'Workshop' Eases Tension At Air Force Base In Philippines

By PATRICK J. KILLEN

CLARK U.S. AIR BASE, Philippines (UPI) — Last February, an airman named Barry Henry has robbed and stabbed to death on "The Block" in nearby Angeles City.

Led by a group from Clark U.S. Air Base's newly formed Afro Culture Workshop, airmen decided to boycott "the block," an area of bars and night clubs frequented by servicemen. Customers from Clark vowed to stay away until the security, the sanitation and the lighting of the district were improved.

"Project No Dough" lasted two weeks and was considered a moderate success in demonstrating collective action to Philippine proprietors and madams.

The Afro Culture Workshop was organized in January, 1971, by a group of American servicemen, most of them Air Force veterans.

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Its stated objective was "to promote better understanding and harmony among all personnel assigned or attached to Clark U.S. Air Base through personal involvement and activities designed to eradicate ethnic problems created by mistrust, misconception, misunderstanding and myths."

In less than a year, by most accounts, the workshop has provided responsible leadership for the first time for Clark's estimated 3,000 black population. The number is about 17 per cent of the 17,000 air force personnel, dependents and American civilian employes at Clark base 50 miles north of Manila.

Some believe the workshop came along just in time.

Chief Master Sergeant Calder L. Robertson, of San Antonio, Texas, the 13th Air Force's top enlisted man, said, 'a little more than a year ago things were brewing. It was a festering situation. Today, the temperature is a little different.

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Robertson believes the 13th is ahead of other units in its handling of racial problems. Both he and Lt. Gen. Martin L. McNichol, the 13th Air Force Commander, credit the Afro Culture Workshop with contributing to the over-all improvement.

At first there was some apprehension. White airmen looked at the black power symbols, the Afro hairdos, the red, green and black dashikis and the workshop with some concern: "Some felt the blacks were getting organized for trouble," Robertson said.

What they did organize was a clubhouse, a former maintenance building made available by base authorities and remodeled by workers.

They also instigated a study course in Afro culture at the local night school, put on a spectacularly successful fashion show, opened a continuing dialogue with city, base and post exchange officials on problems and requirements and began a weekly radio program called "Wantu Wazuri" (Swahili for "the beautiful people") which offers soul music and news of interest to the community.

"In May, 1970, when I got here," Sgt. Ralph I. "Rap" Brown, of Washington, D.C., workshop vice president, said, "race relations were very explosive. There were still problems but we have got them out in the open more. What we are trying to do is get people involved. Before we had no collective leadership."

Ideally, the workshop would cater to the young airman serving in his first foreign post by keeping him busy on base and out of trouble on "The Block." Workshop officers acknowledged, however, that they don't have as many newcomers as members as they would like.

In addition to nightly programs (bridge, stag night, couples night,) Tuesday afternoons are devoted to "Rap sessions" where the brothers and friends compare notes and talk over problems.

The fashion show — An Afro travelogue — was the workshop's first big project and it played to packed houses for its two performances. But club officers prefer to play down the entertainment aspects of the workshop and talk more of their drug seminar and how they sent a Filipino Boy Scout to camp last summer.

A current project, according to the treasurer, Sgt. Nathan Betterson of Lyons, Ga., is getting the base exchange to provide beauticians who can handle black hair styles.

Betterson said a common complaint among women dependents was, "What am I going to do with my hair?"

"We think the exchange should have qualified people," Betterson said.

The workshop started off with some 150 members and now numbers more than 200. Most are black but there are some white members including M Sgt. Robertson, who is on the board of directors.

Sgt. Betterson said, "We think the Air Force has some tremendous rules as far as race relations go. We think we can work within the framework of the Air Force."

Sgt. Brown said the workshop operates without direction from base authorities but benefits from having command support. Word of the workshop's success has brought many requests for information from other military units wishing to emulate the program.

REPORT FROM EUROPE

New Year brings devaluation blues

By OLLIE STEWART

PARIS — Happy New Year. And if it sounds a bit subdued, that's the best I can do.

The year 1972, for those of us overseas, especially in Europe, has a grim and ominous beginning. Money-wise, it's all dark clouds.

Instead of sticking to what was said to be unchangeable just a few months ago, the U.S. government closes out 1971 with the announcement that the dollar will be devalued.

And instead of doing it at once to keep speculators from making a killing, the president of the United States has his hand in advance, and starts all kinds of confusion.

If he'd kept his mouth shut until the thing was done, there could have been an orderly change-over. But no, he had to talk first — and promptly threw the money markets of the world into confusion.

Europeans (even those making a killing) were shocked. They expected a semblance of diplomacy from the man in the White House.

"My God." I heard one man say, "he sounded like a kid talking on a softball game before it got started. When France devalued the francs a few years ago, President Pompidou did it over the week-end, when all exchanges were closed. Everybody heard about it after it was done, and nobody got hurt."

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A lot of people will be hurt — some ruined — by Nixon. The moment his statement was flashed around the world, the dollar couldn't even find the bottom. Everybody was unloading — before a new rate was fixed.

It came so close to stupidity, it's hard to find a better word.

The most un-amusing element I've read went like this: "Americans going abroad will have a little inconvenience with their dollars. ..."

A little inconvenience? Mother of Jesus, the day after Nixon flew home from the Azores almost nobody wanted to take a dollar. They didn't know what it was going to be worth.

For those of us who live abroad and get dollars, there's one thing absolutely sure: we're going to be hurt. We're going to lose money.

Our money is already suspect, and some people are already betting that the dollar will get a second shrinking.

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And its no happy New Year for the millions of people the British doomed to death in the past 25 years. Even getting out of India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Ghana and the Middle East, they sowed the seeds of future conflict.

To get concessions and favors, they chopped up every country they left — and knew full well that ethnic and religious groups wouldn't get along with each other for long.

But the British didn't care. They didn't care that one part of Pakistan was a thousand miles from the other part.

They didn't care how they sliced up Nigeria (which brought on the recent bloody civil war). They just wanted British Petroleum to keep getting oil.

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And the other European nations have bloody hands. Why are there two Congos — one formerly Belgian and the other formerly French? All that separates them is a river, but they've been sniping at each other for years.

What former colony will blow up in 1972? Nobody knows. They were all chopped up and stitched up when the colonials left.

Common sense didn't enter into it. Close relationships didn't enter into it. The old masters simply said, "We're leaving your country — the way we went it. Take it and stew in your own black juice."

But the New Year isn't all bad. I can count at least a dozen countries where there's no war — and we should be thankful for small favors.

Boone named new prisons' commissioner

BOSTON (UPI) — Gov. Francis W. Sargent named John O. Boone, 50, as the state's new commissioner of corrections.

Boone, who will be the first nonwhite corrections commissioner in Massachusetts history, is currently superintendent of a 2,000-man correctional complex in Lorton, Va.

Sargent noted Boone has held positions ranging from parole officer to prison guard in correctional facilities in the South and said he "comes to us with a would be allowed to continue until after Christmas, 1972.

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to enter into voluntary agreements with the makers of hazardous products to defer enforcement action which is authorized by acts of Congress ..." Moss works.

"It is indeed difficult for me to understand why your agency has failed to treat lead Christmas tinsel as an imminent hazard and has failed to ban it."

The secretary of Health, Education and Welfare has authority to immediately ban any product which poses an "imminent hazard" to the public, Moss said.

Black Jews ordered to quit Israel

JERUSALEM — Israeli authorities have ordered the deportation of eight American families and arrested seven more in the first crackdown against members of the Black Hebrewite Nation now living in the country.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said the seven families were jailed after taking up residence in deserted Arab houses in the occupied West Bank village of Jericho without permission. Jericho is a military restricted area.

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The spokesman said the eight being deported obtained one-month tourist visas on their arrival in October and had not renewed the documents after they expired.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg signed the deportation orders. The Black Hebrewites had said they would fight any attempt to expel them from what they consider their homeland.

More than 200 have settled in Israel, claiming to be members of the Black Hebrewite Nation. Most of them are in Dimona and Ritzpah Rimon in the Negev Desert.

The Interior Ministry spokesman said all had tourist visas and would be deported once they expired. Israel broadcasting carried a report recently that the blacks were a cause of tension in both settlements.

WORKSHOP DEDICATION — Lt. Gen. Marvil L. McNichol (L), 13th Air Force Commander; Tech. Sgt. Robert L. Dean, Afro Culture Workshop (ACW) president, and Mrs. John R. Geyer, wife of Clark Air Base commander, cut tape at dedication of ACW building, Clark Air Base, The Philippines, last week. Workshop was organized in Jan. 1971 by group of black American servicemen. (UPI Telephoto)

Pine-less Ivory Coast compels plastic Yule

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (UPI) — Splendid in tribal dress, the African chief walked past the one-legged beggar and the Ivory peddlers. A heavy, hot breeze off the steaming lagoon swirled his robes. He was smiling and in his outstretched hand he carried a bright pink plastic Christmas tree.

"Sure, its plastic. It's more special that way," beamed Chief Konam, who had driven 200 miles from his small village in the interior of this West African Country to do his Christmas shopping.

Not everyone in the capital was as happy as Chief Konan about spending Christmas morning around a plastic tree.

The government refused the customary entry visas this year to imported European Pine trees in a well-publicized move to make the people "buy Ivory Coast" and "Ivorianize" the holidays with local timber. But the local trees are only teak and exotic trees.

"They ruined the Yuletide spirit" one French woman grumbled as she gazed with obvious scorn at the multi-colored synthetic trees lined up in a supermarket.

Some members of the European community held a merry decorated palm trees with Christmas lights, blowing fuses and putting air conditioners out of action.

Then Christmas season temperature was around 100 degrees fahreinheit. Local Santa Clauses sweated in their heavy red robes and cotton-candy beards as they posed for photographs with armloads of grinning, children.

Toys, shiny and new, jammed the store windows. Kids who will never get closer to the bright gifts than the other side of the window glass, peered through in wide-eyed wonder.

"Made in France" is stamped on Christmas here, from the frozen turkeys to the full-length mink coat in one luxurious department store window. Despite the heat people still buy furs, a coat salesman said, "many to go home with or wear at the beach during the rainy season."

One 13-year-old boy, gazing through a toy store window, was asked who Santa Claus was. "He's French," he replied.

Schools made to cooperate with NAACP

DETROIT — The Detroit Board of Education was told that two integration plans submitted by the board "seem to be a form of bargaining, and this court is not about to bargain," by Judge Stephen J. Roth, of U.S. District Court.

The judge then ordered the school board to "fully cooperate" with the NAACP in drawing up a school integration plan for Detroit.

The NAACP had said the two plans previously submitted by the Detroit board were inadequate and a "waste of time," and had asked Roth to order the board to pay the $20,000 they estimated that experts they selected would charge to prepare the new plan.

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The board had made one proposal that would extend the present magnet school plan, which seeks to achieve integration on a voluntary basis, and a second plan that would mix 38,000 week.

Judge Roth told the NAACP to report to him if there was a lack of co-operation from Detroit school officials, and said:

"I made it plain that the first job was desegregating the Detroit schools, and this was a primary responsibility of the Detroit board."

The judge said the NAACP should be allowed to examine all plans that have been developed and rejected so far.

ABB elects Curtis Shaw to head board

CHICAGO — Curtis Shaw, president of the National Association of Television and Radio Announcers, has been elected chairman of the Board of Directors of the Association for Black Broadcasting.

He was unanimously elected during the recent meeting of the association at O'Hare Airport's Regency Hyatt House.

The association brings together owners, managers, department heads and other supervisory personnel who are concerned with the "profile and projection of black radio."

Shaw, operations manager for WABQ in Cleveland said, "I am flattered by the position of board chairman because, for the first time, black and white people are unifying their ideas, experiences, and resources to better black radio.

He said the Association for Black Broadcasting is concerned with managerial, operational and supervisory problems.

Dr. William V. Banks, president and general manager of WGPR Radio in Detroit, was elected president of the association.

Inner cities get health care teams

WASHINGTON — Government have been issued nurses have been issued orders to begin providing health care in doctor-poor city slums and rural areas.

The National Health Service Corps, a pioneer effort to cure lack of medical treatment in low-income regions where private physicians are reluctant to practice, hopes to place health professionals in 20 areas by the end of next month.

Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) Elliot L. Richardson has already approved regulations implementing the 1970 Emergency Health Personnel Act.

The regulations provide free care for poor people and a sliding-fee scale for others unable to pay the full costs of medical treatment.

The program, according to HEW, is not socialized medicine but a design to alleviate the critical manpower shortages in poor health care areas.

Some cities under consideration for the first 20 areas are: New Orleans; South Bronx, N.Y.; Seattle; North Chicago; Tuskegee, Ala.; Indianapolis; and Rochester, N.Y.

Farm worker benefits vetoed

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI) — Gov. Ronald Reagan has vetoed a controversial bill supported by union organizer Cesar Chavez to extend unemployment insurance benefits to approximately 250,000 farm laborers.

In his veto message, the governor said he "actively supports" such coverage if farm workers on a national basis but "I cannot approve legislation that would further increase the competitive disadvantages faced by California's agricultural community."

He said the benefits under the bill of Assessman Jack Fenton (D-Montebello, would exceed farm employer taxes by at least $37 million, which will have to be financed from taxes paid by nonfarm employers who already are among the highest taxed in the country."

He said the Nixon administration currently is drafting a national unemployment insurance program for farm workers and "intend to support this proposal when it is presented in the Congress."

PEOPLE

PRINCETON, N.J. — E. Belvin Williams, associate dean for administration at Teachers College, Columbia University, and a psychologist and computer specialist, has been appointed a vice president of Educational Testing Service, it was announced by ETS president William W. Turnbull. In his new position, Williams will be responsible for the operational aspects of ETS' testing programs and services, including the College Board admissions tests, the National Teacher Examinations, and the Graduate Record Examinations.

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NEW YORK — John L. Sims has been appointed director-environmental and community affairs for U.S. Plywood - Champion Papers Inc., Sims, who had been manager of minority and community affairs, will coordinate all external programs regarding equal employment opportunity as well as environmental matters. His new position reflects the company's increasing commitment to meeting the expanding social responsibilities of the decade of the 1970s. In 1969, Sims joined the corporate staff as assistant to the vice president for special relations.

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WASHINGTON — James M. Trent, an official in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor here has been honored as "Alpha Man of the Year 1971" by the Arlington, Va., alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. Trent, 39, received the award for outstanding contributions in community services and in his fraternity, which he joined when he was a student at Tennessee State University.

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CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — A husband-and-wife team of scholars — both of whom have studied and worked in Africa and the United States — have received term appointments to the faculty of Harvard University as lecturers on Afro-American studies: Stanlake Samkange, and Africa-born historian who did graduate work in Indiana, comes to Harvard from Fisk University, where he was professor of African history. Tommie Marie Samkange, a Mississippi-born authority on child development, comes to Harvard from Tennessee A. and I State University, where she was professor of Psychology. They met as graduate students at Indiana University, where Stanlake received the M.S. degree in Education and Tommie Marie received the Ph.D. in Educational Psychology in turned to Indiana, and received the Ph.D. in American History in 1968.

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FRANKLIN, W. Va. — Moses Taylor, district conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service here, has been named one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America" of 1971. Taylor was nominated for the honor by Tennessee State University, from which he graduated in 1964. He is listed, and his accomplishments described in the 1971 edition of Outstanding YoungMen of America...

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WILBERFORCE, Ohio — Corbett A. Price, editor of the student newspaper at Central State University, was one of several Ohio student leaders invited to discuss higher education with Governor Rhodes. Price is the nephew of the Rev. and Mrs. Lawyer L. Swinson, 3611 Sequoia Ave., Baltimore. The newly founded Confederation of State University Student Leaders of which Price is a member will meet regularly with Gilligan to discuss problems facing higher education in the state.

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FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. — Dr. Henry M. Eldridge has been named associate dean of Fayetteville State University. Presently professor-chairman of the Department of Mathematics, Dr. Eldridge has distinguished himself as a scholar, teacher and author. President Charles A. Lyons stated in his announcement that Dr. Eldridge will retain the chair and faculty rank.

E. BELVIN WILLIAMS

JOHN L. SIMS

UNCF chief dies at 53, in New York

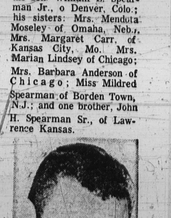
NEW YORK — Funeral services for William Lesley Spearman, director of research for the United Negro College Fund, who died on Dec. 18, were held Dec. 21, at the Siloam Presbyterian Church.

Spearman, 53, was born in Lawrence, Kansas. He received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, and a master of arts degree from Indiana University in Bloomington.

He taught high school in Chicago, and New York City, before joining the UNCF as assistant director of educational services in 1965.

He was a Mason, and a member of the honorary educational fraternity, Phi Delta Kappa.

Spearman is survived by his son, William L. Spearman Jr., o Denver, Colo.; his sisters: Mrs. Mendula Moseley of Omaha, Neb., Mrs. Margaret Carr, of Kansas City, Mo., Mrs. Marian Lindsey of Chicago; Mrs. Barbara Anderson of Chicago; Miss Mildred Spearman of Borden Town, N.J.; and one brother, John H. Spearman Sr., of Lawrence Kansas.



WILLIAM L. SPEARMAN

Candle-making student has lights flickering

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — The flickering lights in John T. Frazier's newly opened candle shop are shining proof of the saying that it's better to light one small candle than curse the darkness.

For John, a Pennsylvania State University undergraduate, the shop is one more step along a path which will eventually take him back to the Philadelphia photo — with a bundle of skills to help the youngsters he'll work with there.

"I want to learn to be as versatile as I can," he says, "so I can be of greatest service to the community."

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A graduate of Philadelphia's Germantown High — "I fought my way through school" — John is in his second year at Penn State.

"I got his chance for higher education through a scholarship sponsored by the University's journalism faculty and is majoring in consumer-related services with a journalism emphasis.

"But I've always been interested in art," he explains. "I like to make pottery, do wood carving and sculpture. Then the summer before I started school, I saw an ad for a candle-making kit in a magazine. It sounded good — combining a hobby and profit — so I ordered it."

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Before he knew it, John was knee-deep in wax, dyes, scents, and decorating materials.

After months of experimentation, the result this December is a new store in downtown State College about a block from the University. John T. Frazier's Shop of Beautiful and Ugly Candles for You and Your Friends.

"I like being unconventional," John comments, "and besides not all candles have to be beautiful."

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John has tried to express feelings in a number of his candles creations. One of the largest is a striking, three-foot, hand-carved African mask.

He also gets a kick out of customcrafting and has made to order dinosaurs, turtles, rockets, and even a particular model sports car.

These are moulded by hand, which is a challenge, because the candle-maker has to work very fast and accustom his hands to stand high temperatures.

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This month, John has been a guest artist at the University's Kern Graduate Building, where he spends "a time."

his lunch hours demonstrating candlemaking techniques.

He has also donated his candles to student groups to take along Christmas caroling and announced his willingness to hold demonstrations to benefit charitable organizations.

"I've had a lot of good friends pitch in to help me, too," he says. "So I don't get too far behind in my studies. But I'm learning that the busiest people are often those with the most time."

News in Brief

Colleges offering reward

WILBERFORCE, Ohio—The Central State University Board of Trustees voted to join Wilberforce University in offering a reward for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person guilty of the shooting death on Dec. 2 of WU student Mantel Crenshaw.

The Central State trustees established a $5,000 reward to be paid from non-tax and non-student fee funds. The Wilberforce governing body has established an identical reward offer.

Fifteen nations sign pact

WASHINGTON—Fifteen nations, including the United States, were to sign an agreement under which border controls will be tightened in an attempt to cut down drug smuggling.

The other 14 nations are Belgium, Austria, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Spain, Yugoslavia, Ireland, United Kingdom, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Switzerland, West Germany and Hungary.

The Customs Bureau said the European countries are all potential transfer routes for narcotics headed for the United States and the new controls may help to dry up the supplies reaching here.

School board wins injunction

GREENVILLE, N.C.—The Pitt County School Board won a permanent injunction barring persons, groups and organizations from interfering in the operation of schools.

The measure is aimed at civil rights leaders, including Golden Frinks of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, who have been taking students out of classes to participate in demonstrations against the killing of a laborer by a white highway patrolman.

A temporary injunction was granted Dec. 10 and court action made it permanent.

113-year liquor ban may end

EVANSTON, Ill.—City Council voted to end a 113-year-old municipal ban on the sale of alcohol despite pleas from the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU).

Mrs. Fred Tooze, head of the WCTU, which is headquartered in this Chicago suburb, said before the 10-to-7 vote, "if they open the place for even limited licenses, it won't be long before they want a saloon on every corner.

"There are a lot of people here who are proud of Evanston's dry tradition, just like we are," she added. "We must not let Evanston go wet."

Following the council's action, Mayor Edgar Vanneman Jr. indicated he would veto the ordinance unless an amendment permitting the establishment of package liquor stores was deleted.

Student shot in drug raid

NEW YORK—A Long Island University student who police suspected of being a narcotics dealer was shot to death by a white plainclothesman when the suspect tried to escape a drug raid near the campus.

The plainclothesman said he fired five warning shots but the student, John Hamilton, 21, did not heed them. The officer said Hamilton finally stopped and was shot when it appeared he had pulled a gun.

Police, who said Hamilton bragged to an undercover agent that he had killed four persons, said a .32 caliber pistol, some loose ammunition and a quantity of heroin were found in the dead man's possession.

LIU executive dean Eugene Arden said the university was "deeply shocked by this loss of life" and would investigate the incident.

Farmers, minorities thanked

NEW ORLEANS—Congressman Edwin Edwards, a French-speaking sharecropper's son from the Bayou country who won Louisiana's Democratic nomination for governor by less than one per cent of the vote in recent elections, said he won with "the farmers, the minorities and the working people."

Returns from the primary runoff showed Edwards received 580,536 votes or 50.31 per cent to 573,410 or 49.69 per cent for his opponent J. Bennett Johnston with 2,511 of the state's 2,514 precincts in.

"It looks like we're gonna make it," Edwards yelled. "We've come a long way in the past three weeks."

Army discharging addicts

SAIGON—A high ranking Defense Department official said that the heroin "epidemic" among American soldiers in Vietnam has been halted but not eliminated. He said the Army is discharging confirmed addicts if they return to drugs following rehabilitation.

Richard S. Wilbur, assistant secretary of defense for Health and Environment, denied that the discharges break President Nixon's pledge to help addicts kick their habits.

He said, however, that "at a time when you're reducing the Army by 50,000 men a year, there's a considerable tendency to allow a man who is a drug user to be one of those that you reduce."

Court says U.S. must prove case

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court ruled 5 to 2 that the government had been too loose in enforcing a federal ban on firearms possession by felons, and declared it must prove that the guns in each case were actually involved in interstate commerce at some point.

The 1968 Gun Control Act, which is based on federal government's powers under the Constitution to regulate interstate commerce, makes it a crime if anyone previously convicted of a felony "receives, possesses or transports in commerce or affecting commerce . . . any firearm. . . .

— The Justice Department has sought convictions under the law about 150 times. The maximum penalty for violation is a $10,000 fine and two years in prison.

Bill would cut absenteeism

WASHINGTON—Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, R-Maine, has proposed a Constitutional amendment that would remove from office any senator or congressman who failed to vote at least 60 per cent of the time.

Mrs. Smith, who has one of the best voting records in Congress, directed her ire toward the absenteeism of several senators who are considered potential presidential candidates.

She said the absences of the presidential candidates, "moonlighters" and "junketeers" was a disgrace to the Senate.

Mrs. Smith said she would propose her amendment next month. She said she wanted a Constitutional amendment because the Senate "is simply incapable of disciplining its members."

Model Cities gets grant

WASHINGTON—Compton Model Cities has received a grant for $1,297,000 to help implement the second phases of its five-year comprehensive Model Cities Plan, according to Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins, D-Calif.

He said the Compton second action year program will have as its major thrust manpower and economic development.

In conjunction with Compton unified school district, Compton Junior College district, the Dickinson Lighting Program, Research Planning and Evaluation and the MARS program—a manpower program, will be continued by Model Cities, Hawkins said.

MOURNING SLAIN MARTYR—At the crypt of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Sen. Edmund Muskie, the Rev. Martin L. King Sr., Mrs. Coretta King and Mrs. Jane Muskie stand in silent respect. In speaking to Dr. King's congregation at the Ebenezer Baptist Church recently in Atlanta, Sen. Muskie made a "commitment to eradicate, to the extent that it is within my power, injustice, discrimination, prejudice, hunger

No refunds on lifted surcharge

WASHINGTON—The Treasury Department says the 10 per cent surcharge on imports, which increased the cost of foreign cars and many other products used by Americans, would be lifted immediately but there would be no refunds.

A treasury spokesman said the surcharge would not have to be paid on any goods in transit to the United States, clearing customs or being removed from bonded warehouses for delivery, if the surcharge had already been paid on those products, however, it will not be refunded, he said.

That meant it might be several days or weeks, even months, before prices of any foreign goods are lowered to reflect removal of the surcharge.

White House office blasted

NEW YORK—Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin, D-Calif., complained that two-year-old White House Office on Telecommunications has become an "empire" with more employes than the total White House staff before World War II.

The ranking Democrat on the House Commerce subcommittee on communications said the telecommunications staff is five times that of a Congressional committee with similar jurisdiction and that 30 of the 65 employes earn at least $22,885.

"That's more people than the White House employed for all purposes prior to World War I," Van Deerlin said in remarks prepared for a luncheon of broadcasting editors and trade writers.

Van Deerlin, a former broadcast newsman, said the agency directed by Clay Whitehead has strayed into "political thickets."

Ugnda claims border violation

KAMPALA, Uganda—A Ugandan military spokesman said that Sudanese troops had penetrated three miles into Uganda and had been fighting southern Sudanese guerrillas for the last two days.

He warned that unless they withdraw Uganda will move against them "with maximum force."

"This exercise might involve the Uganda army and air force," he added.

Sudan has been involved for years in civil strife in the southern part of the country.

The three predominantly nonwhite southern Sudan provinces have been battling the five predominantly Arab-Moslem northern provinces.

Leaded icicles still sold

PHILADELPHIA—The president of a manufacturer of Christmas decorations said that he entered a secret agreement with the U.S. government to stop distributing icicles with a dangerously high lead content—but not until after this holiday season.

Israel Kinderman, head of Brite-Star Manufacturing Co., said four major firms agreed last summer to stop selling the decorations next year in exchange for a promise from two federal agencies not to publicize the agreement.

Kinderman said he would be permitted to sell out his remaining stock next season.

A government spokesman said, "We do this all the time because we don't have the funds to enforce the law."

Flashing freeway signs planned

LOS ANGELES—Everyone is familiar by now with those giant scoreboards in sport stadiums which flash "touchdown" or "block that kick" or "bless Vida Blue" or "that was Maury Wills' 3,000th stolen base."

The state division of highways has decided to experiment with smaller models starting next July when 36 electric signs 8-by-30 feet will be installed on the Santa Monica Freeway a mile apart.

Instead of sports messages, the signs will blink out such information as:

"Caution, accident ahead at Vermont." "Freeway temporarily closed, use Labrea off ramp," "Go home, you'll never get there."

Pitts-Lee indictment dismissed

PORT ST. JOE, Fla.—Because a convicted felon served on the Gulf County Grand Jury, Judge D. R. Smith dismissed a 1971 murder indictment in the Pitts-Lee case.

Only last September, another judge had thrown out a 1963 indictment against Freddie Pitts and Wilbert Lee in the gas station kidnap murders of two men.

Smith directed the prosecution to take the case to a grand jury in Marianna (Jackson County), 75 miles north.

Pitts and Lee awaited execution on death row at Raiford Prison for four years. On Dec. 21, 1966, a Port St. Joe convict, Curtis Adams Jr., confessed to the crime.

News in Brief

African coloring book a hit

DETROIT—An African coloring book, designed by students at Highland Park College, Highland Park, Mich., is causing a stir in such prestigious places as the Harlem Museum in New York, the Frederick Douglass Museum in Washington and the Smithsonian Institute.

The advanced drawing class at the college designed the book on a bunch, and the marketing class sold it on a dare. The result was an African art coloring book which has sold over 2,000 copies nationally in the past two weeks to museums, art institutes and teachers.

Proceeds from the African coloring book will be used to finance future projects and for scholarships.

Ford funding fellowships again

NEW YORK—The Ford Foundation announced the awarding of a $68,000 grant for the third-year funding of the National Urban Fellows program. The program is designed to increase the number of minority group members in administrative posts in state and local governments.

The program, administered by the National League of Cities-United States Conference of Mayors, provides internships and academic study that were formerly available only to white students, according to Mitchell Sviridoff, the foundation's vice president for national affairs.

The program lasts one year. Each fellow is required to attend a six-week introductory summer course at Yale University before going into the field.

Karenga files for divorce

LOS ANGELES—Ron Karenga, black nationalist, filed suit for a divorce from his wife, Brenda, who now lives in Bristol, Va.

Karenga is currently serving a prison term of one-to-ten years for torturing two women followers with a hot soldering iron and a vise because he feared they planned to poison him.

The Karengas, married Feb. 17, 1966, and have two children.

Panther leader gets 30 days

HOUSTON, Tex.—James Aaron, 19, Houston chairman of the Black Panther party, has been sentenced to 30 days in jail on charges of assaulting two Houston police officers outside the Harris County courthouse.

The officers testified that Aaron blocked the courthouse door and kicked officer G. S. McMenemy as he and officer C. R. Rees attempted to enter. A scuffle ensued that involved other policemen and bystanders.

In his defense, Aaron claimed that an officer shoved him as he sold Black Panther publications at the courthouse.

African student suing police

HOUSTON, Tex.—A citizen of West Africa, who is working toward his doctorate degree at Rice University has filed a $706,000 suit alleging two Houston police officers wrongfully arrested him last April.

Attorney Mohammed Dabba, 27, said he came to this country to "obtain an education and to learn, through first-hand observations, about freedom and democracy as allegedly found in these United States." But he said his arrest has resulted in "a loss of a desire to learn."

Dabba, who lives near the Rice campus, said he was arrested after he had walked a friend, a student from Nigeria, to the friend's car, which was parked near his home. He said he was held for three hours and released without charges.

PHILADELPHIA — A student group has charged in Common Pleas Court that the School District of Philadelphia illegally suspends and expels students for chronic absenteeism or lateness.

The suit charges that the school district has no right under the state school code to suspend temporarily or expel students for absenteeism or lateness.

It argues further that students at predominantly nonwhite schools are removed from school for these reasons far more frequently than those at predominantly white schools.

Day care center planned

WASHINGTON—A loan of $21,236 has been granted to Bantu Local Development Company in Los Angeles for the purpose of developing the Bantu Child Day Care Center, said Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins, D-Calif.

Hawkins said the day care center will be located in south central Los Angeles and will cater to low income families. Seven new jobs for the community will be created by the center, he said.

Prosecutor must keep promise

WASHINGTON—In an opinion by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, the Supreme Court said that a prosecutor must keep any promise he makes to a suspect in return for a guilty plea.

Burger's opinion involved Rudolph Santobello of the Bronx, N.Y., who initially pleaded innocent in a gambling case, but changed his plea to guilty to a lesser offense on the prosecutor's promise to withhold making a recommendation to the judge at the time of sentencing.

But there was considerable delay in the case and when Santobello came to be sentenced, the prosecutor was not the same as the one who had made the promise. The new prosecutor recommended the maximum jail term of one year—and the judge imposed it.

Agent puts 'his foot in it'

HAMILTON, Bermuda (UPI)—A U.S. Secret Service agent, inspecting President Nixon's quarters in the Governor's Mansion last week, accidentally put his foot through the ceiling of the President's bathroom while searching the rafters, it was learned.

The incident occurred on Thursday, so there was plenty of time to repair the damage before Nixon arrived Monday for his two-day summit meeting with British Prime Minister Edward Heath.

A well-placed Bermuda source reported that "the agent came to us and said, "I'm terribly sorry but I seem to have put my foot in it. In no time there were swarms of DPU (Department of Public Works) men to make repairs."

The Secret Service man, who was not identified, escaped injury.

Two are candidates for award

WASHINGTON—James M. Rogers and Leon E. Jordan are among five teachers who have been announced for the 1972 National Teacher of the Year Award.

Rogers teaches black history in Durham, N.C., and Jordan teaches 10th grade biology in Camelback High School, Phoenix, Ariz.

The finalists were chosen from nominees from 47 states and two U.S. territories by a 42-member board named by the Council of Chief State School Officers, which sponsored the contest in cooperation with Encyclopedia Brittanica and Ladies Home Journal.

City wants research center

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—The Memphis Regional Sickle Cell Council voted to push to have Memphis designated as one of the cities for a comprehensive Sickle Cell Research and Community Service Center.

The council, a broad-based community organization formed recently to inform the public about sickle cell disease, also voted to establish a committee that would outline the council's position on sickle cell legislation now pending in the House of Representatives.

Realtors adopt housing code

WASHINGTON—Attorney General John N. Mitchell has announced the Real Estate Board of Metropolitan St. Louis has adopted a code of fair housing practices, the first such action ever negotiated by the Justice Department.

The code provides for equal access in housing and prohibits member-realtors from "block-busting" in St. Louis and its predominantly white surrounding suburbs in St. Louis County.

The code applies to the board's 309-member firms, 740 brokers and 3,300 sales personnel.

U.S. pays for recreation center

ORANGEBURG, S.C.—A $320,000 grant by the Economic Development Administration, for this city to construct a community-wide recreation center, was announced by Sen. Strom Thurmond.

The city qualified for the grant under the Emergency Employment Act of 1971 due to the six per cent increase in unemployment in the Orangeburg area.

The facility will contain two tournament baseball fields; two baseball practice fields; a football-soccer field; four tennis courts; a picnic area; a recreation building; a championship 18-hole golf course; a driving range; an 18-hole par three course, and a club house.

Leaded icicles still sold

PHILADELPHIA—The president of a manufacturer of Christmas decorations said that he entered a secret agreement with the U.S. government to stop distributing icicles with a dangerously high lead content—but not until after this holiday season.

Israel Kinderman, head of Brite-Star Manufacturing Co., said four major firms agreed last summer to stop selling the decorations next year in exchange for a promise from two federal agencies not to publicize the agreement.

Kinderman said he would be permitted to sell out his remaining stock next season.

A government spokesman said, "We do this all the time because we don't have the funds to enforce the law."

Flashing freeway signs planned

LOS ANGELES—Everyone is familiar by now with those giant scoreboards in sport stadiums which flash "touchdown" or "block that kick" or "bless Vida Blue" or "that was Maury Wills' 3,000th stolen base."

The state division of highways has decided to experiment with smaller models starting next July when 36 electric signs 8-by-30 feet will be installed on the Santa Monica Freeway a mile apart.

Instead of sports messages, the signs will blink out such information as:

"Caution, accident ahead at Vermont." "Freeway temporarily closed, use Labrea off ramp," "Go home, you'll never get there."

Pitts-Lee indictment dismissed

PORT ST. JOE, Fla.—Because a convicted felon served on the Gulf County Grand Jury, Judge D. R. Smith dismissed a 1971 murder indictment in the Pitts-Lee case.

Only last September, another judge had thrown out a 1963 indictment against Freddie Pitts and Wilbert Lee in the gas station kidnap murders of two men.

Smith directed the prosecution to take the case to a grand jury in Marianna (Jackson County), 75 miles north.

Pitts and Lee awaited execution on death row at Raiford Prison for four years. On Dec. 21, 1966, a Port St. Joe convict, Curtis Adams Jr., confessed to the crime.

College bans national anthem

DEKALB, Ill.—The president of Northern Illinois University has outlawed the playing of the national anthem at home basketball games because of a fear of arousing racial tensions.

President Richard J. Nelson said the move was made at the request of students and administrators who feared the anthem would only stir racial hostilities.

Nelson said last season some of the 1,200 nonwhite students at the school of 23,000 raised clenched fists as the anthem was played. He said the action angered some townspeople and students.

16 youths getting retrial

PHILADELPHIA—The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ordered new trials for 16 Chester youths sentenced to prison for inciting to riot at a Chester dance in 1968.

The 4-2 opinion maintained that the trial judge, Delaware County Court Judge Francis Catania, should not have allowed the cases to be consolidated into one trial.

It also maintained that the commonwealth failed to prove that eight of the 16 youths had pleaded guilty "voluntarily, intelligently and knowingly."

New child care bill eyed

WASHINGTON—New legislation to replace the vetoed child care program was under consideration by individual House and Senate members with an eye to introducing the bills the first day Congress returns to work.

Sen. Gaylord Nelson, D-Wis., said he was drafting a bill that would seek a compromise with President Nixon who on Dec. 9 vetoed a bill that would have authorized a $2 billion program to construct, equip and staff day care centers off