

JARVIS REAL ESTATE

1222 CENTER STREET
LANSING - MICHIGAN

PHONE IV 5-2620

Reply

August 15, 1967.

Mayor Cavanaugh
Detroit, Mich.

Honorable Sir-

I wish to add my voice to the protests of most citizens in the arrest of two Detroit Policemen on charges of murder in the recent Detroit riots.

In the first place, these men were being sniped at and with all the confusion and looting and burnings, is it any wonder that maybe some innocent people were killed.

From what I read about the case, the officials are taking the word of two white girls and a number of colored. In my book I would not believe any of them.

I have talked with many persons about this and they all feel as I do., We have taken all power from the police, and they are just setting ducks. If these officers are convicted I am afraid that none of them will ever try to do their duty. We have leaned over so far in listening to stories of police brutality that in every arrest attempt that line is bruted about.

I have been stopped by police in many States about making an illegal left turn, or running a red light. In some instances I realized I was wrong, in others I felt I did not break the law. I have never had an officer ever say one word that I could take offense at.

There is eventually going to be a show down with the colored I am afraid, as the whites are arming and there is much bitterness. Personally I gave away my guns many years ago, and will not arm myself again. Being a veteran of the first World War I have reached that stage of reasoning that force will not settle anything, that we all lose, but if I were a young man I would certainly protect my home and family.

The colored know that they gain from these riots as we always reward them with money and jobs that are taken from the whites.

I pray the our Heavenly Father will protect these officers in their trouble and that they will be released and given support in trying to protect the law abiding citizen.

With kind personal regards that you may continue in a difficult situation with success I remain-

Sincerely

Bert C. Arnold

Bert C. Arnold
639 Louisa St.
Lansing, Mich.
48910.

RECEIVED
AUG 16 1967

OFFICE

Riot

October 2, 1967

Mr. Bert C. Arnold
639 Louisa Street
Lansing, Michigan 48910

Dear Mr. Arnold:

I appreciate your concern for the fates of the two Detroit policemen connected with the motel deaths during the July civil disturbance. Charges against the first have been dismissed. The other is being held on a charge of first degree murder.

His contention is that the death was self-defense, although it is alleged that the victim was unarmed.

Rest assured that the officer will receive just treatment under the law.

Thank you for your letter.

Sincerely,

Mayor

JPC:sjb