Crowds mourn death of youth, police surveillance continues

ELYRIA, Ohio (AP)—A crowd of about 200 persons mourned the death of a slain black youth as calm prevailed here Friday under the continued surveillance of police and state highway patrolmen.

The crowd, mostly of blacks, heard several ministers speak at funeral services for Daryl Maxwell, 19, whose slaying by a white policeman Tuesday sparked two days of burnings, shootings and vandalism.

The body was not buried, however, and neither the family of the dead man nor funeral directors would comment on the whereabouts of Maxwell's body.

Meanwhile, the 90 Ohio Highway Patrolmen called in to aid Elyria police, maintained their positions mainly around a one square-mile area on the city's southwest side.

Law enforcement officials have largely stayed outside the area and have gone in only in emergencies and to accompany firemen, observers said.

Inside the area, an ad hoc committee of concerned blacks has been trying to defuse the situation. The committeemen wear old, green Army helmets and red, green and black arm bands. The arm band colors are the emblem of the black nationalist movement. The committee includes Walter Maxwell, brother of the slain youth.

City Solicitor J. William McCray said he has gathered most of the information he needs in his investigation into Maxwell's death. McCray said he will issue a ruling early next week.

Patrolman Michael Killian, who shot Maxwell after he saw him climbing out of a bar, has been suspended from the police force.

At Maxwell's funeral service, Elder J. L. Matthews of the Greater Christ Temple here, said, "I don't believe the death of brother Maxwell is in vain. It's going to open doors and open hearts, make people realize their injustices and their mistreatment of the minorities, the have-nots of this society."

The Rev. Whitt Miller Jr., assistant pastor of Bethany Baptist Church here, said, "The best tribute to brother Maxwell is to make Elyria a better place for blacks and whites— with law, order and justice, law, order and justice, not for some, but for all."

By the time the crowd at the service trailed the casket and family out of the Greater Christ Temple, the hearse had disappeared.

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