

ANOTHER WARRIOR GONE

In a letter to a friend, Fay Bellamy (Office Manager at Atlanta SNCC Headquarters and Secretary to H. Rap Brown) wrote about how she felt upon learning of the death of George Bess, SNCC Field Worker, near West Point, Mississippi. Because her words said so much and were so beautifully written, her friend returned the letter in the form of a poem:

SOON, WE WILL NOT CRY

By Fay Bellamy

John Buffinton just called from West Point, Mississippi and said George Bess and Henry McFarland had been in a car "accident" and both had drowned.

John thinks they were forced off the road. He said they talked to the Sheriff of Clay County and the Sheriff states they weren't driving fast and there were very few skid marks. They were crossing a bridge and the car went off and turned upside down.

Oh Baby, I felt -- and still feel -- that death is going to be a big star in the life of black people. When people were killed in Detroit and Newark, and all the other places, I felt pain each time a so-called statistic was added. The pain is deeper here because I knew George, and maybe one day I might have known Henry.

Ricks left the house when I told him about it. Stanley went to the office.

Both cried.

I guess what I'm trying to write about is the pain I feel at this moment. Can one write about pain? What I'm also attempting to ask is how does one get used to it?

How many people will have to die before we can make it a two-way street? I'm afraid of war, never having known it, but I'm even more afraid of how many of our people have to die.

I would much rather us die fighting to defend ourselves, since we die all the time anyway.

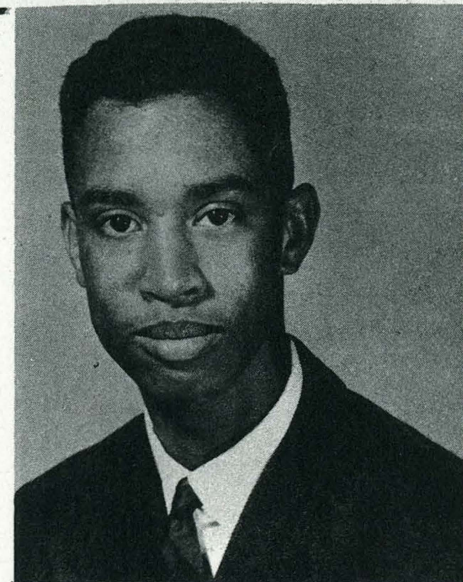
I want to cry but am not able to do so.
With each death we cry a little less.
Soon, we will not cry at all.

Rap Brown on

The Real Outlaws

con't from page three

White America should not fool itself into believing that if it comes down harder on us . . . that will



former sncc aide dies as result of jail treatment and hospital segregation!

ATLANTA, GA. -- On October 7, 1967, Ruby Doris Robinson, former SNCC Executive Secretary passed away after 10 months of a severe illness which resulted from mis-treatment in American jails and hospital segregation in Atlanta.

In a much subtle and insidious manner, her death is a political murder and assassination by white America as was the death of Brother Malcolm, Marcus Garvey, Nat Turner and the many other warriors who were eliminated by Uncle Sam. One of the first activists in the Sit-In Movement, Ruby served a 32 day jail sentence in Rock Hill, South Carolina after demonstrating there in February, 1961. Due to the terrible food and mis-treatment given to her in that jail, she contracted a permanent gastrointestinal ailment which grew worse during the following six years. Upon her release from Rock Hill, Ruby returned to her native Atlanta, where she tried to get treatment at Grady Public Hospital, which then had no facilities for black patients. Their refusal to accept her as a patient, along with the fact that there were no other facilities available to black people in Atlanta, prompted Ruby to sit-in at Grady, which kicked-off a drive to desegregate the Hospital. As a result, Grady Public Hospital built a special wing for black patients . . . although it came much too late to help Ruby, who died from an act of "Insti-

tutional Racism" like the thousands of black brothers and sisters who die every year as a result of bad hospital facilities, bad food, and bad housing.



Those who wish to honor the memory of Ruby Doris may contribute toward the education of her son, Kenneth Toure. Checks should be made payable to RUBY ROBINSON MEMORIAL FUND, 859-1/2 Hunter St., Atlanta, Ga.

Ruby's involvement in the struggle for black liberation dates back to 1960 when, in her sophomore year at Spelman College, she helped organize the Atlanta Student Movement, along with Julian Bond and others.

In that year, she also attended the founding conference of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Raleigh, North Carolina, and from that point on the remainder of her life was dedicated to the liberation of her people. She was one of the original Freedom Riders to arrive in Jackson, Mississippi, and was again jailed -- this time serving 42 days in the hated Parchman Penitentiary. On eight other occasions she was arrested on charges stemming from direct-action tactics, which caused her to serve an additional 17 days in American jails.

As a full time staff member of SNCC for seven years, Ruby worked in Nashville, Tenn., McComb, Miss., Atlanta, and Albany, Ga., Charleston, S. C., and other areas.

In 1964 she was married to Clifford Robinson and gave birth to her son, Kenneth Toure (named after President Sekou Toure of Guinea) in 1965. Despite the many obstacles she encountered while participating in the struggle for black people, Ruby was able to maintain her family life and complete her college education from Spelman in 1965. In May, 1966, she was elected Executive Secretary of SNCC, but unfortunately could not complete her term after becoming critically ill in January, 1967.

Ruby's passing is especially tragic for all those involved in the struggle for human rights and the liberation of black people. During her seven years in the "Movement" she was the heartbeat of SNCC, as well as one of its most dedicated administrators. Her memory will be a shining light to all who continue the battle to which she dedicated her life.

Telegrams and messages of condolence have poured in from across the country and around the globe, including a cable from President Sekou Toure who met Ruby when she visited Guinea as part of an official SNCC delegation a few years ago.

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