Powell's Next Suite Again Will Be In The Rayburn Building

By MARY E. STRATFORD

More complaints are being circulated concerning the operation of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission despite the favorable publicity it receives.

Several persons have said that, under the leadership of Clifford Alexander, head of EEOC, "political favors and personal friendship are the primary guidelines for promotion, disregarding demonstrated technical competence or seniority among the subordinate employees.

"The Commission itself is disfunctional in regards to being an equal employment employer, therefore its impact on public employers in terms of affirmative action should be questioned."

Alexander's critics pose the following questions:

Why did Commissioner Aileen C. Hernandez resign?

What about the "mysterious manipulation of Ben Segal, former chief of state liaison? Why was his office (11th and 12th) floors to the fourth floor and why did he eventually resign?

Why did Nick Reyes, public information specialist, suddenly resign?

Why was Kathy Brooks, executive secretary to the Vice Chairman, suddenly stripped of her position and placed in the Commission's typing pool which eventually led to her resignation?

Why was Russell Spector placed in the position of deputy director of general counsel, over Sonia Pressman with more seniority and experience concerning Commission legal policy?

What led to the recent mysterious resignation of Charles Markham, director of research?

Why was Vincent Cohen, former chief of decision and interpretations given a two-grade promotion into the position of director of research (of which he has no previous experience) over Dr. Phyllis Wallace, chief of technical studies for the past three years?

Those being blamed for these personnel changes are Alexander, described as an ambitious black man with a white mind; Gordon Chase, staff director, considered the Czar of the Commission and Luther Holcomb, vice chairman.

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PETITIONS are being circulated in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Detroit, Chicago and Philadelphia as part of a national effort by his critics to block Roger Wilkins' appointment by the Ford Foundation where he will be in a position to pass on grants to black organizations.

Folks are saying Wilkins as head of the Community Relations Service, carried on projects which were irrelevant to the black community and was surprised when confronted with this charge by a group of employees.

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IF ADAM Clayton Powell is seated in this Congress, the two colleagues who should get the most credit are Reps. Charles Diggs (D-Mich.) and Robert Nix (D-Pa.) Although there are a few individual Congressmen who may oppose the seating of Powell, there is said to be no organized effort.

Friends are denying a deal was made by Powell either with the incoming or outgoing administration with the Justice Dept. deciding not to ask for an indictment.

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A NUMBER of shortages have been brought to light in the accounts of a well known lawyer. The Court has asked that all his accounts be audited. Reports have it that a secretary, in other matters highly efficient, is responsible for the missing money and was either fired or has resigned.

Rep. Louis Stokes has been assigned Suite 1229 Longworth Building; Mrs. Shirley Chisholm, Suite 1108 Longworth Building; William L. Clay, Suite 1209, Longworth Building and Powell will return to a suite at the Rayburn Building.

MRS. MAXINE Dargens Fleming is having an extended European vacation with her husband, Robert, and won't be on hand when the new Congress is sworn in.

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MRS. ZEPHYR Wright, according to friends, will of course be leaving the White House, but does not plan to return to the Johnson's Texas ranch although she has been invited. She will remain in D.C.

WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK

Hospitals study plan to reduce some costs

Twenty six Maryland hospitals are cooperating with Blue Cross in a pilot study which could lead the way toward reducing the cost of some types of hospital cases.

The hospitals, representative of all such institutions throughout the State, are engaged in a study to determine whether may be effective in short-"Pre-Admission Testing" may be effective in shortening the hospital stays of some patients, with a corresponding reduction in hospitalization costs in such cases.

In Pre-Admission Testing (PAT), a patient scheduled for a routine hospital care receives his routine laboratory tests and X-ray examinations in the hospital on an ambulatory basis before, rather than after, his admission.

While Blue Cross for some years has covered such tests if they otherwise would be covered following admission, the number of such cases has not been great.

By encouraging broader use of PAT, Blue Cross hopes to be able to provide better documentation of the potential value of PAT and its effect on hospital stays.

PAT could aid in the more effective scheduling of certain types of admissions, improve the utilization of hospital facilities, promote the more economical use of Blue Cross benefits, and conserve members' benefit days according to R. H. Dohney, Blue Cross president.

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Man, 68, freed of murder rap

McKinley Teal, 68, 1600 block Linwood Ave., was found not guilty of murder when he appeared in Criminal Court Wednesday before Judge Sol Liss.

Mr. Teal, a garage attendant for 16 years, was accused of the April 6 shooting of Roscoe Allen, 44, a next door neighbor.

Allen died May 9, 33 days later, at Hopkins Hospital of a gunshot wound of the abdomen.

In gunplay in front of the Teal residence, at that time the 900 block N. Durham St., Mr. Teal and a friend Thomas Sharp, 700 block N. Bond St., were also shot.

From testimony produced by Benjamin Brown, defense attorney, and the state, Judge Liss determined Mr. Teal shot in self defense after he had been wounded by Allen's gun.

He also determined Allen was the aggressor and fired his gun after he went up to the Teal door and asked, "What's going on in here?"

Judge Liss said neither Teal nor Allen should have visiting in his home, had a gun in possession.

Teal testified he owned a gun since he had been frequently robbed during the 5 years he had resided in the house.

Allen's wife, Mrs. Susie Allen, said her husband owned a gun since he worked as a part-time detective.

Christmas ballet set for youth

Inner city children will be treated to a special Christmas performance by the Baltimore City Ballet Company, in the auditoium of Mt. St. Agnes College on Saturday, Dec. 28 at 3:00 p.m.

The program is sponsored by the Community Services Information Office and the Urban Action Department of the YWCA.

Mrs. Anna J. Clinkscales, director of the Community Services Information Office, said that $3.00 contributions are being accepted to cover the cost of transportation to the college, admission to the performance and ice cream and candy treats.

Contributions may be made through Mrs. Clinkscales at 3400 Edmondson Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21229.

Criminal indictments questioned by judges

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

Questions concerning indictments handed down by the Grand Jury came from two Supreme Bench judges Wednesday.

Judge Sol Liss complained he failed to understand why sufficient screening is not made by the state's attorney's office to determine what charge to place against a defendant.

The jurist specifically referred to defendants charged with assault with intent to murder when the state has little or no evidence to obtain a conviction on the charge.

He cited a case he heard last week in which a husband was charged with assault with intent to murder when the case was "merely a family squabble."

Judge Liss said the assistant state's attorney admitted he could see no evidence to back up the serious charge.

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He stated, "I don't understand that grand jury.

"Here we have a husband tangling with an estranged wife. He swung at her, missed and hit his sister-in-law with an ash tray — and they called it assault with intent to murder.

"You look at the statistics on assault with intent to murder in Baltimore and it looks bad when some of the cases were really lesser charges.

"The defense is put to the trouble of preparing for the more serious charge and the courts are labored and burdened.

"It's ridiculous. Apparently there is no screening. It amounts to an injustice to all concerned."

Judge J. Gilbert Prendergast also lashed an attack on the grand jury and the state's attorney's office on practically the same grounds.

The jurist stated in open court, "The docket is all cluttered up with cases which have no suggestion of guilt — cases where the indictment should not have been returned in the first instance.

"Certainly you can filter the cases better than that and dispose of them before, rather than put them through the expense and worry of criminal prosecution."

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Civil rights unit cites Laird votes

BALTIMORE — The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights shows Congressman Melvin R. Laird, defense secretary-designate, voted "wrong" on 6 of 12 "key civil rights and social welfare issues in 1967-68."

As secretary of defense in President-elect Richard M. Nixon's Administration, the GOP congressman will be one of the most powerful men in Washington as boss of the sprawling, multi-billion dollar military establishment.

His enforcement of fair housing programs for servicemen and similar non-military matters could be critical to his success here and abroad.

"Laird's "wrong" votes came on what the conference termed crucial tests on legislation such as fair housing, poverty, rat control and education.

In some of these cases the congressman later changed his vote after losing the showdown test and cast ballots for the legislation in question.

Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., NAACP Washington bureau chief and legislative chairman for LCCR, termed Laird "essentially a politician who will take the positions Nixon wants him to take.

"Laird is the kind of fellow who wants to keep the peace. He is much more interested in fiscal matters."

Mitchell, who works closely with congressmen of both parties in trying to push civil rights and social welfare legislation and appropriations, explained what happened when he sought to get Laird's support on an important fair housing vote:

"On the important procedural question I talked to him about trying to get a party (Republican) vote. "He said if I could get (another Republican) then he would go along. I got the other congressman.

"Then Laird said he did not want to go against Gerald Ford and the Republican Party leadership."

On the fair housing vote, the leadership conference had been able to strengthen the Civil Rights Act of 1968 by getting the Senate to include the open housing law.

When the bill returned to the House, Rep. Madden (D., Ind.) offered a resolution that made possible the adoption of the Senate bill without change.

Had the Madden resolution failed, the bill would have gone to conference where the fair housing title could have been emasculated or killed.

According to the conference, "This was the most. Important House vote on civil rights in the 90th Congress. The Madden resolution carried by a vote of 229 to 195 on April 10, 1968."

That is the showdown test Laird voted against.

He later voted for the bill, one of 5 "right" decisions credited to him of the 12 instances cited by the conference. He was absent on one occasion.

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The other votes Laird is rated as casting "wrong" were these:

Education—he voted against a bill extending the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and authorizing $3.5 billion for its program, which passed, 294 to 122 on May 24, 1967.

The same day he voted for an amendment to ESEA that would put education centers authorized in the bill completely under state control, a prospect that, in Dixie states particularly, could foster segregation and block innovations in education.

Rat Control—The House killed a bill authorizing federal funds to help cities establish rat control programs. After a nationwide outcry the House changed its mind and many congressmen did, too.

Laird was one of those who initially defeated the rate control bill, 207 to 167 on July 20, 1968.

Housing—Laird voted against what the conference called "the most far-reaching housing bill in years, one that provides new programs, including subsidies to help low income families buy homes."

It passed, July 10, 1968 on a 295 to 114 vote.

Food Stamps—Laird voted against a proposal by Rep. Sullivan (D., Mo.) to authorize a greatly expanded food stamp program but it was adopted, 227-172 on July 30, 1968.

Laird was absent when the House slashed President Johnson's anti-poverty funds request on Nov. 15, 1967.

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He is credited by the conference with voting "right" on these civil rights and social welfare issues:

Civil Rights Commission—voted to extend its life five years to Jan 1, 1973, supporting a 284 to 89 approval.

Protection of Constitutional Rights — Voted for bill passed 326 to 93 on August 16, 1967 making it a federal crime to use force or threats to interfere with the exercise of civil rights.

Jury Reform—Voted for the bill passed 307 to 45 to reform the federal jury system by prohibiting discrimination in the selection of juries.

Whitten "Anti-Busing" Amendments—Voted to modify, as approved by the Senate, amendments by Rep. Whitten (D., Miss.) which would have greatly restricted the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in its enforcement of school desegregation under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The appointment of Laird by President-elect Nixon is not only crucial in the area of military defense but because of its budget and influence on the lives, communities, businesses and other institutions, the department plays a strategic role in areas such as fair housing, health and education.

Defense Sec. Clark M. Clifford has pushed the off-base housing program initiated by former Secretary Robert McNamara that seeks to make all housing near military bases off-limits to all servicemen if colored personnel is barred.

More recently, the Defense Department, working with HEW, has prevented Dixie hospitals from taking part in a program under which federal funds are paid for treatment to families of servicemen who live great distances from military facilities. Discrimination is involved.

As Laird has shown he will vote either way on these issues, often denending on party position or what someone else does, the question of course is in what direction will President-elect Nixon point him.

A major issue in the campaign developed when candidate Nixon left some confusion in many minds on how strongly he would want federal funds used to enforce desegregation in Dixie schools.

This has been HEW's most effective weapon.

Just last week it was publicly stated that several southwest Georgia counties have given up on federal funds (and desegregation for now and are waiting to see if they will get a better deal under President Nixon and his Administration.

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During the campaign, Vice President-elect Ted Agnew said anyone converting the Nixon-Agnew Administration to turn back the clock on social progress would be surprised.

But many have not been convinced.

Mr. Nixon's new cabinet did nothing to convince those who wanted to be.

• • •

Mr. Mitchell declared of the cabinet:

"Not so good for our purposes.

"I felt we had a very serious thing developing when they didn't put a colored person in the Cabinet, maybe at HEW or HUD.

"I think colored persons were considered but I think Nixon wants a kind of person in the Cabinet who will not exnress any self-starting initiative in place of Nixon initiative.

"President Johnson desegregated the Cabinet. The people desegregated the House and Senate.

"It shows Nixon is re-segregating the Cabinet.

"The problem here is it sets a bad example for lower eschelon officials.

"It hard to prove you want to be fair when you see the President set that kind of example. Others will now be able to say they can't find qualified colored."

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Until they see how things work out, colored Americans are most hopeful about Cabinet members Gov. George Romney of HUD, Gov. Volpe in Transportation and possibly William P. Rogers as Secretary of State.

Next to Laird, the man being watched is Winton M. Blount, from Alabama, who heads the post office which employs thousands of colored workers across the nation.

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Despite the law and order theme of the campaign, there does not appear at this date a complete write-off of John N. Mitchell, the attorney general-designate.

When Gov. Romney was a candidate for President the question of his Mormon faith, a religion with restrictions on how far a colored person can advance in the church, was a public issue that bobbed up from time to time.

The issue was in the news recently when colored members of a football team raised it about a game involving a Mormon college.

That alone will not affect Treasury Secretary-designate David M. Kennedy.

Others picked for the cabinet are George P. Schultz, labor; Gov. Walter J. Hickel of Alaska, interior; Maurice Stans, commerce, and Clifford M. Hardin, agriculture. Minority groups are waiting to see on them.

The agriculture department will be an area where poor people will seek to get help with such things as food stamp programs then will seek more participation in various agencies within states.

—Newson

PRESIDENT-ELECT NIXON

MELVIN LAIRD

CLARENCE MITCHELL JR.

Alameda day nursery expansion approved

Expansion of a day nursey at 5411 The Alameda was approved Tuesday by the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, over protests of two 3rd District city councilmen and four area residents.

Mrs. Susie Strothers, the applicant, was allowed to expand from four to a maximum of ten children. She had requested 20.

Gilbert V. Rubin, board secretary, said Mrs. Strothers was being limited to ten children because of the size of her home.

Councilmen J. Joseph Curran and Jerome A. Dashner, along with the the protesting area residents, said they were not against the expansion of the nursery itself, but were fearful the approval would be an opening wedge to change the neighborhood from residential to commercial.

The day nursery decision, board members said, would have no effect on consideration of future cases.

Board members, in another case, approved a request to house four families at 1206 Druid Hill Ave., but ruled that no portion of the building may be used for office or commercial purposes.

Veteran city residents will recall this was the office and home for years of the late William L. Fitzgerald, attorney and one of Baltimore's first colored city councilmen.

Among other cases, the board rendered these decisions:

549 Pressman St. — to house two families, postponed until Jan. 14; 1041 W. Baltimore St. — continue to house two families, approved.

These are among the cases Mr. Rubin has scheduled for the coming Tuesday:

3039 Madison Ave. — general food store; 1101 N. Gilmor St. — extend grocery store and erect sign;

Canadian Indians cross U.S. borders under an old law assuring them free access as native North Americans.

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A fresh coat of paint is applied about every seven years to the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

3926-28 Belview Ave. — construct 17 garden-type apartments with less than 100 percent parking;

5004 Denmore Ave.—four rooming units with six roomers; 246 N. Hilton St. —continue to use first floor front for sale of patent medicines and confectionery.

BLACK VOICES

By JOHN LEWIS

It is probably too much to ask that when President-elect Richard M. Nixon and the new Congress move into town in January that they begin to act sensibly, responsibly and humanely toward the predominantly-black Washington D.C. community.

Nixon is far too obdurate, obtuse and anti-black to ever do so. There is no indication either that this Congress will be any different from the 90 All-American up-with-profits-down-with-black people Congresses that preceded it.

In the event, however, that a miraculous conversion to human rights occurs after a Congressional legacy of more than 150 years of oppressing black people in the District and Nixon's personal history of servility toward the capitalist interests which rule our lives, the following is a convenient Presidential list of "what to do" and "what not to do" items.

1) Implement the Black United Front proposal for a community-controlled police force. Black people are tired of white policemen clubbing and killing black people without fear of punishment. They are insulted by an overwhelmingly white police force patrolling the black community like an army of occupation. Black people want a humane police force which reflects Washington's racial composition and responds to the needs of its citizens, not to white business and real estate interests. Police Chief John Layton's "exercise greater judgement next time," and Layton must go and with him the sadists and bigots now harbored by the department.

2) Don't interfere with the black control of the school system. The District elected school board members for the first time this fall. It is very likely that the school board will move to institute a black-oriented curriculum which many white bigots like to refer to as a "hate school" course but which most black people understand is necessary to teach our children the truth of their history and culture for the first time.

The rationale of the bigots, I imagine, is that a black child will surely hate whites when he reads in literature, history and economics classes about the evil, wicked acts committed against black people by whites for over 300 years.

If that is so, then so be it; but what is more to the point is that black children will be able to draw their own conclusion about the nature of their relationship with white society. We will not celebrate white holidays such as the birthday of George Washington, a slaveholder and bigot.

You will be wise to not interfere with this inevitable process of revolutionary and relevant black education.

3) Provide an adequate income with dignity for welfare recipients and other poor people. Recipients in the District as elsewhere in this country are trapped in a welfare system designed to keep them in poverty, separate the black male from his family and make recipients feel as if they were dirt.

Black people want an end to the vicious "anti-welfare" law which freezes the amount of Federal money for children at the January 1968 level, takes mothers away from the home and forces them to work, furthers family breakup and sets a 67 per cent tax on earned income. Black people are poor because of the oppression, racism and economic exploitation of white people.

It is only "square business" for the government to pay them reparations for past and present wrongs.

4) Do not try to stop the move by the Department of Licenses and Inspection, now headed by a black man, Julian Dugas, to put the slumlords out of business. Present plans call for withholding licenses from buildings with numerous violations.

The slumlords who prey on black people here will be put out of business one way or another. Dugas is moving to accomplish that legally, but if his department is stopped by Congressional backers of corrupt real estate interests, the masses of black people will eventually move themselves to eliminate the bloody business which gouges the poor.

5) Don't support the transportation interests which seek to drive "a white man's road through a black man's home." We are tired of being driven out of our homes by freeways designed to get affluent suburbanites to work faster.

The time has arrived that the black community will not stand by to see bulldozers push down their neighborhood for the fat profits of the highway builders.

6) If the President must use Agnew in the black community, I suggest that he be used in only one way. Give him the assignment of finding out the attitudes of the people in the 14th and U Sts area, say about 11 p.m. Friday night.

I would recommend also that he give a pep rally that night on "law and order" and elaborate on the belief that once you've seen one ghetto you've seen them all."

Miss Snowden's paintings on exhibit here

Miss Sylvia Snowden, artist and former Morgan State College teacher, is featured in an exhibition of paintings and collages at the Union Hall, University of Maryland, Lombard and Greene Sts.

The public showing which opened Nov. 25 extends through Jan. 15. Gallery hours are 12 noon until 8 p.m. Robert Torrence is director of the galleries.

Miss Snowden, who is 25 years old has also taught at Delaware State College, Dover, Del. and at the Community College of Baltimore and is a native of Raleigh, N.C. She received her elementary and high school education in Washington and her college education at Howard University, Washington; La Grande Chaumier, Paris and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Rockport, Maine.

Her works have been shown at Howard, Delaware State, Catholic University, Cornell University, University of California, American University, Bowie State, the Showhegan School, National Academy of Art, in New York and Baltimore Museum of Art.

ATLANTA — A $6,680 grant from the Brown-Hazen Fund of the Research Corporation was awarded recently to Atlanta University, according to Dr. Thomas D. Jarrell, the school's president. The money will support research in biology conducted by Dr. Lafayette Frederick, chairman of the biology department, assisted by Mrs. Willie L. Austin, a graduate student.

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