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Holabird soldier says the Army takes away 'our manhood, our souls'

Army Specialist/5 Mosley James Ray of Baltimore, a personnel specialist at Fort Holabird, says in a letter he wrote recently to the AFRO that the new Army's slogan, "The modern Army wants to join you," is not sincere.

In the story he also tells why young men with no jobs, no education and no family leave the Army to go back to the streets.

The article as he writes it is as follows:

"The new, modern all-volunteer Army wants to join you! Heard that slogan?

"Well, none of the adjectives apply any more now than they did a year ago. Oh sure, sure you can drink beer in the mess hall, and you can take a can or two to your barracks' room. You can refurbish your room too if you buy the materials.

"Sadly, the Army has still ignored the fact of its most serious lacking — human dignity. Human dignity, especially for the lower ranking EM is virtually nonexistant.

* * *

"You see, the chain of command still has all the answers. Right or wrong these powers have the answers, and, unfortunately, most of the answers are merely excuses for allowing brown-shoe army traditions to exist.

"Consider, for example, the fact that a man with 27 years active service is given the position of leading, counselling and disciplining men who are eighteen or nineteen, or men who have one or more college degrees.

"This old army type has never heard of the word rapport, much less considered its implications.

"Leaders of this type just might find better results at any local Legion Club or VFW across the land."

* * *

Spec. 5 Ray continues, "Because of conditions like this and others, a vast expanse of hatred exists in the enlisted ranks toward the army.

"It is difficult to explain the roots of this hatred and it is even more difficult to raise much concern from the civilian sector about it.

"The common cliche's seem to fit. "It's a good experience for young men. It allows him to mature. It allows him to travel."

"These ideas are so ridiculously outmoded that they cannot be dignified with a rebuttal.

"Southeast Asia is, after all, the ideal travel tour for ambitious young men.

"Tragically, our army has become an organized machine that systematically threads and shreds humanity.

"Its proudest divisions are artillery, armor, and infantry because they provide the opportunity for a man to feel "kill power."

"Indeed, this makes a young man mature rather quickly if you consider the shocking realization that the human body can be splattered in a thousand directions by a thousand different weapons to be part of the maturation process.

* * *

"After providing this type of education, the army can bring men back from hell and place them on "soft" stateside duty.

"The young man then is confronted by highly paid, senile sergeants and the pin-on pomposity of the new breed of short time junior officers.

"The stateside game becomes a theatre of the absurd with the young men the players, and the lifers the directors.

"Again the army steals away the last vestiges of human dignity and perpetrates its undying love for harassment.

"Police calls become primary missions.

"The punishments involved point out this fact quite clearly.

"White-wall haircuts, unrealistic clothing regulations, K.P. and guard duty become the obsessions of those who command. And the excuses . . . Catch-22 . . . Catch-22 . . . Catch-22 . . .

* * *

"Why do young men with little education, no job, and sometimes no family leave the army to go to the street?

"Perhaps we cannot get at the real reasons because of the simple fact that most reputable publications will not print four letter words!

"This is what these young men think of today's new, modern, all-volunteer Army.

"Anything on the outside appears better than the degrading servitude demanded in the service. Youve taken away our manhood and our souls and have sold them to the theatre of violence in the name of patriotism. We won't buy that bill of goods anymore!"

SAC ASIGNED — Airman Elbert Myers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clerow Myers of Lauretta Ave., Baltimore has been assigned to a unit of the Strategic Air Command at Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz., for training and duty in the civil engineering structural and pavements field. He is a 1970 graduate of Carver high school.

ASSIGNED — Airman James Rhyne Jr., son of Mrs. Thereza Rhyne, 100 block isquith St., has completed his basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex., and been assigned to a unit of the Strategic Air Command at Minot AFB, N.D., for training and duty as a food service specialist. Rhyne is a 1970 graduate of Fairmount Hill High School.

TRAVIS FB — Airman Darrell F. Martin, son of Mrs. Annabell Martin, W. Mosher St., has completed basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex. The airman has been assigned to Travis AFB, Calif., for training and duty in the administrative field. His father, Francis E. Martin, resides at 1206 N. Elwood Ave., Baltimore.

Albert Harrises end 23 years of marriage

Albert L. Harris Sr., 3320 W. Garrison Ave., a warehouseman for the Baltimore Public Schools has won a divorce from his wife, Mrs. Goldie Jean Harris, Brooklyn, N.Y.

The decree was signed by Judge J. Gilbert Prendergast in Circuit Court on June 9.

The Harrises were married March 19, 1948 in a Baptist ceremony and separated in December, 1956.

"We had difficulties and thought it best to separate," Mr. Harris testified. He also said there was no hope he and his wife could become reconciled.

June 24 –

The Maryland State Bar Association and the Association Section of Young Lawyers will hold their semi-annual Luncheon for newly admitted members of the bar on Thursday, at the Bay Ridge Inn in Annapolis.

7 lbs., 6 oz. and a victim of syphilis

Since 1900 syphilis alone has killed 4 million Americans. 3 million of those victims were babies who never heard of the word sex. What makes this even more tragic is the fact that V.D. *can be prevented.*

This year V.D. will be contracted by over 2½ million Americans. It's the nation's number one epidemic — and unfortunately its chief victims are under 25 years of age. One victim gives it to two, two to five, five to fifteen . . . it grows by leaps and bounds. It must be stopped!

Information to combat V.D. is available from physicians, clinics and public health groups. And your local pharmacist is a professional source for medically recognized products to aid in the prevention of V.D.

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Murrel, who is only 28 years old, joined RCA eight years ago. He's helped us build our L.A. Center from the ground up.

Now this five-story center houses three of the 83 computers in RCA's worldwide management information system.

"We handle all computer processing for RCA's west coast divisions," Murrel says.

"We also help other companies with their management information requirements," Murrel explains.

"We analyze their management problems and data processing needs. And provide computer equipment and programs, or custom-design special systems."

Right now, Murrel supervises thirty computer specialists. They are tape librarians, key punch operators, programmers, computer operators. They are people.

People smarter than computers.

Computer lights reflect off Murrel Freeman, Manager of RCA's Los Angeles Computer Center.

RCA

RAWLINGS TESTIMONIAL—William McKinley Rawlings, 48 years in Baltimore public schools, was honored at retirement dinner Sunday at Eastwind. Shown in photo (1) is Associate Superintendent Dr. Vernon Vavrina who presented gifts to Mr. Rawlings. Shown in photo (2) is Assistant Superintendent Clarence Gittings who presided, and Mr. and Mrs. William Rawlings (Irma). In next panel, Associate Superintendent William Pinderhughes, one of the speakers, Mrs. C. Naomi Bauernfeind, and Henry Horsey, co-chairman of the dinner. (AFRO Staff photos by Frank W. Phillips 3rd).

Bill Rawlings testimonial hails his 48 years on job

William (Bill) McKinley Rawlings had his big day on Sunday.

He was his usual genial self as he listened to 400 friends and speakers praise him for 48 years 'devoted' service to the Baltimore city public schools.

Mr. Rawlings retired last year as acting director of adult education, a field in which he has been involved as teacher, administrator and innovator for the better part of his school career. When his friends finished extolling him as outstanding Mr. Rawlings 'took charge' of the program.

For 80 minutes, he turned the tables to pay tribute to them and the 450 guests.

He told them he plans not to retire but to continue his lecturing at Johns Hopkins and take time to enjoy himself. It had been noted earlier that he met his wife, the former Irma D. Hatton at a friend's house many years ago where he played 'I love you' on the piano.

This moved him to remark, 'It's been 53 years since I've had my hand on an organ so I plan to learn to play the pipe organ.' His wife, seated at his side, beamed.

In concluding his acknowledgments, the honoree said: 'You are truly beautiful and I love you truly. You have given me an evening of unrestrained joy.'

The place was Eastwind. The occasion was a testimonial arranged by a committee headed by Mrs. C. Naomi Bauernfeind and Henry W. Horsey.

Clarence J. Gittings was toastmaster for the evening. Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy Moss, a member of the School Board; William L. Pinderhughes, associate superintendent, both of whom grew up in and attended schools where Mr. Rawlings served, extended greetings, as did Acting Superintendent, Sterling S. Keyes.

Particularly moving was the tribute of Mrs. Irma Givens, one of the Rawlings' seven children, who observed: 'Our dad has several titles, Dad, Daddy, and take time to enjoy himself. It had been noted earlier that he met his wife, the former Irma D. Hatton at a friend's house many years ago where he played 'I love you' on the piano.

This moved him to remark, 'It's been 53 years since I've had my hand on an organ so I plan to learn to play the pipe organ.' His wife, seated at his side, beamed.

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She recalled Sunday rides in the car, Christmas dreams which came true, discipline with love. 'We learned through Daddy's example how to be a cohesive family. . . .

The Rev. N. B. Carrington, longtime Methodist minister and family friend remembered him as 'their family priest for 48 years.' Of Mr. Rawlings he noted, 'Early in life he found a sustaining force in Jesus Christ our Lord.'

Mrs. Mary C. Frazier, longtime secretary and co-worker, remembered him as 'an encourager, as a great friend and a person characterized by great achievement and service.'

Thomas N. Boone hailed him as a friend. 'For the many moments he has spent with me as friend to stimulate, evaluate and open areas for improved vision, I color him with pride, my friend?'

Mr. Gittings, the toastmaster, remembered, who also grew up in the system in close association with the honoree, remembered his encouragement and help to younger people.

Dr. Robert Ford, read an original poem by the honoree.

The honoree's sister, Mrs. Etta Roberts, which hailed him as an outstanding family man and father to others as well as his own, particularly his own sisters and brothers when they were orphaned as youngster.

Stanley J. McConner, the new director of adult education; Thomas A. Van Sant, N.Y. assistant superintendent and former Baltimore city administrator who appointed the honoree to his first adult administrative job 17 years ago, when he integrated the adult education division.

The New York educator was introduced by Dr. Wilmer V. Bell, assistant superintendent.

Dr. Vernon A. Vavrina, assistant superintendent, presented gifts to the honoree. Miss Gloria Tate was soloist. Music was by Paul A. Brent and Delmas Milbourne.

The Rev. Ernest P. Clark offered prayers.

Out-of-town guests and relatives present were:

Mr. and Mrs. York Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Simmons Miss Hazel Baxter all of New York City;

Mrs. Norma McConner, Mt. Vernon, New York;

Mr. and Mrs. John Hinton, Mr. and Mrs. Rawlings Pitts, Philadelphia, Pa.;

Mrs. Marguerite Rogers, ElPaso, Texas;

Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Simmons; Mrs. Evelyn Kenerson, Washington, D.C.;

Miss Eloise Brown, Sandy Springs, Md.;

Mrs. Mary B. Frye, Alexandria, Va.

Other members of the planning committee were: Mrs. Beulah Caldwell, Program Committee, Miss Hazel P. Chisholm, Secretary, Mr. John G. Edelmann, Printing Chairman, Mr. Elmer Grove, Finance Committee, Mrs. Roberta Roberts, Gift Selection, Mr. Wendell Richardson, Entertainment Committee, Mr. William Rock, Publicity Committee, Mr. William Russell, Finance Committee, Mr. William Scarborough, Arrangements Committee.

Young honored by magazine

NEW YORK — A special Whitney Young Memorial Edition of "Equal Opportunity," the interracially owned and staffed mainly for minority college students, will be published on July 31, the 50th birthday of the late National Urban League director.

John Miller III, publisher, and his partner, editor Alfred Duckett, said the magazine — now in its third year — owes a considerable debt of gratitude for its success to Mr. Young.

4 celebrities judge photograph contest

The four outstanding celebrities judging this year's National Children's Photograph Contest are Glen Campbell, popular star of CBS-TV's "Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour" and Capitol recording star; Chad Everett, star of the CBS Television Network's top-rated dramatic series, "Medical Center"; Aretha Franklin, famous recording star of Queens Booking Corp., and Florence Henderson, star of the ABC television series, "The Brady Bunch," and the star of the film "Song of Norway."

The contest is sponsored by the National Association of Department Store Photograph Studios and is represented locally by the Portrait Studio in Hutzler's.

A total of $25,000.00 in prizes and gifts will be awarded to the winners, including 54 shopping sprees and hundreds of portable solid state radio phonographs.

Any child, 14 years old or younger, is eligible to enter. Selection of the winners will not be based on beauty alone, but on the personality and character shown in the child's photograph.

The contest began on June 14 and ends on Aug. 14. Photographs may be taken any [illegible] level, Towson; the closing date at Hu[illegible] lower level, Westview; 3rd [illegible]ler's Portrait Studio on the [illegible] level, Eastpoint; and 2nd floor, Annex, Pa[illegible] Purple Area, Southdale.

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Like most 4-door sedans, our 411 offers a lot of options. Automatic transmission, radial tires, rear-window defogger, to name a few.

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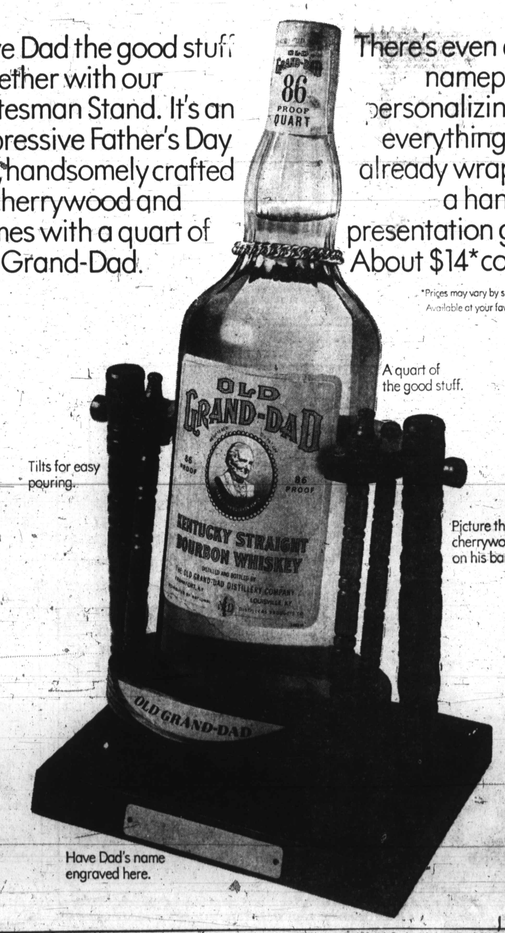

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