"Cleveland was a hotbed for black power, energy and Black Nationalism at this time," said Leonard N. Moore, University of Texas professor and author of the book, "Carl B. Stokes and the Rise of Black Political Power."

"In so many ways, it was fitting that the meeting happened on the East Side of Cleveland," he said. "When he joined the Nation of Islam, that exacerbated it even more." Sociologist Harry Edwards on the summit. Ali's stance helped ignite the rising level of anti-war sentiment. "The anti-war movement really hit the headlines when Ali refused induction and made his statement about not having any quarrel with the Viet Cong," Edwards said. "And then to refuse to comply with the draft, that lined up all of those people who were on one side or the other of the Vietnam War." Moore, Leonard N. Carl B. Stokes and the Rise of Black Political Power. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2002.

Mr. Moore traces the making of Carl Stokes political development and further documents the ideology Carl Stokes brought to his mayoral tenure. This book also is an in-depth look at the many strong cultural, economic and political forces that countered some of Mayor Stokes goals. This book also includes valuable background about Mayor Stokes conflicts with Cleveland city council and the Cuyahoga County Democratic party and later success unifying Cleveland black politics.

Carl B. Stokes, the first African American mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, was one of the first black mayors of a major city. His election, along with that of others, marked a signal contribution to the literature, and a valuable addition to the growing number of works devoted to analyzing black politics through the biographical lens of black mayors. Moore traces, effectively, Stokes' ascendance from liquor agent to mayor; outlining some of the larger social forces that impacted Cleveland in general and black Cleveland in particular. Leonard N. Moore. Book. Carl B. Stokes and the Rise of Black Political Power.