

James Hazlett was in N.Y. on the Thurs, April 4, '68 of Dr. M.L. King's death. On his return, he contacted all of the board members & left for Travis a statement signed by himself & Mrs. Stubbs which said that: 1) School would be open on Tues, & 2) the new JR. Hi would be named in honor of Dr. M.L.K. JR. Hazlett flew to Wash. Sun. afternoon.

Hazlett was generally vague on phone calls between KC & DC. He ~~thru~~ remembers that Travis called him on Tues. morning to tell him of KC troubles. Travis confirms this - saying that he first contacted Mrs. Stubbs, then called Hazlett. Hazlett caught the first plane back. Meanwhile, <sup>at about 12</sup> Travis contacted <sup>a</sup> Mr. Shiner of TWA (whose was <sup>at</sup> one time Pres. of the KC Parent-Teacher Assoc.) & told him to discourage

Hazlett's coming to the Board Bldg. on his arrival. Shiner met Hazlett at the base of the plane stairs, but Hazlett decided to come on downtown; he took a taxi to 12<sup>th</sup> & Oak.

Things were calmer when he arrived. He met with ~~the~~ all the assist. superintendents



except Hare who was out of town. The general sentiment of all was to keep school open the next day. <sup>Insert A</sup> Hazlett doesn't remember<sup>to</sup> whom he spoke at the KCPB, doesn't even remember if it were he or McNeven who called at that time.

McNeven & Hazlett walked across to city hall & a meeting with the mayor where Davis urged that schools be open, since he felt that if pupils were let out, there would be greater possibility of trouble. Hazlett doesn't remember anyone asking about the curfew in the mayor's office, but he does remember that a curfew was announced.

Wed. afternoon a meeting was called by the police with the chief, a rep. of the Nat'l Guard & Hazlett. The meeting was called to discuss the relationship between the police & the principal's powers. It was there agreed that the police would not come onto school premises until asked. Permanent contacts were established at each school in the inner city; these contacts were usually the vice-principles.



who were to keep lines open to the police dept. in times of crisis. At this time a strategem on the use of visible & invisible cars was also developed. It was decided to use marked police cars in integrated areas & unmarked cars in all BK neighborhoods.

Later that day, at 7:30 the School Board held its regularly scheduled meeting at 4:30. Mrs. Stubbs & Mrs. Reed were absent. The <sup>prepared</sup> agenda for that meeting was followed & no mention of the disturbances of the past 2 days was made til late in the meeting when Rev. Ray Boyden, head of Baptist Assoc., Bishop Speers & Tex Sample of St. Paul's Theological Seminary presented a story of police brutality of the past 2 days. After their presentation, Wadsworth moved the the staff prepare a report of the investigation of these accusations & report back to the board [It is this report, which we have, which was later read by the board, but never released to the board, because it was thought to be too inflammatory.]



In the minutes of that board meeting, there is no other mention of any action taken with regard to the riot.

At the onset of that 4:30, Wed Board meeting, the members were polled on whether to close school on Thur. It was decided to do so & the mayor & police were notified.

On Sunday another meeting was held at police headquarters - this time with reps from the Board of Education, the city, & the police board. They met to talk about what to expect on Tuesday when school would open after the Easter holiday. They reaffirmed the issues of police car visibility & school liaison people to the K.C.P.D.



insert A

There was some discussion as to whether to perhaps close only Manual, Central & Lincoln.

Just before Hazlett left to go to city hall, a woman called from KPRS + was trying to explain that the <sup>Holy Name</sup> dance had been pre-planned by the disc-jockeys.

I asked Hazlett if there had been any provision for specifying who would be in charge in his absence. He said that in the master Civil Defense plan which had been submitted to the city hall, Glenn Travis, administrative assistant was designated to act in Hazlett's absence. But he said that was only in case of civil defense emergency & there had been no other provisions made.

It has since been decided that Travis is empowered to act in all cases, in the superintendent's absence.