

# Muslim Assails Police 'Hostility'

Malcolm X, who reputedly is heir-apparent to leadership of the nationwide Black Muslim movement, returned here yesterday from New York City to blast Rochester police "hostility."

His visit, at least his third in a month, was in connection with jailing of 13 Muslims, held in Monroe County Jail on riot charges.

Among other things, Malcolm X declared that "before long, Rochester will be better known internationally than Oxford, Miss.," scene of the recent University of Mississippi integration troubles.

"Rochester may be a precedent-setting city for police hostility toward Muslims," he added.

Asked for comment, Mayor Henry E. Gillette merely said: "Obviously he (Malcolm X) is a stranger to Rochester because he is not describing any condition that exists here."

Malcolm X also claimed

that the Muslims jailed here were on a hunger strike, that "12 of them have not eaten in eight days" and that "they intend to keep on fasting until they die . . . in order to call attention to unjust conditions that exist in Rochester."

This drew a retort from Sheriff Albert W. Skinner, who said: "This is not true. There is no hunger strike. They (the Muslims) are eating bread and milk, and they have people bringing them in food . . . the Muslims objected to pork and mashed potatoes."

While here, Malcolm X conferred with Loftus C. Carson, executive director of the Monroe County Human Relations Committee. Carson said he talked briefly with him, and that Malcolm X "is still upset about what happened to his group."

Reuben K. Davis, attorney who was instrumental in arranging for \$500 bail to be set for each of the 13 Mus-

lims jailed, could not be reached for comment last night.

One of them — Benjamin Whittaker of Buffalo—came up for a bail hearing yesterday but failed to post it and was returned to a cell. It was indicated through his attorney, David Merkel, that "the defendant did not desire to make "bail at this time."

The case here arose when

## 21st Ward Dinner To Honor 30

Twenty-first Ward Democrats will honor 30 ward residents who hold top city and judicial posts at a 7 p.m. dinner tonight in the Moose Club. Corporation Counsel Arthur B. Curran Jr., 21st Ward leader, said about 250 are expected to attend. Speakers will include City Manager Porter W. Homer, a ward resident.

two police officers went to 304 North St., where a Muslim meeting was in progress, to investigate a report of a man with a gun. The officers said they were assaulted and injured by the Muslims.

Eighteen Muslims subsequently were indicted on charges of riot and third degree assault. Two named in the indictment are free in \$500 bail each, and three others are still at large.

Malcolm X said yesterday that Muslim members in New York's Harlem would hold a mass meeting tomorrow to protest the jailings here.

## OFFICE, STATION LOOTED

Burglars broke into a service station at 664 Plymouth Ave. S. and looted two vending machines of change. At the office of Dr. Edward G. Hardenbrook, 245 Lake Ave., jewelry and about \$30 cash were taken.