Resident Describes 'Horror' In Project

Honor Roll Story Here

AFRO HONOR ROLL IS ANNOUNCED
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Baltimore Afro-American

ARMY PROMOTES 3 TO GENERAL
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Why Flower Mart Was Disrupted

Parents and police blamed for trouble

Why was Baltimore's 59th annual Flower Mart on Wednesday disrupted by disorder?

What caused the wholesale arrests of teenage youngsters?

Why were teenagers on the rampage, along with some adults?

What can be done about this?

These are the questions which AFRO readers asked repeatedly late Wednesday and Thursday, keeping the AFRO switchboard busy.

They were referring to small scale rioting during the Flower Mart in midtown Charles Plaza, which resulted in the arrest of approximately 150 persons, two-thirds of them juveniles.

They were talking about the resulting injuries to over a score of persons, including some policemen.

The event, held for the first time in Charles Plaza to avoid a similar disturbance which marked last year's show in its usual Mt. Vernon Place, did nothing of the sort.

If anything, the disorders were more marked and prolonged than those that also forced the closing of last year's show.

• • •

Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd, in a formal statement Thursday, termed the disorders "a black eye" for downtown Baltimore, and suggested that citizens cooperate to prevent such future occurrences.

This was the feeling echoed by concerned AFRO readers.

One of them, Dr. Roger K. Williams, widely respected chairman o the Department of Psychology a Morgan State College, had these comments to the AFRO:

"They (the rebellious crowd) were seeking a response from adults recognizing them as youngsters. They have a need for attention."

Dr. Williams paralleled recent disorders at the Civic Center to the Flower Mart, and continued with:

"It would seem to be a decided need for attention. I likened it to a family problem in which children ask for attention in ways which parents are unaware of until something happens. Attention is the one way for actively airing certain things.

"I don't think black children are bored. I would anticipate further incidents until the city provides full day schools and provides more rewarding experiences than they do now."

• • •

A youngster's comment came from Gregory Hollie, 19, a Job Corpsman, who said:

"There was too much supervision by the police. This caused the crowd to get upset and angry."

Other citizens who wished to remain unidentified maintained that

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FLOWER MART, 1971 — AFRO Photographer Frank W. Phillips 3rd caught this photo at Baltimore annual Flower Mart. For other photos, see page B-8 in this edition.

Resident describes 'horror' in project

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

On Tuesday noon, a kindly, 34-year-old mother of four youngsters and wife of a former career Army sergeant, drove an elderly neighbor to the George B. Murphy Homes to visit her sisters, ages 75 and 81 years and a friend, age 61.

When the matron, Mrs. Ollie Joyce Watkins, a resident of Howard Park, spoke to her husband, former Sgt. Verlon Watkins before he left for work, she was looking forward to the visit her neighbor usually enjoyed.

Little did the husband know when he returned from work that evening that wife who was "always doing for others," would be dead, mercilessly slain by one of a group of young men who robbed and wrecked the elderly women's home.

Mrs. Watkins, the youngest of the group, was shot through the head and died instantly after she resisted sexual assault by the young boys.

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Describing the tragic scene, one of the elderly women told the AFRO, "It was the most horrible expe-

(Continued on Page A-2)

BULLETIN — Van Story Branch, head of project management in Baltimore, has opened an investigation of conditions in the area of Murphy Homes which contribute to incidents of crime. Funeral services for the murder victim, Mrs. Ollie J. Watkins, are scheduled for noon Saturday at Union Baptist Church, 1219 Druid Hill Ave.

CHUCKLE

Behind every successful man is the Joneses.

.DEATH CAME to 34-year-old Mrs. Ollie J. Watkins of the 3100 block Brightwood St. as she visited Tuesday noon in the second foor (arrow) apartment of an elderly friend in the low rent housing development high-rise of the George Murphy Homes at the corner of Myrtle Ave. and George St. Tuesday. The housing project which has 758 families (3,000 residents) has 78 special units for older persons most of whom reside in this 14-story structure. An investigation now underway by city housing authorities and police may bring additional guard service for protection around the clock.

CLARENCE M. MITCHELL 3rd

MITCHELL

Another new candidate for mayor

State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III, the youngest citizen ever elected to the Maryland legislature, has announced his candidacy for mayor of the world's third largest port city. He is just 31.

Surrounded by members of his Jackson-Mitchell family of distinguished NAACP and civil rights fighters, he and his wife and two children, ages eight and nine, were greeted by a modest group

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Girl, 14, second dope death in her family

Requiem Mass was said at 10 this morning (Friday) at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, Park Heights and Wiley Aves., for Francine Wells, the 14-year-old Seton Junior High School 9th grade honor student. Police report she died of an overdose of dope.

The daughter of World War II veteran Bernard Wells and Mrs. Dorothy Wells of the 700 block Richwood Ave., the brilliant, likable teenager is buried in Baltimore National Cemetery.

Beside her rests a 15-year-old brother whom the father said died April 12, 1968, also a victim of drug overdose.

Of both of the youngsters, relatives and police say, "They were too young to die. It is such a pity."

The father told the AFRO, his firm voice edged with grief, "Yes, too young, but with all this involvement out here, any age person, a block away from home, associated with the wrong crowd, can unwillingly become a victim, even within as little as half an hour."

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The attractive teenaged girl was found Monday evening in a basement apartment in the 1800 block N. Calvert St. where the occupant said she had asked to spend the night.

The man, acording to police, went to work at 6

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FRANCINE WELLS
Vivacious, pretty, too young to die

'The Hole' gone from City Jail

Delegate Troy Brailey quotes Jail Board president Paul J. Reed as saying at the Tuesday meeting with Mayor D'Alesandro that "The Hole," the infamous hell-cell at City Jail, has been done away with, abolished as of that date, May 11.

Del. Brailey also said Mr. Reed revealed in the presence of Mayor D'Alesandro that prisoners may have night visitors for the first time in the history of the jail, an order to go Also new is recreation on Aso new is recreation on weekends, Mr. Reed stated.

The Jail Board president is also quoted as telling the mayor and Del. Brailey that there will be better food immediately, an order which followed the legislator's revelation from an inmate that eggs were served green on one side and yellow on the other.

Del. Brailey also states that informed, reliable sources have revealed 20 new TVs have been ordered for the inmates.

• • •

On Thursday, Mr. Brailey told the AFRO he is gratified at the good developments but he still feels "Warden Hiram Schoonfield is emotionally unfit and the jail would be better off without him."

He said he is still pressing to have him discharged and replaced by someone more capable of administration befitting today's

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Matron cries, 'Thank God,' as jury says 'not guilty'

Mrs. Evelyn Moore, an attractive 31-year-old mother of two and wife of a Westinghouse employee said Tuesday, "Thank God there is some justice somewhere. I knew somebody would hear me."

Her tearful statements came after a Criminal Court jury of five women and seven men returned a not guilty verdict on all indictments. She was found and larceny of $2,603.63 from a downtown department store.

Employed as a money-checker, Mrs. Moore was arrested Jan. 26 and charged with shortages the firm said equaled to $950 on Jan. 23; $799 on Jan. 25, and $871 on Jan. 26.

Witnesses said the $871 found in Mrs. Moore's bosom on Jan. 26 was from the firm's cash on hand. However, Mrs. Moore testified it was money her husband had given her.

The jury, with Judge Paul Dorf presiding, was out three hours after hearing four days of testimony.

Mrs. Moore's attorney, Tucker R. Dearing, contended that broken accounting machines in the firm's offices were not accurate.

Mr. Dearing also

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CROSSING GUARD CONTEST

Mrs. Hinton seen stretching lead

Mrs. Lucy Hinton has pulled ahead this week with 203,900 votes, putting her well ahead of second place Mrs. Dorothy Butler, who now polls 160,200 in the AFRO's Favorite Crossing Guard Contest.

Mrs. Gertrude Boone continues to hold third place, with 133,700, and Mrs. Louise Lawson stays in fourth with 117,800, while fifth place has been taken by Mrs. Edith Cooper, 113,600 votes, moving up from sixth place last week.

There are still 139 contestants, but the total number of votes cast has soared to well over two million.

Each contestant vies for a share of the $1500 prize money, of which the winner will take $500; second place $300; third, $200; and fourth $100, with smaller cash

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INSIDE

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