

Canceled By 2 Riots, Parliaments Undaunted

The Parliaments, like that comedian, must be declaring, "If we didn't have bad luck, we wouldn't have any." After cutting *I Wanna Testify* for Detroit's Solid Hit Bound Records, and watching it slowly but steadily climb the charts, the Newark, N. J., natives were all set to do their stuff in their hometown when two days before the scheduled performance, the riot broke out and the theatre in which they were to appear burned down. Their car was totally destroyed by fire in front of the theatre, and all their uniforms were consumed by flames in gutted cleaning establishment. Undaunted, The Parliaments caught a plane, headed for Detroit and another theatre engagement. In the middle of that seven-day engagement, a riot broke out in Detroit and the show was cancelled. The group picked up a new Cadillac El Dorado in the Motor City and headed back East, confident that bad luck was finally behind them. Then it happened. Their brand new car hit a slick spot on a rain-swept highway and the vehicle was demolished. No one was injured. The Parliaments hopped a bus—and made their next appearance on time. Said leader George Clinton: "You can't keep a good bunch down."



The Parliaments: Although bad luck dogged their footsteps, it never got them down (they say).