

Letter-to-the-Editor Column

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Immediate Release

In behalf of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki World Peace Study Mission, we wish to thank the Harlem Community in general, and specific people in particular for the hospitality accorded on Saturday, June 6 to three delegates and one interpreter of this atom-bombed survivors' group.

The peace delegates who were given a tour of Harlem were news-reporters, Mr. Kenmitsu Iwanaga and Mr. Akira Mitsui; literary critic, Mr. Ryuji Hamai; and interpreter, Mr. Nobuya Tsuchida. Their tour culminated their desire to see different areas of Harlem, meet its leaders, and familiarize themselves with slum condition, discrimination, segregation, and the present Negro revolt.

Our heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Isaiah Robinson, Harlem Parents Committee Chairman, and Mr. Robert Washington, Administrator of Harlem Freedom School who organized the tour and were instrumental in making contacts. Others who assisted as tour-hosts were--Edwardina Brown, Adult Workshop leader of Harlem Freedom School; Mrs. Sylvia Robinson, secretary of HPC Steering Committee; and Joe Patterson, head of Community Organization.

Harlem-ites who cordially received them at their respective school, church, project, and business, were: Mr. Berman, vice-principal of P.S. 161; Rev. Clemence Sabourin of Mt. Zion Church and Little School and the Hill (the only private Negro school in Harlem); Mr. Rudolph Jones of Jesse Gray's Rent Strike Office; and Mr. Cecil Chisolm, president of a Harlem Rifle Club. On the streets, the visiting contingent met Mr. John Henrik Clarke, Associate Editor of Freedomways; and Mr. Ed Jeffreys, President of

Lennox Terrace Tenant Association and TIQUE. An informal reception followed.

Leading the roster of prominent Harlem leaders who attended this affair, was Mr. Malcolm X, whose appearance was the highlight of the day not only for the members of the Japanese Goodwill team, but for all present. Mr. Malcolm X's graciousness, dynamism; passionate dedication to truth, dignity and freedom; and powerful his articulation of grievances impressed the visitors.

Miss Edwardina Brown also read a recently received letter from Ghana which relayed the impact of Mr. Malcolm X's visit to Africa last month, and Africa's interest in this Afro-American leader. The audience response by ^{Blacks} Negroes, ^{Asians} Caucasians, and Orientals, was one of awe and deep respect for this highly effective spokesman.

Other notable leaders and personalities present were: Mrs. Thelma Johnson, education consultant of HARYOU; Rev. R.M. Kinloch, Executive Chairman of The Independent Community Improvement Association; Miss Gloria Davis, who represented her brother, James Baldwin; Mr. Clebert Ford, actor-singer from "Ballad for Binshire" and the current "Blacks"; and Miss Juanita Bethea, actress, formerly with "The Blacks", and co-chairman of 7 Arts CORE.

Dick Gregory, who has been associated with the Peace-Study Mission from Chicago, joined the group again this past week-end in France, foregoing an entertainment engagement in San Francisco.

Again, our appreciation to Harlem's grass-roots leaders for their cooperation and hospitality, and to the many Negro people who showed kindness and concern to the members of this round-the-world peace project.

Gratefully,
Bill and Mary Kochiyama
for the Hiroshima-Nagasaki World-Peace
Study Mission