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Swank Interracial Party Is Raided By Germantown Police

An interracial group of college age youth have angrily charged that a party they held in the exclusive Mt. Airy section of Germantown was raided and several Negro guests were manhandled because they attended the party with white girls. At least two dozen of the youthful guests, male and female, were placed under arrest on charges of disorderly conduct.

Capt. Frederick Dohrmann, commander of the 14th District Precinct, told the Tribune late yesterday that the raid was made upon the duplex apartment of Leonard King, 22, of the 500 block of Pleasant Place, because the precinct had received numerous complaints from neighbors about loud disturbances at the house.

MOTHER CHARGES BRUTALITY

But, the mother of one of the arrested Negro boys charged that her son had been mauled by officers after they saw him at the party with a white girl.

The boy, Reynolds Jones, 19, of 225 n. Farson st., was charged with assault and battery on an officer, resisting arrest, and disorderly conduct. He paid a $10 fine.

The mother of another arrested boy told the Tribune her son had insisted that there were no loud disturbances inside the house. He was James P. Outlaw, of 1821 W. Christian st.

"He told me he was positive the raid was conducted because it was attended by a mixed crowd," she said, "and I believe him."

WHITE YOUTH ACCUSED

A white youth, Herbert Griesel of the 1300 block of 65th ave., was held on charges of possession of dangerous drugs after officers testified they found an unmarked vial with colored capsules on him.

The youth insisted the bottle contained medicine prescribed by a physician. The magistrate

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Swank Party Raided

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held him in $300 bail pending the appearance of his physician to confirm the fact that the tablets were prescribed medicine.

"I can't understand why the party was raided," Griesel told the Tribune later. "I certainly hope it wasn't because it was interracial."

Captain Dohrmann told the Tribune that his officers had kept the Pleasant Place apartment under surveillance for a considerable time before they entered.

ALLEGEDLY NOISY

"They went in after it began to get noisy," Dohrmann said.

The captain said that his officers found the party guests lounging about on the floor with the hi fi machine blaring loudly. The officers placed King under arrest for operating a disorderly house.

Other guests were asked to come along quietly. Some of them did, the Captain said, but others objected violently. One of those who resisted, he said, was Burton Bloom, 24, of Lincoln Ave. in Haddonfield, N. J.

Bloom, white, testified at the hearing the following morning that he felt his rights were being violated. He was held in $300 bail after the magistrate agreed to set another date for a hearing when he could be represented by counsel.

PROMINENT FAMILIES

The parents of many of the arrested young men and women appeared at the hearings the following morning. Some of them left vowing to hire attorneys and protest the arrest of their children.

Few of the parents, white or Negro, were willing to discuss the matter with the Tribune.

"What good would it do to air this thing in the paper," one white mother said. My daughter has already been humiliated enough. And please don't use my name."

"It just goes to show you," a Negro father commented. "Those kids at the party come from some of the finest families in the city. They are just the victims of discrimination and bigotry."

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