

Malcolm X Explains Stand of 'Militant Militants'; Says Negroes Are 'Just as Human as All Others'

by CHRISTOPHER LANGLEY

"The black man in America is at war with the white man. The Negro walks down the street and he is immediately opposed by visible and invisible forces; he finds himself walking through a no-man's land in his own country."

Malcolm X calmly sat back in his chair in the Cutter Hall Suite and continued to explain his militant attitudes in an exclusive interview with THE DARTMOUTH.

"The Koran says, 'Fight against those who fight against you.' It is a peaceful religion, but it does give you the right to defend yourself. This is one aspect of the Islam religion I like especially," he said. **Charman of OAAU**

The chairman of the Organization for Afro-American Unity continued, "We are non-violent when our enemies are non-violent. If you react to defend yourself, it is not violence. We will not initiate any action, but we will strike back."

Malcolm stated that the United States does not use a peaceful non-violent approach when acting in its own interests. "We are just as human as all others and will react the same."

When asked if he feared that the violence he described might spread throughout the country, he quickly responded, "The loss of freedom castrates a man socially, almost physically. The violence may spread, but when a man wants freedom, he doesn't care."

When Criminally Mistreated . . .

"When a man is criminally mistreated he should do everything in his means—whether the action is criminal or not—to be free." He claimed that the riots last summer were not a few criminals just taking advantage of the situation, but they were a general reaction against the system which has held the American Negro captive.

The reason behind Malcolm's disaffiliation with the Black Muslim movement has never before been fully clarified. Malcolm explained that as the movement evolved two factions developed: "the militants, and the militant militants." Elijah Muhammad, the messenger of Allah some claim, was the head of the conservative,

less militant part of the Muslims. "He was part of the hierarchy that didn't want to rock the boat, and this usually happens only when you can't swim. They considered my popularity a threat."

Malcolm X when asked of Kennedy's assassination commented on December 3, "It's a case of the chickens coming home to roost." Immediately after the press reported the comment, Malcolm was ordered by the Black Muslims to remain silent and not to explain what he meant.

"It was a delicate maneuver, but with the help of the press to twist what I had said, Elijah Muhammad got his way. But he exposed himself and I realized my mistake. He promised land which was obviously unattainable. We wanted action."

Break with Black Muslims

Malcolm broke with Black Muslims last March 6th and went on a trip through the Islam world. During this time he saw all men being treated as brothers in the religion and came to realize the mistake of the Black Muslims in teaching race separation.

Malcolm sees little future for the Black Muslim movement. "The movement has lost that indefinable energy and zeal that brought

it to prominence. Elijah through his personal indiscretion has revealed himself as a religious fake. It is inevitable that his followers will fall away."

When asked what he believed could solve the problem, Malcolm X paused a moment and said, "If I thought separation would work I'd still believe in it. Now that I have found the true Moslem religion I realize my original beliefs were wrong."

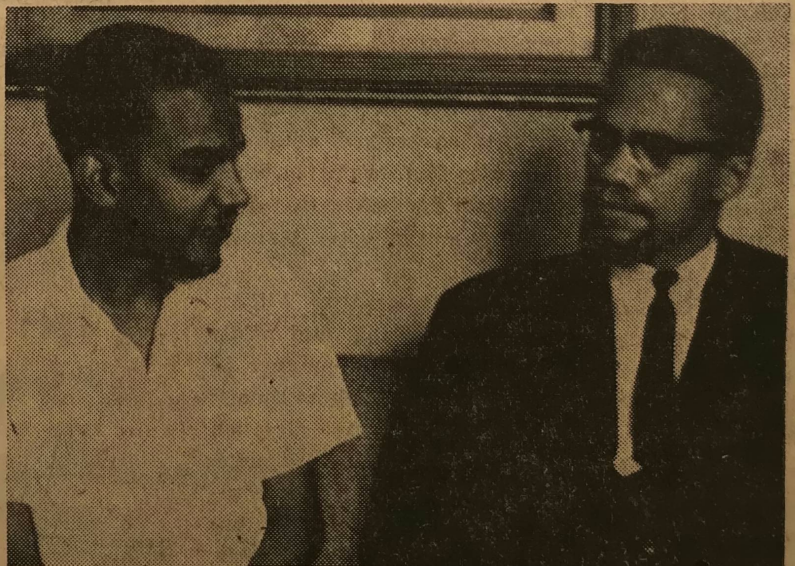
"I am for anything that can bring about a solution—anything! At the moment I don't think the problem has been sufficiently well analyzed. This will have to be the job of the youth of the world. Only they apparently can be objective enough to be able to shed new light on the subject."

Malcolm sullenly stated that he thought that most of the civil rights groups at the moment were "well intended, but misguided." He stated that if the race problem is to be solved it must be done by humans of the world working together, not by Americans, or any other national group.

Americans Are Blind

"When we think as Americans we are blinded. We think just because it's American it is good. It's

(Continued on page 2)



MALCOLM X CONFERS with friend Ahmed S. Osman '65 on the future of the Organization for Afro-African Unity. Osman, a personal friend of Malcolm X's, was instrumental in getting the ex-Black Muslim to visit the College.

Malcolm X . . .

(Continued from page 1)

time the Negro was considered as a human being by the white man and the black man alike. More Negroes catch the worse form of hell because they have been brain-washed into thinking as Americans," he continued.

In his lecture on the black revolution, Malcolm stressed the relationship between the newly emerging countries of Africa and the Negro protests in this country.

Commenting on his present activities, Malcolm smilingly explained the role of the Organization for Afro-African Unity. "We feel the problem of the Negro in this country cannot be divorced from the world wide race problem. It must be a case of humans working together. The OAAU aims to take the situation away from the courts of this country and present it to the United Nations as an international problem of the world."

Racists in Washington, D.C.

His voice rose as he said, "Washington, D. C., is controlled by racists. 23 of the 36 committees are controlled by Southerners. Johnson is a big nothing. We are tired of empty promises. We will not be satisfied with tokenism as are the other civil rights groups."

Malcolm X thought a moment, brushed a bit of lint off his conservative black suit, and concluded, "When the race problem is solved, there will be an economic change. Capitalism was created by imperialist colonial powers and without a faction to exploit it, it cannot survive. The Negro when removed from the bottom of the totem pole will no longer serve this purpose.

"Already the African countries are shedding capitalism for other economic philosophies."