—Swisher should be 'investigated'

(Continued from Page 1)

"I have listened to three sets of tapes of persons in the narcotics world and each specifies that some one in the State's Attorney's Office has offered to wire them for sound and reward them if they would simply walk up to certain persons and talk with them.

"It gets close to collusion with narcotics traffic which may be illegal. If not illegal, it's certainly unethical.

"Insofar as the State's Attorney's Office is concerned, I have personal knowledge that some persons accused of crimes have been asked by the police and - or the State's Attorney's Office if they could be wired for sound in order to get "evidence" against certain black persons.

"These offers were made with strong hints that the persons would not be prosecuted or would not be given heavy sentences.

"These practices sound to me to be dangerously close to entrapment.

"Even if they are legal, such practices are in my opinion immoral and unethical.

"They reflect a witch - hunt kind of mentality which seems to dominate the State's Attorney's Office."

Rep. Mitchell said he has knowledge that such actions came after he heard from a 15-year-old girl who was fearful of her life and he recorded her story and helped her to get to talk with law enforcement agents.

He said, "Someone in the State's Attorney's Office who has those weasel - like actions had the gall to ask some persons to view my picture and answer questions like do you know anything about this man.'"

Speaking on the same subject was one of the elected officials who surrounded Rep. Mitchell at the press conference.

State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III said the Office of the Special State Prosecutor will be asked to investigate the matter.

He said the word coming from the "street people" on what the State's Attorney's Office has asked them to do, leads him to believe that the State's Attorney's Office itself, ought to come under indictment.

He said, "When you have the State's Attorney's Office taking part in criminal activities and those attached to that office from the police department in supposedly criminal actions, it should come under investigation. That's what the State Special Prosecutor is for."

Sen. Mitchel refused to answer when he was asked if he was referring to Detective Charles Smoot who it is alleged by certain "street people" and specific persons who said they were eyewitnesses, "took money to allow certain narcotics kings to continue operating."

Part of testimony from a15 - year - old associate of the murdered Elijah Davis claimed that she was present when Smoot accepted the bribe.

Assistant State's Attorneys John Denholm and Mary Ann Willen have repeatedly called some witnesses to testify before the Special Grand Jury on narcotics probes.

Although there has been no hard evidence, the word from "street people" asked to talk is that there is effort to concoct evidence.

Swisher has announced on corruption probes conducted by his office that there is no "witch - hunt" nor indictment to come "just for the sake of indictments."

However, he told the AFRO in April he does not know exactly what Denholm and Willen are doing but supposes it's legal "because the federal government is breathing down our necks."

Other matters discussed at the Congressman's press conference were on "front companies" and housing and voter registration.

"Front companies" are those which get a black citizen to pose as head of a firm that is in reality all white.

Rep. Mitchell said the companies are dominated by greed and subject to immediate prosecution under federal law.

Stating that it will be "nipped in the bud right now," Mitchell noted that guilty firms can be fined $10,000 and or imprisoned for a maximum of five years or both.

Starting the action that leads to prosecution immediately, he said citizens and groups are urged to cooperate with the federal government by supplying information "to enable swift, vigorous prosecution of minority front firms."

Baltimore's housing programs will come under Congressional spotlight Tuesday, June 27 at 7:30 p.m. when hearings open in Baltimore. New housing at the end of Pennsylvania Avenue is claimed to be shoddy and federal funds misused there.

The hearings will focus on No. 312 Rehabilitation Loan money; Historic Preservation areas; Homesteading, Section 8 Housing; Community Development Block Grants; Urban Development Action Grant programs and "What's happening as to low income families."

Rep. Mitchell states he is supporting the Urban Activities for Advancement (UAA) voter registration drive to rekindle interest in voting and get on the books persons who have changed address or have never voted before.

He said letters have been sent to more than 400 neighborhood groups and appeals have been made to all elected officials to join the effort.

A city - wide voter registration contest opens Monday, June 5 and ends Monday, Aug. 21.

At the conclusion prizes will go to three groups of citizens:

1. $500 to the group that registers the highest number above 3,000 persons

2. $300 will go to the group that registers the highest number above 2,000 people

3. $200 will go to the group that registers the highest number above 1,500 people.

Certified receipts must be produced from the Board of Election Supervisors. Prizes will be awarded Thursday, Aug. 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mitchell Headquarters, 1902 Ellamont St.

Among the elected officials at the congressman's Thursday press conference were Sen. Mitchell, Dels. Troy Brailey, Walter Dean, Lloyal Randolph, Isaiah Dixon; Norman Brailey, representing Sen. Paul Sarbanes and Attorney Anthony W. Robinson.

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—NAACP ball

(Continued from Page 1)

A cocktail hour, at 7 p.m., with open bar, Ball planners say, will give opportunities for guests to meet old friends as well as attending celebrities. Music will be provided by Frankie and the Spindles.

The idea of a banquet affordable by NAACP grassroots supporters with a goal of unity among the city's diverse racial, economic, social, religious and political groups in attendance is the event's basic premise.

Mrs. Marie Henderson, formerly Mayor William D. Schaefer's assistant, currently administrative assistant to Baltimore County Executive Theodore Venetoulis, is Ball chairman again this year.

National celebrities in attendance include Ray Marshall, Secretary of Labor; William Beckham Jr., assistant secretary of administration, Department of the Treasury and Carolyn Payton, assistant director of International Operation of ACTION of the Peace Corps.

Honorary chairpersons are: The Rev. John Bryant, pastor of Bethel AME Church; Dr. John Crew, superintendent of Public Schools of Baltimore; the Honorable Barbara Mikulski, U.S. House of Representatives; Mrs. Enolia McMillan, president of the Baltimore Branch of the NAACP.

Also, the honorable Parren J. Mitchell, U.S. House of Representatives; Del. Arthur Murphy Sr., 41st Maryland Legislative District; John Murphy III, chairman of the board, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers; the Honorable Paul Sarbanes, U.S. Senate; the Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Mayor of Baltimore City; Travis W. Vaulx, executive director of Baltimore Urban League and the Honorable Theodore Venetoulis.

Eastwind, 9000 Pulaski Highway, Route 40 East, is being re - modeled and redecorated and will be ready for the ball.

Proceeds for the affair go to the city NAACP branch.

-Gunned down

(Continued from Page 1)

Her husband was in the apartment and arrested at the scene. The couple had been separated for one year. Their children are 9 and 11 years old.

The Nole children are now staying with relatives who lived in the area, according to police. At AFRO presstime funeral arrangements were not complete.

Homicide detectives could give no reason for the argument which led to the fatal shooting.

—Mrs. Marriot

(Continued from Page 1)

Mrs. Marriot's short lived, unannounced candidacy is a portent of things to come, however, Park Heights, with staggering unemployment and other troubles, is a community in torment.

The area is ripe for a grass-roots political ground swell and Mrs. Marriot symbolizes the advance guard of this "new politics."

—Fred Hines

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Leroy Dyett wants a divorce

Leroy O. Dyett, one of this city's best known morticians has charged his beauteous wife Ann with adultery and has filed for an absolute divorce.

Dyett one of the proprietors of Morton and Dyett Funeral Homes, 1701 Laurens St., 4600 Liberty Heights Ave. and 311 Main St. filed for a divorce from his wife, Mrs. Ann Bussey on May 5.

The paper were filed in Circuit Court through his attorney Gerald A. Smith.

Last year, the Sunday Sun magazine described Mrs. Dyett in an article as a leading black society matron and showed photos of the Dyett's lavish estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Dyett were married Sept. 23, 1966 in York, Pa., and are the parents of two children.

Records filed in Circuit Court also state that Mr. Dyett says he has always conducted himself as a good, kind, chaste and affectionate husband toward his wife.

According to court records Dyett holds that there is no hope or expectation of a reconciliation.

Court records state Mrs. Dyett is gainfully employed and earns approximately $18,000 annually.

Mr. Dyett is asking the court that he be granted a divorce, awarded counsel fees, investigative fees and that the costs of the proceedings be borne by Mrs. Dyett.

Daily press also blasts Swisher's probe

Baltimore City State's Attorney William A. Swisher's probes have a way of turning up nothing.

This week a daily newspaper has published reports highly critical of Swisher's office for its probe of corruption in government. The news stories indicate Swisher is floundering in this area.

In the same vein the AFRO has, for months, been raising questions about Swisher's cop-dope probe and the time-consuming, costly special grand jury inquiries regarding Col. James A. Watkins. It is hardly a secret that Swisher's office wants to nail the high ranking black cop.

No indictments have yet been handed down though this jury has had its term extended.

Here is some background on the city corruption probe:

Almost six months ago Swisher, because of allegations brought out during the federal court bid-rigging trial of Ottavio F. Grande, former city deputy director of public works, announced he was starting a probe into city corruption.

A little while after the announcement he appointed two top aides to deal with the problem but they apparently didn't know about it until they read about it in news reports.

Swisher then wrote Jervis Finney, then the U.S. Attorney, asking for leads concerning alleged bribery uncovered during the probe.

Finney refused but offered Swisher the Grande transcript.

Feeling that there would be speculation that his office was lying down on the job, he said that his staff had uncovered evidence of corruption in 1974 and had turned it over to the federal government.

He also denied that his request to Finney was in any way aimed at Swisher's trying to discover what federal prosecutors might be looking for in their inquiry.

In June, 1977, federal probers subpoenaed the personal records of Swisher, as well as a number of his present and former staff members.

Today, the state's attorney says the investigation "is at a standstill." He complained that it's hard to know where to begin without the help of federal prosecutors "who have all the leads."

Swisher also pointed out now that his office does not have the "resources" nor does he have the "inclination" to open up what he called a "fishing expedition" which might hurt innocent people.

Sources point out that the two assistant state's attorneys probing government corruption have not appeared before the January city grand jury (whose term expired a week ago).

No witnesses have been called, no subpoenas have been issued and no indictments have been handed down.

The wheels of justice have apparently come to a screeching halt.

Which is about par for the course in Swisher - directed investigations.

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