After Nixon, Watergate and Butz citizens still hope for best

AFRO Inquiring Reporter

The last few years have been a trying period for citizens of this country. As the country was wearily recovering from the shocks and horrors of the senseless and inhuman Vietnam war, there came Watergate with its scandals. Since then there has been one scandal after another culminating in Congressional sex scandals, Butz's disgraceful statement about black citizens and a spiraling inflation. Then the Nov. 2 elections came and Ford and his henchmen were thrown out of the scene. Wishing to find out about what Baltimoreans think about and hope for in the coming year, AFRO INQUIRING REPORTER went around asking this question: "With the problems America has had in recent years, do you think 1977 will be a better year. In what areas do you hope to see the most improvement?



REV. JOHN BRYANT - I RODNEY CARTER concept of Christian hope think that Carter will be a and because of that I be- miracle worker, but being lieve 1977 will be a better year. I hope to see the most improvement in the a year to see any change. areas of spiritual growth, employment, public education and fair housing.



ence. But it'll take at least change in the housing in- the old age homes. dustry. If that goes up, it'll be a start for other things.



MISS GAIL STOKES - I MRS. MARY WINBUSH -



sure hope things will im- I'm hoping that things will prove. I hope Carter does improve. I believe Presirealistic, I do not think what he says - put more dent Carter will do some- big difference. Not that about the way the country you'll see too much differ- jobs out here. I also hope thing. I'd most like them to he'll change it all that is now, but I'm hoping with they'll change treatment of change the working prothe elderly, especially in gram; more and better jobs. I also hope crime will go down.



WILLIAM HOLTON - I MISS CYNTHIA COLVIN think things will be better - I don't know if things with the new president. I will be better, but I hope think it's going to make a they will. I'm really much, but that he'll have the new president, it will more people working with be better. I hope they im him. I hope they get more prove the economy at first people back to work, and then do something less unemployment and the oil spills and other pol-



IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY HONORS GEN. WOODEN

(see inside)

85th Year No. 40

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BALTIMORE, MD., JANUARY 1, 1977

LATE CITY EDITION

(see inside)

WELL - DRESSED MAN'

TERRORIZES, ROBS

WOMAN AND HER SON

ONE YEAR \$12.00

Minimum wage hiked to \$2.30 on Jan. 1

Christmas Day, but thou- tive. sands of area workers will. Mr. Epstein predicted receive a holiday present, the next session of Conwhen their minimum hour- gress would increase the ly wage increases from number of persons covered \$2.20 to \$2.30 beginning under the law.

Harvey A. Epstein, said lumbia the increase comes at this wage of \$2.50, while other time because the last subdivisions amendments to the 1974 Federal Fair Labor Stan-

\$100 for first baby

As it is now, some states have higher minimum hour-The state commissioner by wages than other states. Labor and Industry, He said the District of Co-

(Continued on Page 2)

AFRO'S MRS. SANTA ended her campaign after receiving \$50 contributed by L. H. Smith No. 54, PHA, thus bringing the total to \$17,613. The last \$2,000 in Super Pride coupons were mailed in

time to help needy families for the New Year. Donating the check are (l-r) Elijah Brown, Winfred A. Cook, Mrs. Santa Ida Peters and Most Worshipful Master John Sembly.



\$100 FOR 1977's first baby. That's what the AFRO is going to pay the first baby who arrives Jan. 1, 1977. Call us Monday, Jan. 3 and tell us what hospital and what time your baby arrived. We'll check it out and let you know if you win. That's all you have to do to get in line for the \$100. Cimmon Elizabeth Byrd is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Eugene (Laura)



Byrd Jr.

Citizens hit request to hike gas rate

By Clarence W. Hunter Peter R. Engebretson, Corporation, said Wednesday persons in his commu gas rate keeps climbing without any clear ex-

Carter says he can

costly to the consumer." the new rate hike request. Engebretson's statement r moved this week a \$1.98 zers," he pointed out.

nity do not know why the increase for next month's He also explained he inwhich could have a tends to bring up the subdrastic impact on 512,000 ject of the increase at the gas users and 311,000 gas next meeting of the Baliheating customers. "initial gut Engebretson said his orreactior" was to "oppose ganization and the commu-

cut defense spending SIMONS ISLAND, gon spending level, but will according to BG and E is Ga. (UPI) - President- trim future expenditures. elect Jimmy Carter said He told reporters, "We crease in wholesale fuel Wednesday he believes he might realize a substantial cos.

better management. He said Secretary of Defense-designate Harold Brown "agrees with me." Carter made his re- signed a statement in allow utilities to recover inings with his cabinet prior cial holdings which could to the inauguration.

\$104 billion a year Penta-

can reduce defense ex- dollar reduction" in future penditures by \$5 billion to defense spending if threats spokesman for BG and E, \$7 billion through greater from the Soviet Union, the explained the money to efficiency, economies and Middle East and other pay for the wholesale fuel

every Cabinet member had will not lower the present

any action that might be nity are very upset over mission, it would be added is to the 8.5 per cent increase "Some explanation in fixed rates approved by came after the Baltimore needed on this issue and Gas and Electric Company how it's going to affect citithe commission last week.

> more Utility Coordinating Committee which is scheduled for next week.

ity Coordinating Committee. It took part in six months of hearings in an attemp' to block the rate The proposed rate hike,

needed to pay for a 22.5 in-Charles J. Franklin,

trouble spots are reduced. would be obtained by rais adjustment rate. ine rate is designed to

Police state victim was stabbed 32 times

25 CENTS

Were two weapons or victim's body resembling more used to methodically cigarette burns. Police disembowel Edward state they suspect the kill-McCoy, 44, 1000 block N. er used two weapons.

soaked body was found by from the back door of the a female friend about 9 three story house to the ino'clock the evening after tersection of Lafayette Christmas on the living Ave. and Mount St. Police room floor of his three- believe there might have story row residence.

Charles Hopkins refused new trial venue

Chief Judge Anselm Sodaro, of the Supreme Bench will make a decision this week if a change of venue will be made in the Charles A. Hopkins murder

en Leslie A. Stein has and \$1 were found on his more. Hopkins, 34, of the and said there were no 1200 block Curley So., was apparent signs of a fight in charged with murder, as- the room where McCoy sault with intent to kill, as- was found. sault and handgun violations in the April 13 shoot- McCoy was

trial should be moved out-A residential gas bill is

According to

Wincent St.?

His mutilated, blood- there was a trail of blood been a struggle and the as-Police reveal there were sailant was probably

A 37-year-old woman who dead in the living room house. The woman is quoted as telling police she and McCoy were planning a trip to Washington Sun-

McCoy had been stabbed "numerous times" in the stomach and there was one deep stab wound in the chest, police said.

A television set and a gun were reported missing from a third floor bedroom. However, McCoy's wallet

Police have no suspects

According might have been killed as Stein told the court the early as 9 p.m. Christmas. Funeral services will be side of Baltimore because held in Clarkton, N.C. for Hopkins is charged with McCoy, who was unemkilling City Councilman ployed at the time of his Dominic M. Leone and the death. He is survived by five children, six brothers

WE HAVE ONLY TWO IN 47 POSITIONS

one of seven organizations forming the Baltimore Util- Comming the Baltimore Util- Comming the Comming Comming Comming Comming Committee Committee

morning to battalion chief. In other action, Bishop vice Commission extended ning Jan. 1.

(Continued on Page 2)

represent a conflict-of-in- rent proposed hike would He said he suspects terest and disclose their fi- be the largest since May, member of the City Council was instrumental in

captain in the city Fire City Council members Department who was were debating whether to reinstated Dec. 22 after he pass a job residency repleaded guilty to assault quirement. The amendand possession of a deadly ment, sponsored by Emerweapon was promoted by son R. Julian (D, 4 was the Fire Board Tuesday rejected in the Nov. 2 elec-

Winfield Showell, the ment received voter okay, trubed" that the Civil Ser- lation of residency begin-

Oct. 18 was the final day pective Baltimore County ment positions, and Nov. 22 vice extended the deadline

(Continued on Page 2)



CARL McDONALD