

Brother Shumate Fears No Attackers Because 'Will of Allah' Rules All

By Joe Walker



MATTHEW SHUMATE

of Newark, well able to care of himself and others as well.

NEWARK — Matthew X Shumate is one of few Black foremen in the construction industry. In the fall of 1965 he was at work on a job in Elizabeth, New Jersey, supervising a crew of 35 laborers—five African American, the rest Italian. One day an elder Black laborer was coming down the ramp with a big load of concrete and a young Italian laborer was coming up the ramp with an empty "buggy." Foreman Shumate called to the Italian to pull over to the side and let the other worker with the load by. The Italian cursed his foreman and then attempted to attack him from behind as he walked away.

THE ITALIAN lad threw a couple of punches at his Black boss, who successfully rolled the blows and responded with a couple of smacks of his own with a shovel he was carrying. The Italian sustained a couple of broken ribs and a collapsed lung, and is reportedly still receiving treatment today.

The contractor, who was on the scene and witnessed the attempted attack on Shumate, told his foreman that Shumate would have been less than a man if he hadn't defended himself.

Shumate didn't know that what happened in 1965 at the construction site had marked him to be murdered until a couple of months ago. It was then he learned by reading the papers that a Mafia "family" had discussed in several meetings how to get him. Rosario Cocchiario, whom Shumate defended himself from in the construction site fight, is the son of Frank Cocchiario, identified as a member of the Samuel DeCavalcante crime "family."

The Mafia usually retaliates against anyone who

rightly or wrongly hurts a "family" member, but in this case there was a major factor to consider.

The DeCavalcante "family's" cause for concern was that Brother Shumate is a follower of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. The FBI report said, that the Mafia feared "an all-out war in Elizabeth," and "decided to let the incident 'cool off' for a month, and persuaded the interested family members to take no immediate action."

Of course, Shumate knew nothing of this plot to take his life in revenge until nearly four years later. Still at the time of the construction site fight and since, he feels no fear. As he puts it; "I am a strong believer in Allah and Muhammad is his Messenger. I don't believe anything could happen to me unless it is the will of Allah."

Born in South Carolina, Shumate migrated to New Jersey 25 years ago. Ever since he left the farm in 1940, he has been involved in the building trades, where a restrictive union policy keeps almost all Blacks out of the good-paying jobs and where a strong Mafia influence is present.

Shumate, who is a half inch shorter than six feet and weighs 229 pounds, still works as a foreman in the construction industry. He lives in a comfortable and beautiful home in Newark with his wife, two sons and a daughter.

One of Shumate's sons has been continuously harassed for over a year by a couple of Italian city cops—but he refuses to be provoked into any incident. Otherwise, there has been no trouble as a result of the construction site fight.

Thanks, of course, to the known membership of Shumate as a follower of Mr. Muhammad and the fear of the underworld of striking down one of the Fruit of Islam.

U.S. 'Aid' to Latin America Revealed As Bribery, Plunder and Genocide

(Special to Muhammad Speaks) RIO DE JANEIRO—In the wake of Gov. Rockefeller's failure to "win the hearts and minds" of the American people in the southern part of the American continental regions, the U.S. Government has been forced to admit the true facts pertaining to U.S. "aid" to Latin America.

IN DOING this, the U.S. admitted almost every charge

which Latin Americans (labeled "Communists" by the U.S.) had accused them of in building up opposition to Rockefeller's visits.

U.S. industrialists, militarists and other exploiters take more out of Latin American countries than they put in. The people of the southern and central American nations are being driven into deeper and deeper poverty and debt even though they are providing more land and labor for the U.S. ruling elite.

The U.S. gives hardly any direct aid. It loans money and then makes further conditions on the loans which limit their effectiveness. They say the money must be used buying high priced goods, needed or not, from the United States. These goods must be shipped in U.S. vessels and at higher rates. This enables the exploiters to bribe U.S. workers into exploiting their brothers by special arrangements with corrupt puppet union leaders.

BY PADDING JOBS and rigging prices, the government seeks to make the liberation of foreign workers seem not to be in the interest of U.S. workers.

By fixing tariffs, low quotas and other economic relationships, the U.S. big business rulers make many Latin American products too expensive to compete inside the U.S. or against U.S. goods on the world market.

This means that even in those rare instances that exploitation cannot keep a nation from producing its own goods—such as Colombian textiles—the positive effects of growing industrial gains are destroyed by an agreement of Western European governments and trade groups to "keep the natives down."

The U.S. military might, more and more nations are seeing, is called in to protect arrangements which were supposedly only economic.

This has meant that when a new government decides to change trade agreements to better an exploited people, the U.S. government almost inevitably treats the original agreements as having an almost eternal spiritual value and send in weapons and troops to back up the puppets who agree to be paid traitors.

AMERICANS in Central and South America are coming to feel that the U.S. rulers don't really believe that the term "American" applies to any people but the European ones who invaded the continent and killed off the Indian peoples by the ten millions.

Central and South Americans have been forced into a second-class continental status, just as the African North Americans have been forced into a status of second-class citizenship. The Indian and African majority in the Western Hemisphere must unite to stop European and Euro-U.S. economic crimes and the genocide that paves their way.

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