Tragedy Strikes Jackie Again, Son Killed

WHY DO KIDS LEAVE HOME? (BACK PAGE)

Baltimore Afro-American

JUNE MEANS WEDDINGS (INSIDE SOCIETY)

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Viet Vet, Girl, 10, Drown In California

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

The double drowning of two Baltimoreans near Winton, Calif. the afternoon of June 15 has brought sorrow to their many relatives here.

Dead from the accidental tragedy while on a pleasure trip at a lake are:

AIR FORCE SGT. PAYTON THOMAS FLEMING, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Payton T. Fleming, 107 Wesley Ave., Catonsville. Honorably discharged the day before, on June 14, as a parachuter who had successfully completed 50 jumps and 17 missions in Laos and on a Vietnam tour of duty, he was stationed at Castle Air Force Base near Winton with his wife, Mrs. Patricia Carter Fleming of Baltimore. His father is a 21-year engineer of a container firm here. His godparents are Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, School No. 64 counsellor and Edward Williams, principal of the George F. Bragg School.

10-YEAR-OLD ADRIAN CARTER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Patricia) Carter, 1033 Edmondson Ave., Baltimore; cousin of Sgt. Fleming's wife; niece of AFRO Teen Columnist Michael Belfield and cousin of former AFRO secretary, Miss Pam Widgeon, now an American Airlines stewardess and cousin of former STOP Squad Sgt. and Mrs. Norman Parker.

The mothers of the two drowning victims flew to California Wednesday.

The Charles R. Law Funeral Home has charge of the last rites to be announced this weekend after the bodies are flown here.

Adrian had gone on June 10 to California to visit the Flemings at their Castle Air Force Base home and to return with them to Baltimore next week.

ADRIAN CARTER
10-year old School 161 4th Grader drowns on visit to California.

AIR FORCE SGT. PAYTON T. FLEMING
drowns in lake the day after he was discharged from the service

Making the motor trip to California also were Adrian's grandmother, Mrs. Magnolia Carter and uncle Ronald Carter, both of 928 Rosedale St.; her brother, Robert, 12, and their two cousins, Sheryl, 13, and Joslyn Holland, 10, 2802 W. Garrison Ave.

The return trip to Baltimore of Adrian and Sgt. and Mrs. Fleming and the other visiting relatives was expected to end in a family party at the home of the airman's parents.

Highlight of the welcome designed for Sgt. Fleming was to have been a splash party on July 4 in the 8-foot

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Jackie's son killed in car

NORWALK, Conn. (UPI) — Jackie Robinson Jr., 24, son of Jackie Robinson, who broke Major League Baseball's color barrier, was killed early today when his car overturned and hit a bridge abutment on the Merritt Parkway.

State police said Robinson, who lived with his parents in Stamford, was westbound on the divided highway and traveling at a high rate of speed when the accident occurred at about 2:20 a.m.

Police said he was declared dead at the scene by medical examiner Dr. Thomas Crody.

Robinson, whose Hall of Famer father campaigned against drug abuse by youngsters, had a history of drug convictions beginning with his discharge from the Army after duty in Vietnam.

Jackie Robinson Sr. was the first black man to play in organized baseball. Brooklyn Dodger general manager Branch Rickey signed him in 1946 to play for the Dodgers' farm team in Montreal in the International League.

Robinson broke into the majors the following year with the Dodgers and was named the National League's rookie-of-the-year. He led the National League in hitting in 1949 and play-

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JACKIE ROBINSON JR.,

Avenue pickets tell why

"They take millions of dollars out of the Pennsylvania Ave. community and then they go back to the suburbs and forget about them.

"We are asking the merchants to become more relevant to the black community that gives and has given them their millions for years.

We have asked that they be responsive to the community which is poor starving, deprived and milked shamelessly.

"We are asking that they

(Continued on Page A-3)

WEDDING OF THE WEEK—Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Johnson leave the Messiah Church of Christ after their African wedding. For more on their unique ceremony, see AFRO Social Section inside.

CROSSING GUARD CONTEST

Mrs. Cooper jumps to top as contest nears close

They come in the AFRO Home Office front door all hours of the night and hand big bundles of coupons inside to the guard. They come all hours of the day, marching in with armloads of coupons.

That's how things are these last hectic days of the AFRO's exciting Crossing Guard Contest. Every contestant is bringing in every coupon available.

Rising to first place this week is Mrs. Edith Cooper, the popular lady at the intersection of Barre and Russell Sts. in South Baltimore.

She displaces Mrs. Lucy Hinton and Mrs. Dorothy Butler, who have been keeping first and second places between them for several weeks.

The total number of votes cast so far is close to seven million (7,000,000), as the end of the contest, June 26, nears. The last coupons will appear in that issue.

There's still time to take advantage of the special 13 or 26-week subscription offers and give your favorite a boost of 1000 or 2,500 extra votes.

As will be the case until the contest closes, the names of the top 18 winners each week will be printed in each edition of the AFRO. Those who are in the top 18 at the end of the contest will share $1,500 prize money.

The winner will take $500; second place gets $300; third nets $200; fourth, $100; fifth and sixth, $50 each, and the remaining 12 each receive $25.

Help your favorite guard to a share of the goodies. Get your votes in today.

Gloria Amy Evergreen and Ed.	10900
Dorothy Banks Hilton and Kossuth	1600
Beverly Bayton Hilton and North	6,400
Ernestine Bellamy Franklin and Schroeder	26800
Frances Bevans Saratoga and Schroeder	112,300
Fannie Black North and Bloomingdale	25800
Elsie Blount Central and Lexington	2800
Annie P. Brown Caroline and Pratt	5200
Bertha Bryant Lee and Hanover	6600

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D'Alesandro's hands are fine after greeting 9,000 graduates

LARRY LIPMAN

"My feet are killing me . . . my hands are fine, but my legs really feel it."

Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd was telling the AFRO of his reaction to the rigid high school graduation schedule of the past two weeks. He added, however, that "This is one of my real joys . . . a time of happiness."

* * *

The Mayor, who has announced that he will not seek reelection this fall, really acted like a man running for office.

"I must have shaken over 9,000 hands," he said. "It's a kick just participating in this important part of their lives."

In jovial tones, the Mayor reported that this year's class was the most respectful and well-behaved group that he had seen in recent years.

"They were happier . . . more sure of themselves," he stated.

He also said that most graduating students are nervous, but, "I try to put them at ease."

According to the Mayor, graduates usually say

(Continued on Page A-3)

MAYOR SHAKES HANDS — Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd shook the hands of more than 9,000 senior high school graduates during this commencement season. He has personally attended each of the 12 events held at the Civic Center these past three weeks.

Jordan named to head UL

NEW YORK — "I accept not because of the honor of succeeding a great man, but out of a deep sense of duty and responsibility to use whatever talents and abilities I have to help black people in America achieve their rightful and just place in this society and to help white America to understand that democracy, justice and equality are not reserved for 'white folk only,' but must be shared by all people without regard to race, religion, sex or national origin."

So said Vernon E. Jordan Jr., executive director of the United Negro College Fund, when accepting his appointment as the new head of the National Urban League.

The 35-year-old civil rights activist succeeds the

(Continued on Page B-4)

Mrs. Henderson is attending Nixon briefing

Mrs. Frances Murphy Henderson, chairman of the Board of Directors of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper Company is attending President Nixon's special domestic background briefing for major newspaper and broadcast executives at the Flagship Hotel in Rochester, N.Y. today, Friday, June 18.

Mrs. Henderson will also attend the Black Caucus dinner in Washington, D.C., tonight (Friday).

Clean Block to make Baltimore beautiful

The AFRO's 37th Clean Block Campaign year is destined to see thousands of children and adults working to make Baltimore the most spotless and beautiful city in the nation.

Already, the youngsters have their brooms, buckets and brushes ready to get on the job.

They know that plenty of prizes await them at the end of the summer.

For nearly 40 years, the AFRO Clean Block Campaign has attracted nationwide attention as vacationers traveling through town notice the gleaming white rowhouse steps and streets alive with lovely blossoms.

This year, Miss Paula M. Brooks, the new director, is asking for new and different ideas to make the 37th year the best in history.

So, it's come on now, everybody, let's get going.

Come in or call (daily frim 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Miss Brooks at the AFRO Home Office, 628 N. Eutaw St., Phone — 728-8200, Ext. 77.

The Clean Block Campaign headquarters is at the side entrance near the parking lot on Druid Hill Ave.

Get material, rules and regulations and register if you wish at the office. Everyone is welcome.

Mathias Moving To Return Tuition Grants To GI Bill

By MOSES J. NEWSON

WASHINGTON — Vietnam era veterans soon will be getting the same kind of educational break World War II vets enjoyed under the GI Bill, if a bill being drafted by Senator Charles McC. Mathias, R-Md., wins congressional approval.

The AFRO, which has been campaigning for a switch back to the old version of the GI bill that provided tuition and fee payments for veterans, learned that the senior senator from Maryland is almost ready to drop his proposal in the legislative hopper.

Senator Mathias, who himself studied under the World War II GI bill, had expressed an interest in the situation several months ago.

The GI Bill in effect today provides a single veteran $175 monthly and $205 for a married man but does not pay anything toward tuition, books or fees.

The legislation being drafted by Senator Mathias would provide up to $1,000 for tuition and fees.

Under the old GI Bill a veteran could get up to $500.

Since that time, however, the cost of tuition has skyrocketed in all schools and $500 will no longer pay tuition in many state schools.

That figure would not make much of a dent in the tuition of the major private colleges.

If Senator Mathias could get his proposal through with the $1,000 provision, that would cover tuition and fees at the average public college.

In addition to encouraging thousands of low-income veterans to continue their educations, the restoration of tuition grants to the GI Bill could help ease the critical unemployment problem today for returning veterans.

Although the lack of tuition provisions in the GI Bill is not the sole reason, it is thought by some experts to be a large contributing factor in the fact that relatively fewer veterans are studying under the GI Bill now than prior to the change.

President Johnson was so concerned about this that he ordered a study and sought to increase by various plans the number studying under the GI Bill.

One obvious reason for the decline of course is the fact that a large number of Vietnam GIs are from low-income families.

Thousands of these young men, unable to make it in college on the monthly check provided through the GI Bill, are unable to get financial assistance from their families.

Many of them are unable to locate part-time jobs to help out and still others, even if they could find such jobs, would not be able to keep up with their college requirements, especially during the first two years, if forced to hold down a job.

SEN. CHARLES MATHIAS

Organizations like the American Veterans Committee, the National Urban League and the NAACP, among others, have strongly supported the return to tuition and fee payments.

The major opposition apparently comes from the Veterans Administration which told the AFRO it was leary of instances of fraud on the part of some institutions, as it says was the case before.

The AFRO has editorially argued that the VA, already aware of the possibilities of fraud, should be able to handle this problem.

If Senator Mathias is successful in getting his proposed change made law, it could be effective as early as September.

His measure would cover veterans attending accredited colleges or vocational schools.

Veterans organizations are expected to be major supporters of the Mathias legislation.

Civil rights organizations also are expected to push for its approval because of the large number of black veterans among those not now able to take advantage of the present bill's provisions for further study.

Both the NAACP and Urban League have issued warnings on the need to do something about the explosive situation developing among black veterans and teenagers unable to find jobs.

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