

The Revolution of 1963--Part V

# Few People Stand in Middle Ground Over Racial Problems

Advance for Friday PMS 12-13  
 Revolution '63 - V  
 (Last of Five)  
 (EDITOR'S NOTE: Americans white and black reacted to the 1963 social revolution. Negroes demonstrated in scores of cities. Many whites in the South and North contended the Negro was moving too fast. UPI reporters interviewed nearly 300 persons of both races in the 50 states to try to assess the mood of America as the year neared its close. The findings are summarized in the following dispatch, last in a series of five.)

By AL KUETTNER  
 United Press International  
 Seldom has there been an issue with so few people standing in the middle ground.  
 Negroes spoke out vigorously for the "freedom" they contended they won 100 years ago when Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. Hundreds of protests were staged, sometimes against a backdrop of violence, to reinforce the demand.  
 Whites in every section of the nation reacted with mixed emotions—anger, disgust, sympathy and, in some cases, open admiration.  
 The feelings were strong. There was no mincing of words on either side when conversations turned to this social upheaval of 1963.

United Press International reporters, in a sampling of opinion in every state, talked to doctors and lawyers, laborers and housewives, students, professors and professional men to find out their thoughts.  
 Whites were asked if they favored some form of integration or complete segregation. Did this include social integration? Was the Negro moving too fast in his drive for equality?  
 Negroes were asked to rate their gains, list their greatest need and main hope of accomplishing it. Was the Negro in a mood for a mass uprising that could lead to violence? No, said 67 Negroes. Yes, said 38 others. Thirty others were undecided.  
 The events of 1963 were felt

in places like Boise, Idaho and Fairbanks, Alaska, as well as Birmingham, Ala., and Danville, Va.  
 "I do not favor complete integration. If it includes intermarriage," said optometrist Sidney Rubenstein of Harrisburg, Pa. "Our society is not yet ready for this."  
 A majority of whites (119 of 144 questioned) said they favored some degree of integration ranging from limited to complete. But 90 of those interviewed drew the line at social integration. Many mentioned their opposition to intermarriage.  
 Opposition to any form of integration was greatest in the Deep South.

"People I know that were kind of on the fence have switched over to my side," said Tommy Hooks III, 49-year-old Americus, Ga., real estate dealer and a segregationist.  
 "The average Negro does not want to integrate," said an attractive restaurant operator in Montgomery, Ala.  
 A socially prominent San Francisco white woman, active in political and volunteer groups favored integration but she said she was "shocked" when a Negro boy called her teen-age daughter and asked for a date. She forbade her daughter to accept.

Common Topic  
 Two other women in San Francisco discussed the intermarriage aspects that often crop up in the white interviews but seldom in the Negro answers.  
 A Vassar graduate, daughter of a prominent San Francisco businessman, said she would rather "see a white girl have an affair with a Negro than marry him."  
 A blonde bank teller said, "If he (a Negro) was normally acceptable, I would date him; and if I was in love, I would marry him."  
 A Milwaukee doctor: "I don't favor complete integration. I favor integrated theaters and all the rest but not housing. The Negro is pushing for demands he hasn't earned yet."  
 Mrs. Neil Howard, a Boise white housewife: "There are people right here in this neighborhood who don't want their children to go to school with colored children. I think this attitude is terrible."  
 A number of white southerners who favored limited integration said it was inevitable.  
 A white service station operator in Atlanta pulled a \$5 bill from his pocket during the interview. "I can't tell whether it came from a white man or a Negro. In business, this money is just as good, black or white."  
 Time A Factor  
 Is the Negro moving too fast? Seventy-two whites said yes. Sixty-four said no. Eight were undecided.  
 William Miller, a white bartender in Minneapolis: "He is trying to push his way into everything. He doesn't really want to come into a white bar, but he does it to see if he'll be served."  
 "I don't know how fast they should go," said Mrs. Kathleen Schweiker, a Des Moines housewife.  
 Mrs. Diane Greenfield, 37, a saleswoman, in New Jersey: "He is killing his own cause. He is pushing too hard, but I can't blame him."  
 Negroes north and south generally felt there had been progress in race relations during the past five years. Seventy-nine of 135 Negroes questioned said it ranged from improved to fair. Thirty-eight said it was good or excellent.  
 Little Rock mail carrier Leslie W. Jordan Sr.: "There has been most progress. What Negroes want most is education and economic advancement."  
 "I hope things don't get out of hand and we lose all we've gained," a Negro housewife in Washington state said.  
 "I don't see that there's a hell of a lot different but I guess it's O.K.," said Malcolm Orville Johnson, 44-year-old shoe shiner in Phoenix, Ariz.  
 Greatest Need  
 Negroes time and time again mentioned the need for better job opportunities. This consideration was a 2 to 1 choice in southern and border states as the greatest need. In the North, 28 cited employment needs. Forty other Negroes in the North listed "respect and equality" as their greatest desire.  
 "If we get the job opportunities, the dollar will solve many problems," said Carl H. Russell, a Negro mortician and member of the city commission in Winston-Salem, N.C.

"We're going to get the things we should have had all along. In another five years, people will look at this as a real stupid age. It's like the Darkman, a Negro who operates a janitorial service in Fairbanks, Alaska.



MANY INTERVIEWED—United Press International reporters interviewed nearly 300 persons of both races in a survey through 50 states to try to assess the "mood of America" on the racial problem as the year neared its close. Among those interviewed were Sidney Rubenstein, Harrisburg, Pa., optometrist, who said he was against intermarriage; Mrs. Dorothy Minor, Negro housewife of Great Falls, Mont., who said Negroes are prejudiced, and Mallory Carter, Negro shoeshine stand operator in Portland, Oregon, who said the young will solve the problem. (UPI)

Alaska. Coleman and other Negroes weren't certain about the first means of accomplishing their goal.  
 A slight majority, North and South, called for Negro-white cooperation on the local level. The next highest group among those interviewed favored the course charted by the late President Kennedy, who was named often as the "best hope" of the Negro. A third group cited the continued militancy of the racial organizations.  
 "Everyone talks about it but it's the young people and education that are going to solve this problem," said Mallory Carter, 32-year-old Negro who moved to Portland, Ore., from Birmingham, Ala.  
 Is there a solution in sight? "I don't thing total integration will come about for another 100 years," said Mrs. George Kanuff, a white medical technician in Pittsburgh. She favors complete integration and thinks education is the key to the solution.  
 "Parents must teach their children," said Mrs. Jane Jones Reed, a 40-year-old Negro housewife in Portsmouth, N.H.  
 "So long as there are people living, there will always be a racial problem," said Mrs. Blanche Mochel, 37-year-old white housewife in Washington state.

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Theodor Heuss Death Mourned

STUTTGART, Germany (UPI)—West Germans today mourned the death of Theodor Heuss, their first post-war president. He was honored as a modest and popular man who helped bring democracy to his country.  
 Heuss, 79, died Thursday night at his home in Stuttgart after a long illness and the amputation of his left leg. Doctors said death was caused by a blood circulation ailment.  
 The friendly professor with the shock of white hair was venerated by West Germans as a "father."  
 A journalist, a scholar, a professor and a politician, he shunned pomp and helped create an image that lifted Germany's status in the world following two devastating wars.  
 Heuss served as president of West Germany from the nation's founding in 1949 until 1959. Elected twice to the country's highest office, he held little real political power but used his ceremonial post to set a modest and humane example for his countrymen.

Pope Waits Plans On Summit Parley

VATICAN CITY (UPI)—Pope Paul VI will await the outcome of a meeting of Eastern Orthodox leaders in Istanbul, Turkey, before proceeding with plans for a religious summit conference in the Holy Land. Vatican sources said today.  
 The Eastern Orthodox synod is expected to reach a decision early next week on the reported desire of spiritual leader patriarch Athenagoras I to go to the Holy Land next month and pray with the Pope and other Christian leaders.  
 Athenagoras probably will follow the synod's decision. Vatican sources said.  
 The names of 11 prelates who will make up the Pope's official party for the Jan. 4-6 pilgrimage to Christian shrines was released by the Vatican Thursday. It includes the secretary of state, Amleto Cardinal Cicognani, and two other cardinals expert in Eastern affairs.

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