

The University of Baltimore is launching a two-year investigation called “Baltimore’68: Riots and Rebirth,” a project centered around the events that followed the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and their effects on the development of our city. UB administration and faculty members in the law school and in the undergraduate departments of history and community studies are planning a series of projects and events to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this pivotal event. We are currently working with the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History, The Jewish Museum of Maryland, Maryland Public Television and the Enoch Pratt Free Libraries to pursue funding for projects that may include conferences, a website and a library traveling exhibit.

Your potential participation in an oral history project would contribute to the very foundation of this project – the memories of Baltimoreans who lived through the riots and saw the changes that came about in response to them. Your life story can fill in the limited knowledge we learn from newspaper accounts and the television footage.

If you choose to participate in the project you would be interviewed by students from the University of Baltimore. They will ask you questions, but your memories will determine the direction of the interviews.

If you agree to serve as an oral history informant in this project, you will meet with a team of undergraduate students. The students will take a still photograph of you. In addition, if you have a photo of yourself in or around 1968, we would greatly appreciate it if we could borrow it, scan it, and return it. We would reserve the rights to reproduce those photos and use them on the website, conferences, exhibit or publications.

The students may conduct the interviews at a location of your choice, or you may meet them at the University of Baltimore Langsdale Library for your interviews. During the interviews, your recollections will be recorded in two forms: audio and video. The students will be responsible for operating the equipment. You can expect the interviews to last for a minimum of 30 minutes each.

Sometimes talking about events that occurred decades ago will unearth forgotten memories. Undoubtedly, some of those remembrances will be negative. We greatly appreciate your willingness to take the risk of exploring a potentially painful past so that your life experiences will be recorded.

After the interviews the students will transcribe your oral history. They will provide you with a copy of the transcription for your review before the transcription is published. The transcription, video and audio records will be archived in the Langsdale Library Special Collections and will be accessible to the public. Your name will be attached to these documents. The University of Baltimore may use your image and/or your words in any future documentaries, exhibits, conferences or publications. Participants in the oral history project agree to waive their confidentiality.

If at any time you are uncomfortable with participation in the study, you are free to drop out. Participation is strictly voluntary. While your participation is requested and highly valued, you are free to decide whether or not to continue participation at all times. You may decline to have your name published with your reminiscences


If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact me at 410-837-5296. Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Nix, Ph.D.  
Visiting Assistant Professor  
History and Community Studies  
The University of Baltimore

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I have read and understand the information provided above, and consent to participate in the study. I have also been given a copy of the informed consent for my records.



Judge Tom Ward  
August 28, 2008  
Interviewer: John Swallenberg  
Bolton Hill, Baltimore, MD

Interviewer: This is John Swallenberg conducting the oral interview for the 68' project. It is August 28<sup>th</sup>. For the record, could you state your full name please.

Tom Ward: Tom Ward

Interviewer: Thank you. What was your situation in 1968? How old were you? Where did you work or go to school? Where did you do your shopping? Those kinds of things.

Tom Ward: In 1968 I was a lawyer. I lived in this neighborhood. I lived right in this house where we are conducting this interview, which is 1325 Bolton Street. I had a law office right on Linden Avenue, which is one block away. And uh. What else did you want to know?

Interviewer: Where did you do your shopping? Grocery shopping, clothes shopping things of that nature.

Tom Ward: I never did grocery shopping (laughter) never.

Interviewer: Never

Tom Ward: Never

Interviewer: Did you do your own clothes shopping?

Tom Ward: What do you want to get to? Why don't we... I know all about the riots.

Interviewer: I understand.

Tom Ward: I don't shop. I don't do things like that.

Interviewer: Oh okay. Before the riots, what kind of interaction did you have with people of other races besides your own.

Tom Ward: Well, I've been in the Baltimore City Council representing this district. I was on the Metropolitan Transit Authority for two terms. I've been on all kinds of mayors committees and so forth. I've been active numerous political groups, founder of the Mt. Royal Democratic Club and I could go on and on. So I have a tremendous amount of interactivity between communities and so forth. Obviously to get elected I must have.

Interviewer: Right understandable. Before the riots began, just before, how would you describe the racial mood in Baltimore? Were there racial tensions, things of that nature.

Tom Ward: Well, I was in the City Council during all the civil rights bills and when I entered the city council in 1963, Baltimore was a segregated city except for the educational decision by the Supreme Court. Restaurants was segregated everything was segregated. Despite that there was no what you would call hatred or serious hostility. Everybody was anticipating change. I suppose it was that anticipation that kept things calm and rational. In 1963 the civil Rights Bills were introduced in the City Council and they continued to pass until the entire city was desegregated in all aspects including housing. And I of course was part of the majority in all of those bills. Those bills passed 11 to 10 all of them were 11 to 10. And as a result of those bills I was defeated for reelection.

Interviewer: Oh my. What do you remember about the assassination of King?

Tom Ward: I remember it very well. I remember when it happened. We were worried that it would cause turmoil and civil unrest and it did.

Interviewer: How did you hear about the riots starting?

Tom Ward: Well, I could see them, hear them? You know where you are right now? You're in the center of the city. This, Linden Avenue was, is about a block from here, was a part of an urban renewal area and all the houses have been torn down around me. And my house, which was the old Governor Warfield house, which was really three houses, was by itself on a huge vacant lot. And everything pretty much to the west were projects almost totally occupied by blacks. Whereas, everything to the east behind my house was almost totally white neighborhoods. In other words my office was on the boundary lines. But I'm very familiar with what happened probably more than anyone else you talk to. See, I even know I think who actually started the riots. And I know where they started and how they started and how they spread and during the riots and I'll tell you later some almost amusing details in some ways. But during the riots I got in my jeep and I rode around to see for historical reasons what was going on, by myself. One time I had somebody with me and so I was able to watch the scene and see in how the troops came. Don't forget the 5th regiment Armory was police headquarters and then later on the National Guard and then later on the Airborne Corp from Fort Bragg, NC and the Airborne Corp camped outside my door of my law office. And I saw them set up their machine guns and everything and so I saw everything and I saw it end.

Interviewer: Um, can you elaborate on, you said you know who started it, where it started, can you elaborate on that?

Tom Ward: Yeah, there was a guy who used to come down the City Council all the time. He was African American and he was very light. I suppose he was almost all white. Uh, very intelligent, had a college education very young and he was always

campaigning to eliminate stoves or cold stoves or wood stoves in Baltimore. In those years a lot of people had heat in the form of stoves in their homes. And, he thought it was a form of racial prejudice and so forth. Actually a lot of the people who had the stoves were white, I guess they were cheap heat. I remember he used to campaign outside of City Hall, demonstrate. I remember this guy was very high IQ, but hanging out with people he really didn't know, people he picked up hoping to have him agree with him. And later I heard that he went up to Greenmount and North and kept begging people to do something and as a result of that the first fires were started at Greenmount and North. Now, Greenmount and North had already been a source of racial irritation because there was a bar up there that despite the fact that the City of Baltimore had passed bills during my tenure in City in 1963 outlawing segregation in bars one of the men who had a bar there, I can't remember his name, he refused to desegregate, so this bar before the riots so people were, I can't recall any disorder, but people would carry signs or try to go in, that sort of thing. And this is where it started, right outside his bar, with him this guy. This is what my information was. And then it spread, it spread from there. Not him, but other people would take it up. A lot of looting began, burning and looting and it spread over towards down towards uh, the south of that area going down Greenmount Avenue but also towards, I may have to get a map out to show you, some of the names are escaping me. Down towards the water, not as far as Fells Point, but in between Fells Point and North Avenue, a huge African American neighborhood. The 10<sup>th</sup> ward today, we call it the 10<sup>th</sup> ward, the old Irish ward, just east of the penitentiary. And that area there disorder began and uh, then it spread all across north Avenue in the other direction going west and it went up into the area above North, now called Lake, let's see Goodhill Lake area, Bolton Hill North, Reservoir neighborhood. And there were several streets up there that became really bad, in fact they burned every store and those stores have been since torn down.

Interviewer: Was that Whitelock?

Tom Ward: Whitelock you got it, bingo! And since it's now a vacant lot. Once incident, to get ahead and to leave you a little ahead in my story, is that I believe the uh, the third day of the riots, it could have been the second, the Friday night was the night the fireworks started at Greenmount and North, and Saturday it was spreading, later Friday night it started spreading down into the 10<sup>th</sup> ward towards the harbor but not in Fells Point, and then by Saturday it was spreading west to North Avenue and in this Reservoir neighborhood and more which we'll get to in a minute. But Saturday or Sunday, I think it was Saturday, that I got in my jeep and drove up there, no it must have been Sunday because the Airborne Corp was here, to see what was going on and I hit Whitelock street just at the time that the Airborne men, this wasn't the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne division, this was Airborne Corp headquarters. And I saw a second Lieutenant parachute infantry man jump out of his vehicle and direct a squad to set up a machine gun facing west on Whitelock Street and then he began directing traffic away from the machine gun. And I can tell you things got pretty quiet pretty quick. He knew what he was doing and you could tell that he meant no fooling around. And he cleaned those rioters out of those stores and everything just calmed down right away there, but of course that was only one spot. I drove down Greenmount Avenue and things were wide open and things were burning and mobs were out in the street going in and out of stores and so forth. Bars

particularly and any type of businesses. Later on the next week, I believe it was on Monday, the Airborne Corp had arrived and was camped outside my law office, which was located at 1223 Linwood Avenue and set up there tents and so forth. I remember after they arrived things started to calm down. I had a settlement in my office for a property being bought in Bolton Hill, people from out of town. I don't know how they got to where the office was because all of the streets were blocked and they set up a curfew as you know. They saw this column of smoke going up in the air and they asked me what it was, and since they were spending a huge sum of money within a block of the column of smoke. I just said the house was burning and there was silence for a while and I kept doing the figures and then he said "Why is it burning?" I said the riots are going on and someone started a fire and silence again. I told them I needed a check for so and so and they wrote it. And then they said, "Well, do you think there's any danger to our house?" And I said no I don't think there's any danger to your house and they wanted to know how close it was and I said about a half a block. In fact, we learned that the first Saturday that the police department wasn't responding to calls and gangs of thugs began to look around for things to rob and burn. So, they admitted there was a five hour delay in responding to calls so they set up a headquarters at the 5<sup>th</sup> Regimen Armory, which of course is two blocks from where we're sitting right now. And so, four or five of us formed a defensive unit to try to help old people and so forth and we would call each other for help and carry no weapons except sticks and go to people's assistance. But we were the only ones that did it and we called (interview stopped).

Tom Ward: I think it was St. Paul Street. There were always developers that thought they could do it. Ever yone of those houses had brass railings, I will never forget the brass railings, real, genuine brass railings. And they went in there, this is the 1600 block just north of the station.

Interviewer: This is Judge Tom Ward part II.

Tom Ward: Charles Street just north of the station, not sure of the block there I know the brass railings were there...And this contractor bought almost all the houses and sold them to you know, yuppies people coming in to Baltimore that thought the city was big...Christ the brass railings have been stolen and the houses have been turned over and over again, and you know the number of people coming in and out of there. And now, the city, the O'Malley administration said they were going to do it...did you see they had the fire there? Charles and North, the old Goldenberg department store...the northwest corner. Terrible fire and then the article in the paper about the northeast corner of Charles and North.

Interviewer: I thought they were thinking about reopening the market.

Tom Ward: They are. That's what the article said, but he, he's got to do something.

Interviewer: Ok, we were talking about the riots of 68'. Judge Ward was talking about the military setting up the machine guns, things of that nature. I guess we can continue from there.

Tom Ward: Well, I think I mentioned that we tried to set up a group that would take care of people who might not be able to take care of themselves. And, one of the first groups that we thought of was Ms. Pence. Ms. Pence as I recall her address was about 1704 or 1728 John Street, which is right below North Avenue. Now these were old 1875 houses and this was a single family house and Ms. Pence was very old at that time and I knew her like I knew everyone in the neighborhood. The reason I tell this story is because it shows how people can be. So we called Ms. Pence up, now keep in mind that North Avenue was a major riot area. I mean it was out of control, all the stores were being robbed and looted and gangs were riding up and down the street in cars. And we said, "Ms Pence. This is Tom Ward. Harry Heiger and I and Bob Davis gotta little group and if you need us you call this number and we'll come up right away night or day and help get you out of there right away." "Oh", she says, now Ms. Pence is 70 or somewhere around there, "Isn't that nice. Now you all let me know if you need any help and I'll be glad to help too." I just thought that was wonderful (laughing).

Interviewer: That's a great story. Oh my.

Tom Ward: There were a lot of people around here that wanted to borrow guns and they were frightened and they set up water and things like that in their houses. Another street that was really badly battered that I remember because I had clients there, was W. Baltimore Street. One guy had, now he's down on Eutaw and then he sold camping goods and he was burned out. And I had clients who were arrested for looting.. It's really a shame because I remember the son, I knew the father really well, Stanley. His son got involved with two other guys and they looted the stores on W. Baltimore Street and got caught. They got arrested for looting and I represented them in a jury trial and he was convicted and sentenced to a long term in prison, fifteen years. It was a shame because the boy had no record, really a good kid, father was hard working. He claimed he was just sitting in the car, and the other two were instigators. And I had no reasonable doubt and what I think I'm saying is that this boy got caught up in the mood...the mood was to go steal from these stores. Maybe knew it was wrong, but got caught up and got caught and suffered a terrible penalty. He was one of the few who got caught and were sentenced. Most of them got away with it and I had friends over in the projects over here because I ran that area politically, it was the 6<sup>th</sup> Precinct in the 11<sup>th</sup> Ward, Druid Hill Avenue and McCullough Street below the Dolphin where the McCullough projects are, City projects. There still there. Of course, now they are dangerous. In those days a white person could walk through the projects and I had many friends there. Most of the blacks were registered Republicans from the old Abraham Lincoln days. My big problem was getting them to register as Democrats. But, in any event I went over there to see Alice Gayer about something and she said be careful, things are really changed over here. This was right after the riots. Look at all this stuff my kids brought in and I don't want it. It's all stolen from the stores. She said a lot people came over from Washington, DC and got her neighbors involved in driving around looking for stores to loot and they dropped all stuff that they didn't want from the stores. It gives you the mood of the time, and I did hear this from a lot of people from my clients that African Americans from Washington came over to Baltimore to start trouble. We heard that over and over again.

At one point during the riots, Harry Heiger who lived in the 1700 block of Park Avenue, he's dead now, told me that two of our elected representatives had fled the neighborhood and I told him I didn't believe him. He said Wally Lowinski, who was in the House of Delegates, and Paul Sarbanes, House of Delegates, both lived in this neighborhood, were gone. I said I got to see it to believe it. They moved with dear friends and I knew both, both lived in the county. Both persons, I called for Wally and Paul, and both were there. They had left their houses. Now I put this in print later on, and of course they were both upset, but to flee a neighborhood that's in trouble, burning in riots. To do that was a political stigma, but that was that. I don't think they ever forgave me. Well, of course Wally's dead and Paul is retired.

Another area that we could see burning was around across from the cemetery on Greenmount Avenue, the Greenmount Cemetery that area around Lanvale Street, Lafayette Avenue, below North, suffered terribly. Guttered a lot of those houses. I knew people who lived over there. They were terrified and they didn't know what to do because they were isolated. Eventually, as you know, once Falls Expressway was shut down and the police eventually declared in effect martial law. Nobody could come out of their house. Of course, our little security group who would help anyone who needed it, was in danger of violating the curfew, daytime and nighttime. Another incident, we were in front of Budlow's Grocery Store at 1501 Bolton Street, block up the street. He had a meat store and regular grocery store. Now it's B's Restaurant, a very fashionable restaurant. We were standing there, Harry Heiger, myself and Bob Davis among the crew that we formed to secure the neighborhood. Up in front was a car, a truck full of African Americans and we looked at them and they looked at us and they looked at that unbroken glass in front and we indicated that they weren't going to break that glass and they drove off and we saved that store. And that's the way it was, that's the way it was during those days. Now you have to ask questions.

Interviewer: As far as the looters, were they all black folks or were there whites involved.

Tom Ward: No, all African, all blacks. Not a single white. And I saw them, I mean I told you a drove around everyone. You know it was Martin Luther King that set it off, but I can tell you that the uh, people who were doing all of this, a lot of them were not interested in any type of civil rights significance, they were just criminals.

Another example, as a lawyer I represented a lot of Jewish store owners and one of whom was a victim of the German Holocaust and he and his wife met in the concentration camps. He and his wife both had their tattoos from the SS Gestapo on their arms. He was relocated to the United States, but he started a little grocery store and they burnt him down. A lot of these people were burned down. A lot of them were Holocaust people. You'd be surprised. None of them every wanted to go back and none of them did go back. They got along with the neighbors, but the people who broke in weren't neighbors. They were thugs who drove looking for stores.



Interviewer: Were they able, did they have insurance?

Tom Ward: Some of them did, some didn't. My particular client, the one I just told you about, did not. After that, he started trying to learn how to do wallpaper. Trying to get himself back on his feet.

Interviewer: Did any of them come back or did they all basically left?

Tom Ward: Well, a lot of the Jews who had stores in black neighborhoods, of course they were all burned down and did you know that the actual record, the newspaper will show you this. In fact there was a big article recently about one of the families that were burned down and the bitterness that was still had from then after all they had done for the neighborhoods. A lot of time the Jews lived over top their stores, but none of them came back, none that I knew came back. A lot of those changed stores later became occupied by Asians.

Interviewer: So they remained vacant for a little while and then the Asians came in?

Tom Ward: Yep.

Interviewer: Was there any attempt to place African Americans in these stores/

Tom Ward: Some of them did. One of the big food stores right up here in Bolton Hill was started during that time and grew bigger and bigger. You probably know better than I do, I don't go in grocery stores. It started during that time, now it's a big chain.

Interviewer: Was that store damaged during the riots?

Tom Ward: That particular store? You know it's funny, I can't remember. I'm not sure it existed.

Interviewer: Or whatever was in that facility at that time.

Tom Ward: Well, that was built as a result of Urban Renewal and I do think that store...I can't remember to tell you the truth.

Interviewer: That's understandable. We had done some research and the National Guard apparently didn't load their weapons. Do you know if the regular military had their loaded weapons during the riots?

Tom Ward: Well, the National Guard was ordered not to. Of course, being in the service and also worked at the Railway Express Company when I was sixteen and sometimes I was a guard on bullet shipments and they gave me a shot gun and made me the guard and then they gave me the ammunition wrapped in adhesive tape and it would take me a half an hour to get it out of there. I said "What's this?" And he said it's ammunition for the shot gun. I said what am I supposed to do with this? He said, you're

not going to be robbed anyway, don't worry. So, it was symbolic and that's what the National Guard was, symbolic. They had bayonets and they had their ammunition in their pockets or sometimes not at all. As far as we know, the regular army that came in, the airborne all had ammunition. By that time the riots had become very serious. The police had failed, the National Guard had failed and you know about the fire departments and the you heard they were assisted by fire departments from out of town to help try to put out the fires. And you know about over in the projects across from Little Italy, the high rises across from Little Italy were set on fire and the fire department went over there and they started shooting at them and the fire department left and said we're not coming back until you tell the neighbors to stop this. They didn't come back until the shooting stopped and then they came back to put the fire out. And then of course, these are stories that are reported in the papers, keep in mind that I was involved politically and knew everybody and a lot of my friends who lived down in Little Italy told me we stood on one side of the street and on the other side where the projects were the African Americans stood. They wanted to come over and get into our restaurants and we dared them to come. None dared cross the street and so the confrontation there for days between those two neighborhoods, that street that separates them, I would have to go there to pick, whatever street was east west, that was the boundary line. Could have been Eastern Avenue, no Eastern Avenue is on the other side. It's where the flag house sits. That street was the boundary line and they were standing there facing each other. And the idea was that they didn't want their neighborhood hurt and also they were resentful that there were locked up by the curfew and yet there was no problem inside those neighborhoods. Lots of Baltimore didn't have riots, solid white areas of Baltimore had no riots at all. It was only the border areas and black areas that had the burnings. In Bolton Hill I believe only two buildings were burned.

Interviewer: Which two do you recall?

Tom Ward: They were up in the edges, end of Bolton Street up near North Avenue. Over on Eutaw I don't know of any that were burned. Madison there were burnings and of course on the other side by Penn Station, there were a lot smoke columns in the air all around.

Interviewer: Can you think of anything after the riots that was done to try to bring the city back together?

Tom Ward: Well, I have to search my memory. You remember politically there was a lot of explosives going on. Remember the governor called everyone down and they all thought he was going to be conciliatory and ask them for help and he invited black leaders and African American newspapers down to Governor Agnew's office. They all thought he was going to help, but instead he chewed them all out. Uh, that certainly didn't help anything. Of course, these businessmen who had burned out were bitter. Basically, they had been made to look like fools. Thomas D'Alesandro was mayor and totally in over his head. I remember during the riots he was told by his friend, to send me a regiment or battalion whichever is bigger. He had no idea. Also, he called for help to late and the help and they also had the tendency to call it the civil disturbance. The Sun

Paper and all of the politically correct people never referred to it as the riots always a civil disturbance. They were not civil disturbances they were riots. There were different ways of handling the arrests at first. The idea was a slap on the hand, and there wasn't any penalty, and it got worse and worse until finally they brought the federal government.

Interviewer: How do you think Pomerlau did as far as his actions during the riots?

Tom Ward: He was completely over his head. I don't think the police department did a good job. Nobody could have done it really. They were too late getting started. They were too late getting mobilizing men off duty. They were too late making the 5<sup>th</sup> regiment armory their headquarters. They continued to try act as a police department through their regular complaint division. They totally broke down. The police department became totally and utterly in effective.

Interviewer: Now, where did you gather most of the information? From talking to people on the scene or...?

Tom Ward: Such as what?

Interviewer: That the police department was breaking down.

Tom Ward: Well, it was personal. We called the police department. We were told it's a five hour wait. I mean, I called the police department and was told it was a five hour wait and I saw them go down the armory. WE walked down and watched them. Stood right there and watched them set up their headquarters. It was only two blocks from where we were. My office is only one block from there. The Airborne was camped outside of my door.

Interviewer: So you had your finger on the pulse almost.

Tom Ward: Well, I was driving around. Too many people did that, but it was dangerous. Fortunately, I made it and wasn't bothered.

Interviewer: How do you think Baltimore is as far as race relations and things like that now?

Tom Ward: Right today? Well, there's no problem say out in the sophisticated, intellectual communities, but the uh, there's a very interesting article by a judge who was given a juvenile case where a woman was beaten. And, you have to read this because, I believe he is essentially, Judge Young, says that accurately, Baltimore is in two camps. Slums of the black poorer areas are in a state of not riot, but certainly with drug dealing and crime and violence, and in schools it's unbelievable. It's probably as bad as it has ever been. As far as the white communities are concerned and the integrated communities like Bolton Hill, there are no problems, but there's a big division between the black poor and the white that aren't poor. And it's not, I don't know what causes it, but I believe the television has a lot to do with it, making people idiots, you know, not

reading not learning. Today it's a fact, I mean I give these tours over in southwest Baltimore in the core white area and black area, and the amount of drug dealing and crime, the lack of education, trash on the ground, noise, just total utter disorder. Don't forget I'm a judge. Recently, last week, I had seventy five criminal cases. I just resigned a couple days ago. Seventy five criminal cases, 90% drugs, and all of them maybe one white, seventy four blacks, maybe one white coming out of the slums of Baltimore. And the white one was prostitution. Almost all of the black cases were drugs. Shows you what's happening in Baltimore. We're dissolving. I believe we're dissolving in the poor areas. The white areas are getting better. Poor areas are getting worse. So, the conditions since the riot? Very bad. I don't think Martin Luther King has a thing to do with it. I don't think a lot of these kids dealing drugs come from good families. I always here the excuses, poverty or the schools. They're always blaming somebody else except themselves. The black families, they are single person families. Either the father or the mother or both are missing. It's getting worse. I have over and over again, the fathers of drug dealers in jail, children are drug dealers, and grandchildren are drug dealers or using drugs and selling drugs to support their habit. You can't shut your eyes to what's going on. And this total lack of, like coming out of the school here at Eutaw, last summer or summer before we had a lot of trouble. The children would come out school and chant anti-white phrases, Honkey this, Honkey that one of the neighbors starting filming, called the police. The police come and say we haven't got time for this. Not me, I got a brick thrown through my window with a death threat, but I got him. You know I'm the one who got the burglar the other day over here. Did you read that?

Interviewer: I read one a few months back.

Tom Ward: So, we all...And then after I got this guy who threw the brick through my window, I think he was psychologically unbalanced. He was only fourteen. He was talking about the insurrection coming and everyone was going to be killed. He went on and on. The same guy threw a brick through a window at B's Restaurant. And after I had him arrested, all the houses across the street from me got painted up with graffiti and my car, my truck.

Interviewer: Anti-white graffiti or?

Tom Ward: No, just destruction. Black paint all black spray paint. I show it to you if you want to see it.

Interviewer: On my way out. Is there anything else you can think of that we haven't covered?

Tom Ward: Probably, but I can't think of anything. It's a huge event and I experienced it.

Interviewer: Ok, well thank you for your time.