

PRIVATE-SCHOOL PAYMENTS RULED OUT

Court Orders Desegregation of All State Schools

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY--A federal court this week ordered an immediate end to Alabama's 12-year battle against desegregation of the public schools.

In a sweeping decision directed at state officials and 99 individual school systems, three federal judges said there could be no more interference or delay.

By next fall, the judges ruled, Governor Lurleen B. Wallace and state school officials must dissolve Alabama's "dual school system based upon race."

The 99 school districts--all the local boards not now under court order--were given just 20 days to adopt freedom-of-choice desegregation plans covering student and teacher as-

signments, bus routes, and all other school activities. The 29-page opinion said that state officials had acted in "relentless opposition" to all past efforts at school desegregation.

"One of the most illegal methods" used by the state officials was their effort "to obscure the fact that local school authorities have a federal constitutional duty to desegregate their school systems totally," the opinion said.

"The paramount duty to desegregate is a constitutional one independent of any court order and independent of any federal regulatory program," the judges declared.

In ordering the 99 school districts to adopt freedom-of-choice plans for all 12 grades, the judges warned that "if choice-influencing factors are not eliminated, freedom of choice is a fantasy."

"A 'freedom-of-choice' plan . . . is not an end in itself; it is but a means to an end," the opinion said. If the plan does not work, the judges ruled, "some other method" must be found.

The judges ordered State Schools Superintendent Ernest Stone to "develop a detailed program" to make sure that next fall, "no school located in a school district where students of both races are in attendance . . . will have teachers of only one race."

"Faculty and staff desegregation is an integral part of any public school desegregation plan . . . because students are entitled to a nonracial education, and assignment of teachers to students on the basis of race denies students that right," the opinion said.

The judges ruled that the construction of new schools and

the consolidation of old ones must be planned "to effect desegregation."

State school officials must bring "the quality of the physical facilities, equipment, services, courses of instruction, and instructional materials" in Negro schools up to the present level in white schools, the opinion said.

The federal panel--U. S. Circuit Judge Richard T. Rives and District Judges Frank M. Johnson Jr. and H. H. Grooms--also ruled unconstitutional an Alabama law providing tuition grants of up to \$185 a year for private-school students.

If the state does not stop trying "to establish and support a separate and private school system for white students," the judges warned, the private schools "will need to be brought under this court's state-wide desegregation order."

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

Rusk Pickets Jailed Lowndes Office Re-Opens At Scene of Church Fire

BY ROBIN REISIG

TUSCALOOSA--It was 6:35 p.m. The 45 Negro and white picketers protesting the Viet Nam war had been circling for nearly an hour in the cold twilight.

Then four of them broke away from the ring of demonstrators and crossed the street to University of Alabama property.

In a pre-planned ceremony, university student officials on the other side of the street asked the picketers to lower their signs. They didn't. Instead, they kept walking--straight in the direction of the university police, who were waiting to ask them to leave, and then arrest them for trespassing after warning.

Those arrested were Miss Nellie Hester, 21, a student at Stillman College; Miss Posy Lombard, 23, assistant director of Recruitment of Southern Teachers; Page Painter, 24, a Woodrow Wilson intern teaching at Stillman; and David Wolf, 21, student body president at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

The four said they were testing a rule forbidding non-university people from demonstrating on university property. They were allowed to sign for their own bond, and will be tried later.

The planned arrest was one of several protests that greeted U. S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk when he came to speak at the university on Friday.

Why did the four get themselves arrested on university property?

"Free speech doesn't mean anything unless you can go where the people you want to speak to are," Painter said. He said the area designated for non-university picketers was not visible to most people coming to hear Rusk speak.

"The university is trying to organize picketing, as it does everything else," charged Theodore E. Kiltzke, chairman of the school's art department. "One of the ways to kill free speech is to organize free speech. Then it's no longer free."

The 45 picketers were mostly Stillman students and faculty members, but the group also included Miles College teachers and students, and some Alabama students who joined in.

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TUSCALOOSA DEMONSTRATOR

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for non-racial reasons, some--including Miss Hester, a Negro, and Miss Lombard, who is white--charged that the war represented "American racism and colonialism."

"They tell us Negroes are going over to insure free elections to those people, and they don't even have free elections here in the states," said Miss Hester.

In his speech, Rusk said that the U. S. must keep its commitments in Viet Nam. He reminded the crowd of 4,000 of the lessons of history, of World War II, and of "giving (the enemy) a little country or two." At the end of his talk, the secretary received a standing ovation.

But before he left, he had also received a petition signed by 520 Tuskegee Institute students, saying that Negroes "are bearing a disproportionate burden of the war in Viet Nam."

"Because of the inequities of the draft system, black men in this country are bearing the burden of an unjust war in Viet Nam," said the petition. "Therefore, we urge President Johnson to increase efforts presently being made to end the war in Viet Nam." Chester (CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 6)

But Someone Else Meets With CR Leaders

Vice-President Comes to B'ham

BIRMINGHAM -- "Welcome, Mr. Vice-President, to the Tragic City of Birmingham," said a picket sign. About 70 picketers from the Alabama Christian Movement tried to see Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey at the Alabama National Guard airport here last Wednesday, to complain about recent killings by local police.

The people weren't able to talk to the Vice-President, who was here to address a Red Cross luncheon. But five Negro leaders did tell their complaints to Deputy U. S. Attorney General Roger Wilkins, in a private meeting.

Wilkins came to Birmingham to talk to the leaders Wednesday, after they had sent a telegram to Humphrey.

"Wilkins said he certainly understood the Birmingham situation, and that he would use his influence to see we get whatever relief we could possibly get," the Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth reported after the meeting.



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BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

HAYNEVILLE -- Ten days after its headquarters burned to the ground, the Lowndes County anti-poverty program re-opened for business on the same spot.

A gleaming, 50-foot-long office trailer stood amidst the ashes of the old Episcopal church that was the program's first headquarters.

"We're fully operational," program director D. Robert Smith said last Wednesday. "But we're a little behind on certain aspects of our paper-work."

To make sure there is no repeat of the fire that destroyed the church March 12, Smith said, the trailer will be guarded at night.

Two more churches have been burned in the county since the fire at the anti-poverty office. The Macedonia Baptist Church in Ft. Deposit, a Negro church, was burned on March 13, and last Saturday, the all-white Good Hope Presbyterian Church in Benton was destroyed.

Dr. W. L. Staggers, a white doctor involved in planning an anti-poverty medical program for Lowndes County, is a member of the Good Hope congregation.

Asked if there might be a connection between the latest fire and his involvement in a program that would aid many Negro residents, Staggers said, "I haven't heard anything about it."

Smith said this week that there were "very strong indications" that the headquarters fire was the work of "an



TRAILER HOUSES ANTI-POVERTY HEADQUARTERS

organized group, who, for whatever reasons, destroyed a symbol of progress for Lowndes County."

The anti-poverty director said he decided to re-open on the site of the fire because "it was my determination that we do not run from a situation in which blind actions take precedence over prudent judgment."

He said a campaign has begun to raise \$25,000 for the Lowndes County Community Fund. This fund will be used to build a new permanent office, and to help rebuild the church in Ft. Deposit. Smith said contributions can be sent to the Union Bank and Trust Co., P. O. Box 2191, Montgomery, Ala. 36103.

Already, he said, donations have come from church groups in Michigan, Connecticut, and West Virginia--and from white residents of Lowndes County. Coby C. Coleman, the white man who rented the old church to the anti-poverty

program, has "offered to contribute a significant amount of money toward the rebuilding of the structure," Smith said.

In a statement issued last week, SNCC Chairman Stokely Carmichael said the church burnings and other recent events prove "that White America is tightening its noose around the necks of black people here, just as she is doing in Africa, Asia, and Latin America."

"Black people are now serving notice that we will fight back," he said. "The bombing of our churches and homes will only unify us more, and make us more determined than ever to fight back."

Smith said he doubted that the fire at the white church was an instance of Lowndes Negroes "fighting back."

"It is the philosophy of the program to work with ALL the people in Lowndes County--to help Lowndes County," he said. "For this is a county program."

Losing Candidate Vows To Split Negro Votes

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY -- "I'm going to split every election that comes up," Mrs. Idessa Williams said bitterly after last Monday's Democratic primary election.

Hours earlier, the long-time Negro leader had learned that she finished third--with barely more than 2,500 votes--in a three-way race for a seat on the City Democratic Executive Committee.

W. Paul Woolley Jr., a white moderate, won the Ward Two seat on the committee with nearly 11,000 votes. Nelson Malden, a Negro barber, was second with almost 4,000.

Mrs. Williams blamed her poor showing on the "college folks and high school folks" in the Negro community.

"Where were they when there wasn't but 422 Negroes registered at Hamner Hall (now a mostly-Negro precinct)?" she said. "The ones that worked are not going to stand by and let them take over."

She also blamed her political rival, Rufus A. Lewis of the Montgomery County Democratic Committee (MCDC). "Rufus will do anything to try and stop me," she said. "I'm not going to let him stop me, or anyone else."

Mrs. Williams said she would continue to work against Lewis and the college people, "until they consider one of us" for political office.

Although Mrs. Williams contended that Malden, an Alabama State College graduate, was Lewis' candidate, Lewis

insisted that the MCDC screening committee hadn't endorsed anyone for the Ward Two seat.

He said the screening committee endorsed just two candidates for the Democratic executive committee--Lewis himself for Ward Four, and Mrs. Norma Brewer, a white lady, for Ward 23. Both lost.

In the major Monday races, the MCDC--only group to make formal endorsements--supported all three of the present city commissioners for re-election. Mayor Earl James and Public Works Commissioner Cliff Evans won run-away victories, but the third incumbent, Police and Fire Commissioner L. B. Sullivan, lost to J. B. (Jack) Rucker in a close contest.

This was a turn-about from the 1963 primary, when the MCDC supported Rucker but Sullivan won the election. "I think there's an explanation," Lewis said, but he would not elaborate. "It would not be helpful to discuss it," he explained.

The screening committee's choices were circulated by "just getting around to the people" and by distributing marked ballots at the polls, Lewis said.

Despite the MCDC endorsement, Sullivan had an edge of less than 200--1,473 to 1,299, according to unofficial figures--at the Hamner Hall and Cleveland Ave. fire stations, the city's Negro strongholds.

Mrs. Williams said she voted for the third candidate for police and fire commissioner, C. C. Strane, while most of her friends voted for Rucker.

Agreement Doesn't Stop School Boycott in Miss.

BY MERTIS RUBIN

HAZELHURST, Miss.--Negro parents here have rejected an agreement that would have ended the boycott of all-Negro Parrish High School.

Charles Evers, state NAACP field director, said the parents would settle for nothing less than the dismissal of Parrish principal A. J. Dillon, a Negro. "We want him O-U-T, out," Evers said last Wednesday. "That's all we'll accept."

Complaints about alleged misuse of money donated by the parents led to the boycott, which began March 15. Dillon said Wednesday that attendance at Parrish was "400 or less," while Evers put the figure at 72. There are more than 2,000 enrolled at the school.

Last Tuesday night, local leaders--including the Rev. Dudley Stewart, NAACP president--met with the Hazelhurst school board, and reached an agreement to end the boycott.

The board agreed that Dillon would have no further duties at Parrish for the rest of the year. The principal would have been given duties elsewhere in the school system, but his wife would have remained on the faculty at Parrish. Under the agreement, Negro parents were to present whatever proof they had of their complaints to the school board, "as soon as possible."

But the people would not accept this agreement. "The community felt that Dillon is so anti-civil rights, and hasn't done a thing for the Negro," Evers explained. "He's always helped the whites. . . . We don't want him at all."

City Schools Superintendent A. A. Roebuck said the school board wasn't trying to "protect" Dillon. "If anyone can prove that he violated the law or

the professional code of ethics, the board wouldn't hesitate to do something," said Roebuck. "I don't think he should have his head cut off because of someone's spite."

Dillon said the people opposing him are "backward," and that they "fall to see the type of modern education" he has brought to Parrish.

He said some people were against him "because I don't attend NAACP meetings," and "because I haven't passed out freedom-of-choice forms,"



MONDAY IN BIRMINGHAM: MARCHING IN THE RAIN

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Table with 2 columns: Location and Phone Number. Includes Anniston, Birmingham, Greenville, Mobile, Tuscaloosa, Tuskegee, Mendenhall, and Meridian.

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Editorial Opinion

A Tragic Election

The Montgomery election this week was a reminder --if anyone needed one--of the impotence of the Negro vote.

But the Democratic primary in Montgomery had two tragedies that were all its own--the defeats of Mrs. Idessa Williams and L. B. Sullivan.

Mrs. Williams, for many years one of the city's most militant and effective civil rights leaders, finished dead last in her campaign for the City Democratic Executive Committee.

Four years ago, Sullivan was elected police commissioner, despite--or because of--bitter opposition from the Negro community.

This year, Sullivan won the support of many Negro and liberal leaders. He had seen the light--but he lost the election.

We should waste no tears on L. B. Sullivan. In his career, he had it both ways, and he can hardly complain that things came out even.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

The family of the late Charles H. Rasberry Sr. wish to thank their many friends for their loving kindness and sympathy shown to them in the loss of their love one, a loving husband and kindest father.

Mrs. Inez Rasberry
Miss Linda Rasberry
Charles H. Rasberry Jr.
Larry D. Rasberry
Prattville, Ala.

To the Editor:

To Governor Mrs. Lurleen Wallace and the Honorable Law Enforcement: "Unwisely and untimely" it has happened again (murder) without Justice a few miles from the capitol steps--Birmingham, Prattville, Ala. But now is the time to make Justice a reality for all of God's children.

As a race, Negroes, we are tired of racial injustice and Honorable Governor Wallace let me enlighten you in on a secret. We are tired of this now. We decided as a race we will not sit down and take racial injustice by some trigger-happy policeman who serves as Judge, Jury, and Courts.

We are tired of discrimination and segregation. We are tired of being denied the right to work because of race. There are many more in mind but I hope this will start you and the other government officials to thinking.

Don't think that you can live to yourself--for each of us needs the other. We're all of us helpless alone. Just brother needing brother.

We are simply spokes in a wheel, and when working together righteousness can accomplish wonderful things and make my burden more light!

If we can fight for something that doesn't belong to us 8,000 miles away in Viet Nam, why can't we do it in America which is our home? When Black men serve in Viet Nam they serve for freedom of us all, and then they come back to their own country they can't be protected by it.

I am asking you as a progressive minded citizen, to broaden your vision and elevate your thought to law enforcement, local and state, to serve Justice for all citizens--white or non-white.

(Name withheld)
Prattville

To the Editor:

In answer to a letter in your March 11 issue of The Southern Courier, I would like to question some statements made by Walter M. Price of Somerville, Mass.

First, Mr. Price, if you are a writer of short stories and are about to write a book, will you please write the word

Student Tells Judge Cox About A Year at Neshoba Central High

BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss. -- Last year, Miss Bonnie Kay Lyons was one of the first five children to desegregate Neshoba Central High School near Philadelphia.

At a special hearing here last Saturday, Miss Lyons told U. S. District Judge Harold Cox about her year at Central. One day in October, 1965, she said, she was sharpening a pencil in her seventh-grade classroom when a white high school boy came in and hit her in the head.

Another day, she said, a line of white children blocked the stairway as she was going to her third-period class. When she got to class, she said, the teacher whipped her on the hand for being late, without giving her any chance to explain.

After that, said Miss Lyons, "I didn't eat anything." Miss Lyons told the judge about several incidents on the bus. On the way home one day, she said, two high school boys burned her with a cigarette lighter.

About a month after that, she said, another high school boy "hit me in one eye and gave me a black eye." White children regularly hit the six Negro children who rode the



MISS BONNIE KAY LYONS

bus, and threw spit balls with rocks inside, she added. And she said, children poured water over her several times when she got off the bus in the morning.

Why did Miss Lyons decide to leave Central and go back to Carver this year? "Because of the way they treated me," she testified.

Last fall--as Miss Lyons was returning to Carver--22 other Negro students started the year at Central. But they all stopped attending classes after the first few weeks, because

of the attacks and harassment they met. Unless things change at Central, they too may be back at Carver in the fall.

The Rev. Clint Collier, father of two Negro girls who started this year at Central high school, explained in court that the Negro children stopped going to class after two Negro boys reported

being attacked by a gang of white students. He said the parents asked the Neshoba County school board for a hearing at the beginning of September, and requested "more protection for our children."

But the atmosphere at the school didn't seem to change after the meeting. "It got so rough," said Collier, that all the Negro high school students withdrew from Central for good.

For several months, the Negro parents tried to find someone who would help make the school safe for their children. Recently, the U. S. Justice Department filed a suit for the parents, asking Judge Cox to order Neshoba Central officials to protect the Negro children.

Cox held the special hearing last Saturday to decide whether the situation at the school was serious enough for him to grant such an order. Cox said Saturday that he has "grave doubts" about whether his court has authority "to concern itself with the internal order of a school."

School officials did not deny most of the incidents the Negro students reported, and they told about a few more. But, they said, white students had been punished in almost every case.

"You're going to have these little incidents that come up among children," said Laurel Weir, attorney for the Neshoba County schools.

James Murphy, a Justice Department lawyer, said the Negro children had to (CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)

...And in Tuscaloosa, A Fading Black Eye

BY ROBIN REISIG

TUSCALOOSA -- Miss Vivian Diana Cook is a slender, pretty 11-year-old, with darting eyes and an impish smile. On the left side of her face, you can just barely see the traces of a black eye--the result of a beating.

You can't see any marks from other fights, but fights--and threats of fights--have been weekly occurrences for Miss Cook most of the year. She is one of the Negro children who integrated Stafford Elementary School last fall.

Miss Cook said she has tried to avoid fights, or any kind of attention. But until two weeks ago, she said, it was hard not to be noticed, since her fifth-grade teacher, Miss Josephine Anders, made all the Negro children sit up at the front of the room.

Until this month, Miss Cook added, the Negro children were asked to go to the lavatory "after the white children came back." She said she was also told to sit with other Negro students in the school cafeteria.

Desegregation at Stafford has been quiet and peaceful--except for Miss Cook's class, where another Negro child has also been beaten. "They say we have the baddest class," said Miss Cook.

"I don't think it would be so bad if not for the teacher," said Mrs. Minnie Ola Cook, Miss Cook's mother. "My nephews in the sixth grade there, and his teacher said she didn't want any fighting, and there was none."

The day Miss Cook got her black eye,

she had been threatened in school by a bigger girl. After school, Miss Cook said, she was afraid to leave, but the girl and other children "pulled me out."

"My teacher saw it, and she didn't say anything," said Miss Cook. "I threw my books down and ran."

The children caught Miss Cook, but a Negro woman driving past broke up the fight.

A few weeks before this beating, Miss Cook said a boy in her class had been "meddling."

"I told him to stop but he wouldn't," she said. "He told the teacher he was going to slap me down. The teacher told him that if I didn't stop meddling, he could slap me down and she didn't care." Then, Miss Cook said, the boy slapped her.

Miss Anders and Mrs. Olivia Brantley, the principal, refused to comment on these incidents. H. D. Nelson, superintendent of city schools, said, "In Stafford in the classrooms and in the lunchrooms, the children sit where they want to sit."

Told of Miss Cook's version of the beating, Nelson said, "That isn't what happened." He said he had not talked to Miss Anders about the incident. Mrs. Cook recalls that when she talked to the teacher, "Miss Anders told me, 'If (Vivian is) so unhappy over here, you should let her go to the Negro school she came from.'"

"I told her all the schools is Negro schools, because we pay taxes for all of them."

Your Welfare Rights

Aid Programs Must Treat Negroes and Whites Alike

BY LAURA ENGLE

Most of the money distributed by local welfare departments comes from the federal government. Like any other agency receiving federal money, the welfare department must comply with federal laws, including federal civil rights laws.

Frequently, however, Negro clients are treated unfairly by Southern welfare departments. Many people think they must do whatever the welfare department tells them to do, and must not complain about the way they are treated. This is not so. This month's welfare column tells how to make sure you are treated fairly.

One of the most common ways in which Negro applicants are treated differently from whites is in the use of courtesy titles--Mr., Mrs., or Miss. Welfare workers often address Negro clients by their first names, or call them "Boy" or "Uncle." Many times the titles are even left off letters sent to the clients. But Negro clients have as much right to be treated with courtesy and respect as white people do.

It is illegal, under the federal laws, for the welfare offices themselves to be segregated. There must be one entrance, and one waiting room. The same office workers must handle all clients, Negro and white. They must not make Negro applicants wait while they tend to the needs of all the whites.

A client's eligibility for any program administered by the welfare department must be determined in the same way for all clients, regardless of their race. This applies not only to the granting of money, but also to surplus food distribution, the food stamp program, work experience programs, and any other

program conducted by the welfare department.

When the welfare department pays an outside agency--such as a hospital--for services to its clients, the department must offer such services equally to all people. Also, the department must see that services done by outside agencies are performed without regard to race.

For example, the welfare department cannot send a client to be examined by a doctor who maintains segregated waiting rooms. Even if the client himself chooses to go to such a doctor, the welfare department has no right to pay for the visit.

In Southern states, these rules are being broken every day. But there are some things that can be done.

The federal government has the duty to see that its civil rights laws are enforced. It is up to the people, however, to make sure the government does its job. There are employees in the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) who spend all their time investigating complaints of unequal treatment, and taking action against officials who violate the law.

If you are mistreated, you should complain to the people who can do something about it. You should complain not only to your local welfare office, but also to the state agency; to the regional office of HEW (Region IV, Room 404, 50 Seventh St. NE, Atlanta, Ga.); and to HEW in Washington (Welfare Administration, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C.).

The government has made a promise to the people, that all will be treated equally. It is up to the people to see that this promise is fulfilled.



Troy

Miss Georgia Crawford and Miss Myra Fields have won first place in the biological department of the annual Science Fair held by Charles Henderson



High School. For their winning project, titled "Comparing Animal Parts," the girls were awarded \$5, a blue ribbon, and certificates. Miss Crawford and Miss Fields, both ninth-graders, are in their first year at formerly all-white Henderson High. (From Elaine Warren)

Mendenhall, Miss.

The Simpson County Civic League held a ground-breaking ceremony for its new community center on March 12.



CROWD AT CEREMONY

The Rev. Kenneth Dean, director of the Mississippi Council on Human Relations, was the featured guest speaker. He stressed the importance of voter registration and school desegregation. The new building will be a Head Start center, a place for civil rights meetings, a recreation spot, and a convention hall. Nathan Rubin, president of the civic league, said "actual work (on the center) should start no later than the first of April."

Tuskegee

Although only 45 people showed up for last week's joint meeting of the Macon County Community Action Committee and its citizens advisory board, the group went ahead and elected chairmen for several special committees. In some cases, there were only two or three people eligible to vote for the committee chairman. In others, the man selected was not present at the meeting. The new chairmen and their committees are John A. Price, budget and finance; Probate Judge Preston Hornsby, personnel relations; the Rev. Robert Smith, program evaluation; City Councilman Stanley H. Smith, research; the Rev. V. A. Edwards (a board of revenue member), neighborhood services; J. T. Whitaker, employment opportunities; Miles Glenn, housing; Jes-

sie Jeter, education; Leonard Huffman, small business opportunities. The group is looking for people to serve on the legal services and health committees, which will choose their chairmen later.

Mobile

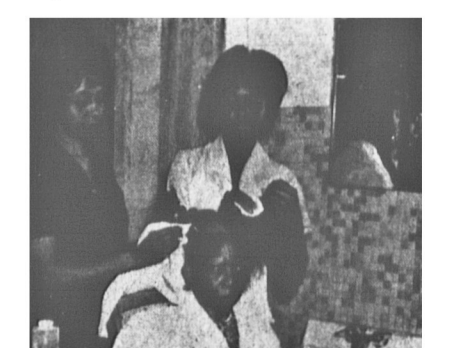
Albert Turner of SCLC was the star attraction this week at the second big Sunday program sponsored by the new Albert F. Owens Tenants Association. Turner praised the spirit and goals of the new association, and emphasized the "necessity of educating the little man in citizenship--practical education!" About 75 people turned out for the program, which featured entertainment by performers of all ages.

Montgomery

Members of the Baha'i Community of Montgomery this week joined millions of Baha'is around the world in observing Nar-Ruz, the Baha'i New Year. Ralph Featherstone, a Montgomery Baha'i, explained that the Baha'i faith, which originated in Iran in 1844, has a calendar of its own. He said the calendar is based on the solar year, and has 19 months, each with 19 days. The years, months, and days are named after the attributes of God. This is the year 124 on the Baha'i calendar, Featherstone said.

Selma

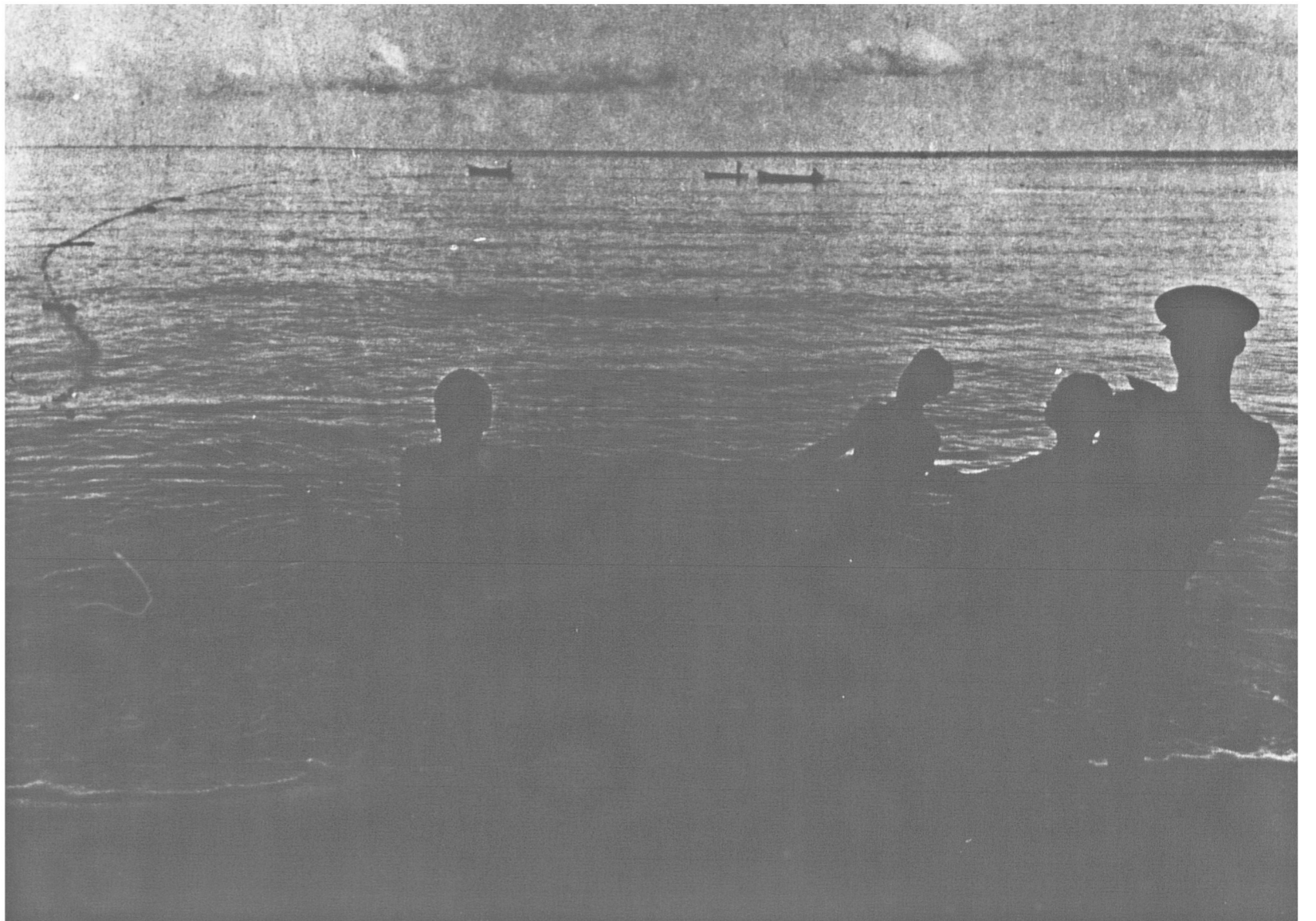
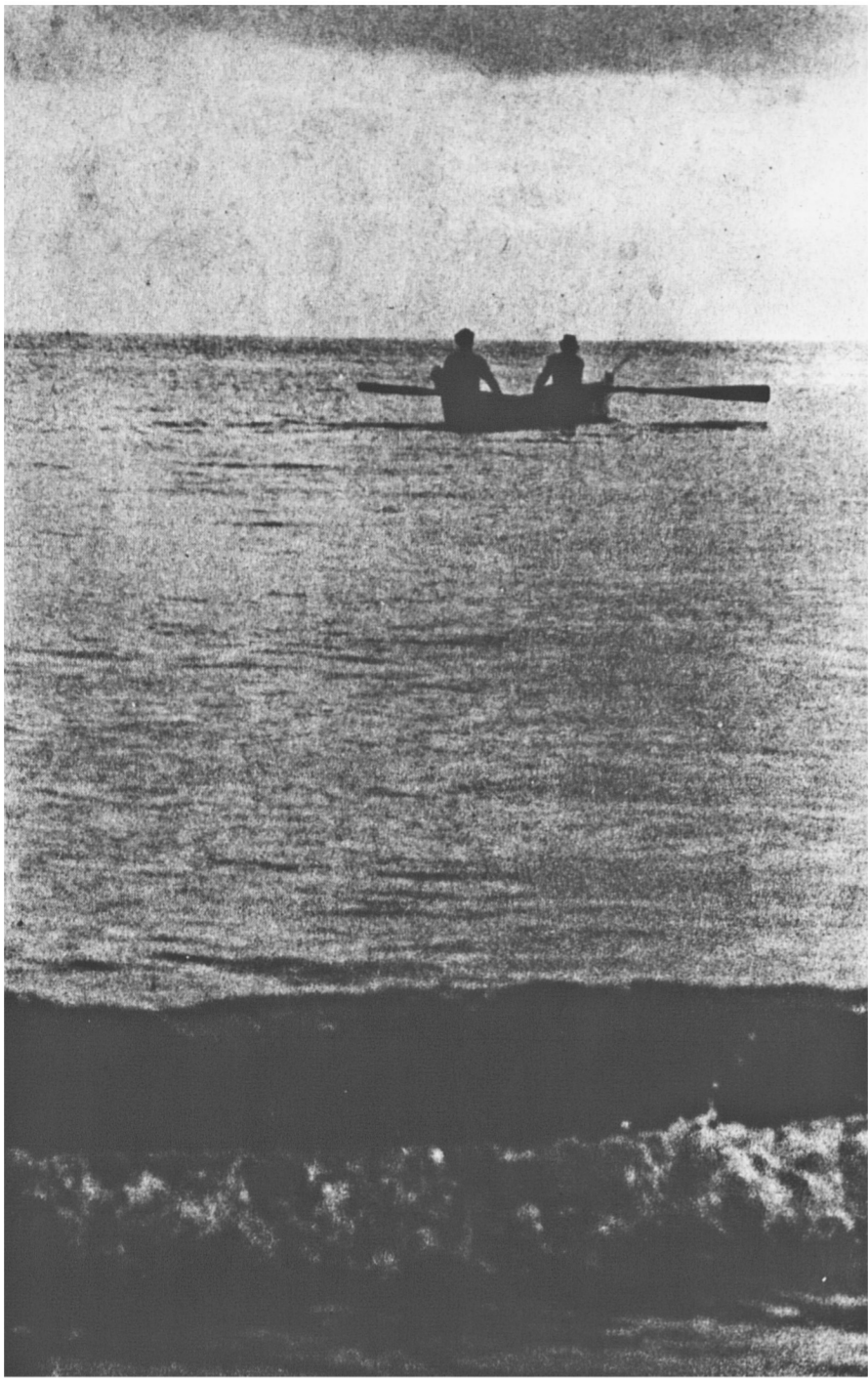
Mrs. Velberta Chestnut, owner of Velberta's Wigs and Beauty Lounge, and Miss Gertha Thomas cheered up the ladies in the Good Samaritan Hospital Skilled Nursing Home during National Beauty Salon Week. Mrs. Chestnut and Miss Thomas donated their services to residents of the nursing home, giving the ladies an oil shampoo, hair-styling, and a manicure. Below, you can see how Mrs. Stella Davis looked before and after.



BEFORE



AFTER



FISHING

in

JAMAICA

Poor people in Jamaica rise before the sun. They do their day's fishing with very simple equipment. The most important piece of equipment is a 14-foot-long canoe-like boat powered by hand-made paddles. These boats are crudely made, but they are efficient and sturdy.

A lobster fisherman uses "pots"—wooden-frame and chicken-wire traps with funnel entrances. It is easy for the lobster to enter the pot, but difficult for him to exit. The fisherman drops the pot to the ocean floor, and later hauls it back up with a weighted rope. Then, while the huge pot is precariously balanced on the gunwale of the tiny boat, the fishermen use long sticks to poke the lobsters out of the pot.

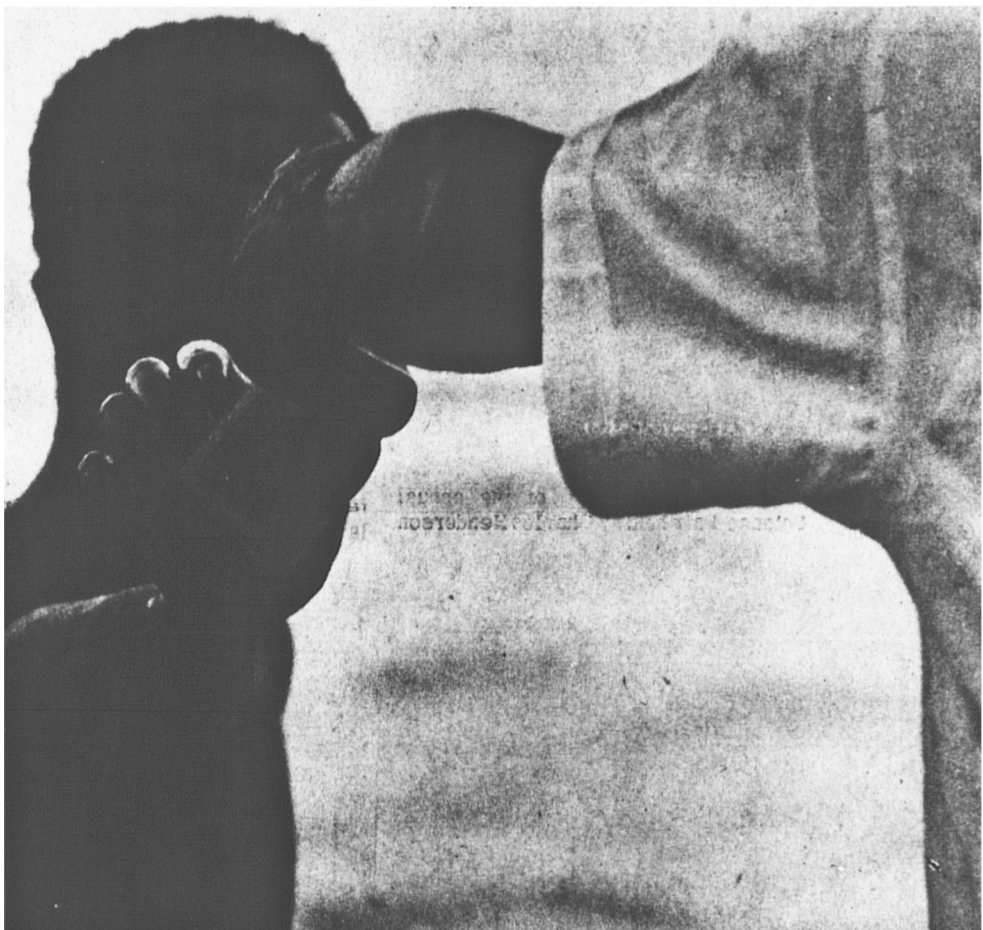
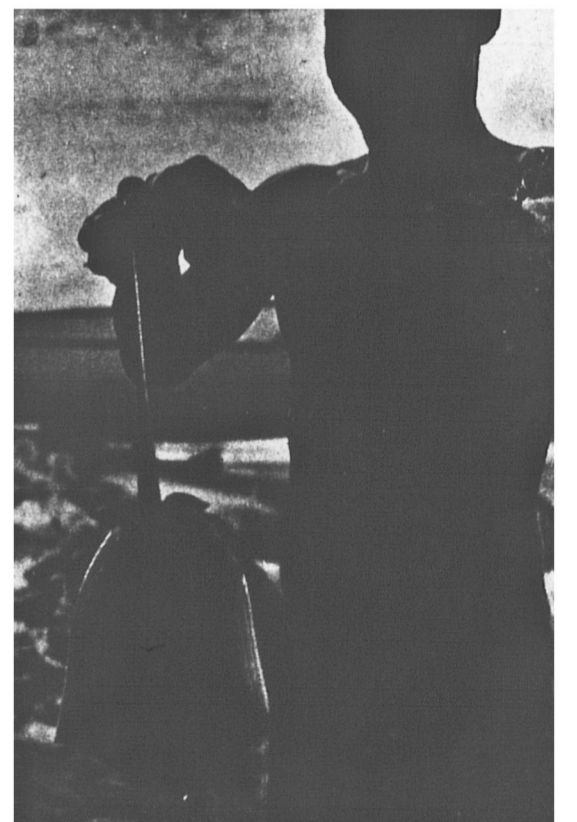
Other fishermen take nets out in their boats, and drop the nets in a half-circle 300 feet around. One end of the net is tied to a tree, and three or four men gradually haul in the

other end. As the men pull on the nets, the half circle out in the water gets smaller and smaller. When the final yards are ashore, the fish combed from the bay lie on the beach, to be sorted and sold.

A string of fish may bring \$2. Lobsters sell from 30¢ to 75¢ a pound. A day's labor may bring a fisherman from \$10 to \$50—or nothing at all.

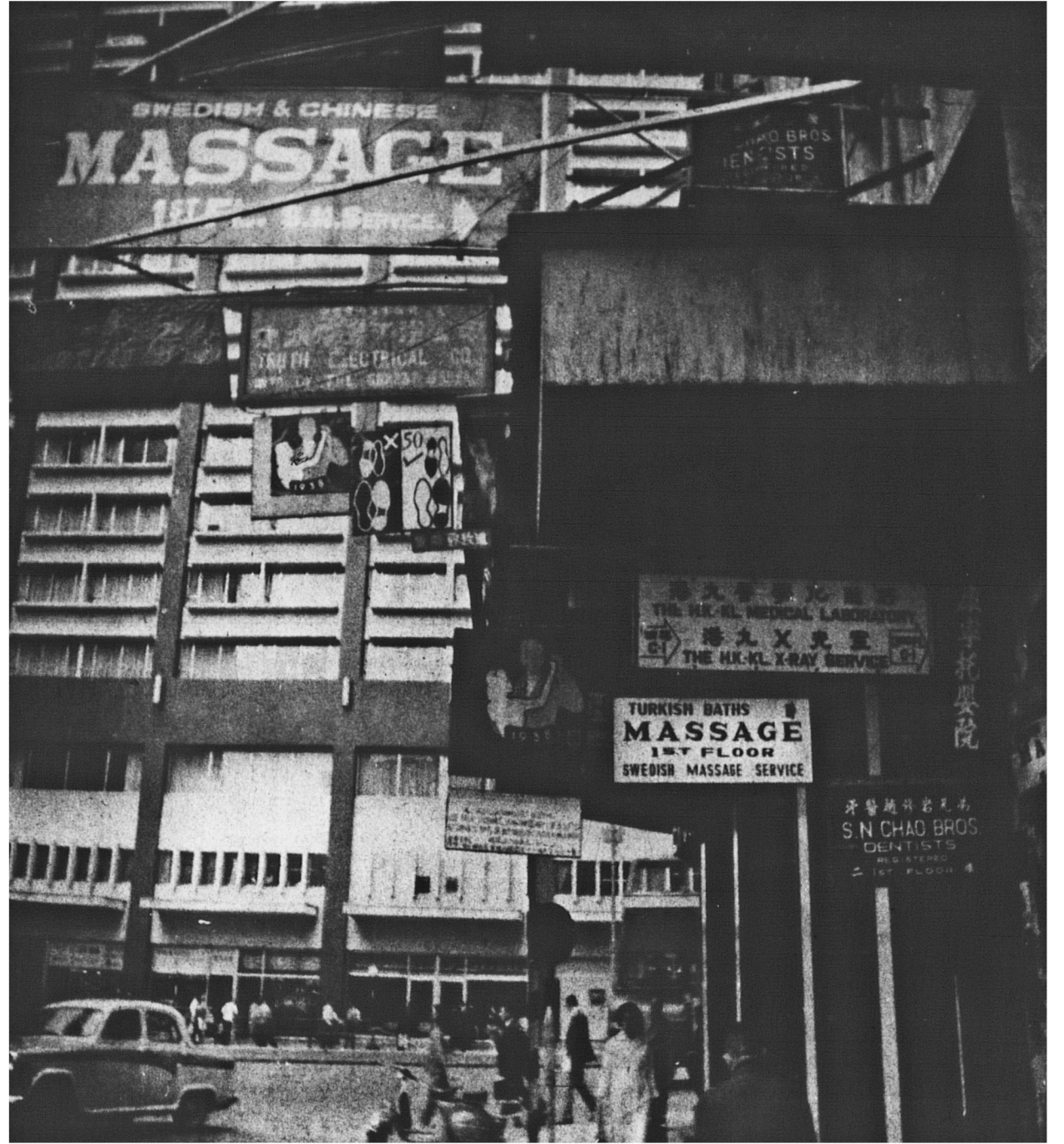
The pots take days to fill. The net can only sweep the bay once every six weeks. The profit must be split with partners and salesmen. And so even the best fishermen are poor.

Photos & Text
by
Bob Fitch





RACES MINGLE ON HONG KONG STREET



HONG KONG IS A CITY OF NOISE AND NEON

'I GOT 31 DAYS, BABY'

A Soldier Takes Time Off From the War

BY JACK KRAMER

HONG KONG--"Our global policy?" said Charles Hawthorne. "I'll tell you what I think about our global policy. I got 31 days, baby."

Hawthorne, a 20-year-old Negro youth from Atlanta, Ga., was sitting on one of the varnished deck benches of the passenger barge, "Oriental Star." He was taking the ferry from Kowloon on the mainland of China to the island of Hong Kong.

Kowloon and Hong Kong are both part of the British colony of Hong Kong. Hawthorne was there, an ocean away from home, as a member of the First Air Cavalry Division, United States Army.

For several months, Hawthorne (that isn't his real name) had been fighting in the jungles of South Viet Nam. But he didn't want to talk about the war.

He wanted to talk about what he was going to do on his furlough--known to the soldiers as R & R, for "rest and recreation." And, mostly, he was thinking about the 31 days between his coming return to active duty and his discharge from the army. If he could get through that month alive and unharmed, he would be able to leave for home.

"Thirty-one days," he said softly, looking down at his shoes. "I know guys got it figured out to the hour."

Hawthorne glanced around the ferry's clean decks, from one passenger to another. There were Japanese, Chinese, Australians, Portuguese, Indians in turbans. Hawthorne himself might have been a college student on a pleasure trip. He wore a sweater and slacks. A new camera hung around his neck.

His eyes settled on two neatly painted signs: "Do not spit," and "Beware of pickpockets." But he didn't really seem to see them.

"Now you talk about bars," he said, "segregation and that. Yeah, you got some, I guess. I seen it. You got some bars in Saigon, all colored, and you got some bars you don't go into.

"But that's not what you got on your mind. . . . I don't care what color, white or black. You got on your mind how many days and how much bread do you got to blow."

And, said Hawthorne, when a soldier is off-duty, he thinks about how he's going to spend that money.

"Y'know they got this beer they brew in Korea, and this is the stuff we get over here, in Viet Nam I mean, and it's pretty mean stuff. . . and cheap, but you got to know where to get it," he said. "And where's the girls and who's the mama-san to go see.

"That's what you got on your mind. What do I do, Right now. To make it. A girl. Or some of that good Korean beer. That's what you got on your mind, not issues. . . (not) segregation."

The ferry cut its engines and began easing in to the pier. Hawthorne and the other passengers shuffled down the ramp. He glanced back across Hong Kong harbor.

A Russian liner, the "Baikal," was resting at her mooring. She sported a bold hammer and sickle on her single stack. But Hawthorne didn't really seem to see her. He was talking about what happens in bars when they fill up with American servicemen.

" . . . Sometimes there's these battles, fights," he said. And sometimes the battles pit Negroes against whites.

"Like then, if you're in that bar, your complexion's just as much a right-now something you gonna take in consideration as girls and bread," he said. "Fact, just then, it just might be a little more of a right-now something."

As the ferry passengers jammed on to the wharf, swarms of rickshaws and taxis fought over the new business. Hawthorne climbed into a mandarin-orange Mercedes. The paint shone like neon in the Hong Kong twilight.

Hawthorne began remembering some of his other furloughs. "I been on R & R some places where I got nothing but took from one R to the other," he recalled. "Hong Kong's okay. Met this guy on the street's gonna get me a suit made wholesale. And of course I've had a girl almost since I been here."

But the first night, he said, he spent \$8.50 for nothing. "I go to this bar my buddy tells me about," he said, "and the mama-san says for \$8.50 American she's gonna take me to the girl and then, see, it's gonna be another \$8.50 for the girl. . . so I give her \$8.50, and she takes me to the girl, and the girl looks at me and says she wants \$300."

The taxi lurched to a stop at a red light, and Hawthorne was thrown forward. Then he straightened up and scratched the back of his head, shaved almost to the bone by the army barbers. He went on talking about his other furloughs.

"Nothing comes up to Taiwan," he said. "This town, Pelo, outside Taipei. Nothing but girls. Beautiful. You never seen beautiful girls."

Taiwan is the island where the small



HONG KONG HARBOR

Nationalist Chinese army still waits, after nearly 20 years, for a chance to take the mainland back from the Chinese Communists. Taipei is Taiwan's capital city. Like Hong Kong, it is a place where soldiers on leave from South Viet Nam are sent for "rest and recreation."

Hawthorne said his stay in Pelo was pleasant because the girls were not only beautiful but eager to please American soldiers.

"In Pelo you see this beautiful girl like you never seen a beautiful girl and it's not just you see her and look her over and buy her a couple drinks. . . ." he said. "She's got to get with the program besides. Come across."

"Like the man tells you all the time when you're in the army, like you hear all the time in the army, 'Conform.' You got to conform, that's the word they use," he said. "And just like you got to, she's got to. Conform, y'know? Conform."

The taxi veered to the curb and stopped in front of Hawthorne's hotel, chosen for him by the U. S. Army. But he didn't get out right away. He sat looking at the stream of traffic.

Hong Kong's wild traffic runs British style, on the left side of the street. Besides scooters, motorcycles, bicycles, rickshaws, pushcarts, and ordinary passenger cars, there are double-decker diesel buses, diesel trucks, and many cars that operate on diesel engines.

Mingling with the strong smell of diesel fumes is the stench from the open sewers. Such sewers are common all over the Orient. "They call it the odor of Asia," said Hawthorne. By now it was dark. The street was

full of noise and neon. Electric signs crowded the sky above the jam of traffic in the street. It was quiet only across the street at Whitfield Barracks, the quarters for a squadron of British mercenaries--Gurkha troops paid by the British government.

"Can you feature that?" asked Hawthorne, looking at the barracks. "Right in the middle of all this? At least (Uncle) Sam didn't put me up there."

A stone wall surrounds the barracks. On top of the wall is a mesh fence, and on top of the fence, barbed wire. A sign on the wall warns that the barracks is a "closed area." "Unauthorized persons entering this area are liable to arrest and prosecution," the sign says.

Why? Hawthorne knew. The Gurkha troops--quiet-looking little Orientals in drab British woolen uniforms--had just been transferred from Malaya, where they had maintained their reputation as ruthless killers.

"Heard they'll cut your throat for a Bulova (watch)," said Hawthorne.

The Gurkhas are Muslim. The Kowloon mosque is inside their compound. Hawthorne looked at it, and thought of the Muslims at home in Atlanta.

"Muhammad speaks," he said, hissing the "h," drawing out the double "m," and dropping his voice to a whisper for "speaks." He was mimicking the speech of people who sell "Muhammad Speaks," the Black Muslim newspaper, in the United States.

Hawthorne admitted he didn't have much to do with the Black Muslims. His clothes, he said, looking down at his slacks and sweater, are called "ivy" in his Atlanta neighborhood. His friends dress the same way.

Some day, Hawthorne hopes to become an electrical engineer. "That's what I figure on going into when I get out," he said. "Guy gave a talk at our high school once. Electrical engineer. I shouldn't never have dropped out."

Hawthorne's cab driver, a Chinese, twisted around on the seat impatiently. Hawthorne got out.

To one side, a Gurkha sentry paced, high up behind the barbed wire, a rifle with fixed bayonet slung over his shoulder. To the other side, above Hawthorne's head, a movie sign blared: "Metro Color and Panavision! Doctor, You've Got To Be Kidding! Starring George Hamilton and Sandra Dee."

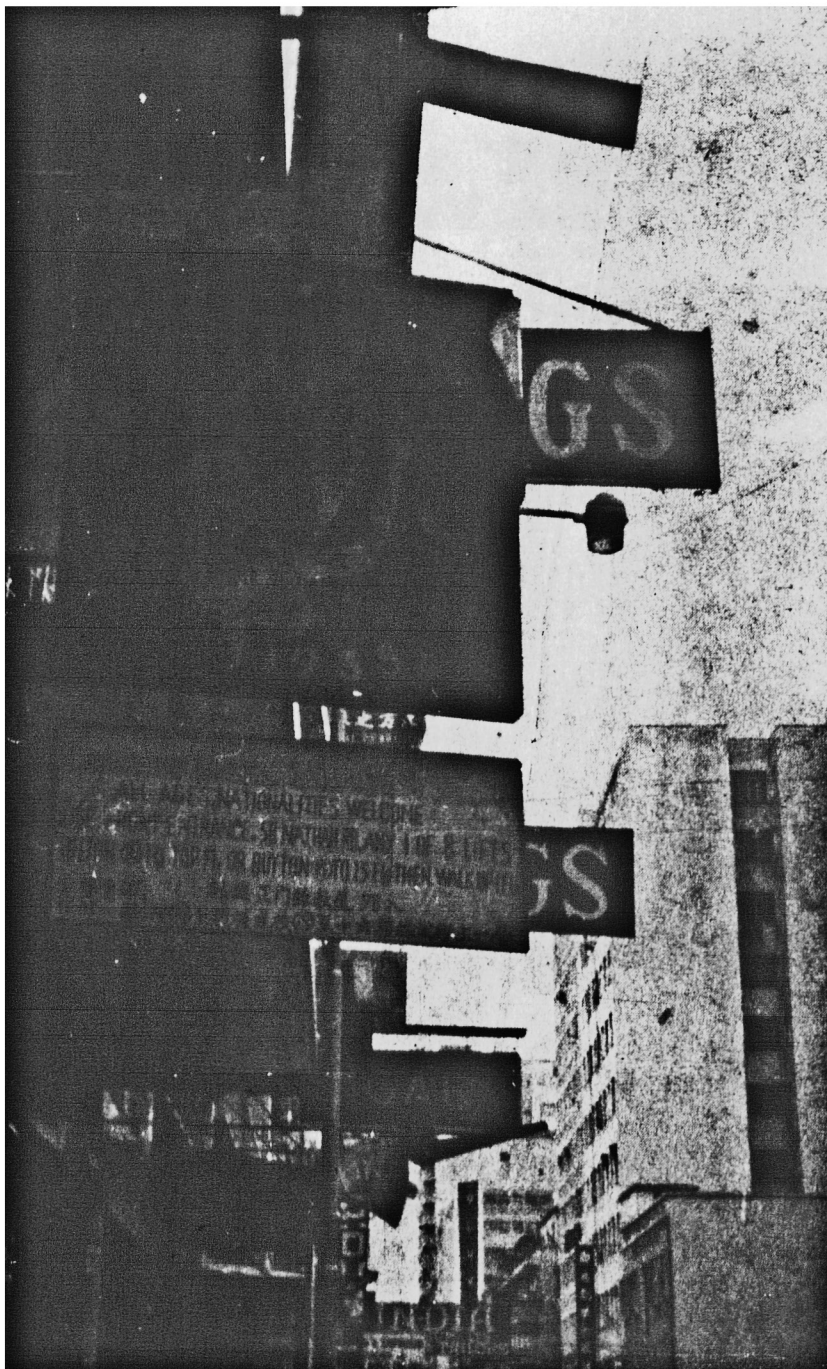
A tout spotted Hawthorne and came skipping up. "Hey G.I.," he shouted, "you want nice suit? Buy nice suit. Rook rike James Bond."

Stooping through the window of the cab, Hawthorne paid the cab driver, tipping him far more than necessary. "It's not so bad," Hawthorne said. "I'm 'short.' I got 31 days."

About the Author

Jack Kramer, who wrote this story about a soldier in Hong Kong, is a former Birmingham reporter for The Southern Courier. He is now touring Southeast Asia, and hopes to report first-hand on the war in Viet Nam.

Hong Kong, on the tip of the Chinese mainland, is about halfway between Peking, the capital of Communist China, and Saigon, the capital of South Viet Nam.



SIGNS WELCOME SOLDIERS

But Negro Streets Are Dark in Bullock

'Lights All Over in Some Parts of Town'

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

UNION SPRINGS--Mrs. Bennie Lee Jordan leaned over the fence in front of her house and looked down at the road she's been living on since 1931.

There was a puddle on one side and a rut on the other. And whenever she looked, there was nothing but dirt. "My mother's house was here till it burned down last year," Mrs. Jordan said, pointing to a smoke-blackened chimney next door. "She was living here a long time--oh, years.... Never has been paving here, no."

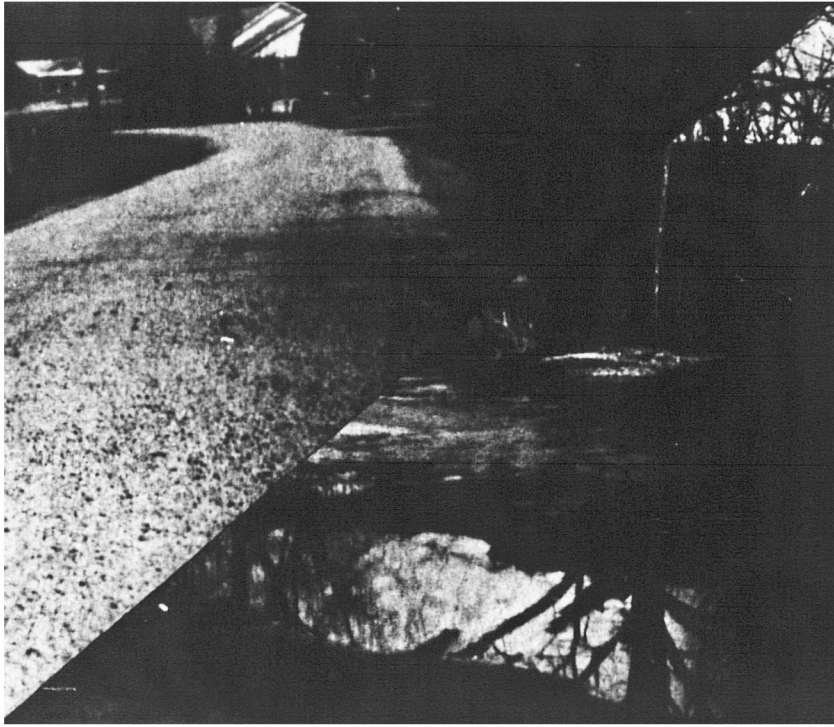
Two young men came walking down the road. "Too narrow for two cars," said one of them. "Too narrow for one car," said the other.

"We asked for street lights," the first man added, "but they wouldn't give 'em to us. Lights all over in some parts of town.... Same with sewers."

Mrs. Jordan and the two young men seemed more sad than angry about the lack of roads, lights, and sewers in some Negro sections of Union Springs and Bullock County.

But H. O. Williams, the county's outspoken Negro leader, is angry. "We've been paying taxes for 65 years so somebody else can enjoy paved roads," he said.

"We ask for a bridge to open a ditch,



WHITE STREET (TOP LEFT) AND NEGRO STREET (BOTTOM RIGHT)

and they say they don't have the money. We want a light for a dark place, they don't have the money. But when the white folks want something, all of a sudden they've got the money." Williams listed half a dozen places

around the county--like Cornerstone and Armstrong--where the streets are paved from the nearest highway up to the last house owned by a white man--leaving Negro homes on an island of mud.

He also named two brand-new examples. One is a "suburban" section just north of town, where several new streets are being covered with white gravel.

The other is a freshly-curbed and asphalted road just northwest of the city limits. It winds for about a mile without passing any houses, and ends at a parking lot at a new country club. Don Priori, the Union Springs city engineer in charge of road-paving, said the city had nothing to do with any of the new streets. "In my two years on the council, we haven't done any paving," he said. "We don't have the money. If you want something paved, you have to go to the county or state."

But George Blue, a Bullock County commissioner, said the suburban streets are "a project with the city and county." The road to the country club is "done by the county," he said. He said money was spent on a road which passes no houses because "it's a development project.... People might move in there."

Priori and Blue said neither the city nor the county has ever made a list of unpaved roads, to figure out which should be first in line as the money becomes available.

"We got a lot of paving done all over a couple of years ago by the state," Priori said. "Quite a few miles of colored section were done then.... If I can get the money, I'll pave every street in Union Springs, even if it's a pig trail."

Blue said nobody except "outside agitators" would criticize the county's road-paving efforts. "We are paving our roads just as fast as the engineer

RUSK PICKET

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Higgins, an officer of the Tuskegee Student Government Association, read the document to Rusk and the audience.

The previous evening, Higgins had questioned university lecturer James Reston, associate editor of the New York Times, about whether Negroes should "participate in a war exploiting non-white nations, when the Negro himself is exploited in the system that demands he fight."

"Yes," Reston replied. After a loud applause, he added, "we've got a lot of problems, but the hypothesis in your question is the worst problem of all--that we should look at the division in the world as a racial division."



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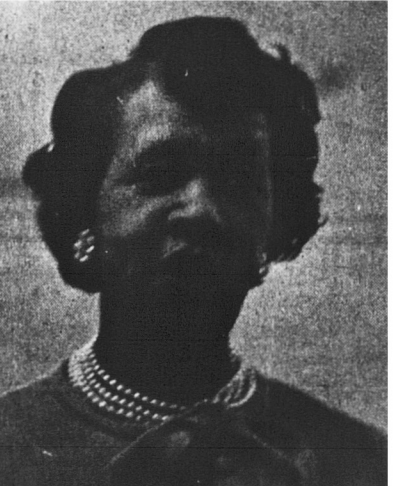
MONTGOMERY

National Leader Visits Shorter; Her Group Gains New Affiliate

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

SHORTER--When leaders of national civil rights groups visit Macon County, they usually give a speech to a lot of people in Tuskegee Institute's huge Logan Hall, and take the next plane out of town.

Miss Dorothy I. Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), came to Logan Hall last Sunday to receive an honorary degree from



MISS DOROTHY I. HEIGHT

Tuskegee Institute. But she didn't leave right away.

On Monday afternoon, Miss Height spent two hours at the First Baptist Church in Shorter. By the time she left, the people who came to hear her speak had organized a Macon County section of the NCNW.

"The real purpose of the NCNW is to bring people together to build a better community," Miss Height told about 35 women and three men gathered in the small country church. "Nobody is going to give it to you--you have to do it for yourself."

"I've heard women say, 'There are so many organizations. We don't need another,'" Miss Height said. "But this is a clearinghouse. It's like the CAP (community action) programs."

The audience murmured, but Miss Height continued: "I know CAP is not popular," she said, "but the wrong people got in and pulled it off the track. The purpose behind it was good--coordination to bring together the different kinds of work needed to make a better life."

A few minutes later, Mrs. Consuello J. Harper explained exactly what the

Neshoba Schools

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO) face "attacks," not "incidents."

County Schools Superintendent Prentice Copeland, who was principal of Neshoba Central in 1965-66, told Cox, "I don't know of anything more that could be done to maintain law and order."

But when Cox asked whether any of the school bus patrols were Negro, Copeland answered no. He had the same answer when Murphy asked whether any adults were ever put on the bus to help the driver keep order, or whether there was ever a school assembly in which the white students were specifically warned not to harass the Negro children,

NCNW could do for the people of rural Macon County.

"This will be an avenue for us to get programs," Mrs. Harper told the audience. Many of the people who nodded back had helped Mrs. Harper organize a Head Start program last year when the Macon County CAP refused to assist her.

"For example, take the proposal we wrote, where we had opposition," Mrs. Harper said. "Now we'll be part of a big organization. We can send our proposals to them.... We will be independent of community action in Macon County."

But Hosea Guice wanted to be sure the local section's requests wouldn't get lost in the files of a big national organization like the NCNW. "When our paper goes on, will you see it gets some consideration?" he asked.

"We'll get some consideration (from anti-poverty officials) or find out why," Miss Height promised. "We don't just take no for an answer."

In addition, she said, the NCNW would help the local group set up programs of its own to do "whatever you wish"--

improve housing, educate children or adults, and "get the benefits of government to the people."

After that, several people stood up and said they wanted to join the NCNW right away. And most of them paid their membership dues of \$5 a year.

Nearly all the new members were from rural areas--Shorter, Tysonville, Hardaway, and Milstead. But a couple of ladies from downtown Tuskegee joined the group after Mrs. Harper said, "We do not want to exclude anyone. We don't want to take a selfish attitude."

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 27, in St. James Baptist Church, 1100 Sixth Ave. N., the Rev. C. W. Sewell, pastor. The Rev. F. N. Nixon, of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Ensley, will be the pep speaker. The Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth will also speak.

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WANT ADS

JOB OPENINGS--The Southern Courier will soon be interviewing applicants for four positions on its business staff. Two people are needed to work on circulation and subscriptions, and two are needed to work on advertising. High pay, generous expense accounts. Applicants must be honest, responsible, and willing to work long hours, and they must be experienced or interested in business. A car is required. If interested, call 262-3572 in Montgomery to arrange an interview.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Reality" is the subject of this week's Lesson-Sermon, to be read in all Christian Science churches on Sunday, March 26. Bible references open with verse from Isaiah: "The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory."

TITUSVILLE CIVIC LEAGUE--In observance of the national and local clean-up campaigns, the Titusville Civic League is asking all citizens, and especially those in the Titusville community, to take part in this worthy project. Please keep your homes, schools, churches, properties (vacant or occupied), and businesses clean. Let us all make ourselves a committee of one, to see that we are clean, as well as our neighbors. Be on the alert Saturday, March 25, and watch the clean-up parade go by your house. Lionel Williams, president; Mrs. Eleanor R. Smith, chairman.

ECUMENICAL SEMINAR--The Ecumenical Institute of New Orleans, La., is sponsoring a spring seminar for clergy and laymen April 24-28 at the Gulfside Assembly Grounds in Waveland, Miss. Information on courses and costs is available from the Touminville Methodist Church in Mobile, or from the Ecumenical Institute of New Orleans, 3404 Louisiana Ave. Parkway, New Orleans, La. 70125.

CHURCH SERVICES--The Bayside Church of Christ in Mobile, 713 Bayou St. at Mallin, cordially invites the public to its Sunday worship at 11 a.m. Bible school is held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, and Bible classes at 7 p.m. every Wednesday evening. The Rev. J.F. Gilcrease, pastor.

LEARN TO READ--Learn how to read, or improve your reading. No charge for lessons. For information, call Mrs. Chambliss, 265-4394 in Montgomery.

FOR A BETTER ALABAMA--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tusculumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opelika-Tuskegee, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. It has a staff that works throughout the state. The Alabama Council is integrated at all levels: its staff officers, staff, and local chapters all have people of both races working side by side. The Alabama Council wishes to establish local chapters in every county in the state. If you wish to join the Council's crusade for equal opportunity and human brotherhood, write The Alabama Council, P.O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

MOBILE ROBBERY WITNESS--If the man who witnessed the robbery of Hermann & Hynde Realty, 257 St. Francis, on the afternoon of Feb. 3 is still in the Mobile area, he should get in touch with the office of District Attorney Carl Booth.

SOCIAL SECURITY--You can receive all or part of your Social Security benefits even if you continue to work. If you earn \$1,500 or less in a year, you can get the full benefits to which you are entitled. And if you earn more than \$1,500, you can still get some of your benefits. The Social Security office at 474 S. Court St. in Montgomery--and other Social Security offices--can tell you how to claim your benefit payments. The Montgomery office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, and from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Kenneth W. Jennings, district manager.

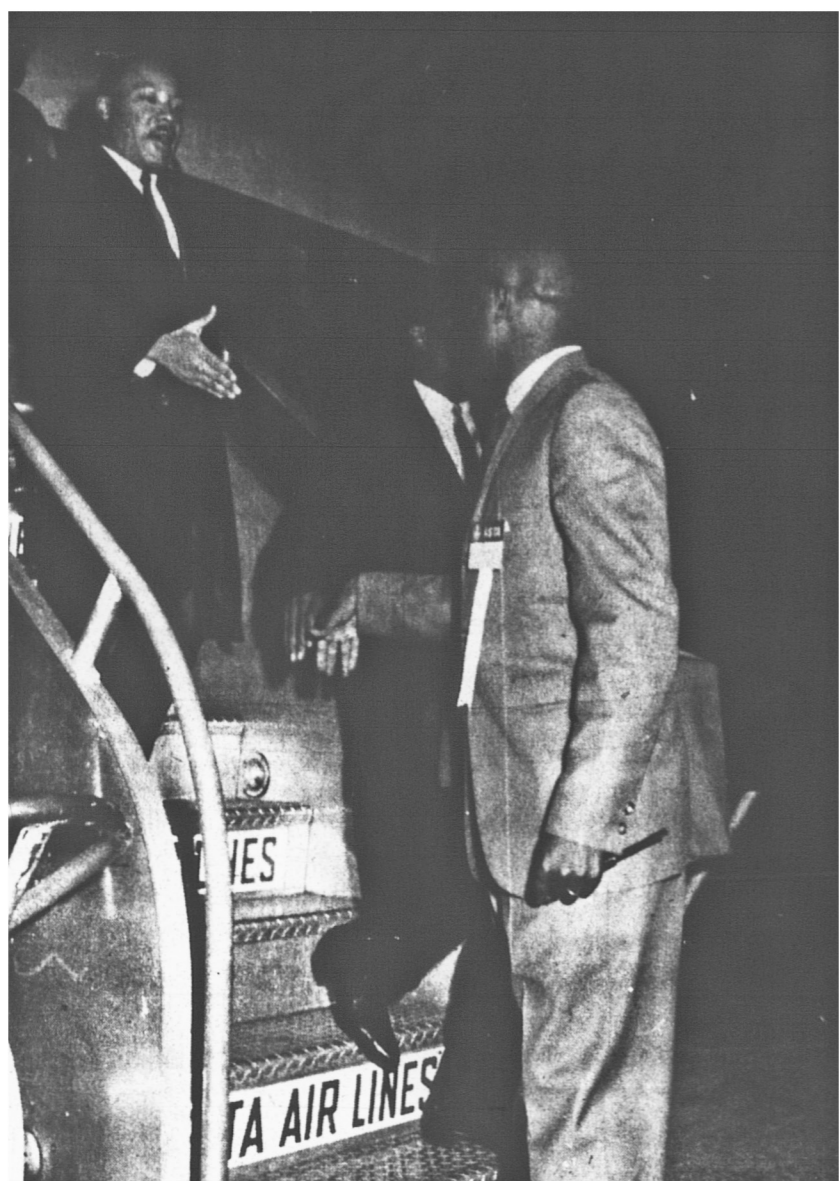
ARKANSAS--The Arkansas Council on Human Relations has affiliate councils in Conway, Fayetteville, Pine Bluff, Fort Smith, and North Little Rock. We are interested in establishing local councils throughout the state. ACHR is integrated at all levels, working in education, voter education, employment, welfare, and housing. For information, write Arkansas Council on Human Relations, 1310 Wright, Little Rock, Ark. 72206.

CHOICE OPPORTUNITY--For medical records librarian or technician. The challenging task of directing the medical records department of a modern 95-bed hospital awaits the "challenger" at Good Samaritan Hospital in Selma, Ala. Exceptional working conditions, fringe benefits, salary open. Letter of application should include character references, work experience, and educational background. Send to Good Samaritan Hospital, P.O. Box 1053, Selma, Ala. 36701.

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King Talks to ASTA; AEA Hears Governor

Teachers Meet While Kids Play



ASTA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JOE L. REED GREETS DR. KING

BY ARLAM CARR JR.

MONTGOMERY -- While Alabama schoolchildren enjoyed two days of play, their teachers were holding annual meetings here and in Birmingham.

At the 84th annual convention of the Alabama State Teachers Association, the big event was an address by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Highlight of the Alabama Education Association's 85th annual session in Birmingham was a talk by Governor Lurleen B. Wallace.

The ASTA represents about 10,000 Negro teachers, and the AEA represents some 25,000 white teachers. "The mind can never be free if the mind is in slavery," Dr. King told the Negro teachers March 16 at Alabama State College.

He said the teachers must let Governor Wallace and her husband know that Negroes will not tolerate opposition to the federal school desegregation guidelines. "The Wallaces must learn they are not God," he said.

"The Wallaces will fall," said Dr. King. "The Lester Maddoxes will fall. We are going to win out because the sacred heritage and the divine will of God will ultimately prevail."

Dr. King also said Negroes and whites are "tied together" in the South. "Every white man is a little bit Negro, and every Negro is a little bit white," he

said. The Negro needs the white man to free him from fear, Dr. King explained, and the white man needs the Negro to free him from guilt.

In Birmingham, Governor Wallace told the white teachers she would resist the guidelines. "The people of Alabama will not submit our children to federally controlled education," she said.

The Wallaces came in for more criticism last Friday at the ASTA convention, when former state Attorney General Richmond M. Flowers called for "a new type of political leadership."

"The mantle of leadership is not a cloak of comfort," said Flowers, "but rather a robe of responsibility."

Alabama ranks 48th out of 50 states in money spent for education, he said, and its people rank 48th in income. "Knowledge is an open door to a brave new world of better jobs, better homes, and a better life," said Flowers.

"Alabama is not and never has been a wealthy state," he said. "Alabama is not and never has been the Biblical land of milk and honey. It was built on the backs of American black men dressed in bib overalls, kept illiterate, jailed at will, and totally controlled by the wealthy and the privileged."

To change this, Flowers said, Negroes must "enter fully into the arena of political democracy."

Two of Ten Neshoba Candidates Face Charges in Rights Killings

BY GAIL FALK

PHILADELPHIA, Miss. -- With the June 9 qualifying deadline still 2 1/2 months away, ten men are already running for the Democratic nomination for Neshoba County sheriff. Two of them are charged with a federal crime.

The two--Deputy Cecil Ray Price and former Sheriff E. G. "Hop" Barnett--are both charged with conspiring to kill three civil rights workers in the summer of 1964. The present sheriff, Lawrence Rainey, is a defendant in the same case.

In announcing his candidacy, Price said, "I think the good people of Neshoba County appreciate the efforts put forth by the sheriff's office... to maintain a buffer between our people and the many agitators who have invaded our county... I think my actions in the

past prove that I want our way of life upheld whenever it is attacked by outsiders who have no real interest here except to merely stir up trouble."

Barnett's announcement also referred to outsiders: "We certainly don't want outsiders coming in to tell us how we should live or that we should change our ways contrary to all the traditions our parents taught us. However, we should treat them with as much courtesy as possible, but be firm and fair."

Two of the slain civil rights workers were from New York.

Another candidate, Bruce Latimer, was named in a U. S. Justice Department suit that says Negroes and civil rights workers did not get enough protection from local officials last spring. Latimer was the Philadelphia police chief until he was fired last July 5. Price is also a defendant in this suit.

WJLD Radio Top 14 Hits

- 1. I NEVER LOVED A MAN-- Aretha Franklin (Atlantic)
2. WHEN SOMETHING IS WRONG-- Sam and Dave (Stax)
3. FEEL SO BAD-- Little Milton (Checker)
4. BERNADETTE-- Four Tops (Motown)
5. IT TAKES TWO-- M. Gaye & K. Weston (Tamia)
6. WHY NOT TONIGHT-- Jimmy Hughes (Fame)
7. ONE HURT DESERVES ANOTHER--Raelettes (Tang.)
8. MERCY MERCY-- Cannonball Adderly or Marlena Shaw (Cap. & Cad.)
9. JIMMY MACK-- Martha & the Vandellas (Gordy)
10. WHAT YOUR DORN' TO ME-- Rosco Robinson (Wand)
11. SHOW ME-- Joe Tex (Dial)
12. LOVE IS HERE-- The Supremes (Motown)
13. LONG GONE BABY-- B. B. King (Kent)
14. ARE YOU LONELY FOR ME-- Freddy Scott (Shout)

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Barrage of Questions For Mobile Poverty Warriors

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE

MOBILE--Five panelists representing Mobile's war on poverty were bombarded by questions last week at a meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

Some 200 whites and Negroes showed particular interest in questioning the Rev. Thomas Nunan, board chairman of the Mobile Area Community Action Committee (MACAC); Dr. Robert Gilliard, director of the Mobile Area Committee for Training and Development (MACTAD); and Mrs. Elizabeth Kaffer, director of Head Start.

The people had three basic questions: What are the programs and goals of MACAC? Who will be spending the federal anti-poverty money? And what was the real object of the Head Start program?

Nunan said that MACAC, after rewriting its constitution to include more poor people, was "truly representative of the community."

"This committee started out--in our innocence--as respected citizens," he said. "We feel we are ready--in March--to involve the poor, I think. Our ultimate goal is to eliminate poverty--I don't know how many generations this will take."

Gilliard placed great stress on having "fiscally responsible people" running

the anti-poverty projects. "The purpose of the committee (MACTAD) is to keep the poverty program honest," he said.

Several people asked Nunan about MACAC's plans for budgeting and target areas. "We have not gotten into long-range plans at this point," said Nunan. But, he added, MACAC was expecting a \$100,000 grant to set up neighborhood referral centers.

Some members of the audience seemed to feel that the Head Start program is more concerned about attracting white children than it is about reaching all needy youngsters, regardless of race.

Mrs. Kaffer said questions about taking in more five- and six-year-old Negro children, instead of three- and four-year-old whites, were "basically unanswerable."

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

In Alabama all our yesterdays are marred by hate, discrimination, injustice, and violence. Among the organizations working for a better tomorrow on the principle of human brotherhood is the Alabama Council on Human Relations. Membership in the Council is open to all who wish to work for a better tomorrow on this principle. For further information, write the Alabama Council, P.O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

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