

Q LC. I'm not what I expected  
so you keep

# City of Detroit

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: C. Rodgers

DATE November 16, 1970

FROM: L. Williams

SUBJECT: Interfaith Action Council Meeting 11-6-70-142

1 1/2  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60  
61  
62  
63  
64  
65  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70  
71  
72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77  
78  
79  
80  
81  
82  
83  
84  
85  
86  
87  
88  
89  
90  
91  
92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100

A special meeting of the IFAC was called 11-6-70 to "call the attention of the religious community to this ("... due process for the bulwark of law, order and justice.) as the force that can cement the entire community together.

INSPECTOR JAMES BANNON

A panel (Irma Henderson, Rev. Willis Tabor, Harley Selling, Inspector Albert Evans, Nadine Brown and Al Dunmore were present.

An audience of approximately 150 was present although about 15 - 25 appeared to be plainclothes police. A press conference was held before the meeting for the convenience of the press (Ch. 50, 2, 4) who complained of an 11 a.m. deadline. The press was interested in Nadine Brown who was critical of them for that interest and for not being interested in the IFAC meeting itself.

At the press conference and later at the meeting Nadine Brown made several charges critical of (1) the officers who made the original arrests at 14th and Myrtle and other police who made faulty investigations of the incident, (2) Mayor Gribbs for arguing with Council on whether or not she (Brown) should get an award when they should attempt to establish some rapport with blacks and other people who are daily abused by the police, (3) the Wayne County Grand Jury and Prosecutor Cahalan (she maintains that Cahalan told her that under ordinary legal circumstances he wouldn't be able to prosecute all 15 arrested, and he then came in with a grand jury indictment) and (4) the press for concentrating on the Panther sensationalism while ignoring the day to day relationship between the police and the community. ("I know black men who want to kill police who have nothing to do with the Black Panthers.").

Inspector Evans noted his long relationship with the Panthers in the 10th Precinct and stated that they were "a bunch of young kids with guns" and "extortionists". He stated that when he tried to talk to them they summarily cursed him out and that they refuse to talk to police. He noted precinct community relations programs as attempts to communicate. He noted that his mother's house had been firebombed the night before "because she was related to a cop."

Inspector Bannon, representing Commissioner Nichols, acknowledged special methods of handling Black Panthers calls. He said the plan was activated on October 24. He called for increased communications but noted "you can't have a dialogue over a smoking gun."

Several IFAC members decided they would be good intermediaries between the Police and the Panthers and seemed to refuse to believe that the Panthers would not accept them as such. An organizational meeting was held at the end of this meeting. I am told that no plans came out of this meeting although more black ministers joined IFAC and they now feel they "have a broader base in the community." There was no notice of further meetings of this type. IFAC meets regularly.