

APPENDIX A:

"All I know is just what I read in the papers,"
said William Adair Rogers (Cherokee)

"The officers," Flory said, were told that Sevier was ARMED WITH A LARGE KNIFE . . . After the officers entered the house, Flory said, they told Sevier several times to drop the knife. Sevier REFUSED ,Flory said, and ATTACKED Bordman and Phillips." Lawrence Journal World ,Monday, April 22, 1991.

"INDIAN KILLED BY POLICE FIRE . . .

'The officers arrived and were briefed by the family as to the situation at hand,' Harmon said. 'As the officers responded to the requests of the family, the officers became involved in an ARMED CONFRONTATION with the family member.'" Topeka Capital Journal , Monday, April 22, 1991."

"Police Spokesman Kevin Harmon said Gregg was ARMED WITH A GUN and that it was unknown whether or not he had FIRED at officers," Joan Carlson, Channel 49, 10:00 p.m., April 22, 1991.

"The relatives asked police for assistance in dealing with Sevier, who was ARMED WITH A KNIFE and distraught about personal problems, Lawrence Police reported... Flory said the two officers came in contact with Sevier after speaking with his relatives. 'At that point the officers determined that Sevier was ARMED WITH A LARGE KNIFE. They made repeated REQUESTS for Mr. Sevier to drop the knife, disarm himself, and at that point HE INITIATED ATTACK and ATTACKED Officer Bordman.' . . . He said he did NOT [sic] believe that the shooting of Sevier, an American Indian, was NOT [sic] racially motivated. . . . Sevier was born July 23, 1986 [sic]." The University Daily Kansas , Tuesday, April 23, 1991.

"The officers were told that Sevier was ARMED with a knife. . . . After REFUSING several REQUESTS by the officers to put down the knife, authorities said, Sevier ATTACKED Bordman and Phillips." Lawrence Journal World , Tuesday, April 23, 1991.

"Douglas County Dist Atty. gave details of the shooting at a press conference Monday. He said the officers were told that Sevier was ARMED WITH A LARGE KNIFE. Journal World, Sunday, April 28, 1991.

Sherri Loveland, Bordman's attorney, said her client was pleased about the inquest. "He was pleased that the truth came out and that the jury understood that HE WAS PLACED in a situation where he HAD TO FIRE," she said. "When he went into that house, he had no intention of using his service weapon. HE WAS PLACED IN THAT SITUATION." Lawrence Journal World , Thursday, May 2, 1991.

"The officers had gone to the Sevier home after Sevier's mother called the 911 emergency line and reported her distraught son was in his room ARMED with a knife." ". . . officers are trained to fire at an ARMED AGGRESSOR'S upper torso until the person has stopped and is no longer A LETHAL THREAT." The Topeka Capital Journal , Thursday, May 2, 1991.

"Lawrence Police Department responded to a 911 call. They had heard reports an armed man was arguing with his family in front of the house." Channel 49, 5:03 p.m., April 28, 1991.

"Bordman and Phillips were sent to the residence after Sevier's mother, Orene, Called 911 and said her son was locked in his room armed with a knife. Lawrence Journal World , December 29, 1991, Page One.

The Gregory A. Sevier Memorial Fund was established for obvious reasons. To generate income for the fund, Willie and Orene Sevier sold T-shirts and sweatshirts designed by Judy Sevier Hoffman.

I designed a newspaper display ad in mid November with three purposes in mind: (a) To assess public opinion regarding the Gregg Sevier case, (b) To stimulate interest in the case and the Fund, and (c) To encourage contributions to the fund.

On November 20, 1991, I took my ad to the Lawrence Journal World's Advertising Department and paid \$255.60 with the agreement that the ad would appear in the Local News section of the following Sunday's newspaper. I was asked for my phone number and was given a receipt. I arrived at my living quarters thirty minutes later and found a message to telephone Mr. Gene Armstrong.

Mr. Armstrong: We're not going to print that ad. You can come by and pick up the money or we'll mail it to you.

JT: Can you tell me why you won't print the ad?

Mr. Armstrong: No. You can come by and pick up the money or we'll mail it to you.

JT: Can you tell me how I can change the ad to make it printable?

Mr. Armstrong: No. You can come by and pick up the money or we'll mail it to you.

JT: Please mail it to me then.

Here is my address: .

Three days later I received a check from the Lawrence Journal World for \$255.60.

MINORITY EFFORTS STILL PROGRESSING, CITY'S
LEADERS SAY

By Deb Gruver, J-W Staff Writer

The Rev. William Dulin offers this advice for improving race relations in Lawrence: "Come now and let us reason together."

Reasoning together and putting hostility aside is how Lawrence's diverse community will heal in the wake of the April 21 police shooting of a local Native American man, Dulin said, calling on biblical inspiration.

Asked whether he was satisfied with progress made by the city on initiatives outlined after the fatal shooting of 22 year old Gregory Sevier, Dulin stressed he is not looking for a quick fix.

"I'm not looking for speed," Dulin noted. "Speed is not the answer. Endurance is."

Dulin thinks the city has taken some important steps to encourage better relations, but what concerns the minister more is continuity, making sure those steps aren't lost in the process.

RACE RELATIONS were tense in Lawrence after Sevier was killed by Lawrence police officers Ted Bordman and James Phillips at the Sevier home. Bordman and Phillips were sent to the residence after Sevier's mother, Orene, called 911 and said her son was locked in his room armed with a knife.

Native American leaders said the city had been insensitive to the local Indian community and pointed to what they called racist attitudes and discrimination among police and city officials.

In May, Mayor Bob Walters outlined what he thought the city should do to improve relations.

Mike Wildgen, Lawrence city manager, thinks the city has made steady progress toward its goals. Like Dulin, Wildgen said an ongoing commitment is more important than overnight results.

"NUMBER ONE, it's not something you do and just walk away from," Wildgen said. He said sensitivity training for city employees and department heads must be a continuous effort. He said information about how to be sensitive to minority concerns is now "ingrained" into the annual training of the management team, which is made up of the city's department heads.

Wildgen said some of the city's initiatives have taken a lot more work and research than others. He said the city has done "more on some, less on others" but that officials have attended to each initiative "in one way or another."

FOR EXAMPLE, he said staff training has gone smoothly but enhancements to the city's 911 system are going to take awhile to complete. Wildgen said he wouldn't want the city's goal to be to finish its objectives and move on to something else. Rather, the city should seek ongoing improvements.

"I don't intend and feel that this should be a onetime" shot, Wildgen said. Walters, who brainstormed the city's goals, said Friday that he thinks the city has made a lot of progress but that the players involved "still have a lot of work to do." The mayor outlined the status of initiatives in a recent report on efforts since Sevier's death:

-- THE FEDERAL Bureau of Investigation's probe into the matter has been completed, and results are being reviewed by officials from FBI headquarters in Washington, D. C.

-- The Lawrence police department's internal investigation into the death was completed, and the internal affairs division found no violations of procedural rules.

-- The Community Task Force on Racism, Discrimination and Cultural Diversity filed its report with the city commission on June 25, and the commission subsequently implemented the task force's recommendation to continue the work of the task force under the name of the Lawrence Alliance. Walters said Friday that he expects the Lawrence Alliance to meet early next year.

-- A POLICE peer review board, charged with looking into the policies and procedures of the Lawrence police department was appointed by the commission on June 11. The group's report initially was expected Sept. 1 but is behind schedule. It now is expected to be released next month.

-- City officials have met with local mental health professionals as well as Richard Davenport, who directs a crisis training program within the Waterloo, Iowa, police department. City leaders and mental health officials are to meet in January to reflect on Davenport's presentation and how parts of the Waterloo training program could be incorporated in Lawrence.

-- Walters said further consideration of a suggestion to establish a police department review board must await results of the peer review board's recommendations.

-- THE CITY has allocated \$11,000 in the fiscal year 1992 budget for implementation of an accreditation program for the police department. In addition, Walters sponsored a prayer breakfast about diversity Nov. 11. He said the meeting, involving minority leaders, was successful, and he said he would sponsor similar gatherings in the coming months.

The city also participated in a "Dialogue on Racism, Discrimination and Human Diversity" sponsored by the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. It was there that Haskell Indian Junior College President Bob Martin congratulated the city for its efforts but expressed some concern that progress had been too slow in some areas.

Martin said at the Chamber of Commerce meeting that if progress is to continue, "It is incumbent upon all of us to be committed and proactive in resolving these difficult problems."

"Progress is action and movement toward a goal," he said, "while commitment is being emotionally and intellectually bound to this specified course of action."

MARTIN SAID he was pleased with the city's leadership but said some of the initiatives lacked the financial commitment he believes they need to be successful.

For example, Martin pointed out that the city's diversity task force recommended that \$30,000 be budgeted to hire a full-time coordinator for the Lawrence Alliance, but the city funded only \$10,000 toward the group. Kansas University, Haskell and the Lawrence school district also have pledged to participate in the group's funding.

Plus, Martin also would like to see funding for a human relations fair housing specialist.

WILLIE SEVIER, Gregory Sevier's father, said his major disappointment has been that city officials haven't updated his family on progress toward the initiatives. Asked about that issue, Walters said no one from the city has personally contacted the Sevier family but the city makes public announcements at commission meetings about progress in improving race relations.

Sevier said he understood that changes would not take place overnight, but he said progress has seemed slow. "I know it takes time, but still yet I don't know where their priorities are," Sevier said. "I just hope the same thing doesn't happen again. "Lawrence Journal World , Sunday, December 29, 1991

POLICE GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY CITY

Lawrence city commissioners adopted new police department guidelines for handling domestic violence situations Tuesday with the cautious support of local anti-violence and women's groups.

Commissioners approved the guidelines with little debate.

"I perceive domestic violence to be the chief problem we've had here in Lawrence in the last year," Mayor Bob Walters said.

The Lawrence Police Department already has a policy covering many of the guidelines, but a state law passed this year calls for a separate policy for all law enforcement agencies, said Dave Corliss, city management analyst. Lawrence Police Chief Ron Olin said Tuesday that most of the changes in the current policy involved changing the verb "may" in certain passages to "will."

"For all practical purposes, the guidelines change little or any of the ways we normally respond to domestic violence situations," Olin said.

The guidelines, which will go into effect Jan. 1, follow domestic situations from the police's perspective, including how dispatchers should react to domestic violence calls, when to call for backup and how to advise the victim.--Lawrence Journal-World, Sunday, Dec. 22, 1991, p 14A.

THE BIG STORY OF '91

At year's end, the Journal World invited its readers to vote on the relative importance of twelve 1991 news stories. The number of votes received for each of the top five is noted here:

1. A June fire destroys Kansas University's historic Hoch Auditorium. [125 votes]
2. A March hailstorm hits the city, causing millions of dollars of damage to roofs and vehicles in Lawrence. [134 votes]
3. Kansas University's [Black] student body president is removed from office after it was disclosed he had been charged with [misdemeanor] battery.
4. Lawrence police shoot and kill a Native American man when they are called to his home in East Lawrence. Police say they fired when they were threatened with a knife. A coroner's inquest rules that the shooting was justified, but controversy over police procedures continues. [872 votes]
5. The Kansas University Jayhawks defy the odds and reach the championship game of the NCAA Basketball Tournament.
6. The Lawrence school board is questioned for its purchase of the former Elks Lodge to remodel as its new service center housing administrative offices. The project cost was more than \$900,000. [167 votes]
7. Spring elections in Lawrence bring new faces to the Lawrence City Commission and to the local school board.
8. Boeing Aircraft announces that Lawrence is one of the five sites being considered for a new wind tunnel complex. The project is estimated to cost as much as \$1 billion.
9. Two Lawrence residents become instant millionaires when they hit lottery jackpots. [134 votes]
10. Controversy continues over property appraisal in Douglas County and county Appraiser Don Gordon resigns. A new appraiser is hired.
11. Campaign Kansas, the largest fund drive in Kansas University history, tops \$236 million, far surpassing its goal of \$177 million.
12. A Kansas University researcher, KaiWai Wong, announces a breakthrough discovery in superconductivity. KU and three partner schools receive a patent for the discovery, which could have revolutionary applications for rapid conducting of electrical current.

Lord, make me a channel of your peace That where there is hatred, I may bring love That where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness That where there is discord, I may bring harmony That where there is error, I may bring truth That where there is despair, I may bring hope that where there are shadows, I may bring light That where there is sadness, I may bring joy. Lord, grant that I may seek Rather to comfort than to be comforted To understand, than to be understood To love, than to be loved. For it is by self forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life.

Mr. Edwin Moore, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, for thirty years. He is familiar with Lawrence, Kansas. I asked him to tell me when the current Indian problem began. "Five hundred years ago," Mr. Moore said, "when Columbus arrived." I learned in elementary school that in 1492 Christopher Columbus, an Italian, set out from Spain with the idea of India in his mind. Because India was his destination, having arrived somewhere anywhere he assumed that he was in India. And therefore, he assumed, the people he encountered must be Indians. When he returned to Spain, he took some of those Indians with him as slaves. He introduced them to his fellow European White people. Thus "we" learned what Indians are.

Now we know better. Now we know that this land that Columbus "discovered" is not India, but America, named in 1507 by the German cartographer Waldseemuller (whose spelling was not perfect) for the enterprising Italian explorer Amerigo. Its native people are, therefore, not Indians but Americans. But until recently we have always called them Indians because Columbus thought he was going to India. An alternative, debatable theory, belied by what happened next, postulates that Columbus never even mentioned India, that he said, and perhaps believed, briefly, that those people were one with God: "en Dios," which got corrupted to "Indios," and translated to "Indians." Nowadays, whenever a polite label is needed, and regardless of the label's origin, we know enough to be politically correct and not call them Indians but Native Americans.