

Police Killer of Laurie Also Murderer of Boy

**Zabutinsky Is Cop Who Shot Young Santos
Fernandez in Cold Blood September 5—
Officials Whitewash Both Acts**

By Cyril Briggs

Patrolman Abraham Zabutinski, who murdered the Negro worker, Edward Laurie, early last Saturday morning at 136th Street and Lenox Avenue, is the same police killer who, on Sept. 5, last, committed the cold-blooded murder of Santos Fernandez, a Porto Rican school child, in the backyard of a chain store at 52 Lenox Avenue, Lower Harlem.

Zabutinski was at that time assigned to the West 123rd Street police station. His murder of little Santos Fernandez evoked such indignation among the Latin-American workers of Harlem that he was transferred from the station, after the police authorities had whitewashed the shocking crime.

A tough guy and a ruthless killer, Patrolman Zabutinski was transferred to the West 135th Street station, in the heart of Negro Harlem, to join the other police thugs

of Mayor LaGuardia in terrorizing the Negro people of Harlem.

Shot in Cold Blood

Little Santos Fernandez was shot down in cold blood by Patrolman Zabutinski, when the latter found him and another boy playing in the backyard of the chain store at 52 Lenox Avenue. Zabutinski accused the two children of trying to break into the store, and before the frightened boys could explain their presence in the yard, Zabutinski

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Laurie Second Victim of Cop

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shot down Santos and turned his smoking gun on the other kid. The latter's screams "Please don't kill me," attracted the attention of workers in nearby tenement buildings. Theirs shouted protests saved the intended second child-victim of LaGuardia's police thug.

The body of the killer Zabutinski's latest victim, the Negro worker, Laurie, lay yesterday in the funeral parlor of Eric C. Phillips, at 106 West 136th Street. Friends of the murdered worker have been collecting funds for his funeral, which will take place today at noon from Phillips' Funeral Parlor. Laurie leaves an aged mother, who is living in Key West, Florida, and a wife and four children from whom he had been separated for some time.

Witnesses to be at Hearing

The Mayor's Committee to Investigate Social and Economic Conditions in Harlem, which has already admitted that the March 19 outbreak was caused by the widespread hunger and misery in Harlem, is holding an open hearing Saturday morning, 10 o'clock, in the 7th District Municipal Court, 447 West 151st Street. Unemployed Harlem workers who have been slugged and beaten up by police at the home relief bureaus, the eye-witnesses of the police shootings on March 19, of the police murder of Laurie, will attend this hearing and demand to be heard.

Wednesday night's protest meeting at Madison Square Garden is called jointly by the American League Against War and Fascism and the American Civil Liberties Union. The protest action has received the endorsement of many organizations, including the Communist Party, the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, the International Labor Defense and a number of trade unions.

Investigation Demand Backed

The demand raised last Sunday by the Daily Worker, in a telegram to District Attorney Dodge, for an investigation of the police murder of Laurie and for the arrest of Patrolman Zabutinski, has also received the support of numerous organizations in Harlem and throughout the city. Protest resolutions have been sent to Mayor LaGuardia, District Attorney Dodge and the Mayor's Committee to Investigate Social and Economic Conditions in Harlem. In a telegram to District Attorney Dodge, the New York District International Labor Defense demanded the immediate arrest and prosecution of Zabutinski, and of the policemen who fired on Harlem workers on March 19. The organization demanded an investigation of the police department, to be conducted by agencies outside of the police.

The Unemployed Teachers Association wired Mayor LaGuardia a demand for a thorough investigation of school conditions in Harlem, pointing out that overcrowded schools, lack of playgrounds, etc., were contributory factors in the indignant outburst of the Negro people of Harlem on March 19. The Association, through Isadore Begun, chairman of its Executive Board, offered the testimony of Harlem teachers if assured by the Mayor of protection against reprisals. The telegram concluded: "You promised to clean up the Board of Education. Do so now. We offer full co-operation."

For Workers' Bill

"Genuine unemployment and social insurance is the burning need of the Negro people," the N. Y. Joint Action Committee for Social Insurance, 80 East 11th Street, declared in a statement issued yesterday on the Harlem situation.

"Every newspaper, without exception," the statement says, "admits that the basic reasons leading to the incident of March 19 were the mass unemployment, the discrimination, and the lack of adequate relief in Harlem." The Committee called upon Congressman Vito Marcantonio of the 20th Congressional District, Harlem, to exert every effort to assure passage of Workers Bill, H. R. 2827, for genuine unemployment and social insurance without discrimination because of race, religion or political beliefs.

PASSAIC, N. J., March 27.—Passaic Negro and white workers will protest the growing political reaction in New York City, and the LaGuardia-Dodge attacks upon the Negro people of Harlem and the Communist Party in a mass meeting here tomorrow night, March 28, at the Bethel A. M. E. Church, 145 Myrtle Avenue.

The meeting, called jointly by the League of Struggle for Negro Rights and the Communist Party, will be addressed by Elwood Dean, young Negro worker of Newark, and Aleck Dorson, Passaic section organizer of the Communist Party. Rev. Keller, pastor of Bethel Church, will act as chairman.