

## MOVE Rejects Offer to Surrender

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By **KAREN DATKO**  
*(Of the Tribune Staff)*

District Attorney Edward Rendell is considering several responses to MOVE's rejection of a city offer to surrender, negotiations, an embargo or a police storm of the Powelton Village headquarters.

The possibility of a police attack on the besieged revolutionary group's house is small, conceded spokesman John White.

White added that the DA's office could not agree to MOVE's demand

for an investigation of the beatings of three MOVE members at the House of Corrections.

**DURING A THURSDAY** afternoon press conference, Delbert Orr Africa said his "brothers" would take lie detector tests if the guards involved in the beatings would also take the test.

"We can't force anybody to take a lie detector test," said White.

White added that an investigation of the beating charges would occur during the DA's routine investigation of the charges

against the three MOVE members involved in the prison fiasco.

Asked about the possibility of an independent investigation of the beatings, White said, "It doesn't seem necessary."

Rendell was disappointed with MOVE's rejection of the city's proposal, according to White. "He's not ready to give in on any proposals. There's nothing to give in on."

**BEFORE THE CROWD** of reporters, police and spectators in  
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front of MOVE headquarters, Delbert Africa categorically rejected each point in the city's "peace" proposal.

The proposal included the surrender of all MOVE members with outstanding warrants, their possible release on their own recognizance and a trial within six weeks.

MOVE members would be allowed to select their own representatives to observe their arrest.

The city also proposed to search MOVE headquarters with unarmed police, restrict members from living within a two mile radius of the house and relocate MOVE's numerous cats and dogs to the SPCA for safekeeping.

Africa gave MOVE's negative reaction to each point. "No way in the world are we going to give up our guns to people who have historically shot people in the back," he shouted over a loudspeaker system.

"If we move, it's to march into Mayor Rizzo's house," he continued, to the cheers of a group of MOVE supporters.

"WHERE WERE city authorities when our brothers were getting the s... kicked out of them in the Detention Center?" he asked. "We're not going to have any g...d... curtains pulled over our eyes."

Africa said he could not trust authorities to give members a speedy and fair trial when Sue Africa has been in jail for nine months waiting for her trial to begin.

Community leaders in attendance also took the microphone in support of MOVE.

Congressional candidate Milton Street said he fully supported MOVE. "Everyone has the right to life," he shouted.

"I've never picked up the newspaper and read where MOVE had attacked anybody," Street told the crowd. "MOVE has only been involved in telling the truth."

Jean Thomas of Citizens in Action also voiced her support for MOVE. She told the *Tribune* her group was calling for a boycott of the 9th and Washington Ave. area, "Rizzo Mafia Territory," until police ended their siege on MOVE.

ATTORNEY JOEL Todd, an intermediary between MOVE and the city, confirmed that Robert Bethel Africa, Robert Moses Africa and Conrad Africa had been beaten at the Detention Center on Friday morning.

The MOVE members were brought from various state prisons to testify on behalf of Sue Africa in Common Pleas Court.

Prison Superintendent Louis Aytch said the prison fight occurred when the MOVE members refused to conform by prison rules and eat in the mess hall.

He added that five prison guards were treated in the hospital following the fight.