

Anger, Fear Grip Negro Community

JUN 12 1967

TIMES

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Billy Jones, a Tribune Co. employe, is a Negro. He went into the Central Avenue riot area to talk to the people. Here is his story.)

By BILLY JONES
Special to The Times

Anger and fear are the moods of the area of the Central Housing Project today.

This is the area where hundreds of Negroes are gathering in sullen little groups. This is the area that spawned last night's riot.

Martin Chambers, 19, lived here on Burden Court. Burden Court is a short street in the housing project.

HE WAS KILLED yesterday by a policeman. The officer said the youth was a suspect in the burglary of a photography shop.

It was the violence of the scene of the shooting that has inflamed the Negro population.

"He had his shirt off—he wasn't armed," one Negro witness told The Times. "One officer could have shot him and didn't. The other shot him in the back."

"When the policeman shot him they didn't even pick him up. They just dragged him along for 40 to 50 feet."



JONES

Mrs. Peggy Patterson, a resident of the troubled area, told The Times, "They didn't have to shoot him."

THE HEAT of anger was on the youth of the neighborhood.

One spokesman for this Negro youth group told The Tampa Times representative, "I know who you are, a lot of the boys know who you are. It's best you don't come back. We don't want you to get hurt."

Another Negro reporter from the Florida Sentinel Bulletin was reported to have been "chased out of the area."

Among many of the Negroes

there was a sullen refusal to talk.

"**SOME KNOW** a lot about this, but they're afraid to talk," one resident of the area said.

Mothers refused to let their children out of the apartments today. They fear more trouble is on the way.

The patrols of armed police stirred new anger among residents.

"These white officers are causing more tension," one said.

"**IF THOSE OFFICERS** had gone any farther than they did last night there would have been a tragedy—a disaster. The teen-agers are really fired up; they're ready for anything."

In their current mood the teen-agers are not particularly receptive to being talked to by those who represent themselves as "Negro leaders."

"It's very important that someone whom these young people respect get to them, and talk to them, before there's more trouble," a Negro spokesman said.

"It's going to have to be someone they respect. They don't trust outside society. They think outside society is the cause of their trouble."