COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION 1203 CITY HALL ATLANTA. GEORGIA

REPORT ON CABBAGE TOWN

by J. Otis Cochran

I was shown around the community by Mr. Thomas Boland, a VISTA Volunteer. During the course of the day I interviewed Mr. Larry Repass of the Salvation Army, a resident of the area. Below is a description of the community, according to information supplied by Mr. Repass, Mr. Boland and from observation:

For the past sixty years or more the community has been a low income white community. Until a few years ago most of the properties in the area were owned by the Fulton Cotton Mills. The overwhelming segment of the community is segregationist in its political views. There appears to be no overt display of Klan activity. However, the majority of the residents are Klan sympathizers. Mr. Calbin Craig, Grand Dragon of the Klan, has been in the community several times and recently conducted a voter registration campaign in which several residents of the community participated.

The Citizens Mutual Club is the only civic organization in the community. It has between 25 and 30 active members. One of its members estimates that about 125 people have been involved in the organization at one time or the other. Most of the members of the organization owned the homes in which they live. Approximately 50% of the residents in the community own their homes. The Children attend the Grant Park Elementary School, which is overwhelmingly white and the Roosevelt High School, which has a noticeable degree of integration.

The two main churches in the community are St. Luke's and Friendship Baptist There are also a few evangelical churches in the area. The minister of Friendshi Baptist Church is active in the Citizen's Mutual Club, his name is Rev. C. E. Maddox. Rev. William Glover, a young seminarian is the assistant minister of St. Luke's, Rev. Claude Fauts is the minister. Lt. Larry Repass of the Salvation Army seems to be the best contact person in the area, from the standpoint of the Commission's work.

Recently, two Negro families have moved into the Cabbage Town community. According to Lt. Repass, no violence has occured. However, he had to stop a couple of intoxicated residents of the community who had vowed to go and kill the Negro families and burn them out. Lt. Repass indicated that he called the police and that he did not get satisfactory response from the department. He

was referred to someone that was suppose to help him but that it did no good whatsoever.

Lt. Repass seems to feel as though no good would be served by having a Commission Hearing at the moment. However, he expressed an interest in aiding the Commission in any way that he could and asked that the Commission help him in the following respects:

- 1. Additional police service in the area.
- 2. Juvenile Officers in the area.
- 3. Information on Housing or renewal plans for the area.
- 4. Information and assistance when Negro families move into the area.
- 5. Supply him with information on Commission activities.
- 6. Information about meetings that would be of interest and help to his Community.

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