

**RACE & LAW:
THE MARYLAND
EXPERIENCE**

Research Notebook for Norris C. Ramsey, Esq.

Cherekana Feliciano



MTP
HIGH
HOME



State of Maryland



BALTIMORE CITY, SCT:

Be it Remembered, and it is hereby certified that at a meeting of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City, a Court of Record duly created and existing under the provisions of the constitution of the State of Maryland, held at Baltimore on the Nineteenth day of January A. D., 1972,

NORRIS CARLTON RAMSEY

was duly admitted as a Member of the Bar of

The Supreme Bench of Baltimore City,
and to practice the Law in all of the Courts of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Maryland.

Witness, the Honorable Dulany Foster, Chief Judge of said Supreme Bench, and the Seal of said Bench at Baltimore, this 19th day of January A. D., 1972.

Thomas P. Mac Carthy

Clerk of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City.

Court of Appeals of Maryland



STATE OF MARYLAND, Sct.:

BE IT REMEMBERED that in the Court of Appeals of Maryland, at Annapolis, in said State, on thefourteenth..... day ofJanuary..... A. D. 1972., said Court being the highest Court of Record of said State:

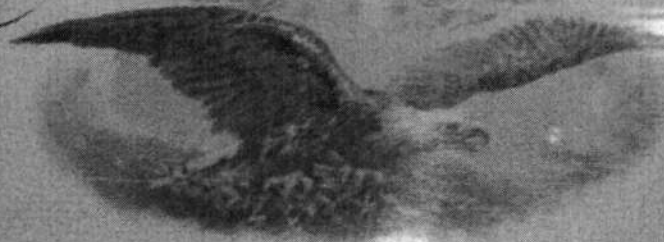
Norris Carlton Ramsey

being found duly qualified under the Rules of said Court as to Admission to the Bar, and having taken and subscribed the oath prescribed by Law, was admitted as an Attorney of said Court, and as such is entitled to practice Law in any of the Courts of the said State, subject to the Rules of Court.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Court, thisfourteenth..... day ofJanuary..... in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-two.....

Clerk

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



District of MARYLAND

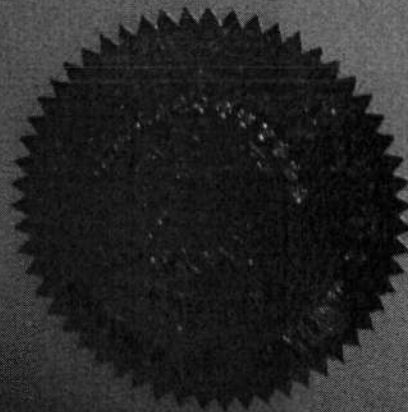
I, PAUL H. SCHLITZ Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of MARYLAND do hereby certify that

NORRIS CARLTON RAMSEY, ESQUIRE

was duly admitted and qualified as an Attorney and Counselor of said District Court on the 11th day of FEBRUARY, U.S. 1972

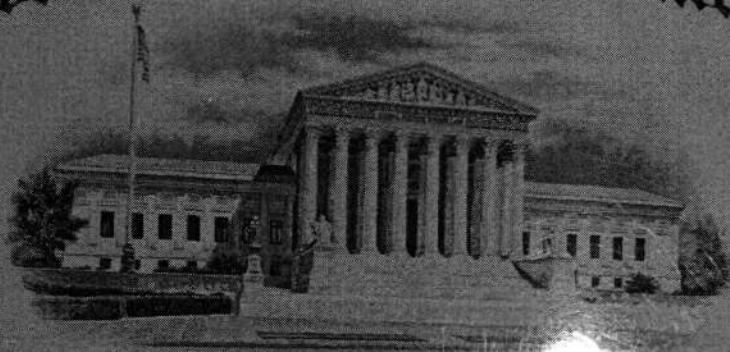
In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of said Court at my office in BALTIMORE in the District of MARYLAND this 11th day of FEBRUARY, U.S. 1972

PAUL H. SCHLITZ, CLERK



August 20, 1972

Supreme Court of the United States of America



Norris C. Ramsey
of Baltimore, State of Maryland

was on motion first made to the Court in this behalf by
James L. Foster

duly admitted and qualified as an Attorney and Counsellor of the Supreme Court of the United States
on the eighteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine
hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the
two hundred and seventh.

In testimony whereof as Clerk of said Court, I hereunto set my hand and affix
the seal of the Court in Washington, D.C. this eighteenth
day of December, 1982.

Alexander L. Stevens



Certificate of Life Membership
This Certifies that

Norris C. Ramsey, Esq.

is a Life Member of the

**National Association
for the Advancement of Colored People,**

having paid the sum of Five Hundred Dollars into the Treasury of the National Office,
testifying forever to our faith in the future of Black Americans in the United States,
and in the principles of equality and justice in the American Constitution.

In witness whereof the Board of Directors has caused this Certificate to be issued,

1994

Myrtle Cross-Williams

National Chair

Raymond A. Robinson

President

Earl L. Skinner

Acting Executive Director



The Board of Regents of the
University of Maryland

*In recognition of the successful completion of the
requisite course of study and on nomination of the Faculty of the
School of Law*

*by virtue of authority granted by charter of the State of Maryland
hereby confers upon*

Norris Carlton Ramsey

the degree of

Juris Doctor

with all the honors, rights, and privileges thereunto appertaining.

*In witness whereof this Diploma, signed by the authorized officers
of the University and sealed with the corporate seal of the University, is granted.
Given at Baltimore on the fifth day of June in
the year nineteen hundred seventy.*

Charles P. McCormick
Chairman, Board of Regents

Wilson N. Elkins
President

ADK-1



SECOND MEET WON BY CITY

The Sun (1837-1985); Nov 3, 1961; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985)
pg. S17

SECOND MEET WON BY CITY

Carver's Morris Earns Individual Honors

City College's harriers romped to their second Maryland Scholastic Association group crosscountry meet victory at Clifton Park yesterday.

The Collegians need only a second-place finish in the remaining meet to assure them the team championship.

City placed four boys among the first ten finishers in its 32 point total. Poly, with the fourth, eighth and ninth boys, furnished the only competition, finishing with 58 points.

Carver's Joe Morris was the first across the finish line in 10:53.6. He was followed by Jerome Thomas, of Douglass, who was clocked in 10:58. Norris Ramsey was the first to finish for the Collegians, placing third in 10:59.

Team Standings

City	32
Poly	58
Carver	117
Edmondson	111
Dunbar	141
Mount St Joe	196
Douglas	181
Forest Park	247
Southern	251
Patterson	271
Towson Catholic	111
1 Joe Morris, Carver	10:53.6
2 Jerome Thomas, Douglas	10:58
3 Norris Ramsey, City	10:59
4 Mac Reed, Poly	11:01
5 Ken Mason, City	11:06
6 Thomas Beard, City	11:11
7 Nick Lee, City	11:12
8 Donald Richter, Poly	11:13
9 Victor Clark, Poly	11:16
10 Herbert Dorsey, Carver	11:18
11 William Boyd, City	11:21
12 James Gannon, Edmondson	11:22
13 Fred Dunsey, Mount St Joe	11:24
14 Daniel Muddox, Dunbar	11:25
15 Alvin Gwynn, Carver	11:26

GENERAL RECKORD SAYS HE WILL COMPLY WITH ORDER 'IMMEDIATELY'

NOV 21 1955

Sun

Governor's Action Makes Maryland First South- ern State To Drop Racial Barriers In Its Military Service, Guard Officials Note

Governor McKeldin yesterday ordered the end of racial segregation in the Maryland National Guard.

In a letter to Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord, adjutant general, Governor McKeldin said: "This . . . is a directive from me for you to initiate without delay all such steps as are necessary to bring a prompt end to racial segregation in the organization" of the Guard. General Reckord

ing of court action only in unnecessary would accomplish cannot be accomplish tive action.

"The appearance of integration resulting from the courts would be the morale-building which exist in our proper initiative in the matter."

"This, therefore, from me for you to out delay all such necessary to bring a to racial segregation zation of the Maryland Guard."

General Reckord

Commenting on the action, General Reckord

"I have read the letter, which I consider to me as Adjutant. Based on recent decisions of the Supreme Court, I think the Governor could do. The order will be

Dropping of racial barriers in the Maryland National Guard is the second in a series of steps in the elimination of segregation barriers in Maryland within a week. The Baltimore Board of Education and Parks voted to eliminate segregation at all the playgrounds and rec-

officers requested Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord to allow them to enlist anyone into the unit, irrespective of race, creed or color.

"This General Reckord refused to do then and has refused to do ever since," Major Cade said.

"We felt that it was better to have an integrated unit because it promoted better efficiency and better morale," he said.

The major pointed out that the battalion as presently constituted in the Maryland National Guard is commanded by a captain, and although it is doing a good job the officers do not have the military experience of the inactive veterans.

Stresses Experience

"Each officer, from Lieut. Col. Melvin F. Green—who was the commanding officer before and during the Korean war—on down through our warrant officers, has sufficient military experience to become a vital and essential part of the National Guard," he added.

The unit had one lieutenant colonel, three majors, five captains, four lieutenants and two warrant officers, all of whom saw active service in 1950-1952.

"Let a war come and let the unit be recalled, it would be completely unprepared without the veterans," Major Cade said.

"We have written to Governor McKeldin," he continued, "seeking action against segregation, but we have been told only that

it. The entire efficiency of Maryland National Guard is at stake." The general said he felt integration would be detrimental to the unit.

Negro Officers

Seek Guard's

NOV 14 1955
Integration

By Eric Fleetwood
Eye Sun

Fifteen National Guard officers, all Korean War veterans, are to seek a United States District Court ruling on segregation in Maryland's 38 National Guard units.

The officers, all Negroes, claim that segregation is being practiced in the State and that it is "unconstitutional" and "without any reasonable justification."

Since their return from service all the officers have elected to stay in inactive positions as far as their membership of the Guard is concerned. Prior to mobilization they were assigned to duty in the Guard's only Negro outfit, the 231st Truck Transportation Battalion.

unit for Negroes is the 231st which is based here in Baltimore.

According to the attorneys, General Reckord has refused to allow the trucking outfit to enlist into its ranks anyone other than a Negro.

Points To Reserve Units

Earlier this year, General Reckord said that the National Guard had no responsibility to men who served in Federal forces after they return from active duty. "There are plenty of reserve units which they can join," he said.

He added: "We have decided the efficiency of the National Guard will be maintained on a higher standard by continuing as we are and not permitting integration."

This was the answer given when the complaining officers stated that when the entire unit was mobilized it became integrated on active duty and that the officers would remain "inactive" until integration was secured.

The officers further state that a petition to Governor McKeldin to end segregation has met with no success.

Guard Ending

NOV 21 1955

Segregation

Recruiting Drive Doubles Number Of Black National Guardsmen

P.C.3.

By Sheryl McCarthy

A recruitment drive started in October has almost doubled—to 6 per cent of the total—black membership in the Maryland National Guard.

The drive resulted from a Defense Department mandate in October urging all state National Guard units to conduct a vigorous campaign to increase the percentage of blacks in the nation's reserve forces.

According to Maj. Gen. Edwin Warfield, state adjutant general and commander of the Maryland National Guard, 190 black men have been enlisted between October 1 and July 31.

This brings the total black enlistment to 412, or about 6 per cent of the state's total force of 5,962. Of this number, there are 17 black officers out of a total of 436.

Recruiting Methods

blacks into the Guard as skilled technicians.

Pointed out opportunities

"What we actually did was try to point out that there were vast opportunities in the guard to learn a trade," General Warfield said.

"We're trying to sell the idea—come to us, we'll teach you a trade and give you pretty good money while you're in training."

General Warfield said that recruitment efforts have added 10 full-time black technicians to the standing technicians crew of 800.

Col. William A. Harris, one of two black colonels in the Maryland Guard and a project officer for black recruitment, says that the Guard has been working with high schools, state schools and state colleges

in since 1947, was in an all-black truck-driving battalion the only battalion open to blacks until the Guard became integrated in the mid-fifties.

"We Pay Taxes"

Col. George Brooks, the other black colonel, is happy to see more blacks "because some of us who have been in the Guard for years want more blacks because we think there should be. We pay taxes. We should start developing more people so we can get more leaders into the units."

The Guard, which has traditionally been regarded by many blacks as the white man's army, requires six months of active duty and technical training and a six-year commitment to the Guard, in the form of two all-day drills a month. Pay for the two-day session begins at

AUG 7 1972

Eve. Sun

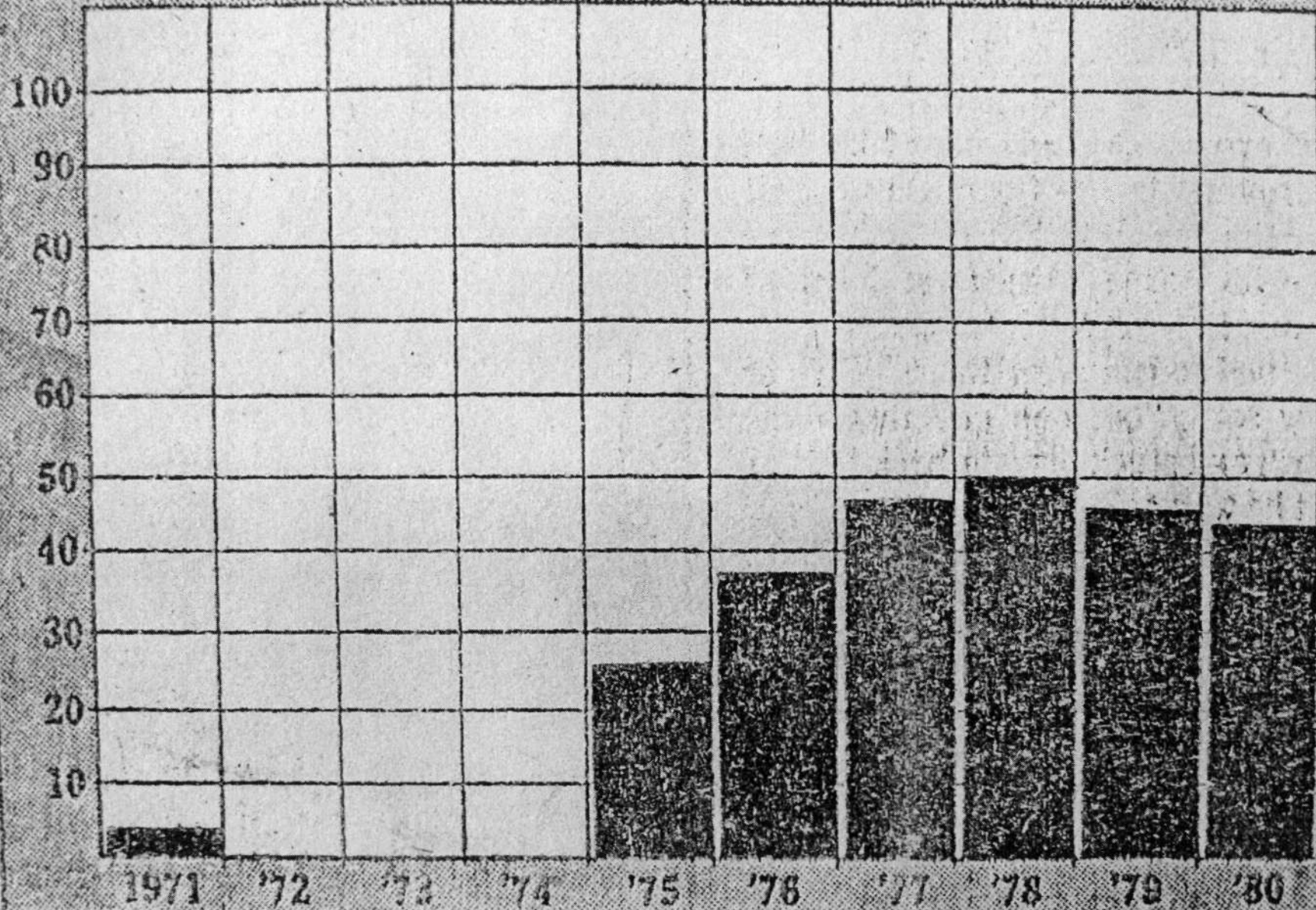
AUG 7 1972

to fully integrated ranks has come to Mary-

men and reservists have attained E-2
E-3 status by the time they finish their

Minorities in Maryland National Guard

Percent



Evening Sun chart—Edward J. McKee

ard losing all-white identit

By Larry Carson

yland National Guard has dramatically in-
minority enlistment since the day in December
hen Adjutant Gen. Edwin Warfield 3rd called
an's Army." **EVENING SUN**

sion for that remark was the opening of a re-
rive aimed at enlisting more blacks into the
air National Guard, which then had only a 4
ek membership.

's Army guard now boasts a 44 percent mi-
tment, including 2,008 enlisted black soldiers
with 2,553 whites, plus 254 women, 83 white
ek. **MAY 15 1980**

of minorities is much more limited in the offi-
however, with 46 black officers compared to
and 30 white female officers, compared to no

aders say that most of the black members be-
s near the Baltimore metropolitan area, with
more rural areas remaining predominantly

or problem now, as it has been since the end of
n war and the compulsory draft, is recruitment.
The Army guard, for example, has a current
of 5,643, compared to an authorized enlist-
21. **EVENING SUN**

in guard membership came in December 1979
oped to 5,491, according to Lt. Col. Ernest M.
guard spokesman.

National Guard, in contrast, is overenrolled,
members compared to an authorized strength
percent of the air guard are minorities, includ-
men members and 190 blacks, said Col. William
a executive officer.

member expansion of the air contingent is ex-
fall, however, Colonel Seeds explained, because
ange from two-engine to four-engine C-130 air
planes.

of the larger planes are to be delivered by Octo-
dded, allowing for an expansion to 1,600 mem-

land's contingent of the Army Reserves
as well, with 40 percent of the state's
6,087 reserve soldiers black and a 12
percent female enlistment.

The total minority enlistment in the
reserves is 48 percent, according to
Allen Grant, a civilian Army employee
at the 97th Army Reserve Command
headquarters at Fort Meade.

Mr. Grant said the reserves in Mary-
land have an authorized strength of
7,133 in Maryland, leaving the units
with about 1,050 vacancies.

Colonel Snyder attributed the change
in the guard's racial makeup to two
major changes in society at large.

"There's been a sociological change,"
he said, meaning that blacks now don't
see the guard in General Warfield's
phrase of 1971 anymore. They don't feel
it is a hostile "white" force that would
be unfriendly to blacks. **MAY 15 1980**

That feeling, strengthened by the ap-
pearance of largely white National
Guard forces in predominately black
Baltimore neighborhoods during the
1968 riots, began to dissipate as the war
in Vietnam began drawing to a close
and more black veterans came home.

The second major development,
Colonel Snyder said, is the dramatic
change in the economy, with increased
unemployment, especially among
blacks, and increased prices at the same
time. **EVENING SUN**

These two factors have helped en-
courage more blacks and women to join
the reserves and National Guard. The
lowest ranking private in the Army, an
E-1 grade, makes \$440 per month for
full-time duty, and just over \$50 for one
weekend of drills at home. Most guards-

Percentage Doubles

More Blacks Sign Up For Guard

By Larry Carson

The Maryland National Guard has nearly doubled its percentage of black guardsmen during the first 10 months of 1972, according to Col. Benjamin Dean, chief of staff.

A total of 293 black recruits entered 6-year enlistments between January 1, and October 28—25 per cent of the 1,142 new recruits signed up during that time period.

The 25 per cent enlistment rate for black recruits is a major departure from the steady 3.5 to 4 per cent black membership that has prevailed for the past 5 years, despite several announced attempts at change. About 7.6 per cent of Maryland Guardsmen are now black, Colonel Dean said. That represents 455 men.

A total of about 800 vacan-

cies remain in the 6,800 Army National Guard force in Maryland, Colonel Dean said, but a concentrated recruitment effort has kept the vacancy rate from falling below that level, and the worst is over now, he said.

40 Blacks In Air Guard

The Air National Guard, a separate unit, is authorized 1,652 men, and has 136 vacancies. There are now 40 black men in the Air Guard, representing about 2.5 per cent of the total. Eleven per cent of the 231 new recruits for the Air Guard have been black, enlistment figures reveal.

The bulk of the men who enlisted in the Guard and Army Reserve in the 1965-1966 panic when heavy draft calls and the infusion of 500,000 American troops into Vietnam,



COL. BENJAMIN DEAN

have finished their terms and are leaving.

Only 1,200 men are scheduled to finish their enlistments

in 1973, Colonel Dean said. The Guard hopes to reduce the number of these. The rush of these. The rush of leaving the Guard is over, and the effort kept an 800-man vacancy getting worse will fill those spots during the year, he said.

A 25 per cent among enlisted men for a one-year period, Dean said. "We held and gained a little," he said.

"We're coming back what the Army is trying looking for the young wants us, not those of it," he said.

And training has changed some Guard units to duty more meaningful.

One medical company

at University Hospital, while a multi-company carries out duty at Fort Meade.

Army National Guard unit

Evening Sun, November 28, 1972

Morris Brooks, 77, 1941 graduate school. He earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Morgan State University in 1950. Merion Bascom, director, Chris-

Jews and blacks, friends and foes

Show reveals mixed feelings of the two groups

By John Dorsey
Art Critic

Between 1882 and 1925 there were 3,783 lynchings in the United States. Following is an excerpt from an eyewitness account of a man burned alive in 1925.

"I stood in a crowd of 600 people. . . . I watched the blaze climb higher and higher, encircling him without mercy. I heard his cry of agony. . . . Soon he became quiet. There was no doubt that he was dead. An odor of burning flesh reached my nostrils. I felt suddenly sickened. . . . [T]he crowd walked away. . . . 'I'm hungry,' someone complained. 'Let's get something to eat.'"

While 95 percent of those lynched were black, there were exceptions. In 1915 Jewish merchant Leo Frank, accused of raping and murdering an employee, was hanged in Marietta, Ga. The Frank

Personal baggage

And also by deep personal feelings, which Ms. Sorin found everywhere bubbling to the surface in preparing the show. "We made an effort to bring as wide a range of scholars together as possible, and because this is such an emotional issue everyone told their own story — 'When I was growing up I remember this,' 'My situation was this' — even scholars expressed history as anecdotal, and it was very difficult to get beyond those anecdotal experiences and say, 'This is your personal baggage. What was it like in New York? Or Baltimore? How different was it if you were working-class or upper-class or middle-class, college-educated or not?'"

"We realized at that point that viewers would also be bringing their personal baggage, and I think it's important to address up front that there is no truth. History is about a body of factual material, but it's also about perception, about who's telling the story, whether it's from an African-American middle-class woman's perspective or an upper-class male or a Communist in the 1930s working in the labor movement.

"We wanted to show people multi-

with black leaders including W. E. B. DuBois, James Weldon Johnson and Jessie R. Fauset. Writes one of the show's catalog essayists, David Levering Lewis: "What Jewish and Afro-American elites principally shared was not a similar history but an identical adversary — a species of white gentile. . . . Theirs was a politically determined kinship, a defensive alliance, cemented more from outside than from within."

Nationalism's rise

This was also a period that saw a rise in both Jewish and black nationalism, which would become a divisive influence. Writes Levering: "[Black nationalist] Marcus Garvey had stormed out of the NAACP's headquarters in 1917 'dumbfounded' by the apparent domination there of whites."

The section on "Working for Social Justice" deals with joint efforts from the 1930s to the 1950s, in such areas as unions and the Communist party. The almost totally black Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the largely Jewish International Ladies Garment Workers' Union cooperated, and the Communist Party in America promoted integration of

BLEWS



*The Black/Jewish
Forum of Baltimore*

11/11/77

AFRO-AMERICAN J.F.
ENOCH PHATTI
LIBRARY

Operation Understanding brings Black-Jewish students, together

by Joy M. Tyler
RO Staff Reporter

CT

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damages between the
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high school students
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by learning more
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e the differences be-



Baltimore Sad But Peaceful As Negro And White Mourn

By STEPHEN J. LYNTON

Many of the city's civil rights leaders urged yesterday that Negro workers in private industry and government and Negro students remain away from their businesses and schools Monday to mourn the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Their wish quickly received Mayor D'Alesandro's blessings.

The request for a one-day "general strike" of Negro workers and students was first enunciated by Walter E. Lively, the director of the Baltimore Urban Coalition, head of the Union for Jobs or Income Now and a leader in a local coalition of militant groups.

Called "Main Thing"

"We're asking black folks to withdraw, at least for one day, from the process of business as usual," he said yesterday morning.

Mr. Lively later observed Mr. D'Alesandro's press conference and said afterward that the re-

quest for a day of abstinence from work and studies had become the "main thing" for civil rights leaders.

Throughout the city, officials, organizations and students paid tribute to the late president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Some showed bitterness, some were outspoken in their anger, others displayed simple grief.

Grief Expressed

None, even during the harshest civil rights conference of the day, counseled an end to the practice of non-violent protest which had been the keystone of Dr. King's philosophy.

During the daylight hours, the city appeared sad but peaceful.

In unusual demonstrations of their grief, Negroes and whites

(Continued. Page B 9, Col. 5)

City Sad As Negro And White Mourn Loss

Many Honor Memory Of Civil Rights Leader In Prayer

BY STEPHEN J. LYNTON

(Continued from Page B 22)

joined together in prayer and solemn ceremonies to mourn the 1964 Nobel Prize winner's death.

At Northwestern High School, some 300 to 500 Negro and white students shared a 25-minute interval of silent prayer and meditation in nearly complete darkness yesterday morning in the school's auditorium.

A lone light shone on an empty chair placed on the stage as a symbol of the assassinated civil leader's absence.

Moment of Silence

The student-led tribute had received the hurried sanction of the high school's administration, which granted the students permission to use the school cafeteria and auditorium for about four hours of meditation and impromptu speeches.

All the city's public schools were asked by the School Board to observe a moment of silence in memory of Dr. King.

White and Negro city officials joined silently in a brief prayer in Mayor D'Alesandro's office, spoken by the Rev. Frank L. Williams, president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

Some 1,500 employees of the Social Security administration at Woodlawn gathered for a mid-afternoon memorial service.

Longshoremen Pay Tribute

The six locals of the International Longshoremen's Association—three predominantly Negro, the other three predominantly white—stopped all work on the city's port at noon in a tribute ordered by the association's New York leadership.

Some union members complained of missing a half-day's pay, but none sought to overturn or to violate the association's order.

Some whites made special effort to express their grief to Negroes.

One white Baltimore county policeman telephoned David L. Glenn, the community relations director, to express his embarrassment at the apathy many policemen had shown in the past to civil rights problems and to tell Mr. Glenn of his sadness at Dr. King's death.

Some civil rights groups expressed extreme bitterness.

A statement issued by a coalition

of militant groups said: "His (Dr. King's) death represents to us the white man's final statement concerning the situation of black people in this country . . . namely, that no black man is safe from racist terror."

At the bitterest conference of the day, Danny Gant, director of the Target City project of the Congress of Racial Equality, blamed Dr. King's death on inflammatory statements printed in the press, on the police and on slum landlords. "The whole power structure is criminals," he declared.

Although he termed Dr. King "the last" of the advocates of non-violence and proposed "protect and defend" as the only remaining principle for action, Mr. Gant said that he would not counsel violent measures.

Statements Pour In

Government officials and public and private organizations continued to issue statements of grief and tribute.

The William L. Moore Foundation, a Negro history and culture enterprise, sent telegrams to Mayor D'Alesandro and Governor Agnew seeking a day of mourning.

In its telegrams, the foundation noted that Dr. King's death had occurred just five years after the death of Mr. Moore, a white mailman who was shot to death while on a civil rights protest march. The foundation is named for him.

The Baltimore city grand jury issued a statement of grief, saying that "the lone voice crying for moderation in a wilderness of hate, prejudice and violence" had now been silenced.

Cardinal Speaks

Cardinal Shehan expressed "profound sorrow." He spoke of Dr. King's "plea for moderation and non-violence" and added: "His tragic assassination will no doubt make that voice even more powerful in death than it was in life."

"The assassination," Cardinal Shehan said, "underlies the importance of the recently issued report of President Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders." The report had attributed racial violence to white racism.

Rabbi Israel M. Goldman, president of the Baltimore Jewish Council, sent a telegram to Dr. King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference, describing Dr. King as "a modern Moses."

Rabbi Goldman expressed the grief to the local office of the cans will rededicate themselves

to the goal for which he (Dr. King) gave his life, the dignity of man."

Senator Clarence M. Mitchell 3d (D., 4th Baltimore) spoke of new pressures upon Congress to enact civil rights legislation and he counseled moderation in any statements disseminated by the news media.

Representative Friedel (D., 7th) urged Americans to "unite and prove Martin Luther King's faith was not misplaced."

The Baltimore office of Senator Eugene J. McCarthy's campaign for the presidential nomination delivered a message of brief to the local office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The Interdenominational Min-

isterial Alliance announced a memorial service at 4 P.M. tomorrow at the Metropolitan Methodist Church, Carrollton Avenue and Lanvale street.

The Friends School and the Gilman School announced last night that they will be closed Monday in tribute to Dr. King. Also closed Monday will be Mary Mawr School and Roland Park Country School.

Brown Case Plea Made
(By a Sun Staff Correspondent)

Cambridge, Md., April 5—The Cambridge Black Action Federation demanded today that the state drop all charges against Rap Brown, chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee who was charged with inciting to riot and to arson here last summer.

Baltimore shocked, angered, hurt, grieved by death of Dr. King

Afro-American (1893-1988): Apr 6, 1968;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)

pg. 1

Baltimore shocked, angered, hurt, grieved by death of Dr. King

Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro III, led Baltimore in officially mourning the death of Dr. Martin Luther King. This is what he said:

"This is a very sad day. Dr. King was a responsible leader of the nation. He was a churchman and distinguished citizen.

"From the very beginning he adopted non-violent tactics in trying to correct injustices in our society.

"I hope this tragedy will serve as a symbol to all Americans once and for all that we have to rid our society of the injustices, hatred and prejudice which brought his death."

George L. Russell Jr., City Solicitor:

"History will record that this is one of the darkest hours of our history. We must do something to bring sanity back to our society. It is a deep personal loss."

SEN. VERDA F. WELCOME:

"This is a tragic loss. Dr.

King's death is a tragic loss not only for colored Americans but for all the American people and the world.

"I hope we will remember the words of Dr. King that we can achieve nothing by lawlessness.

"I hope we press on toward the goals set by Dr. King for complete freedom and justice."

Madeline Murphy, Community Action Commissioner, and civil rights activist:

"The death of Martin Luther King is a senseless act. A man who preached nonviolence is the innocent victim of a violent, white racist America.

"A man of peace had become a victim of war, the insidious war against 20 million black people.

"We mourn him and shall mourn him on every rung of the ladder towards freedom from oppression which our black brothers and sisters have suffered too long.

"Always his death will be a reminder that the sleep-

ing black giant must be awakened.

"We must sleep no more.

"We knock on every door — organize, mobilize for action, for freedom in unity."

Mrs. Juanita J. Mitchell, president of Maryland NAACP:

"In his dying, Dr. King's spirit of love and non-violence rise above the assassin's bullet to inspire and challenge our youth to continue the fight for freedom with love.

"He has joined the long list of martyrs, Medgar Evers, Schermer, Goodman and Chaney of Philadelphia, Miss. Vernon Dahmer of Hattiesburg, Miss.,

whose restless spirits call us to rededicate our talents and efforts to speed the end of injustice."

James Griffin, chairman, Baltimore CORE and school commissioner:

"Mahalia Jackson is singing 'Where You There When They Crucified My Lord,'—that's how I feel now.

"The shooting of Dr. King demonstrates how white America will not tolerate non-violence and passive aggressiveness on the part of black people.

"It clearly points out that we have to reorganize our thinking and become uni-

(Continued on Page 3)

—Balto. shocked

(Continued from Page 1)

fied as one.

"We must continue to push forward with even more vitality and determination and use whatever means necessary to gain our freedom.

"Even though I didn't agree wholeheartedly in his approach to the problem, he was more than an inspiration to me."

PARREN J. MITCHELL, Community Action Agency director:

"This is the ugly America. This is the America of the lynch law.

"This is the America of violence. Not black violence, but white violence. Not black hatred, but white hatred.

"The white community, white America, stand condemned."

Former Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin:

"I think it is a great tragedy for America, that one of the greatest influences for peace and goodwill was killed tonight.

"The greatest way to honor him would be to continue his work for full recognition of colored people in every area of American life.

"We must do it vigorously and consistently, but peacefully, the way he would have done it."

Robert Moore, SNCC field secretary:

"What we find once again is that we cannot protect our leaders.

"While I have disagreed with Dr. King's stand on non-violence I have always respected him as a man who was dedicated to the liberation of his people.

"I think that the black community must move to protect its leaders and protect the community itself.

"White America has a plan of genocide for black Americans.

"Rap Brown is in jail

now. He has not been convicted of any crime.

"Students at South Carolina State College had committed no crime when they were shot down by white cops.

"Martin Luther King had committed no crime when he was shot down."

IN THE MEANTIME an AFRO reporter talked to the "man in the street" and found what he called an "Epitaph to Non-Violence."

This is his report:

Shock, confusion, anger — the words seem trivial and inane when used to describe the reactions of the man in the street to the sudden death of Dr. Martin Luther King last night.

In bars and on street corners, bus stations and buses, people reacted — some in buzzing, low, incredulous whispers, others in silence — and others in angry threats.

"It don't seem real, it just don't seem real," one youth standing on a Walbrook corner mumbled, his arms waving, pacing in front of two friends.

"Man, that sure hurts me. I swear that sure hurts me," a second youth muttered, leaning against the rain-streaked brick wall of a bar.

"This guy was one of the good guys — he talked about non-violence. I didn't dig it, but I admired him.

"Maybe this will wake black Americans up to what's happening," said Carl Williams, an insurance salesman sitting in a Clifton Ave. bar.

"It should show every black man in this country that no matter who he is, how big he is, or what he believes, if he wants his rights he's going to have to die for them," a middle-aged man at a table responded.

"Every black man is vulnerable, and if they didn't know that, they sure know it now," — Melvin Reed, a

West Baltimore barber said.

"My God, there's going to be some action this summer," a youth standing on a Pennsylvania Ave. corner.

"I'm surprised it didn't happen sooner — when he was in Alabama and Mississippi. I guess I knew it would happen someday.

"But when it didn't, it got so you kind of thought nobody would dare.

"Especially when Stokely and Rap Brown talk that talk," a woman in sitting at the bar in the Garrison Lounge remarked.

"I always wanted to meet him — I swear I just never got the chance when he was here," a female companion murmured barely audibly.

"It's the sign to fight — to let go. This proves that non-violence don't work. He preached non-violence and look at him now."

"I admired King — he was a great — a great man. But he set himself up to be killed. Non-violence just ain't the way," — a Bethlehem steelworker sitting in Ave. club, said.

At the Greyhound bus station, three cabdrivers were engaged in intense conversation about the assassination.

"Anything can happen now — and I do mean anything. This man has been killed for no reason at all."

Second Cabbie: "I got four guns — and I'm willing to share them with anybody who wants them."

... I just don't see this. "I don't see how we can keep talking non-violence when something like this can happen."

Third Cabbie: "But Dig, man — look at it this way. If they raised hell about this, this would mean that he died for nothing."

"King was trying to prove it could be done his way — no blood — rioting is just going to show he was wrong..."

The argument continued . . . snatches of conversation breaking through the slow raindrops, incoming greyhound buses, and the swish of tire wheels on the street providing a weird dirge.

CITY CURFEW IMPOSED; AGNEW SENDS TROOPS AS UNREST SPREADS

One Killed, 70 Hurt, 100 Arrested As
Violence, Looting Flare In Downtown Area;
Firemen Report 250 Alarms

Governor Agnew ordered the National Guard into Baltimore last night to quash rioting which broke out in the Gay street ghetto area about 5.30 P.M. and which city police declared out of control within five hours.

At the request of Mayor D'Alesandro, the Governor declared a complete curfew in the city between 11 P.M. yesterday and 6 A.M. today. Some 6,000 National

Guard troops were available for duty in the city.

Two persons, one white and one Negro, were reported burned to death in one blaze at Federal and Chester streets. Nearby, the most serious fire of the night erupted on the northwest corner of Harford avenue and Federal street, consuming a dry cleaning establishment, a candy factory and another smaller building.

At least one man, a Negro in his 30's, was shot and killed. Officials at the Johns Hopkins Hospital said he had no identification papers. He was shot in a tavern at Harford and Lafayette avenues.

68 Injured

At least 60 persons were injured, and most of them were being treated at the Hopkins. Nine had gunshot wounds. Ten policemen were also hurt, none of them seriously.

By 11 P.M., police had arrested more than 100 persons. At Eastern district, there were a total of 62 arrests. The Central district police station reported more than 50 arrests.

When the National Guard was ordered in, Maj. Gen. George M. Gelston, the State adjutant general, was placed in command of all law enforcement in the city.

Curfew Terms

Troops moved out of the Fifth Regiment Armory on trucks at 11.15 P.M. Each soldier carried a rifle—with a bared bayonet. The rifles were unloaded, but each man had two clips of ammunition on his lapel. Each clip contained ten bullets. Every National Guardsman was equipped with a canister of tear gas.

Included in the curfew order was another order banning the sale of alcoholic beverages. Sales of gasoline and other flammables in containers was prohibited. So was the sale of firearms.

Lively Arrested

Among those arrested was Walter H. Lively, the 25-year-old head of the Baltimore Urban Coalition and a worker for the Union for Jobs or Income Now. Police at Central district said he was being held for investigation of arson.

All off-duty policemen in the city were ordered to report for duty about 6.50 P.M. Police officials said later they had between 1,200 and 1,500 officers in the East Baltimore area.

In the chief area of rioting—bounded generally by Greenmount avenue, North avenue, Chester street and Baltimore street—violence, looting and fires were widespread.

Firemen Shot At

At 11.30 P.M., Chief John J. Killen of the city Fire Department said that there had been 250 fire alarms called in since about 5.30 P.M.

In several areas, fires began and continued burning because firemen were unable to get to the scene because equipment

(Continued, Page 10, Col. 1)

GUARD SENT TO QUELL RIOT

City Curfew Imposed; One Killed, 35 Injured

(Continued from Page 1)
 was tied up elsewhere. There were several reports of firemen being shot at.

The violence appeared to be concentrated in the East Baltimore area, but there were sporadic reports of fires, looting and gangs on the streets in other parts of the city.

After 11:15 P.M., when the National Guard moved in, city officials said that things appeared to be quieting down.

Gay street, where the rioting began about 5:30 P.M., was littered with glass from about the 300 block northward to the 1100 block. Bomber alarms sounded in almost every corner.

At 3 P.M., Governor Agnew, who had been in close contact throughout the day with police and National Guard officials, used his new powers to proclaim a state of emergency in Baltimore.

"Scramble Oscar"

At the same time, National Guard headquarters in the 5th Regiment Armory issued the code words "Scramble Oscar," ordering every one of Maryland's 8,000 guardsmen to their armories.

Brig. Gen. William Ogletree, deputy adjutant general, said that 6,000 men could be moved into the city in short order.

The Governor's proclamation meant that the State Police force, which had been on standby for twelve hours, could come into the city and operate under orders of the police commissioner, Donald D. Pomeroy.

With the movement of the National Guard onto the streets, Maj. Gen. George M. Gelston, adjutant general of Maryland, would automatically take command of all law enforcement officers.

But at 4:15 P.M., a spokesman for Governor Agnew said that city officials had just reported to him that they had "the situation well in hand."

The spokesman added that those officials asked Mr. Agnew to stress that his proclamation was issued as a "precautionary measure" only.

Windows Broken

The disturbance began in the 400 block North Gay street shortly after 3 P.M. The police switchboard was flooded with reports of windows being broken.

At 3:49 P.M., all Tactical Squad police in the Central district were ordered into the area. They were joined by other officers wearing visored helmets and carrying long night sticks.

Several groups made up primarily of teenagers were seen in the area, moving in different directions and under no apparent leaderships.

Mayer's Appeal

At 11:20 P.M. the Mayor went on city-wide television to appeal to citizens to observe the curfew.

He said that he was "satisfied" that the area which triggered the series of disturbances last night were "spontaneous," but added: "However, these spontaneous acts were supplemented by some obviously planned attempts to cause trouble."

He insisted that the night's troubles had "not reached proportions identified as a riot."

Just before 6 P.M., fires reported by the Sun Cleaners at Gay



CITY'S FIRST FIRE—Flames shoot out the window of the Ideal Department store in the 700 block North Gay street.



RUIN—Louis Hay (right) surveys damage from broken store-front windows in his Gay street furniture store.



RUIN—Louis Hay (right) surveys damage from broken store-front windows in his Gay street furniture store.

and Monument streets. Windows were shattered there, and teenagers were seen running from the store with clothes wrapped in plastic bags.

Police moved quickly to seal off Gay street from the 400 block north to the 700 block. No one was allowed to enter the area. Side streets were blocked off by police.

Fire was first reported at the Ideal Furniture Company in the 700 block North Gay street about 6:15 P.M. It was quickly put out.

At about 6:30 P.M., another fire started at the Lewis Furniture Company a few doors away in the same block. It rose to two alarms by 6:40 P.M.

It was the last fire reported in the area, however, as the intent of those on the street seemed to turn to looting and breaking of windows along Gay street and in commercial areas running off it.

About 7:15 P.M., the Economy Store, an appliance and furniture firm in the 900 block North Gay street, was broken into by a crowd of about 50 youths.

Iron grating protecting the front windows of the store was ripped off, windows were broken and individuals moved into



INITIAL TARGET—The first disturbances broke out in this East Baltimore area. 1. The point at which the first windows were broken. 2. and 3. Posts at which fire equipment was held in readiness. 4. The location of first serious fire.

the store. One youth wearing an orange shirt was seen carrying off a small color television set. A woman took a matched pair of lamps.

Police arrived about five minutes later and the crowd scattered.

One plainclothes officer standing near the Belair Market, at the south end of the area of violence, observed wryly about 7 P.M.: "At this point, it's pretty festive."

Witnesses in the Gay street area made the same observation. One called it a "carnival."

Shortly after 8 P.M., fire broke out in a tailor shop in the 2300 block of Greenmount avenue. While it was blazing, big bundles of clothing were dumped into the street, where a gathering crowd calmly picked through it as firemen were working unsuccessfully to save the shop.

David Glenn, a Negro who heads the Baltimore Community Relations Commission, described the atmosphere as "strange."

4-Alarm Fire

"Half of the young people seem to want to go home, and the other half seem to be having the time of their lives," he said.

What became the worst fire of the night began at about 8:45 P.M. in the 1400 block North Milton street, where an A&P food market, a ten cent store and two other small shops were ablaze.

By 9:20 P.M., the Fire Department had sent in a fourth alarm.

A crowd gathered to watch the fire and at times hampered firemen by throwing stones and bottles.

Police in all sections of the riot area were periodically pelted with stones and bottles.

truck, but said the remainder of about fifteen persons riding on it fled.

The truck, they said, was loaded with bricks and rocks. Police towed the truck away.

About that time, they reported receiving seven calls in ten minutes.

One of those calls was for a fire in the 4700 block Park Heights avenue, the first such call from the west side of town. It was not immediately clear whether the fire had any connection with rioting.

One of the major stores reported to have been looted about 8:45 P.M. was Levenson and Klein, a furniture firm, at Monument and Chester street.

Rock Throwing

It was about 40 minutes later that the first reports of trouble in the area around North and Greenmount areas were called in. The picture there was about the same as had been in the Gay street area.

Witnesses described Gay street, from Chase to Orleans streets, as one long "rock throwing gallery."

Large crowds lined both sides of the street watching as young-

sters looted store after store, smashing windows with abandon.

Elsewhere in East Baltimore: three stores on Greenmount avenue, from the 1900 block to the 2300 block, were burnt out by fire-bomb tossers; two more were burnt out in the 1200 block of Greenmount avenue; a major disturbance was reported going on in the Ashland avenue-Aisquith street area at 9:30 P.M.

Groups Sing

Bands of youths broke windows of businesses north of North avenue. About 10 P.M., six fires all of them small—were seen burning within the space of several blocks.

Whenever a policeman appeared, the groups broke into loud singing — at times "We Shall Overcome," the song of non-violence which became prominent in the South during civil rights demonstrations during the early 1960's.

Travel Banned

Police asked for the National Guard to be called in when the unrest spread to an area too wide for them to contain it.

Maj. William Harris, a Negro who is head of the police department's community relations division, said at one point: "As far as I am concerned, this has nothing to do with the death of Martin Luther King. That man wouldn't have tolerated this for a minute."

When the curfew went into effect, downtown movie theaters were emptied of their patrons. The order said that no one was allowed to travel in the city unless on an emergency mission.

At 11:15 P.M., the city police command headquarters at the Belair Market reported that National Guard troops were to take over the area between Twenty-fifth street and North avenue.

City police and State Police were patrolling the area south of North avenue.

Police were ordered to stay

of the National Guard's area by Maj. Frank J. Battaglia, of the police department. The guard was to have on gas masks and use gas, police said, while policemen were to patrol the periphery of the area and make arrests.

General Gelston said that guardsmen were under orders not to shoot unless they were fired upon—and then only an

order of an officer unless they could clearly identify a gunman or sniper.

The general said that "several thousand" guardsmen were on the streets by about midnight. He added that between 400 and 500 State policemen were on the streets.

He said that conditions were "not out of hand," but added (Continued, Page 11, Col. 1)

RIOT STARTS ON GAY ST.

Guard Patrols; 250 Alarms
Reported By Firemen

(Continued from Page 10)

that the presence of the guardsmen was required "to restore order."

The first guard troops to move into action were basically the 1st Battalion of the 175th Infantry, General Gelston said.

Meets With Burch

His statements were made in a news conference at the 5th Regiment Armory which came after an hour's meeting with Francis B. Burch, the State attorney general.

Mr. Burch said in the conference that under a new act, signed by Governor Agnew only Friday, and that gives him special powers in the time of a civil emergency, violations of any provision—including the curfew—carry a maximum \$1,000 fine, six months in jail or both.

Besides General Gelston and Mr. Burch, others attending the meeting were the Mayor, Arthur Murphy, an assistant United States attorney, and David Glenn, head of the city's community relations commission.

Rumors Circulate

As things began quieting down in the Gay street area after the National Guard moved in, police radio suddenly reported looting on Pennsylvania avenue extending from the 1200 to the 2000 blocks.

About 10:30 P.M. there were reports that the rioting had spread into the main shopping center of downtown Baltimore—along Howard street. But these reports turned out to be unfounded.

Several merchants were seen, however, holding rifles in their stores. The large department stores either had curtains drawn across windows—or were in the process of being boarded up.

Kindness Shown

There were numerous incidents of humaneness shown during the rioting. One occurred about 10:45 P.M. in the 900 block North Gay street, the location of a jewelry store next door to Jacob's Variety Store.

The jewelry store was fire-bombed and burning furiously when police arrived. They were told by a Negro couple living across the street that people were inside Jacob's.

Police kicked down the door and found Jacob Shilarod, the owner, and Mrs. Mary Eisenberg, his 69-year-old sister-in-law. They were taken to safety by police.

Riot Watchers

Reporters in the Gay street riot area said that at the height of violence and looting, many persons living in the same blocks had turned out all lights in their houses and could be seen standing near windows.

As the number of arrests



CITY NIGHT PATROL — Police officers in full riot gear patrol on troubled Gay street.

mounted, police ran out of cell space at the Eastern and Central districts. Some of those under arrest at Eastern were taken to the Northeastern station.

The Hopkins hospital bore the brunt of those injured during the rioting. All hospital personnel were asked to remain on duty through the night, and as many off-duty personnel as could be raised were called in.

All policemen were treated for injuries at Mercy Hospital. The most serious injury to an officer, officials there said, was one man who was struck by a thrown brick.

Gunshot Wound

Union Memorial Hospital also got a few injured persons from the riot area, but officials there said none of them appeared serious.

At the Hopkins, the most seriously hurt man at midnight was identified as Roscoe Allen, 44, of the 900 block North Durham street, who was listed in poor condition with a gunshot wound of the right abdomen.

Musical Program Put Off Indefinitely

The city public school music program scheduled this afternoon at the Civic Center has been indefinitely postponed, M. Thomas Goedeke, associate superintendent of schools, announced last night.

Mr. Goedeke said the "Spotlight on Music" program would be rescheduled and dedicated to the memory of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Few Incidents Jar West Part Of City

In contrast to the rampaging in East Baltimore, West Baltimore's sprawling Negro areas were relatively quiet last night.

There were isolated instances of fire-bombing on the West side, police said, and two young men—one a soldier—were caught with bottles filled with gasoline minutes after a "Molotov cocktail" was tossed at a tavern.

In all, police reported there

were "ten or twelve" fires in West Baltimore (about 1/25th of the night's total). Before 11:30 P.M., the only reported instances of looting in the sections were from the 1100 block of West Baltimore street.

The tavern where the firebomb attempt was made was in the same block. Arrested on charges of possessing "Molotov cocktails" were Pfc. Michael E. Thomas, 20, who was stationed at Fort Belvoir, Va., and Glenn Cook, of the 1100 block of Ashburton street.

2 Arrested, 2 Sought By Cambridge Police

Cambridge, Md., April 6 (Special)—Police arrested two Negro juveniles here tonight and were seeking two others on charges placed against them by the white clerk at a grocery store next to a Negro public housing project.

Gene Gray, the clerk, told police the four youngsters had "created a disturbance" at the store, which has been the object of past boycotts by residents of Mobery Park, the housing development.

A small contingent of National Guardsmen was being held in this city, the scene of serious disturbances in the past.

Arson Suspect's Case Delayed For Lawyer

A hearing was postponed yesterday for a 23-year-old member of the Congress of Racial Equality charged with attempting to set fire to a Pennsylvania avenue lumber company Friday night.

Judge Joseph L. Broccolino granted the postponement for Willard D. Dixon, Jr., of the 4600 block Park Heights avenue, so the defendant could get a lawyer.

Negro Green Beret Shakes Head At Riots

A Negro soldier, his green beret tilted at the correct angle,

LAWYERS SET STATE LAW SCHOOL STUDY

GEORGE J. HILTNER

The Sun (1837-1985); Jun 23, 1963; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985)
pg. 46

LAWYERS SET STATE LAW SCHOOL STUDY

Note That Two Institutions Lack Accreditation By Bar Unit

By GEORGE J. HILTNER

[Sun Staff Correspondent]

Atlantic City, June 22—Maryland lawyers today voted to ascertain why two of the State's three law schools are not accredited by the American Bar Association, and also urged that educational qualifications for members of the bar be stiffened.

In an exhaustive report submitted to the Maryland State Bar Association by its Committee on Legal Education, Albert L. Sklar, a committee member, noted that one fourth of the law degrees conferred in the United States by unapproved law schools are given by two such schools in Maryland.

The report revealed that the law school of the University of Baltimore and the Mount Vernon School of Law do not meet A.B.A. standards.

Enrollment Noted

Those two schools last year had a combined enrollment of 834 students, as compared to 483 enrolled at the approved law school of the University of Maryland.

The lawyers were told that one of the reasons the Baltimore and Mount Vernon schools are unapproved is that they require only two years of prelegal education. The University of Maryland school requires three years of college.

Mr. Sklar said that three years of college should be required at the two unapproved schools, even though the committee was aware "that precipitous enactment of legislation to require three years of prelegal study may have an undesirable effect upon two of the law schools in Maryland."

"We are practical enough to realize that if we do not have

(Continued, Page 30, Column 1)

the support of the governing boards and faculties of the law schools, we may not be successful before the General Assembly," the committee added.

On the question of approval by the A.B.A., Mr. Sklar asserted:

"The committee is not convinced that approval by the American Bar Association is the only hallmark of an acceptable law school. But it is a valid standard by which to judge. Maryland should not be among the minority of states which require less than three years of pre-legal education and we have recommended a remedy for that.

"We are concerned that the number of law students attending the two unapproved schools in Maryland and the number of graduates from these schools is grossly disproportionate to the size and population of Maryland.

"We submit that this complacence by the bar association requires additional investigation."

On Mr. Sklar's motion, the members voted to expend \$750 for expert assistance and advice in evaluating the State's law schools.

In other action today, Fred Weisgal, of Baltimore, chairman of the committee on the defense of indigent defendants, reported that experimentally the majority of the committee members have approved a system of private appointment of defense counsel over a public defender system.

Mr. Weisgal noted that a public defender system, once established, usually calls for a constantly-increasing budget and becomes embroiled in politics over appointments and the methods used in selecting members of the staff.

He said the committee at this

time suggests the naming of an administrator to supervise prompt private appointments in the required cases, and to submit the names of attorneys recommended for appointment to the judge for his final approval.

The speaker said the private appointment method, if it does not work, can always be abandoned for the public defender's office. He said it would be difficult, on the other hand, to get rid of the public defender system once it has been set up as an arm of the Government.

The remarks of Mr. Weisgal evoked considerable discussion concerning the extent to which the State should go in paying for defense counsel, or supplying it on a volunteer basis.

The speaker was frank to admit that the problem is so new because of recent Supreme Court decisions that it is impossible to say at this time what types of cases should require counsel, where the line should be drawn and what system is best to meet the problem. He said results of the next few months should supply the answer.

The business session came to a close today with a memorial service for Judge Morris A. Soper, of the Fourth United States Court of Appeals, who died last March, and the taking over of the presidency by H. Vernon Ency, of Baltimore, succeeding Kenneth C. Proctor, of Towson.

Judge J. DeWeese Carter, of Denton, was named president-elect and will become president next year.

450 DEGREES ARE AWARDED

Morgan Class Told To Overcome 'Inferiority' Fear

Negro citizens "must overcome traditional fears of inferiority and inadequateness" and take their place in the world as "first class citizens," the 450 graduates of Morgan State College were told last night.

Whitney M. Young, Jr., director of the National Urban League, a civil rights organization, warned the graduates during his commencement address that "this will not be easy."

"You will still be expected to measure up to all others," he said. "You will be competing with all the rest of the first class citizens and you must be good. Not just a good Negro professional, out a good professional."

Presented With Degree

Mr. Young, who was one of seven persons whom Morgan State presented with honorary doctorate degrees during the ceremony, asserted that in the struggle for human rights "all are on trial — the Negro and the white American."

He complimented Morgan State's graduates for their role in the quest for human rights and exhorted them not to forget this role in the future.

"Make your goals new goals," Mr. Young said, "even greater ones than you have been fighting for. Fight for universal free education, medical care and programs for persons automated out of jobs."

Bachelor Of Arts

G. L. Anderson
Kwame P. Annor
Bernice B. Ayers
Robert D. Basley
Tyronne R. Baines
Ruth H. Baks
Ada B. Barnes
Klier D. Barnes
Joyce R. Baucom
C. McK. Beach
John D. Beltha
Thelma P. Betts
Alice J. Blackwell
P. Blasingale
Edith M. Booker
Delois Bowman
John A. Brent, Jr.
Thomas N. Britco
Evelyn L. Brodie
Caroleyn Brothers
Caroleyn Brothers
Beverly E. Brown
C. L. Brown
Hena Brown
Sedonia E. Brown
D. J. Browner
John R. Bryant
Rozetta J. Jolley
Eleanor D. Burnett
Haleese R. Burruss
D. Carmichael
Linda G. Clark
W. McD. Clarke
V. A. Clayborne
C. A. Cockrell
Wilton L. Colbert
LeRoy Conieland
David A. Cook
Pecay A. Crawford
Constance Daily
Arlene L. Davis
Shella B. Davis
Sharon S. DeSouza
James E. Deance
E. W. Donaldson
Lionel R. Duncan
W. R. Duvall
Walter C. Elliott
Gloria T. Everett
Helen D. Fields
Ronald N. Flamer
Jola Fountain
Audra A. Freeman
Dennis E. Gaither
Wavie Gibson, Jr.

E. M. Peters
Lola A. Powell
Carol A. Pulley
Myra B. Pulley
Thomas Queen
P. T. Radcliffe
W. C. Randall
James A. Scott
C. B. Seales
S. T. Shorter
Jill C. Simmons
R. E. Simpson
Leon W. Sims
Joseph R. Sims
Eucene Smith
R. R. Spencer
Joseph M. Stemley
Evelyn F. Stewart
Leon W. Sullivan
Darryl C. Tully
Bertha L. Taylor
Luile Taylor
Sulis A. Thomas
Brenda Thompson
Phyllis Thompson
Gloria B. Tillery
Richard Timmons
Yates H. Toliver
Thomas M. Toone
Reginald S. Turner
Donald Tyner
Brenda Valentine
David P. Wallace
Earl M. Walls
Barbara Wesson
Maratheater
Andre Wickham
Alfreda L. Wiggins
Nancy T. Williams

Bachelor Of Science

Marcela E. Busey
Francis L. Butler
Eucene B. Byrd
Eucene D. Byrd Jr.
Roland L. Byrd
Winston R. Byrd
Frederick E. Caeco
Barbara Campbell
Clarence Canson
Charles E. Carlies
Ethel C. Carr
Gola V. L. Carr
Anne R. Carroll
Pearline E. Carter
Leon R. Chambers
Shirley Chambers
Roger T. Chase
Herbert Chissell
Donald T. Ciappa
Virginia E. Clay
Myrtle E. Cockrell
Roy T. Cordell
James E. Coleman
Patricia Coleman
Vina A. Coleman
Claudette V. Cook
Mazda Crak
Jerome Crawley
Dolores C. Crue
Grace Cumberbach
L. E. Dandridge
Christina A. Dales
Edward L. Davis
Palce T. Davis
Genevieve O. Day
G. S. Dennaker
Joyce I. Dennison
Osborne Dixon, Jr.
Mildred J. Dorsey
Carolyn A. Dotson
J. Drummond
George A. Edelen
Charles Edwards
Odessa Eldridge
John T. Elzey
Robert O. Evans
Rosa M. Fair
Roland Fletcher

Wesley Williams
Ernestine Wilson
Shirley D. Winkey
James J. Winters
Lola J. Young
Frederick Adams
Rosemary Adams
Sandra J. Adams
Dolores Addison
Esther Addison
Ina C. Anderson
Laurence Anderson
Ernest W. Baylor
Dolores W. Atkins
Godfrey Ailee, Jr.
Barbara Bagwell
Gooley E. Bailey
Marva L. Barnes
Sophie E. Barnes
Lutherine Bascom
Ernest W. Baylor
Elmor P. W. Bell
Fred E. Bell
Franklin Belton
Willie G. Binlon
Robert E. Blount
Rondald C. Boozer
Charles Bowie, Jr.
Barbara Boxman
Phillip R. Boyer
Charles Briscoe
Maxine E. Brooks
Brenda Brown
Gwendolyn Ford
Edward P. Brown
Hubert Brown, Jr.
Joyce M. Brown
Maragaret
Maxine G. Brown
Jacqueline Burke
Harriet G. Burton

Ernestine Rogers
Lurline Jackson
Carol R. Jenkins
Brenda J. Jennings
Wealely A. Jennings
Ronald T. Jeter
Lawrence M. Johns
Carole E. Johnson
L. L. Johnson
P. Taylor Johnson
Joan P. Johnson
Mable L. Johnson
R. L. Johnson
Henry Jones
James N. Jones
C. B. Jordan
L. M. Joyner
Sylvia M. Julian
Josephine Jupiter
Ronald McK. King
M. T. Kontas
Joanpia N. Kontos
G. W. Lasaiter
G. B. Lee, Jr.
Shirley M. Lee
Lois P. Leffridge
Delores Lewis
B. A. Lindsey
D. F. Lincoln, Jr.
M. B. Locklear
Barbara A. Lyles
Treceline W. Lyles
Janette McBride
Anna L. McCall
Floyd McCoy, Jr.
George H. McGhee
O. S. McGuire
Ruth H. McNeil
Joan D. MacLin
B. J. Magdoff
Verbera F. Marine
A. B. Martin
R. Martin, Jr.
Delores Martin
R. L. Martin, Sr.
M. K. Massally
Jean C. Matthews
Jerome May
Mildred N. Mayo
C. J. Mitchell
G. Mitchell, Jr.
James A. Mitchell
N. C. Monroe
Emily Moore
Pearl Morris
Charles Murray
Elmer Murray
Frederick Nunley
Nathaniel Parham
Claude Parker, Jr.
Donald Parker
Debra Parnell
Carole Parsons
Jacqueline Parsons
Melvin Perry
Veronica P. Perry
Thomas Pinder, Jr.
George Poe, 3d
Lillian Potts
Gregory Powell
Charles Proctor
Anne Qualls
Norris Ramsey
Charles Reeves
Marvin Redd
Edna Rice
R. Richardson
Wm. Richardson
Jonathan Riddix
Ernestine Robson
Linda Robinson
Harriet Rock

Jacqueline Rogers
Theo. Russell
Beatrice Saunders
Marlis Bason
Geo. Seals, Jr.
Jerome Shelton
Leroy Sheppard
Carol Sherwinston
Joseph Showell
Eucenia Silva
Jerilyn Simmona
Carolyn Simms
Beverly Skates
Joyce Sloan
Eucene Smaller
Artis Smalls
Chas. D. Smith
Chas. T. Smith
Gwendolyn Smith
Joyce Smith
Robert Smith
Shirley Smith
Wm. Smith, Jr.
Nancy Solomon
L. B. Somersall
Robt. Spady, Jr.
Joe Spedick
Sylvia Stancell
Howard Stanley
Jerald Stanley
Mildred Stanley
Sporos Stavrakas
Andrew Stills
Jacouin Stone
Chas. Strayver
Lois Stubblefield
Robert Tabb
Patricia Taylor
John Taylor
Ronald Taylor
Willie Tillery
Doloh Torrence
James Turner
Hilbert Turner
Donald Twine
Leverne Wallace
Jerv Warfield
Chas. Watson, Jr.
Joan Watson
Sandra Watson
Brenda Webb
Sandra Wells
Andrea West
Carol Whitaker
Gus White
Jesse Whittington
Edw. Wilkins, Jr.
Robert Wilkins
Florence Wilkison
Aethia Williams
Gravson Williams
Jas. William, Jr.
Jerrv Williams
Leroy Williams, Jr.
Louene Williams
Melvyn Williams
Ralph Williams
Jammie Wilkinson
Frances Wilson
Yvonne Wilson
Michael Winder
Joseph Wise
Marcus Wood
Doloria Woodhouse
Calvin Woodland
Carolyn Woodland
Carrie Wooten
Velma Wishit
Janice Young
Levdon Young
Rochelle Young

The graduation ceremonies were conducted outdoors in Hughes Memorial Stadium on the Morgan State campus.

The black man and negative self-image

By NORRIS RAMSEY

For years the black man has struggled to gain what's rightfully his in this country. However, there have been many reasons for his slow progress.

Some of them being a lack of leadership, apathy on the part of the black and white community, social conditions, and a willingness on the part of black people to be co-opted into the system.

Interwoven in all of these reasons is the negative self-image which black people hold of themselves.

The negative self-image concept may be defined as a feeling of inferiority, a dislike of one's own self, a lack of faith in one's ability to achieve, a degrading of one's own self worth. Now, if we apply this concept to the black community as a whole, we will reach several conclusions.

Many black people hate themselves and any one else who happens to be black, i.e. the entire black community.

Many of our black brothers and sisters don't believe in themselves and their ability, and though they may be geniuses or of average intelligence, they drop out of the competition in society and assume a lesser role delegated by the white society.

We will reach the conclusion, that there are many blacks who will turn to the white man for aid instead of his black brother, who provides the same or better services.

Some black politicians would prefer to run on an integrated ticket rather than foster black unity in his community which has a predominant black population.

We reach the conclusion that there are blacks who would rather mutilate their bodies and hair with lye, skin brighteners and wigs in an effort to conform to white beauty standards, rather than appreciate the natural black beauty of their own physical features, and naturally kinky hair.

The conclusion is that the negative self-image is one of the main reasons which lies behind the fact that most of the crimes of violence that are committed by black people are committed against other blacks.

There are reasons for this negative self-image existing. It was created by the white society and perpetuated both by the black and white society.

It all started when the first black was loaded on a slave ship. The white man knew that he could not effectively keep black man in human bondage, unless he broke his will to resist.

This he did by making the black man feel that he was less than a human being, by destroying his family life and its patterns, forced him to mate as animals and even after releasing him from bondage, murdered him when he tried to exert his masculinity, refused to educate him and placed certain social stigmas on him, and used the black man's institution to perpetuate the game, i.e. churches, schools and indeed the black family.

However, despite all of the above and the games that have been run on black people, we are finally getting over some of it. We have started to analyze ourselves in a critical yet constructive manner.

We have begun to understand that a game has been run on us and we can no longer proceed along our same docile line.

Some of us have begun to realize that black is beautiful, and that there is force in unity.

This was evidenced by Mayor Stokes of Cleveland and Mayor Hatcher of Gary, Indiana, both brothers.

But there is something that many of us seem to forget, and that is the fact that we must be understanding of our black brother who still has this negative self-image, for even though he be a Tom, for lack of a better word, he is still black, and we must try to help him understand himself and our social condition.

We must become black evangelists, destroying the negative self-image and converting our black brother to his own black awareness and beauty.

But remember, brothers and sisters, the hour grows late and we can tarry no longer. We must move forward and prepare ourselves for a new day.

(Mr. Norris Ramsey graduated from Morgan State College in 1965 and is currently a law student at the University of Maryland).

Are lawyer exams racist?

Clarence Hunter

Afro-American (1893-1988), Dec 25, 1976.

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)

pg. 15

Are lawyer exams racist?

(First of a 2 part series)

By Clarence W. Hunter
AFROSTAFF REPORTER

Out of the 125 black law graduates who took the Maryland Bar Examination in late July only 10 passed.

"I thought I had flunked," said Elijah Eugene Cummings, one of the few black law graduates who passed the exam. "I had started studying a month a week after I took it so I could psyche myself up if I failed so I would be ready for the next time."

Cummings' statement represents just one reaction to the growing suspicion that the state bar exam could very well be a pitfall for budding black lawyers.

"It's a travesty," said Dwight Pettit, president of the Baltimore Monumental Bar Association and one of the leading black lawyers in the city.

"The exam is arbitrary and capricious because no standards have ever been validated to test the student's ability to practice law."

The state bar exam is a two day exam given twice a year on the last Tuesday and Wednesday in February and July.

Each exam is six hours long with three hours of testing in the morning and three hours of testing in the afternoon.

The Maryland essay ses-

sion is given on the last Tuesday of each testing period with questions developed by the Maryland State Bar Examiners on key points of state law.

The other section of the exam is called the multiple-choice exam.

Developed by the National Conference of Bar Examiners, this section is given on the last Wednesday of each period, with multiple choice questions centering around factual situations of law.

Although bar examiners have stated that candidates are not listed by race or sex, the exam has come under attack because of allegations of racial bias and the low passing grades of black students.

Pettit believes the bar exam is discriminatory. He said there is currently a class action suit awaiting decision before Judge C. Stanley Blair contending that the exam is racially biased and that it should be reviewed.

Pettit also said the Supreme Court has not helped the case because in refusing to hear a suit brought by 45 prospective lawyers who failed the bar exam in Georgia and a case in Washington, D.C. where the police entrance exam came under attack.

"It's really a shame," he said. "If we can't change the exam by litigation maybe it needs to be changed by legislation."

John E. Boerner, secretary of the Maryland State Bar Examiners, said the exam is by no means discriminatory.

Boerner explained the exam has come under fire several times with allegations of this nature, however, there has not been sufficient proof to charge racial bias.

Although there are some black lawyers and prospective lawyers who believe the exams is racially biased there are some who are not quite sure.

Charles Dunham, dean of the Howard University Law School who took the exam 15 years ago, said while he personally does not know if the test is discriminatory, he stated statistics on the exam seem to suggest otherwise.

Cummings, who graduated from the University of Maryland Law School and plans to enter the firm of

Johnson and Smith, stated if there is any racism in the exam he does not know where to look.

He agreed with Pettit that there is some question as to whether or not the test exam is a true tester of a lawyer. He suggested law schools, especially the one at the University of Maryland, should look into the test and gear their course of study towards the test.

Everett Goldberg, dean of the Maryland Law School, who stated it is "unfortunate" that so many black law graduates flunk the bar exam, contends that his school offers the best basic education in law.

Yet a recent tally revealed out of the 25 black law students who took the exams at Maryland Law School, only four passed the bar.

Michael Middleton, one of the Maryland law graduates who failed the exams, plans to take it again in February.

He, like Cummings, Dunham and others, have mixed feelings about the impartiality of the exam. He explained he has a "gut feeling" that the test is not intentionally biased.

Bernard A. Baum, chairman of the legal education and admission committee of the Maryland Bar Association, stated his committee is conducting a probe into the contents of the bar exam.

Baum stated although a complete report has not been filed yet there is no indication that there is anything wrong with the exam.

Baltimore City solicitor Ben Brown, who is currently assisting in a probe of last February's bar exam, said a study into the test by black attorneys has been going on for quite a while.

Brown stated he does not know if any indepth study on the bar exam exists and he could not comment on any figures or statistics of the July exam.

He also explained the current investigation into the last exam should reveal if the law schools are properly preparing the law student to take the exam.

NEXT: Are law schools properly training students? Part's.

U. of Md. Law School attacked by black students
Bill Rhoden
Afro-American (1893-1988); Sep 8, 1973;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)
pg. 5

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This time, the target of black student protest is the university's law school, for the second consecutive year.

During a meeting with Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (D-7-Md.) Tuesday, representatives of University of Maryland's Black Students Law Association accused school officials of systematically excluding blacks from the institution and discriminating against them once they get in.

About six months ago, black medical students at UMBC accused school officials of discrimination and enlisted the aid of Congressman Mitchell to have several schools dismissed.

Just two weeks ago, similar accusations were aimed at the dental school and now, law school officials are in for their second encounter with black students.

"It seems apparent," stated Mr. Mitchell, "that racism runs the school from top to bottom, and now,

they're going after black faculty members."

The latter statement was in reference to Pete Rawlings, a math instructor at UMBC who was dismissed on Aug. 16.

Rollins, a long-time proponent of the black student struggle at UMBC, is preparing to file suit against the school.

Among other things, the students are demanding the readmission of 10 freshman colleagues who flunked out law school this year. The 10 were among 25 blacks admitted this year.

Other demands are for new and/or revised non-discriminatory tests as well as administrative adoption of an affirmative action program which would have black students graduated at the same rate (in proportion) as white students.

In addressing the group, which included Judge Joseph Howard and State's Attorney Milton B. Allen, a spokesman for UMBSL announced plans for what he termed his "fall offensive."

According to Kenny Bivins, vice president of UMBSL, the goal of the offensive is to "end racism at the U. of Maryland once

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"Nothing short of asking for the dean's (Cunningham) resignation will do the trick," he continued, and buttressed the association's earlier intention of having 10 black students readmitted into their second year.

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One result of the meeting was the formation of a 10-man committee whose single purpose will be that of exploring possibilities of a broad based suit against the entire institution.

Among those volunteering their services for the committee were Judge Joseph Howard, State's Attorney Milton B. Allen, Delegates Walter Dean, Loyal Randolph and Kenneth Webster.

A group was also formed to meet with Chancellor Albin Kuhns to discuss readmission of the 10 students and the resignation of Dean Cunningham.

CHARGE RACISM

U. of Md. students hit quota

The University of Maryland Law School has a quota system and flunks out 50 per cent of its black students in a "systematic fashion," three black students charged this week.

In an appeal to the community, C. Grant Valentine, Arnold M. Jolivet and Aubrey C. Wyatt asked for an examination of the rate of admissions of black students and a study of the high rate of failures of blacks who take the bar exams.

They charge a scheme of black exclusion seems to be working well in the legal profession. * * *

Rep. Parren Mitchell (D, 7th Md.) speaking on behalf of the students, added:—

"It is certainly my intention to be fully involved in this effort being made by the black law school students. To date we have had several meetings with representatives from the community.

"It is most encouraging that all of those with whom we met have pledged to support the efforts to end discriminatory practices.

"Within the next few days, we shall make an appeal to the broader community for help in the systems in what a promise to be a tough battle." * * *

The Complaining students' statement follows:—

"We black students at the University of Maryland School of Law chose to enter the field of law as a profession because we recognized that the law affects the lives of black Americans impartially on a day to day basis.

"We had hoped that the patterns of racism which forced Donald Gaines Murray to file suit, in 1935, had been broken. This hope was in vain because our experiences at the Maryland Law School strongly suggest that a quota system against blacks remains in effect.

"We ask the community to examine and scrutinize the rate of admissions of black students from 1956 to the present and even earlier.

The statement added:—

"Secondly, there is in our opinion a practice by means of which 50 per cent of the black law students are "flunked out" in a systematic fashion.

"The Maryland law school admissions rate coupled with the flunk out rate decimate the members of black students at the law school there by systematically excluding blacks from entering the profession of law.

"Thirdly, the two foregoing conditions are matched with an alleged high failure rate of blacks who take the bar exam. A scheme of black exclusion seems to be working in the legal profession and working well.

"We recognize that this form of racism is subtle is subtle and covert, it is imperative that it be ferreted out, fought and destroyed.

Name Norris Ramsey

Address 3710 E Federal St

Telephone No. 327-8474 Business Phone all day

Occupation _____ Place of Work _____

What times can you work on the following days?

- Monday _____
- Tuesday _____
- Wednesday _____
- Thursday _____
- Friday _____
- Saturday _____
- Sunday _____

Which of the following campaign activities would you like to perform?

1. Canvassing neighborhoods _____
2. Telephoning from your home _____
3. Manning the office _____
4. Distribution of literature downtown and at shopping centers _____
5. Distributing literature at your work places _____
6. Working as a challenger or watcher at the polls _____
7. Working the polls to encourage voters _____
8. Recruiting volunteers _____ From what source _____
9. Any other activities _____

Will you be able to work all day on election day, Tuesday, November 5? Yes No _____
If not, what hours can you work? _____

Do you have any preference as to the neighborhood or areas which you would like to work? _____

If so, identify the general area(s)

Are you willing to participate in a few classroom sessions in order to learn the fine points of challenging and poll watching for election day? Yes _____ No _____

List any other persons to whom you think we shall send this form?

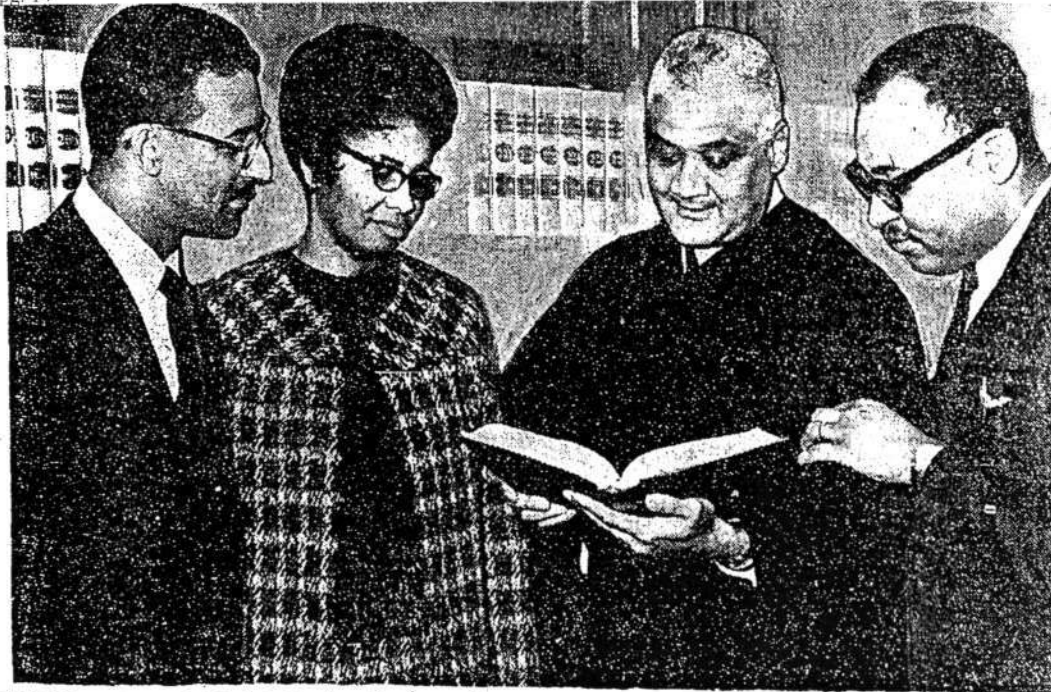
Name	Address	Phone
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Photo Standalone 13 -- No Title

Afro-American (1893-1988); Jan 25, 1969;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)

pg. 14



IN THE OFFICE of Criminal Court Judge Joseph C. Howard are members of what he calls "my fine, black staff," left to right, Charles Richardson, an assistant clerk of Domestic-Criminal Division; Mrs. Dorothy Phil-

lips, secretary, the wife of the Rev. Wendell Phillips, pastor of the Heritage United Church of Christ; Judge Howard and his bailiff law clerk, David Allen. Mr. Allen, son of attorney and Mrs. Milton B. Allen, is ex-

pected to go into private practice in July. Judge Howard says he will be succeeded by Norris Ramsey, a University of Maryland second year law student. Mr. Allen was bailiff to Judge George Russell in 1967.

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Law School protest

Dean's resignation sought in grade row

BY MIKE BOWLER

Old racial tensions resurged yesterday at the University of Maryland Law School amid charges that the administration tried to influence a grade given a Negro student.

About 30 students, led by the Black American Law Students Association, picketed the school, demanding the resignation of the dean, Dr. William Cunningham.

"General Incompetence"

The executive council of the Student Bar Association passed a resolution, 14 to 3, demanding Dean Cunningham's resignation "because of his blatant racism, insensitivity to student rights, interference with the faculty grading of students and general incompetence."

At issue was a memorandum written last Friday by Dean Cunningham to Dr. Richard V. Falcon, an assistant professor of law.

Dr. Falcon had given what was described as "an extremely high" grade of 89 to a paper submitted by Grant Valentine, a black student who had been dropped from the school for poor grades last spring, then reinstated under pressure from various sources, including Representative Parren J. Mitchell (D., 7th).

Like to see paper

Dean Cunningham wrote:

"Your grade of 89 to Mr. Valentine for written work has excited my curiosity. For one who was in academic trouble last June this is indeed a remarkable achievement. If you have a copy of it still, I would like to see it."

Mr. Valentine distributed copies of the memo after it was given to him by Dr. Falcon.

"The issue goes beyond my grade," he said yesterday. "It has to do with a loss of academic freedom, and the white students stand to lose as much as we do."

Several white students were involved in the protest, including Tom Wolfe, president of the second-year class, and Leonard

Redmond, president of the Student Bar Association.

Dean Cunningham met with the students for more than an hour yesterday. They came away unsatisfied and scheduled a rally for noon today.

The dean said yesterday that the students had "misinterpreted my motives" in writing the memo.

He said he was "just curious" about a student getting a "very high A" after a record of poor grades.

Dr. Cunningham said he never before had sent a written memo to a faculty member about a student's grade, "although of course we discuss grading problems all the time."

He added that Dr. Falcon is a comparative newcomer to the Law School faculty, "and we want to have a pattern of grading that is consistent and uniform."

The paper, titled "Racial Attitudes as an Impediment in the Treatment of Delinquency," was submitted in a one-credit course.

39 Law School students

Yesterday's protest was one of several that blacks at the professional schools have mounted in the last year. They have complained of a low black enrollment at the schools, but more urgently of a lack of support for black students once they are admitted.

University officials said there are 39 blacks in the Law School, which has an enrollment of 717.

"And I'd be willing to bet," said Edward Martin, president of the black students' association, "that 15 of those won't get out of here. The problem is not admission of blacks. The university has been forced to open its doors. But the real work is retention of blacks. Most of them don't know what a struggle it is to get out of the school."

The high flunk-out rate of blacks was the primary complaint registered last year by Representative Mitchell, who said all of the professional schools have the same problem.

U. of Md. Law School attacked by black students
Bill Rhoden
Afro-American (1893-1988); Sep 8, 1973;
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Veterans Predominate in Univ. of Maryland Law School Classes

Afro-American (1893-1988); Oct 19, 1946;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)

pg. 20

Veterans Predominate in Univ. of Maryland Law School Classes



M. B. Allen

W. E. Brown

B. K. Jackson

George Parrish

Mrs. J. Mitchell

Robert Watts

W. H. Murphy

D. C. Brewington

Harry Cole

H. R. Frisby

These are ten of the 20 students now enrolled in the University of Maryland Law School. All of the men except Mr. Frisby are veterans of World War II. Mr. Frisby is a city probation officer and Mrs. Mitchell, a housewife and civic worker. This is the largest group of students enrolled in the school since the NAACP-sponsored suit forced the university to drop its color bars in 1935.

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Husband-wife legal team gains respect as discrimination opponents

TIMOTHY M PHELPS

The Sun (1837-1985); Apr 3, 1978; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985)

pg. C16

Husband-wife legal team gains respect as discrimination opponents

By TIMOTHY M. PHELPS

In the staid, gray-suited world of federal court, a husband and wife legal team that takes on the establishment in its own arena stands out.

Norris and Karon Ramsey, although gray-suited themselves at times, are two of only a few local specialists in an emerging area of law—race and sex discrimination.

By general reputation, by the comments of judges who have watched them in action and by the ultimate yardstick of

success, they are good at what they do.

What they do is to challenge the hiring, promotion and firing practices of major corporations, cities or counties in law suits filed under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Discrimination suits filed in federal courts nationwide have increased tenfold in the last eight years, so much so that some judges complain they are clogging up the docket sheets and crowding out the more conventional civil suits.

The United States District Court here

had about 100 race and sex discrimination cases filed last year alone, 5 per cent of its caseload. And the recent award of a \$52,000 attorney's fee to the Ramseys after the successful completion of a 5-year-old civil rights case may result in even more cases.

"Word gets around about a big fee, so everybody will come in and jump on the bandwagon," Mr. Ramsey predicted in a recent interview. "But after a while it will dwindle off because the other attorneys will find out it's not a piece of cake."

The Ramseys say frustrations are part and parcel of a discrimination suit. These include long delays without fees, high costs with mostly poor people as clients, obstruction tactics by defense lawyers and personal attacks on their integrity.

Mr. Ramsey observed that he and his wife "don't have the resources" of some of the larger, more established law firms in Baltimore.

"The defendants know that," Ms. Ramsey said. "They delay. They try to raise costs astronomically. They make us copy voluminous documents. You ask them a question, and they tell us to look through 30 boxes of files. And then you find out there were logs to tell you where to find the information.

"What they do is everything they can to keep you from the merits," Ms. Ramsey said. "There is more resistance in a Title VII case. They think they can beat us by not giving us information."

Even after they won the case that brought the \$52,000 fee, a job discrimination suit against AFA Services, Inc., a food vending machine company, the Ramseys still had to fight to get their money.

Charles Josey, president of the Monumental City Bar Association, Inc., a group of black lawyers, claimed he was entitled to half the fee in the case because he had referred the plaintiff to Mr. Ramsey and had served as an adviser although he did not claim to have done a significant amount of work on the case.

Judge Herbert F. Murray said that Mr. Josey was only entitled to \$5,000. In his opinion, the judge said a 50 per cent fee-splitting arrangement of the sort Mr. Josey maintained he had, but Mr. Ramsey denied, would violate the disciplinary rules of the American Bar Association.

Sometimes the extensive frustrations go for naught. Last fall, Mr. Ramsey and Kenneth L. Johnson, a former associate who also specializes in Title VII work, lost a suit against Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point plant, a case in which they estimate they had invested \$40,000 in time over seven years.

That case did accomplish something. It brought the Ramseys together.

After graduating from law school in 1970, Mr. Ramsey worked for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund as a Carnegie fellow, under a special grant designed to train lawyers from the South.

There he received the training in minority law that he has built into a successful specialty. He moved on in the summer of 1971 to a non-legal job with the National Urban Coalition in Washington.

"I didn't want to practice the kind of law that black lawyers traditionally engage in: high-volume criminal, personal injury and divorce cases," he said. "I didn't want to be restricted as a professional person."

He came back to Baltimore to practice law in December, 1974, bringing with him, Karon, whom he had met in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission office while working on the Bethlehem Steel case. Karon's aunt was then the head of the local Washington EEOC office.

Last week, on the strength of their \$52,000 fee, Mr. Ramsey quit his job as an assistant city solicitor to work full-time at his private practice. "I'll be able to cause these people a few more problems doing it full time," he said.

Ms. Ramsey, who graduated from the University of Maryland law school in 1974, works separately from her husband out of their apartment in the Glenmont Apartments off Goucher boulevard. But they team up for trials, dividing responsibility for witnesses, opening statements and closing arguments.

In a recent case against the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, which they lost, Karon Ramsey summed up the case to the judge while her husband sat at the plaintiff's table, passing up notes and whispering suggestions.

The frustrations become worth it, they say, when they win a case that establishes new legal precedents in discrimination law.

In one such case, Judge Joseph H. Young recently ruled in a scathing opinion that the Black & Decker manufacturing plant in Carroll county, employer of about 2,500 persons, had discriminated against blacks in hiring, recruitment, assignment and classification of jobs, promotions and transfers.

He issued an injunction against any further discrimination and ordered swift im-

plementation of an affirmative action program to quadruple the number of black employees. He told the company to provide blacks with opportunities for promotion and ordered an as yet undetermined amount of back pay for all blacks in the class action suit who were discriminated against.

The judge told Black & Decker to pay attorney's fees, not yet determined, to Karon and Norris Ramsey. In an unusual homage of judge to lawyer, he said the Ramseys "have faithfully, arduously and effectively served their client in bringing this suit . . . and litigating the matter in trial."

Reinforcing the Ramseys' remarks about obstacles placed before them, Judge Young said in his opinion that their efforts in the Black & Decker case "have on numerous occasions been made in the face of inexcusable and unprofessional delay and other circumstances directly attributable to the defendant's agents and counsel."

Black & Decker was represented by Stephen D. Shawe and Arthur M. Brewer of Baltimore.

The Ramseys consider the case an important precedent because Judge Young rejected the company's contention that because the plant is 29 miles from Baltimore, the racial composition of its work force should be judged by the low number of blacks employed in Carroll county compared to the much larger number of blacks working in Baltimore city.

The outcome of that case, both financially and legally, may make it possible for the Ramseys and other like-minded lawyers to challenge the hiring policies of other firms in Baltimore's outer environs.



Sunpapers photo—Richard Childress

Attorneys Karon and Norris Ramsey specialize in discrimination cases.

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Bethlehem Steel plans



ANGERED Workers at Bethlehem Steel's Key Highway Dock protested on Wednesday the firing of Micheal Evans, a black co - worker, who was fired after an argument with a white supervisor. The

protestors charged that the steel plant's handling of the argument had racial overtones and demanded the re - instatement of Evans.

Steel workers face mass lay-offs

Friday, May 24, the second of four major blast furnaces at the Bethlehem Steel Sparrows Point plant was shut down, bringing to more than 3,000 the number of workers laid off by the state's

largest private employer since mid - April. **MAY 27 1980**

The company also announced the closing of two groups of coke ovens and a steel-plate mill.

According to officials of Bethlehem Steel, the closings were necessitated by poor business conditions."

But union officials are worried that even more workers will be laid off in the weeks to come.

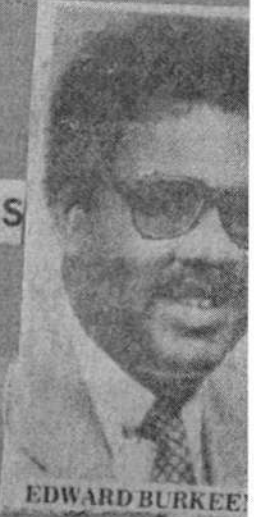
Currently 1,930 workers face long-term lay-offs, with another 860 on short-term furloughs.

After Monday, when the large blast furnace was shut down, the number of persons affected will increase by 500. **AFRO-AMERICAN**

Two additional mills, the wire and pipe and the hot strip mills, are also slated to be closed by early June, which may add an additional 2,000 employees.

Also, Bethlehem Steel has stated that it might be forced to shut down the company's tin mill, which currently employs 2,500 workers.

Chicago man gets position in Pa.



EDWARD BURKEEN

PHILADELPHIA — The promotion of Edward J. Burkeen to recruiting specialist, a new position in the human resources planning and development division of Bethlehem Steel Corporation's industrial relations department, was announced by William J. Reusch, manager of the division. Burkeen is being transferred from Bethlehem's district sales office in Chicago, where he has been a salesman. He will be responsible for recruiting college

program, and will specialize in recruiting professional and technical positions. **JUN 2 1980** While at Chicago, Burkeen was a Bethlehem participant in the National Urban League's Black Executive Exchange Program, BEEP, to introduce business experience to college classrooms. He has just completed requirements for a master of business administration degree in marketing from the Keller Graduate School of Management.

Mitchell charges Feds drag feet on Bethlehem bias cases

WASHINGTON — Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-Md., has asked U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti to speed up action on two racial discrimination suits filed against Bethlehem Steel Corp. which have been pending in court for years. **AFRO-AMERICAN**

Mitchell released a letter Feb. 18 he sent Civiletti asking for action on suits filed against the steelmaker in 1971 and 1975. No trial date has been set in either case, both of which are pending before U.S. District Judge James Miller. **FEB 19 1980**

Bernard Lane filed a class action suit against Bethlehem in 1971, charging the firm discriminated against black workers on the job. A similar suit was filed in 1975 by David Carroll and other black steelworkers.

"Our system of justice has always been governed by the principle 'justice delayed is justice denied,'" Mitchell wrote. "Surely further delays in these cases will indeed constitute a denial of justice."

Fifty of the workers originally involved in the class action suit have either retired, found other work or died, Mitchell said.

"It is unfair, it is unjust, it is unthinkable that protracted delays have been permitted in these cases," Mitchell said. "Is it the strategy of the defendants to resolve these cases by waiting for all the plaintiffs to die?"

Beth Steel to lay off

Bethlehem Steel Corp. plans to lay off 1,000 steelworkers at its Sparrows Point shipyard this week and expects to lay off another 1,000 workers within three weeks, a union official said Wednesday.

Walter Scott, recording secretary for Local 2610 of the United Steelworkers of America, said company officials told him the first 1,000 workers will be laid off at the plant's plate mill beginning today. **APR 26 1980**

Scott said he was told another 1,000 steelworkers will be laid off from other plant divisions in "two to three weeks." **AFRO-AMERICAN** Company spokesman Ted Baldwin would not confirm or deny Scott's figures, but said the plant would lay off some employees because of declining sales.

"We have already released a statement that indicated there has been some fluctuation in order patterns and that we are making adjustments," he said.

A daily newspaper said sources within the company had confirmed the report.

Bethlehem Senior Vice President D. Sheldon Arnot was quoted in Wednesday's editions of the Wall Street Journal as saying "Large-scale cutbacks" would be made in the firms operations throughout the country.

Baldwin said 650 to 900 steelworkers laid off earlier because of the sales slump remain out of work. He could not predict how long any layoffs the firm might make would last.

The co-chairman of the Baltimore Rent Control

campaign said his organization will continue to fight for the resignation or dismissal of Charles Colson as acting head of the Planning Commission.

Colson was treasurer of the Keep Baltimore Best Committee, a coalition of elected officials, property owners and landlords who worked to defeat a rent control referendum on the November 1979 ballot.

More recently, after Mayor William Donald Schaefer appointed him as acting director of the Planning Commission, rent control supporters learned he and his wife Marilyn own more than 200 properties in the city.

Rent control advocates claim many of those properties are substandard and protested living conditions in Colson-owned houses at a Planning Commission meeting. **AFRO-AMERICAN**

Ken McElroy, rent control co-chairman, said members of his group will personally visit as many of Colson's properties and help tenants receive aid to make repairs or eliminate housing code violation where necessary.

"We are still adamant about his removal from the Planning Commission," McElroy said. The rent control group's inventory of his

properties is a warning to other landlords, he

APR 26 1980
"This is an example to other big landlords that they shouldn't get away with these things," McElroy said.

Sunday Sun, January 21, 1973, p. 43,

A race blacks may not win

By **FREDERIC B. HILL**

Washington.

There's an easy way to understand what Bethlehem Steel has been doing to many of its black employees at Sparrows Point over the years. Take Secretary of Labor James Hodgson's word for it.

JAN 21 1973

Visualize two racing cars placed side

catch up to those start, but the real

While the obstacle's "rightful place" on paper, there is company and the erect some new one

First of all, they not go far enough employment enforcers to wholesale shift blacks who were a predominantly black can use the plan then they can use a vacancy for which

Thus, a very clear Hodgson's order is a black worker with must be given a job or white worker "with only minimal qualified."

Is he qu

Some say companies "games" in this area workers in the training companies give up a or a group if it's only work force," one official proportion of blacks Sparrows Point (81 per cent

Steelworker killed by molten metal Never let dangerous job get him down

By
Steve P. West
and
Nawrozki
Writers

Thompson, by all accounts a happy man who laughed for most of his life in a dangerous job and rarely let it win.

APR 23 1994
"I would say, 'Life's too short, yourself. Don't be upset about it.'"
"I recalled Al Tiller, a friend who worked with Mr. Thompson at Bethlehem Steel's Point mill, where Mr. Thompson died in a river of molten metal one day.

According to a source on the investigation team, Mr. Thompson ran an hour into the morning following the operator of a huge ladle weighing a 16-by-20 foot ladle full of pig iron from one furnace to another when the ladle came loose from its cables, spilling its red-hot contents onto the floor below. Mr. Thompson, 55, saw the ladle drop and tried to run, but the molten metal splashed up with him.

Mr. Thompson, who had just finished his shift that ended at 7 a.m., was alerted by a fire alarm in the locker room and I went

Spread cheer

Mr. Tiller said his friend, an experienced equipment operator, trained him and helped him get accustomed to the job and the attitudes of co-workers when he began working in the shop where the hot metal was cooked.

"Wayne was the kind of guy that if you got angry with him, you wouldn't stay angry for long," said Mr. Tiller, 59.

Thurston M. Bartee, a former Bethlehem Steel employee, said Mr. Thompson was a friend who would spread cheer whenever he gathered after work with friends at Goodie's tavern, near the plant.

"If you got a mug around here, looking all sad like something was wrong with you, he'd make you laugh," said Mr. Bartee.

Mr. Thompson grew up in West Baltimore and attended Douglass High. There, in 1957, he met his wife, Estalena. The couple married while they were in the 12th grade, but both graduated that year, Mrs. Thompson said.

Married 37 years

Mrs. Thompson laughs when she

years he talked about death because so many of his friends were dying from cancer caused by asbestos poisoning.

Mr. Thompson worked in the fiery heat of the huge basic oxygen furnace shop where iron was turned into steel, carried on its journey from furnace to furnace in a huge ladle, suspended from a crane by cables.

Workers dress for the job. Mr. Tiller wears thermal underwear and socks, even on warm days, along with heavy, steel-toed boots and thick, bulky thermal gloves.

Numerous burns

He also points to the numerous burn marks on both hands, then pulls off a shoe to show larger burns on his leg and foot.

"This is what happens when you get burned real bad," he said, trying to count the number of times bits and pieces of molten steel that have singed his skin since he began working at Beth Steel in 1955. "I don't know how many times I've been burned."

Like his old friend, Mr. Tiller said he realizes that there's always a danger whenever he enters the work



ANDRE LA

Wayne Thompson
wherever he went

Panel found racism

Manotti Jenkins

Afro-American (1893-1988); Nov 22, 1986;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)

pg. 15

Panel found racism

Judge overrules jury in cash award

By Manotti L. Jenkins
AFRO Staff Writer

BALTIMORE

A former Radio Shack store manager and computer salesman who filed a discrimination suit against the parent company, Tandy Corp., thought he would be \$109,000 richer after a U.S. District Court jury awarded him that amount last month.

But a U.S. District judge thought otherwise.

Abraham Foster, III, a 37-year-old former black manager of Radio Shack stores in Catonsville and Ellicott City, had been awarded the money by an eight-member jury for back pay and punitive damages for his firing in 1983.

However, Judge J. Frederick Motz, who was not the presiding judge during the trial, reversed the decision after the company

sought a judgment of the jury's verdict.

He ruled that Foster failed to produce "direct evidence" that he was discriminated against and rejected other claims he made during the trial.

During the trial, Foster's attorney, Norris C. Ramsey, presented witnesses who testified that Radio Shack practiced racial discrimination by assigning black managers to stores in areas where sales and profits were low and crime was high.

The witnesses added that black managers were consistently excluded from stores in predominantly white, higher income areas.

This practice was discriminatory because store managers depend on sales volumes and profits for a

substantial part of their salaries, testimony revealed.

Additionally, Foster, who began working for the company in 1981, alleged that Tandy Corp. violated his employment contract by failing to apply a four-step disciplinary procedure, which is listed in the store's employee handbook, before he was terminated.

But Judge Motz, in a memorandum, contended, "A substantial question is presented as to whether or not a statement in an employee handbook . . . can be sufficiently definite and certain so as to constitute a contract term with an employee."

He added that an employee, who charges "breach of contract" against an employer must demonstrate that the employer "acted arbitrarily" and that employees in similar positions were terminated only after the procedure was used.

According to Judge Motz, Foster did not produce this proof. Sharply disagreeing, Foster said the proof was provided in the trial and verified by the jury's verdict.

"What's amazing to me is that everything was documented in the court records, but in his (Judge Motz's) memorandum,

there is general fabrication," argued Foster.

Neither Judge Motz nor the trial's presiding judge, U.S. District Judge Joseph H. Young, would comment on the decision when contacted by the AFRO.

Ramsey conceded that better evidence of the company's double standard in dealing with black and white employees could have been presented if the company were willing to produce its comparable treatment files.

He said the company "lied" when it said the files were not available.

"They (company officials) did that on purpose in order to frustrate us," he argued.

Tandy Corp. officials could not be reached for comment.

Commenting that the overruling "did not surprise me one bit," Ramsey said it is "not unusual" for federal courts to rule against parties in civil rights cases.

The lawyer said he would pursue an appeal of the case in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Ramsey commented that he felt Judge Motz "was wrong" for making the decision, adding, "I think this is an abomination of our judicial system."

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Diggs license refusal overruled

Patricia Tatum

Afro-American (1893-1988); Nov 27, 1982;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988)

pg. 1

Diggs license refusal overruled

By Patricia Tatum
AFRO Staff Writer

Now that a Baltimore City Supreme Bench judge has overturned a ruling by the Maryland Board of Morticians denying Charles C. Diggs Jr. an apprentice mortician's license, Diggs told the AFRO he hopes to establish his own business soon in Prince George's County.

Diggs, a former 12-term Michigan Congressman, was denied his application for a license after a Jan. 6, hearing by the board because of a 1978 mail fraud conviction.

The board had concluded the conviction amounted to a crime of "moral turpitude" and on that basis, denied Diggs' application.

The former Congressman, who was a successful funeral director in Michigan, said his conviction had no relation to the funeral business and appealed the decision through his attorneys, Clarence Mitchell Jr., Michael B. Mitchell and Norris Ramsey.

In his ruling Tuesday, Nov. 16, Judge Solomon Baylor said Diggs had been denied due process by the board.

Baylor also cited one of the board's members was unqualified to have been seated and the two required consumer representatives were not present at the hearing.

Diggs, who now lives in Prince George's County, told the AFRO he feels vindicated and is grateful for those who have supported him

through the application and appeals process.

"I feel fully vindicated," Diggs said. "As we contended right along, the board had no right to deny my application and the court approved it."

Diggs said his attorney, Clarence Mitchell Jr., will meet with the assistant attorney general assigned to the board to determine whether he still must serve his one-year apprenticeship.

"We were denied the right to serve the apprenticeship," he said. "I've had a lifetime of experience in the funeral business."

According to the apprentice provisions, Diggs is required to serve a one-year apprenticeship.

(Continued on Page 2)



Charles Diggs

—Diggs

(Continued from Page 1)

He said for the past year he has been working for the Phillips Funeral Home on North Monroe St. and hopes to have that period become retroactive.

"I'll seek a waiver on any other requirements in view of my own experience and the ruling of the court," Diggs told the AFRO.

Diggs operated the House of Diggs in Detroit. The business

was founded in 1921 by his father, he said. It merged with another company in 1975 and now is being run by his daughter, Denise Diggs Taylor, a licensed mortician, and her husband.

He said he hopes to be able to establish his own company soon. Prince George's County has the second largest black population in the state, but has no black funeral director, he said.

While he was not specific about

his future political plans, Diggs did not rule politics out of the picture.

"There is a great deal of need out here for experienced organizational contribution to blacks, politically and economically," he said.

"My concentration has been on the economic level . . . but I have been active in all manner of civic organizations and church groups."

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