

Woman Alleges CHRONICLE 8- Police Assault

By BILL BLACK

Mrs. Gerry Stein is an attractive young Black lady who owns a restaurant across the street from an eastside Chrysler plant.

Saturday, July 29, as she does six days each week, Mrs. Stein left her westside home well before daybreak and headed for work. About 4:25 a.m., only a block from the place of business, Mrs. Stein, who was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Nannie Parker, was pulled over by a Fifth precinct scout car.

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MRS. GERRY STEIN exhibits bruises inflicted, she said, when a Fifth precinct officer threw her down in the street and kned her on the neck and arm.

"I assumed they intended to 'watch us in'," Mrs. Stein told The Chronicle. "We know a lot of the fellows (policemen) and I thought they were looking out for us."

Instead, Mrs. Stein related, the officer told her, "You were speeding." Mrs. Stein said she disagreed, pointing out to the policeman that the cruise control on her late-model car was set for 30 miles an hour.

"Then he told me," Mrs. Stein continued, "go back to your car and sit down, I don't want to hear all that ----."

Mrs. Parker nodded agreement to her daughter's recollection of the incident.

"You're one of those smart bitches," Mrs. Stein said the officer told her. "I do bitches like you in every day."

A devout churchwoman, Mrs. Stein said she replied: "You may not live long enough to see me in court. The Master takes care of people like you."

She said the policeman "bristled" at this statement, then demanded her purse.

"I had all the restaurant money in my purse," Mrs. Stein told The Chronicle. "I wasn't going to give him my purse before I gave Mother the money."

"That man slammed the car door into my child's leg," Mrs. Parker recounted, "jumped out of that car and threw her down, right there in the middle of Mack Ave. He put one knee in her chest, the other on the muscle of her arm and handcuffed her."

"When you're wrong," Mrs. Parker continued, "you should get what's coming to you. I knew she wasn't wrong, I was in the car all the way."

Mrs. Parker said she yelled, "That's my child in that street, you're gonna have to kill me if you don't stop."

She said the other policeman put his hand on his gun and ordered her to get back. Mrs. Stein was placed, handcuffed, in the squad car and taken to the Fifth precinct.

There, Mrs. Stein said, a sergeant told the officers, "You can't make that stick," and instructed them to write another ticket. She was given a new ticket for "interfering with closely approaching traffic on a through street" and released.

"The sergeant said he was giving me a break," Mrs. Stein commented.

Too upset to open her business, she went to Detroit Memorial hospital for treatment of her bruised face and elbow.

"The nurse agreed to treat me," she noted, "but said she didn't want to get involved in any legal action."

Mrs. Stein, accompanied by her mother and father, then went to the First precinct, (police headquarters) where a desk officer also told her he didn't want to get involved.

"Later," she said, "I found out about the CCB (Citizens Complaint Bureau). One of their officers took my complaint. He was very nice but he told me their investigation would take three months."

Incredulous about the whole thing, Mrs. Parker told The Chronicle: "I know they did her wrong. I feel bitter about it. It hurts me to remember how they treated her, and I couldn't do anything."

Last week, Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Stein