

METROPOLITAN

Suit charges police brutality

by C. Eddie Edmondson

A Vancouver, Washington black woman has filed a \$100,000 lawsuit against the City of Portland and Multnomah County for injuries she said she received from Portland police during an arrest along Northeast Union Avenue and at the downtown detention facility when a jail guard allegedly threw her against a jail cell.

The complaint, which was filed last week, states that Lorraine Olive, 23, was stopped by two Portland police officers in the early morning hours of January 9, 1982. She was traveling north on Northeast Union, accompanied by two other persons. Ms. Olive explained in an interview what happened.

"I had seen the police behind me since I had made a stop on (Northeast) Grand, and the police passed me then," she said. "They turned around between Shaver and Failing and followed me back onto Union." She was stopped by the officers at Northeast Union and Prescott in an unused parking lot there.

She said she was asked for her driver's license and car registration by the two policemen. No question was raised relative to automobile insurance, she said. Police also searched her car, Ms. Olive said, and told her they were looking for drugs and weapons. None were found.

Before letting her go, the policemen handed her a traffic citation for failing to have proof of automobile insurance. At this point, police and

Ms. Olive agree, she tore the ticket into pieces, the police looking on. Police contend that Ms. Olive stuck her hand out the window and let the pieces drop to the ground; she contends she threw the pieces behind her into her back seat and a couple of pieces went out her partly lowered window through which the ticket had been handed her. Ms. Olive says police pulled her door open. Both agree she was told by the police to get back out of the car.

The mother of two young children said the policemen beat and seized her before telling her she was under arrest. At one time, she recalled, the officers of the law slammed her body against the wall of the building on the vacant parking lot. Police deny they grabbed or beat Ms. Olive and contended instead she attempted to assault them. They defended themselves by physically restraining her during which time she might have suffered her injuries, they allege.

The 125-pound, tall, slender woman recalls losing and gaining consciousness during her arrest. She remembers being dragged by the officers into the Multnomah County detention facility because she was unable to walk due to her injuries. She became fully conscious in a jail cell, she said. There were no other persons around despite her calls to anyone.

"It's a telephone in the cell," said Ms. Olive who has no prior record. "So I telephoned a friend of mine (collect). I was talking to her on the phone when two people came to the

(cell) door. One was a black matron (guard) and the other was a (male) sergeant (guard)."

According to Ms. Olive, the woman guard remained by the opened jail cell while the male guard, who is white, came inside, snatched the telephone receiver out of her hand and slammed her against a cell wall.

"I went head first," she said, "and that busted my head open. And when I felt my head busted, I said, 'You guys done gone and busted my head open.' They didn't say nothing."

Ms. Olive was taken to another cell where her head was wrapped with gauze and taken for treatment to an area hospital. Jail guards requested and the hospital did not take pictures of her injuries, or, for that matter, treat her for any other injuries she had received that night except for the head injury.

"They refused to take X-rays, they just sutured up my head," she said.

After she was returned to Multnomah County detention facilities, she was given papers to sign for release on her own recognizance.

Last summer Ms. Olive went to trial in circuit court. She was acquitted of littering, but a jury found Ms. Olive guilty of resisting arrest. She was fined \$250 and given a suspended jail sentence. The original charge against her that January night over a year ago, of operating a car without proof of insurance, had been dismissed before trial because Ms. Olive was insured at the time.



Jalal and Nafisa Sherriff of the Chuck Davis Afro American Dance Co., stopped by the Black Educational Center, and using music, call and response, taught the youngsters about drums and clothes worn in Africa. (Photo: Richard Brown)

AAA changes topic of hearings

Public hearings will be held the week of March 21-25 to solicit input from the community regarding proposals for changes in the way services are provided to the elderly in Portland and Multnomah County. There will be presentations, discussions and testimony taken on the following proposals:

1) Transfer of Area Agency on Aging from the City Human Resources Bureau to the County Department of Human Services.

A task force has recommended that the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) be moved from the City of Portland Human Resources Bureau to the Multnomah County Department of Human Services on July 1, 1983 so it can be better coordinated with County health and mental health services.

2) Area Agency on Aging administration, instead of state administration, of Medicaid long-term care services (nursing homes, etc.) for elderly and disabled persons.

Senate Bill 955 consolidated health and social services for elderly and disabled adults into one State branch, the Senior Services Division

and allows a shift from State to local administration. The Portland/Multnomah Reorganization Task Force recommended that the Portland/Multnomah AAA take over administration of long-term care programs on July 1, 1983.

3) Services for the elderly which the Area Agency on Aging will provide during 1983-84.

The AAA writes an annual plan to identify needs and provide services. Among the programs that can be included are: Senior Center, congregate meals, home-delivered meals, transportation, legal aid, in-home support, productive services, day care, adult foster homes, nursing homes, information and referral, etc.

City Commissioner Margaret Strachan, and County Commissioners will preside at the hearings. Hearings are scheduled at the following times:

Monday, March 21, 2-4 p.m., Urban League, King Neighborhood Facility; Tuesday, March 22, 2-4 p.m., PACT; Wednesday, March 23, 10 a.m.-noon, Multnomah Co.

ESD Building; Wednesday, March 23, 7-9 p.m., Portland Building; Friday, March 25, 10 a.m.-noon, University Park.

Jefferson reunion planned

Mel Renfro, Nancy Ryles, Wendall Wyatt, Art Eckman, John Helmer, Jr., Nate Jones, and Terry Baker... These are just some of the more notable graduates of Portland's Thomas Jefferson High School. And by this time next year many more of the school's alums will gather to celebrate the school's 75th anniversary.

Warner (Chuck) Long, a vice-president with U.S. Bancorp who was senior class president in 1959, is spearheading the organization of the gala celebration tentatively set for June of 1984. He is looking for Jefferson grads who are interested in forming a committee to plan the affair which is expected to draw

over 3,000 people to the North Portland school for a day-long celebration. He estimates that there could be well over 15,000 graduates of the school scattered all over the state and the nation. Interested alums should contact him by mail at: U.S. Bancorp, 555 SW Oak (PL2), Portland, Oregon 97204. He is enthusiastic about the possibilities for the diamond jubilee.

Jefferson, Portland's third oldest high school, was organized in 1909 and moved into the building which still houses the School of Champions in February 1910. Jefferson has a long and proud tradition of athletic and academic accomplishments.

CHECKED THE PRICE FOR A CAN OF ELECTRICITY LATELY?



It's about 4¢ for a one kilowatt hour can. And when electricity comes in a can, it's easier to think about your energy budget.

To stay within your food budget, you probably check the price for most canned goods when you shop.

But consider this. If you could buy electricity in a can, you could check the current price for one kilowatt hour of power every time you bought a few cans. That way you'd be able to better stay within your energy budget. You'd have more control over how much energy you use, so you'd have more control over how much you pay.

Because how much you use determines how much you pay.

If you think of electricity as a product that's made, bought and used up — like any canned good — it's a little easier to see what you get for your money.

One kilowatt hour of electricity can give you enough power to light up a room for 10 hours. Or blow dry your hair every morning for almost six weeks. Or wake you up to your clock radio for nearly four months.

Since your bill is based on how many total kilowatt hours you use each month, knowing the price for a kilowatt hour gives you the power to control your costs.

Not just by using less electricity. But by using only as many cans of electricity as you really need.

★ NOW OPEN ★
NEW-BEAUTIFUL

Rent Subsidized
Hi Rise Living
Downtown

- ★ Designed for Seniors and handicapped
- ★ Qualified Applicants pay only 30% of their income
- ★ 162 units completely refurbished
- ★ Most modern fire & security systems

For information call . . .

PARK TOWER
731 SW SALMON
227-3367



THE PEOPLE AT PACIFIC POWER