REPORT FROM EUROPE

# Army team probes foreign camps while Florida needs investigation

By OLLIE STEWART

PARIS — The headline that was: "Nixon Sending Team to Probe Racism at European Bases."

The headline that wasn't: "Black Veteran of Vietnam Welcomed for Burial in All-White Cemetery."

French and English-language papers gave full space to the announcement from the White House which stated: "Mr. Nixon is deeply concerned about the growing racial problems in Europe and the increasing number of incidents between black and white servicemen."

Departure date for the investigating team was even given — Sept. 18. And visits were announced for bases and camps in England, Germany, Spain and Italy.

"The White House," it was also stated, "has been looking at the problem for some time now, so the President has to take action."

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All nice and energetic. Awareness, then action. Interested in the boys away from home.

But much less interest in the boys who get shipped back home in a box — if they happen to be black. Like Spec. 4 Pondexter E. Williams.

Williams died in Vietnam, in combat, at the age of 20. His body was sent back to Fort Pierce, Fla. on Aug. 20, but for ten days it wasn't buried because the cemetery where military dead are buried would not accept it.

It took a court order to get the body where it belonged.

And since there's a definite connection between military troubles in Europe and the refusal of a proper burial in Florida for a dead soldier, let's imagine for a moment that the highly interested investigating team, not scheduled to leave until Sunday decided to pop down to Florida.

To the White House would go the following memorandum: "Mr. President; there's a black and white military problem closer home — and we've decided to look into it. The crackers won't bury a black soldier where he belongs."

You can imagine much easier the fast reply that would come from an administration spokesman: "Who the hell asked you to go messing with local problems here at home? Get ready to take off for Europe."

"But," says the team, "Florida is closer than Germany or England — and if we hit the crackers at home with a good dose of authority, we might not have to go to Europe."

"Don't be silly," comes back a sizzling phone call. "What has a little fuss in Florida got to do with the big racial problems in Europe?"

"Everything," retorts the team — knowing they're going to be fired anyway. "What's happening in Europe got its start in Florida, and places like Florida.

"Before a kid gets to be a GI, he sees blacks get booted around — so when he gets overseas he tries to do some booting of his own. But black soldiers boot back — and harder."

"That's not your business," screams the White House. "If blacks start a riot, the Army knows what to do. Simply stick 'em in the guardhouse and let the MP's whack some heads."

"So in Europe you want us to investigate the riots makers?"

# Powell in last ditch fight to run

NEW YORK — Rep. Adam Clayton Powell was to learn this week whether he would be allowed to run for reelection to the Congressional seat he has held for 26 years.

The New York Board of Elections ruled last week that 1,848 signatures were invalid out of the 3,222 Powell sumbitted as qualifying him to run as an independent in the November general election.

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The Board gave his attorneys one week to restore the validity of the signatures, which it said were those of persons not registered to vote or of persons not living in the district.

Observers here said the possibility that the signatures would be restored is remote.

Under state law, candidates who would run as independents need 3,000 votes to qualify. This is 1,626 more than Powell has.

Powell was defeated by Assemblyman Charles N. Rangel in the Democratic primary in June. Rangle also has the backing of the local Republicans.

Rangel, who attended last week's board meeting at which the decision was reached, said later, "It appears to me that Adam Powell doesn't have a sufficient number of signatures to qualify."

The Board of Elections report was still "unofficial" last week, however, said Commissioner Maurice O'Rourke. He said the board had agreed to withhold formal endorsement of the findings for a week at the request of Powell's attorneys.

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EXPLANATION TO THE PRESS — Howard Fuller, left, Mwalimu of Malcolm X Liberation University, explains the school's expansion from Durham to Greensboro, N.C. to the press. With Fuller were several prominent Greensboro blacks including, left to right: Cecil Rouson, Woodmere Park Improvement Association head; A. S. Webb, American Federal Savings and Loans Association; the Rev. Julius T. Douglas, Black Minister's Pulpit Forum; and Walter Sullivan and the Rev. William Brown of A and T State University.

WASHINGTON — G.I.'s are free to wear wigs that conform to usual hair regulations while on duty, and to wear any type they like on their own time, the Pentagon said last week.

# Black Chi cops sue city for bias and harassment

CHICAGO — Renault Robinson, head of the activist Afro-American Patrolmen's League, last week filed a $110,000 lawsuit charging racial discrimination and harassment against Police Supt. James B. Conlisk Jr. and six members of the Police Review Board.

The suit also seeks a preliminary injunction to halt dismissal proceedings against Robinson who must appear before the board Sept. 21. He has been under suspension since May 1.

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The suit charges that members of the organization of black policemen have been treated unequally, arbitrarily suspended and subjected to other forms of discrimination because of race and political beliefs.

The defendants are also charged with "knowingly and willfully" denying freedom of speech and association to members of the association.

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The suit charges that Robinson has been subjected to consecutive 30-day suspensions without cause since May 1968. The effect of this, the suit charges, is a dismissal from the department.

The suit lists charges that members of the patrolmen's unit have been subjected to false arrests; illegal searches and seizures, and are the objects of police surveillance.

The Afro-American Patrolmen's League is seeking $50,000 for damage to his reputation, $50,000 for the League's loss of financial support and $10,000 for back wages.

OEREBRO, SWEDEN — Three youths aged 17 to 21, charged with throwing eggs at U.S. Ambassador Jerome H. Holland last May, were convicted Thursday and fined for insulting a foreign power, court spokesmen said.

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## Miss. To Halt NEA Observers

JACKSON, Miss. — The Mississippi states attorney general has launched an apparent statewide move to block National Education Association observers from checking on school desegregation.

A. F. Summer, who earlier in the week personally blocked two NEA officials from entering an all-black school in Edwards, Miss., said Friday his office has obtained four additional chancery court injunctions covering 22 counties' to keep NEA monitors off school grounds.

The injunctions also prohibit the monitors from engaging in any activity that "might disrupt classroom decorum, administrative duties or any other public school activity." A similar injunction was issued earlier to keep the NEA out of any public school in populous Hinds County. It was with this injunction that Summer stopped the NEA representatives from the Edwards school.

## Welfare Bill Due On Senate Floor

WASHINGTON — Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield indicates President Nixon's "Flagship" welfare reform bill will be reported out of committee soon, but that the plan may be implemented at first only in an experimental form.

Mansfield conceded Friday that the present welfare system is "falling down" and represents "a hodgepodge of liabilities and discrepancies." But he said "whether to take this en toto or to start a pilot program is something to be considered."

White House adviser Daniel P. Moynihan says Nixon calls the bill his "flagship" legislation in private and feels it is a "miracle" the bill cleared the house. The legislation has been in the Senate Finance Committee since April. Basically the program would guarantee each family of four a minimum annual income of $1,600.

# Anti-Zionist group asks funds for ad

NEW-YORK — The Ad Hoc Committee of Black Americans for Truth about the Middle East is soliciting signatures and financial contributions for an advertisement in the New York Times.

"We are not anti-Jewish. "However, we are anti-Zionist, and against the Zionist state of Israel, which is an outpost of American imperialism in the Middle East. Zionism is a reactionary, racist ideology," the committee says.

"The Arab revolution is part of that anti-colonial revolution which is going on in Vietnam, Mozambique, Angola, Bolivia, Laos, South Africa and Zimbawe," the committee notes in the forthcoming ad.

In calling for contributions, the ad hoc committee chairman, Paul B. Boutelle, said significant pledges have been made by some black Americans who tuation.

Mr. Boutelle and some members of the committee recently visited Palestinian camps in the Amman area. The invitation was extended by the Palestine Student Union.

The advertisement will point to the fact that "those black Americans who support the state of Israel are, in fact, sustaining American imperialism and promoting the same policies as such.

"We state that all military aid or assistance of any kind to Israel must be stopped. "Imperialism and Zionism must and will get out of the Middle East," the ad will emphasize.

A group of prominent Americans recently ran an ad in the Times urging more U.S. aid for Israel. realize the potential importance of the Middle East si-

The committee is urging that all voluntary support be sent to: COBATAME, 243 W. 125 St., Room 16, New York, N.Y. 10027.

## PEOPLE

HAMPTON, Va. — President Roy D. Hudson has announced the appointment of John H. Spencer as the Director of the Hampton Institute Division of Architecture, replacing Bertram M. Berenson, who recently resigned to take a post at the University of Nebraska. Spencer, 41 who earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from Hampton Institute in 1956, returns to direct a recently accredited and widely recognized program of architecture. Spencer earned a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree in 1961, and a Master of Landscape Architecture in 1968, from the University of Massachusetts.

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NEWPIRT NEWS, Va. — Robert E. Penton, a former apprentice craft instructor at Newsport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company has been named equal opportunity coordinator on the staff of D. B. Thomas, director of personnel and industrial relations for the shipyard. He joined the company in 1967 as an electrical apprentice. Penton and his wife Joyce have two children, Pamela, 7, and Curtis, 2. They live at 138 Pamela Drive, Hampton.

CHICAGO — Dr. James R. Williams, recently received the Doctor of Divinity degree from New Truth College when he delivered its commencement address. Dr. Williams, an Allen University graduate, holds his Ph.D. from Ohio Christian College.

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