty, students, and adults attempted to cause an opening in the squad front. In one incident a student attempted to break the formation of the squad and was moved back and fell, a negro teacher then ran into the squad and attempted to stop their forward progress, he was requested to move, failed to do so, and was forced to move back by the squad, fell down, and then he and the student fled the scene.

Without any further incident the squad moved the crowd north on Greenlawn to Puritan and east on Puritan for approximately two blocks. The crowd then broke into small groups still moving east on Puritan and began throwing missiles at passing vehicles, store fronts, and the squad.

It should be noted that Patr. Thomas Blashill received an abrasion on his left leg caused by a kick, and a bruise on his left elbow caused by a rock thrown by an unknown person. Patr. John Klock in attempting to cause the arrest of the aforementioned juvenile had his jacket slashed twice by an assailant armed with a knife.

The Unit then returned to the front of Post School and resumed normal patrol.

Sergt. 

Ronald Shiner Tactical Mobile Unit