AFRO staff photos by Roman Hankewycz

EXPLOSION SHAKES COUNTY — An explosion and two-alarm fire that followed at the Texas Landfill in Cockysville seriously damaged the recycling plant and sent treamors through the area that could be be felt for miles Tuesday morning. Luckily there were no injuries in the incident that occurred around 9:30 a.m. Plant officials state they believe some sort of explosive — such as dynamite or T.N.T. — mixed in with the refuse caused the blast. Up until the time of the blast, the $10 million dollar plant was rated as a technological breakthrough in solid-waste recycling.

MINI NEWS

Bon Secours winter program

The pastoral care department of the Bon Secours Hospital will hold its winter clergy program on Tuesday, Jan. 11. A dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the hospital dining room will precede the program. Dr. Willis Madrey, associate professor of medicine at John Hopkins University School of Medicine, will address members of the clergy on "Some Medical Aspects of Alcoholism." Alcoholism, its debilitating effects and related problems have been a concern of the clergy for some time. Bon Secours Hospital is located at 2025 W. Fayette and Sister Mary Laurentilla, is director of pastoral care at the hospital. For further information on this program, call 233-7100, ext. 341.

Lobbying: NOW meet topic

"Lobbying: Shaping Legislation" will be the subject at the next general meeting of the Baltimore Chapter of the National Organization for Women on Monday, Jan. 19, 8 p.m., at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4215 Loch Raven Boulevard. Members of Baltimore NOW's legislative task force will present the role of the orgainzation and its goals. Bills that were lobbied for in the past and plans for the upcoming session will be discussed. Techniques on how to apprach or write your delegates and representatives will be explained. The public is invited to attend. Dodie Fait is program chairperson. For further information call 889-0593.

Hospital workers confab

The 36th annual conference of the Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and District of Columbia Hospital Association will convene at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, on Jan. 12 - 14. The three-day conference will feature keynote addresses by Dr. James L. Fisher, president of Towson State University in Towson, and by Dr. Dorothy Novella, who is president of the National League for Nursing and Dean of the Erie Institute of Nursing, in Erie, Pennsylvania. Dr. Fisher will deliver the Harvey H. Weiss Memorial Lecture on Jan. 12 on "The Future in Prologue." Dr. Novella, will deliver her lecture on Jan. 14, on "Nursing: Third Century Education: For Third Century Service."

Pallottines in the news

The Pallottine Fathers have drastically increased contributions to the overseas missions they raise money for but still have large real estate and business holding, according to a report to the state attorney general. In a periodic report, the Roman Catholic order said it sent $2 million to foreign missions in 1976, more than its entire contribution to overseas relief from 1970 to 1975. Between 1970 and 1975, the Pallotines collected $62 million in charitable donations but spend much of it on business and real estate ventures, including purchase of several Florida resort motels. The Pallottines, Mass Mailing Feature Pictures of poverty stricken children overseas and urge generous contributions. The order also offers prizes in a sweepstakes drawing to encourage donations. Following news accounts of the order's fund-raising efforts.

Baltimore Afro American

PAGE JANUARY 8, 1977

NEW POSITION — Ms. Carylon Morton has assumed duties as evaluator in the Human Services Department of Baltimore Goodwill Industries and is responsible for administering and interpreting vocational skill assessment tests. A graduate of UMBC, Ms. Morton now resides in Southwest Baltimore.

PAYING UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

Cong. Mitchell hails DES cooperation

A few short weeks ago, Cong. Parren J. Mitchell (D-7th-Md.) was highly critical of the Department of Employment Services and the Board of Education because of poor handling of supplemental unemployment assistance claims.

At issue was the fact that a number of cafeteria workers and para-professionals were terminated by the Board of Education on June 30, but as late as four months thereafter, they had not received their S.O.A. benefits.

Of the original 70 complaints filed with the Congressman's office, about half had been satisfactorily resolved through the efforts of Michael Lipscomb, district office manager, before the Congressman went public in his criticism of the slow handling of the remaining 33 cases.

It was at that point Mitchell asked D.E.S. to undertake a crash effort to see to it that the claimants received their benefits immediately. Apparently that move got results.

Today, Mitchell said, "I am happy to report that through the cooperation of D.E.S. 29 of the pending cases were resolved and we are assured of prompt action on the remaining four cases." He added, "many persons failed to realize how critical it was that these persons, who were fully entitled to the benefits, receive their claims prior to the holidays.

"Sizeable sums of money were involved," he continued, "the smallest claim involved nine checks at $17 each, out in other cases, payments of five checks in the amount of $82 a week (mailed on Dec. 7th); nine checks in the amount of $81 each (mailed Nov. 24); seven checks in the amount of $89 each (mailed Oct. 20)."

In publicly thanking D.E.S. for it cooperation, Cong. Mitchell urged that immediate measures be instituted to avoid any similar situations in the future.

Sensenbaugh hits Ford's survey request

(UPI) — James A. Sensenbauch, Maryland's outgoing school superintendent, has asked Maryland's 24 school systems not to complete a federal survey until President Ford responds to his request to halt the study.

Sensenbaugh, scheduled to leave the state school post Wednesday, has asked Ford to cancel the survey by the U.S. office of civil rights. The agency is compiling data on compliance with civil rights laws in the nation's 16,000 school systems.

Some Maryland school officials said the paperwork involved is difficult to complete by the Feb. 1 deadline.

In a letter to Ford, Sensenbaugh said that even where sophisticated data processing equipment is available "much of the burden . . . must be borne by principals.

"This . . .occurs at a time when most school districts are making special efforts to sheild in-school administrators from chores that divert their attention from the educational process," Sensenbaugh said.

Sensenbaugh sent letters to Maryland's 24 local school systems advising them to wait for the President's response to his letter before completing the survey.

Byron Hansford, executive director of the Nationwide Council of Chief State School Officers, was another school official complaining about the nationwide survey.

"We know the FEDS can mandate the filling out of forms," said Hansford, "But we can't mandate the quality of the data they're going to get."

He added, "If they force us to fill out (the survey forms), they're going to get a bunch of garbage."

Fernando Oxaca, an offical with the president's office of management and Budget, said, "I suspect we will be answering the Letter," but he added, "I do not believe there will be a reversal" of the decision to undertake the OCR survey.

The Council of Chief State School Officers contended that the survey is redundant, that little advance notice was given to school officials and that the estimated 300,000 manpower hours nationwide needed to do the paperwork is an excessive burden.

HELPING HAND — Derek Hosley (1) reaches for the ball tossed to him by Ms. Belinda Ledbetter, Child Life teacher on the Infant Toddler Unit of the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

Children's program gets grant

Tiny patients on the Infant and Toddler Unit at the John Hopkins Children's Center are the beneficiaries of a $9,000 grant to provide support to a Child Life staff member.

The grant was announced by Mrs. Jerriann Wilson, director of Hopkins' Child Life Program, and Dr. Michael Joyce, executive director of the Morris Goldseker Foundation.

Child Life is a pioneering play and educational program for hospitalized children, begun at Hopkins more than 30 years ago. Teachers trained in early childhood development offer the child opportunities to play, do school work, and participate in other activities, in order to minimize the often frightening experience of hospitalization.

Fortune pleads guilty to murder

Randolph Thurman Fortune Jr., of the 1900 block Gwynns Falls Pkwy., told Criminal Court Judge J. Harold Grady on Wednesday, he was only trying to protect himself and did not mean to kill Steven Allmond on Sept. 6, 1976.

Fortune, 26, made the above statement after he changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of second degree murder.

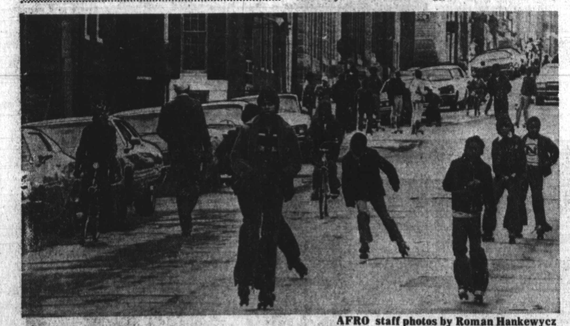
Judge Grady stated he would impose sentence Jan. 26, 9:30 a.m. after he receives a report from the Probation Department.

Assistant State's Attorney Michael Patryn stated Fortune became involved in an argument with 20-year-old Allmond last September following a crap game in the 1500 block Richland Ave., around 4:20 a.m.

Fortune had won a $10 bet from Allmond, who refused to pay him his money. Fortune testified, "He (Allmond) acted like he was reaching for a gun and I shot him."

Fortune, was arrested a week later when he was driving home from work. He was held on $30,000.

According to his testimony, Fortune said his father, Randolph T. Fortune Sr., bought him the tun for protection several years ago after he was attacked twice on the street. Fortune will remain on bail until Jan. 26.



AFRO staff photos by Roman Hankewycz

CHRISTMAS BIKES AND SKATES PUT TO USE — There were so many young people skating and bike riding on Mosher St., near Stricker recently that AFRO staff photographer Roman Hankewycz just couldn't possibly get all of the names. This scene was just about the same throughout the area as Christmas presents were given their trial runs.

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MD. LEGISLATURE OPENS FOR 1977
(See Photo Page)

Baltimore Afro American

WINTER ISLAND OF TRANQUILITY
(See Inside)

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Bus stop rape trial opens Monday

JOHN W. SIMMS on trial Jan. 17

Victims will testify in court

Several rape victims are scheduled to testify at the trial which opens Monday for John W. Simms, 27, a former state prison guard.

A jury will hear the case in Criminal Court Part Four with Judge David Ross presiding.

Simms, of the 4200 block W. Rogers Ave., had been employed as a Maryland Penitentiary guard since 1972.

He is charged with numerous rapes police claim occurred in Northwest Baltimore in 1976; two murders and an attempted murder.

He has been confined to City Jail without bail since he was arrested in August 1976.

His arrest followed almost a year of police investigation on what they termed a hunt of the "Northwest Bustop Rapist".

Simms was arrested at his home after a rape victim saw him driving a car last August. The woman noted the license plate number and contacted police.

Police described their lead to the arrest of Simms as a "lucky break". Police had both male and female officers act decoys in unsuccessful effort to trap the suspect.

Police report Simms was positively identified by eight other rape victims when he appeared in a lineup last August.

FIRST ASSAULT

The first woman was sexually assaulted in October 1975 while waiting for a bus in Northwest Baltimore.

Simms has been charged with the murder of Miss Sandra Michelle Morrison and Mrs. Sharon Taylor Tynes.

He allegedly killed Miss

(Continued on Page 2)

MISS SANDRA M. MORRISON victim

MRS. SHARON TAYLOR TYNES victim

NO. 19 BUS STOP at the corner of Garrison Blvd. and Ridgewood Ave. was the scene of the 4:55 a.m. June 30, 1975 tragedy which left Mrs. Sharon Tynes a murder victim.

City MLK holiday proposal

Today, Friday, Jan. 15 marks the Maryland state holiday which honors Dr. Martin Luther King. Born that day, 1929. Dr. King would have been 48 years old if the assassination of April 4, 1968 had not cut him down.

Today, an effort has been announced revealing the city of Baltimore is making effort through the City Council to establish Jan. 15 as a city holiday.

COUNCIL BILL NO. 13

Del. Troy Bralley is chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for the establishment of the holiday in Baltimore.

He states:

"In an effort to pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. City Councilmembers Victorine Q. Adams and Michael B. Mitchell, at the request of Women Power, Inc. and various other groups, have sponsored City Council Bill No. 13. The purpose of the bill is to raise Dr. King's birthday, Jan. 15, to the status of an official city government holiday.

Dr. King was a great American of whom it can be truly said that he represented the finest humanitarian instincts of all mankind — Christians, Jews, blacks, whites, Indians, Polish people, Italians, Chi-

(Continued on Page 3)

Maryland lawmakers open session

MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY at 12:13 p.m. a few minutes after the 1977 opening (if the clock on the wall is right), was indeed quiet. In AFRO staff photo by Roman Hankewycz, there is no one on the platform and members were chatting in their seats. Gallery spectators just sat and waited. (See general assembly photo page inside today)

Old slave church reaches another historic milestone

Orchard Street Church, the building constructed by slaves reached another milestone this week in the appointment of an architectural historian.

Elroy Quinoze is the official named by Carroll Greene Jr., head of the Maryland State Commission on Afro American History and Culture.

Quinoze, described as one of the most highly qualified and "one of the few in his profession in the nation", is at work now at the church.

The church is designated as a museum. Constructed in 1837, it is closed to the public while restoration is in progress.

Jan. 11, the day Quinoze, began duties, marked the first anniversary of the Orchard Church as being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Snow blanketed that 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, 1976 occasion when Mrs. W. A. Hughes Jr., president of the Committee for the Pre-

(Continued on Page 6)

SELECTED on basis of high qualifications as an architectural historian for Orchard Street Church is Elroy Quinoze now a staff member of the Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture.

CARROLL GREENE JR. Commission head

Historian appointed by Greene

Carroll Greene Jr., acting director of the Maryland Commission on Afro History and Culture made the announcement of the state's appointment of Elroy Quinoze Jan. 11 to Orchard Street Church.

Mr. Greene, trained at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and a distinguished historian, is the only black person to head a Maryland commission.

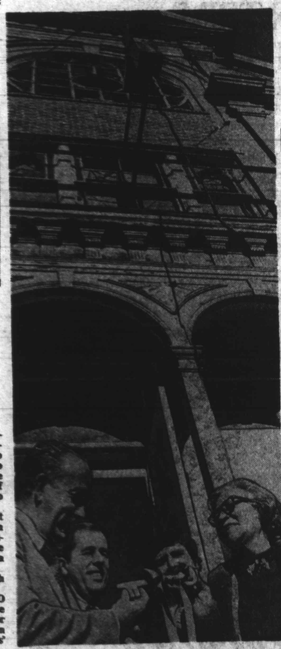
AAHC is the only such commission in the nation.

A member of the AFRO Honor Roll, he received the newspaper's highest honor in 1975 for his efforts in saving historic Annapolis' Mt. Moriah Church.

Green's official announcement of the Quinoze appointment is as follows:

Elroy Quinoze has recently been appointed to the position of archi-

(Continued on Page 2)



COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION of Orchard Street Church through its president Mrs. W. A. C. Hughes, received keys to the church in August, 1975 from Mayor William Donald Schaefer, Housing Commissioner Robert C. Embry and City Council President Walter Orlinsky.

Money order theft laid to pastor's son

Sherman Woodrow Dobson, 23-year-old son of the Baltimore family of prominent ministers, was recently arrested and charged with false pretense, after he allegedly tried to cash stolen money orders worth $800.

Police report Dobson, of the 3600 block Ellamont Rd. was dressed as a bus driver and used false identification when he bought electronic goods from the Radio Shack in the 6400 block Reisterstown Rd., on Nov. 22, 1976.

An employee at the store is quoted as telling the police he sold a walkie talkie and police scanner to a man named Frederick C. Gilkes of the 3800 block Wabash Ave., who claimed he worked with the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

Several days after the sale was made, the manager of the store was notified that the $200 travelers express money order had been stolen from the Pride Food store on July 3, 1976 in Hartford, Connecticut.

According to police, 173 blank travelers express

(Continued on Page 2)

Enter AFRO'S Sarah Vaughn Contest
(See Amusement Page)

Carter's man hit on all sides

U.S. SENATE SCENE as photographed Wednesday by J.D. Howard. Right-center is Senator Charles McC. Mathias.

Griffin Bell says he has 'no regrets'

GRIFFIN BELL, the Carter appointee for U.S. attorney general

WASHINGTON — Attorney general-designate Griffin Bell has apologized for several actions he made in his past but said he had "no regrets" over helping a segregationist Georgia governor during the 1960s, but top civil rights leaders said that action made him unfit for office.

Thursday black leaders who would defend President-elect Carter's nominee, a former federal judge, waited their turn to speak before the Senate Judiciary Committee that had grilled Bell for three days.

Among supporting witnesses scheduled for the third day of Bell's confirmation hearings was Roy Innis, director of the Congress of Racial Equality.

But additional witnesses from other civil rights groups opposing Bell were

(Continued on Page 2)

CLARENCE MITCHELL JR. speaks out on behalf of the NAACP