Mitchell, Diggs deplore death of bill to reinstate Rhodesian sanctions

Cong. Parren Mitchell has expressed his doubts about America's commitments to the liberation of African nations still under colonialist rule.

Mr. Mitchell's statement came after the bill to repeal the Byrd Amendment, S. 1868, was pulled from the legislative calendar of the U.S. House of Representatives thus killing the measure in the 93rd Congress.

The measure would have enabled America to impose conomic sanctions against he racist white minority government in Southern Rhodesia. According to Mr. Mitchell the bill languished in the U.S. House of Representatives all year "and excuse after excuse was used to prevent it from coming to the floor for a vote."

He said the bill was finally scheduled for a floor vote at the worse possible time.

"It came up right after we had a propaganda barrage from the white minority government, a barrage which gave the impression that the racist government had come to an understanding with the African leaders.

"This eroded support for the bill because many representatives took the attitude: 'let us hold off because things are being worked out over there.'"

Commenting on lack of action, Michigan Congressman Charles Diggs said, "It is unfortunate that at this crucial time the U.S. should fail to turn its dia logue of support for majority rule into viable, positive action."

Mr. Diggs further stated: "Today's postponement reflects the continued refusal of the U.S. to take concrete action instead of mere words, to support majority rule in Africa.

"It is clear to me that any action we might take in the next Congress will have less impact upon encouraging a peaceful transition to majority rule in Zimbabwe. It is indeed a sad commentary to note that the U.S. could not at least have made the effort to repeal the Byrd Amendment at this crucial time, when we could have made a positive contribution towards the settlement effort.

Baltimore Afro American

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Police seek 3 in Dallas Ct slaying

Homicide police are still looking for three men one of whom shot and killed Miss Viola Torrence, 28, during a holdup in the victim's 200 block Dallas Ct. Dec. 23.

Police state Miss Torrence, shot in the right temple, was pronounced dead on the scene.

The bandits are described as young men, in their early 20's. The one who shot and killed Miss Torrence is said to be about 5 ft. 7 ins. tall, was wearing red and blue sweater and black pants.

Investigators told the AFRO the three men knocked on the victim's door shortly after 8:30 p.m. and ordered her at gun point into the room as she opened the door.

An eyewitness is quoted as saying one of the gunmen asked Miss Torrence to give him all that she had. The victim immediately complied by giving him $25.

Police said not satisfied, the men pressed for more money and when the victim failed to give them more, fired at her. The men then fled the apartment.

Bill may give equal credit right to elderly

In response to complaints from older Americans, Sen. J. Glenn Beall Jr. (R-Md.) has joined in cosponsoring legislation which would ban discrimination based on age in the granting of credit.

The proposal will prevent creditors from denying credit to any financially responsible citizen, regardless of age.

The Consumer Credit Protection Act, passed in October, provides equal credit opportunity without regard to sex or marital status. Since that time, however, reports have made it clear that age has often been the arbitrary basis of credit refusal for elderly applicants.

In addition, the lack of full-time employment has been cited in some cases, although many, retired Americans receive ample incomes to meet their financial obligations.

As a member of the Subcommittee on Aging, Senator Beall notes the increasing number of older citizens in the United States, pointing out that the elderly will comprise almost one fourth of our population by the year 2000.

"Our senior citizens have contributed too much to this nation to permit us now to refuse them, solely because of their age, the rights granted to other americans.

"Anyone who can take the responsibility for their finances, and meet their obligations, should have the right to obtain credit in this country," he added.

Poor suffer most from crime

Persons in families with annual incomes of less than $3,000 have the highest rate of victimization for crimes of violence, according to a federal survey.

The survey also found out that those with family incomes of $15,000 or more do not suffer much from crimes.

Both whites and blacks from families earning below $7,500 a year suffer higher rates of violent crimes than their afluent counterparts.

The survey shatters the myth that whites are always the victims and that blacks are always the criminals.

"This is clearly not so, 85 of every 1,000 black males were crime victims in the first half of 1973, but only 74 of every 1,000 white males, white females were assaulted less often than black females," the survey said.

The report continues, "Perhaps it is because criminals know that blacks are less likely to report crimes or swear out complaints, or maybe it is that there are more destitute men and women or drug addicts in some black districts, or that police protection is not as complete.

"Whatever the cause, it is shameful that all races in this nation are subjected to such cruel and wanton attacks."

The Kaffo Sportsmen Club presented Mrs. Santa with $25. From left: Mr. James Drummond, Charles Payne, vice president; George Lottier, AFRO's treasurer, Mrs. Santa's helper; Edward English, president; Hugh Robinson. Members not in photo; Charles Leslie, secretary; William Hemphill, David Johnson, treasurer; Earl Ellis, Raymond Russell, William Walker, Joe Williams, Glenn Waliengton, Charles Minor, David Caldwell.

Lowenstein wants Bob Kennedy death probe reopen

By Andrew Tully III

Former Rep. Allard Lowenstein says new evidence indicates Sirhan Sirhan did not fire the shot that killed Sen. Robert Kennedy. He has called on Los Angeles authorities to reopen the case.

"We simply cannot accept the official version of what happened because it doesn't square with the facts," said Lowenstein at a Sunday news conference. "I do not believe on the basis of the evidence ... that Sirhan Sirhan is the murderer of Robert Kennedy ...

"If this were an ordinary murder case, it would have been reopened on the basis of the (new) evidence," he said.

Sirhan was convicted of the assassination in 1969 and is serving a life sentence at San Quentin Prison.

Los Angeles District Attorney Joseph Busch said he would respond to the statement.

Lowenstein said trajectory evidence indicated at least nine bullets were fired in the Ambassador Hotel kitchen were Kennedy was shot June 5, 1968.

But he said Sirhan's gun only held eight bullets.

Lowenstein also said all witnesses testified that Sirhan was "at least two feet" from Kennedy, however, an autopsy report indicated that the fatal shot was fired from a gun "about an inch from his right ear."

He added that William Weisel, then an ABC television news producer who was wounded in the melee, was hit with a bullet apparently fired from a different gun than the one which killed Kennedy.

Lowenstein requested Los Angeles authorities to test fire Sirhan's weapon for bullet comparisons and convene a special ballistics panel to study the results; release all trajectory reports which have been made; and make public a still-secret 10-volume report on the original investigation.

Regional Advisory Council to meet

Dr. Roland N. Patterson, superintendent of Public Instruction, is announces that the newly organized Regional Advisory Councils of the Baltimore City Public Schools will have their first city-wide meeting on Monday, Jan. 13 at the Poly-Western Auditorium at 7 p.m.

The Regional Advisory Councils will provide a unique opportunity for community involvement and citizen participation in Public Education.

The primary purpose of these Citizens Councils is two-fold—to facilitate a wider participation of parents who will work with Regional Schools and to improve the quality of education in all Regional Schools.

A major objective of the reorganized structure of the Public Schools is to develop procedures for increased community participation. Towards this objective the newly formed Regional Advisory Councils will be meeting to formulate policies and procedure.

Planning Committees are now being formed to schedule meetings and develop weekend workshops to acquaint the parents with their new responsibilities and relationships to the Baltimore City Schools.

2,000 college seniors at job confab

The 1974 edition of Operation Native Sons and Daughters will be held on Dec. 30-31 in the Lombard Room of the Baltimore Civic Center. The program will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. both days.

Fifty-two employers will participate in the program which is expected to attract approximately 2,000 college seniors and graduate students. There is no cost to the student and each student is provided a booklet containing information on each of the participating companies as well as a resame form which may be duplicated free.

This is the 10th year for the program which provides a convenient location for local employers and college seniors to meet and discuss career employment opportunities. Over the years. the program has been successful in helping college trained young men and women find career employment in this area so they may eventually take their place as business and civic leaders in their home town.

Urban League job replacement hurt by unstable economy

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Shipley, associate director of economic development and employment for the Baltimore Urban League, statea that job placements in her department for the months of October, November, and December are well below normal. This unsuual lack of placements is due to the instability of the economy.

When questioned about the kinds of applicants who are applying for positions, Mrs. Shipley said, "An increasing number of applicants who are seeking jobs through the League's employment department are persons who have been placed by us previously.

"Many of these applicants were placed one year ago, while some were recently placed during the summer months. These persons have returned to us for help because they have recently been laid-off or fired."

The job orders which the Economic Development and Employment office continues to receive at a normal rate are for clerical positions, key

Summer jobs for students

More than 600 summer jobs with the Maryland Department of Transportation will be offered to college students again in 1975.

The Department's Student Summer Employment Program provides work experience and pay in positions related to career goals, while the students furnish the Department extra manpower and skills.

Positions are available in accounting, chemistry, civil engineering, economics, electronic communications, journalism, mathematics, transportation planning and urban planning.

In addition, the Department needs clerk-typists, stenographers, draftsmen, planning aides, laborers, inspectors, traffic counters and others.

In 1974, students helped run the Department's Aviation, Highway and Port Administrations and the Office of the Secretary.

Equal employment opportunity will be stressed in the 1975 summer employment program as in previous years. In 1974, one of every four summer positions went to minority students.

Interested college students may apply through their State college placement offices, any Maryland Department of Employment Security office or the Baltimore Urban League at the Mondawmin Concourse. The only basic requirements are Maryland citizenship and proof of continuing education.

Application deadline is Friday, March 28, 1975.

Medicare supplemental program expanded

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland has announced the offering of expanded benefits under their Medicare Supplemental program to cover increased deductible and co-insurance amounts which will be required of Medicare beneficiaries effective Jan. 1.

One that date the federal government will increase by 9.5 per cent the amount of the deductible and co-insurance payments that are the responsibility of Medicare beneficiaries under Part A of the program.

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield program supplements Medicare without duplicating federal coverage. In response to the Medicare changes, Blue Cross and Blue Shield have developed expanded benefits to cover these new requirements: ⅝the initial deductible for each hospital inpatient admission which increases from $84 to $92;

The additional charge for the 61st through 90th day of each inpatient hospital stay which increases from $21 to 23 per day;

During this time, anyone who is eligible for Medicare may enroll for the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Supplemental program.

Monthly rates for the expanded Medicare Supplemental are $2.90 for Blue Cross and $2.10 for Blue Shield coverage. The expanded benefits are being made optional to current members of the program. They can pay their current rate ($2.40 per month for Blue Cross and $1.74 per month for Blue Shield) and receive their current level of benefits or pay the higher rate for the expanded benefits.

The spokesman indicated that the 140,000 current members will be notified of the new benefits and rates with their regular bills. He also said that an open enrollment period for the expanded Medicare Supplemental program will be held the first three months of 1975.

Ed Williams selected for Who's Who

Ed Anthony Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed H. Williams, was selected to Who's Who among outstanding American High School students for the year 1973-1974.

He was a recent graduate of Baltimore City College, an honor student ranking among the top ten of his graduating class.

He received the Peabody award for merit, the PTA scholarship award of City College, and the service pin for individual effort and loyalty to the school.

He was also a commended student for his performance in the National Achievement Scholarship competition.

Young William is an active member of St. James Episcopal Church, where he is an acolyte, a member of the Youth Fellowship, a member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and a former member of Scout Troop 229 receiving many awards and attaining the rank of "Star Scout."

ANTHONY WILLIAMS

While at City, Ed was a active participant in sports. He was a member of the fresh-soph football team.

He also ran track and was a member of the cross-country team for three years. He was a member of Junior Achievement at Pimlico Junior High.

He is now attending University of Maryland, College Park. His plans are to earn a degree in pre-law.

Registration for bicycles announced

Beginning Jan. 2, bicycle owners in Maryland may register their bicycles in the same manner as they register their motor vehicles, the State Motor Vehicle Administration has announced.

The MVA will issue a bicycle ownership certificate to be kept in a safe place as well as a sticker to be affixed to the bicycle. The registration number will be printed on both documents.

Registration will be valid for three years and will cost $2. Renewals will also cost $2.

Sen. Welcome to seek better laws on rape trial

Legislation to humanize handling of rape trials in Maryland will be introduced into the General Assembly in January by Senator Verda F. Welcome (Balto. City, 40th).

Sen. Welcome said that existent laws are so inadequate as to discourage victims from seeking justice in the courts.

"Under existent law it is sometimes difficult to know whether the victim or the provocateur is on trial. Every element of an individuals character and background can be paraded publicly as part of the defense."

Victims of rape who take their cases to court have said they felt they were as much on trial as the men they had accused, since any detail of their past sexual history could be introduced to suggest that they had encouraged the incide.t

Senator Welcome indicated that she will introduce two bills to correct some of the intimidating aspects of rape trials.

Black image in cinema

The University College of the University of Maryland will offer a course in The Black Image in the Cinema beginning in January at College Park.

The three-credit course will explore the changing image of Black People in motion pictures from D. W. Griffith's classic Birth of a Nation to the present day's Third World Cinema and Black exploitation picture.

Films, including Nothing but a Man, Dutchman, Cool World and possibly Shaft, will be screened during the term. Noted black actors, directors and writers will speak on the subject during the class lecture periods.

The course will meet Thuesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. for 16 weeks at the Tawes Fine Arts Building in College Park.

Registration for the course will be held at the University College Center of Adult Education, corner of Adelphi Road and University Boulevard in College Park on Jan. 13 through 17. For further information, call the Evening and Weekend Division at (301) 454-5735.

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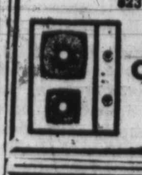

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