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B. Trial of NOI Members
in New York, March, 1959

A trial was conducted in Queens County Court, New York City, during March, 1959. This trial grew out of an incident in May, 1958, at 25-46 99th Street, Queens, which is the residence of, among others, JOHN MOLLETTE, his wife, YVONNE, Mrs. MINNIE SIMMONS, Mrs. AUDREY RICE and Mrs. BETTY LITTLE. Several New York City Police officers with a Postal Inspector attempted to serve a warrant on one MARGARET DORSEY at that address. The result of this attempt was an altercation out of which the above five persons were charged with varying degrees of assault against the two New York City officers. RICE was later charged as a youthful offender. The trial of the other persons began March 2, 1959, and ended March 18, 1959, in an acquittal for LITTLE and SIMMONS and a mistrial for the MOLLETTES. All of the above were publicly identified as NOI members.

The "Los Angeles Herald-Dispatch", a newspaper published weekly in Los Angeles, California, in its March 26, 1959, issue, carried an article captioned "Muslims Charge 'Kangaroo Court' in Long Island Trial."

This article, which referred to the above described trial, stated that MALCOLM X, leader of the New York Muslims, charged that Police entered his home with guns blazing and belching bullets ". . . that were not intended to kill criminals, thieves or bandits . . . but to kill our innocent black women, children and babies." The article continued to quote MALCOLM X as follows: "They then dragged the innocent individuals whose homes they had invaded into court.

The police brought a parade of professional liars to the 'witness' stand in an effort to convict four decent, hard working, home owning, religious people."

The article reflected that MALCOLM X charged

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Judge FARRELL used "kangaroo court tactics" throughout the entire trial to protect witnesses "from being exposed as professional liars and to conceal the criminal actions of Detective Kiernan."

On March 13, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished information which reflected that MALCOLM LITTLE was in contact with ELIJAH MUHAMMAD on that date concerning the above trial. 67

"The Pittsburgh Courier", New York edition, in its issue of March 21, 1959, on page 15, carried an article about the Moslem trial in New York which stated "Minister Malcolm X, sitting through the entire ten days of the trial, stated that no black man, even in Mississippi, could have his civil rights violated any worse than what has taken place here in Queens County Court House."

The "Pittsburgh Courier", New York edition, March 21, 1959, page three, columns three to five, contained an article regarding this trial captioned "Moslems Freed, Cry for Arrest of Cops." This article stated that MALCOLM LITTLE charged Judge FARRELL with using kangaroo court tactics throughout the trial to protect police witnesses and conceal the criminal acts of Detective KIERNAN (one of the officers involved).

The "New York Amsterdam News" in its city edition of April 11, 1959, page one, column six, contained an article captioned "Moslems Confer With Top Cop" which related that MALCOLM X LITTLE and JOHN X (SIMMONS) called on Deputy Police Commissioner WALTER ARM to "investigate and find out" whether two Queens detectives lied in regard to the incident leading to the arrest of four Moslems. Minister MALCOLM demanded the two detective be "deprived of the right to wear badges and carry guns on the streets of New York." Commissioner ARM advised an investigation would be conducted.

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This article stated this was the first series of inquiries being conducted by the Police Department as a result of civil suits filed by Mrs. BETTY X. LITTLE and Mrs. MINNIE X. SIMMONS charging two cops with false arrest, malicious prosecution, violation of civil rights, breaking and entering, assaulting women and property damage.