Baltimore American

OPINION

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The Lee-Hoyer team

A local media poll has Acting Gov. Blair Lee the front - runner in the forthcoming gubernatorial race which may be good news for him but not necessarily the best of news for Baltimoreans, black, white and other.

Nor does State Senate President Steny Hoyer's decision to cast his lot with Lee, as his lieutenant - governor, give us Baltimoreans all that much to presently rave about.

We find ourselves wondering, along with Mayor Schaefer, if either man is sensitive enough to the enormity of problems besetting big cities such as ours and if either man would be a forceful advocate for our town's best interests.

Lee has been learning fast that he must carry Baltimore if he has a prayer of winning the election. Hoyer, the more liberal - seeming and modish of the two, knows urban problems, but as with Lee his real constituency is in the main, white, suburban and fairly well - off.

The danger, we see, at this point is that both of these politicians will talk a strong game about helping Baltimore from now until September but if elected will return to their original focus which is to do what is best for suburban Marylanders and let the city keep floundering in areas that the state government should be of help were it of a mind.

On their records to date, Lee and Hoyer may be good for Montgomery and Prince George's County, their natural habitats, but before any resident of our immediate area of concern gives them serious due, we would recommend a policy of caution.

Both men, but Lee primarily, must articulate an urban policy for which they can be held accountable, and this articulation ought to come long before the September primary.

We want to hear their views of Baltimore's future as we think you do also. We are weary of having our destinies linked to those unsympathetic to our problems.

The Commissioner and the Council

When the City Council meets on June 7 to decide if Donald Pomerleau should be continued as city police commissioner for another six years we hope it conducts its deliberations with some sobriety.

We are aghast that Councilman Julian has already pronounced himself completely satisfied that Pomerleau is the best man for the job even before hearings begin and obviously before Julian touched base with the voters who put him in office.

"Don't confuse me with any facts" seems to be Julian's approach to this delicate matter.

Nor do we think our concern that Pomerleau is possibly past his time among us and that the city might now do well with black leadership in its highest law enforcement post is in any way a racist notion. In fact we always find it curious that when blacks advocate a position of inclusion there are cluckings of tongues, "no, no, that's racist of you" usually from the mouths of those who practice exclusion most of their waking hours.

But to the Council: we would also hope that the Council has no fear of the present Commissioner. Councilman Waxter has mentioned feeling "intimidated" because Pomerleau shows up at public hearings with huge cops straight out of Central Casting.

Since Mr. Waxter and the other men and women of the Council who are in effect Pomerleau's employers on our behalf we would think it unseemly that they would turn to jelly in the commissioner's presence.

It is part of the cop - game, certainly, to make even angels feel guilty about something all of the time and Pomerleau plays this game as well as any law bureaucrat.

Just the same if Mr. Waxter or any other councilperson feels faint - hearted in Pomerleau's presence we would certainly be discouraged about Waxter's potential for leadership. We just know or hope he and the others will not back down.

Pomerleau, by style and personality probably, is not the most talkative administrator going, certainly he is hardly as vocal as the West Coast's Chief Parker who has a view on every issue.

But if the Council hearings degenerate into a staring contest with the hard - nosed top cop glaring down his opposition nothing in the public interest can be served.

There are many hard questions the Council must put to Pomerleau.

For example:

— What is the real incidence of citizen complaints against city police regarding harassment, brutality and excessive use of force in arrest procedures?

— How is the police department resolving this issue? Or is it still a case of the police are never wrong, never to be held accountable, never to be subjected to public inquiry on their relational problems with citizens, particularly black citizens?

— What is the real racial break - down of rank - in - file policemen, administrative employees, what are the promotion and staffing patterns, division by division, police section by police section?

— Why is the police department manned by such a large number of workers who do not live in the city they are supposed to be policing? What is being done to hold the police department in line with even existent residency requirements?

— Why does the commissioner keep silent on the burning issue of narcotics traffic and the millions of dollars in related crimes this filthy business causes?

— What in the way of crime prevention programs are being generated by the commissioner and his staff? It is one thing to lock everyone up, it is another to get at the root causes.

These are just a beginning set of questions the City Council ought to dredge out of Pomerleau.

If the Council, conversely, lets the commissioner get away with a strategy that has him in a position of postulating to them that he knows more about law enforcement than they do, then the Council will have failed its job miserably, something for which they ought be held accountable come election time.

Our view is that Pomerleau works for citizens, he ought answer citizens through their elected officials clearly and if he cannot be forthright on all issues put on the table he ought not be commissioner anyway.

This is a time for the Council to exercise its perogatives, wisely, toughly, fairly.

Moving the School of Social Work

We vehemently oppose any attempt by the University of Maryland's nabobs to relocate its school of Social Work at the Baltimore City campus.

The School of Social Work has been operating in Baltimore almost since its conception in 1961. It has been producing sociologists sensitive to the needs of urban areas. Baltimore has been the learning laboratory for these scholars as well as a major employer.

To transfer this important work to the Baltimore County Campus is sheer lunacy. Most social work students live in the city or will work in cities when they graduate. Most social work agencies are in cities. To have students spend half their time on the highway as would be the case if the transfer comes off would be inefficient, costly to students and completely beside the point.

The urban condition is the great work of modern sociology. There is nothing to be gained by removing this scholarship and the practical work that goes with it to a college town alien to the interests, residences career plans of the student body and much of the faculty.

Whomever came up with this idea needs a case worker him or herself.

'You ask him-I'm not going to ask him'

A LITTLE ABOUT A LOT: MADELINE MURPHY

By Madeline W. Murphy

The reappointment of Police Commissioner Donald D. Pomerleau for another six years by Mayor William Donald Schaefer was received as silently as the sound of one hand clapping.

And from the sublime to the ridiculous came the protests and demand for a confirmation hearing from Councilman Michael Mitchell, D-4th; the predictable "seconding" from Councilman Emerson Julian, D-4th, who despite the black community's outrage against the power abuses of the commissioner decided to do his individualistic puppet jig to Schaefer's drum beat; and the unforgiveable timidity of Councilman Thomas Waxter, D-5th, who is actually in a power position, yet frightened of Pomerleau with his impenetrable retinue of strong arm men — intimidated, indeed!

All other black councilmanic voices were noticeable by their silence.

The invincible martinet

In public discussion no one yet has likened the commissioner to the reign of terror of J. Edgar Hoover.

Yet similar incidents and invasions of privacy come to mind about this invincible martinet.

During the times of turmoil, the civil disorders of the 60s, no one in the white community seemed to be threatened by illegal wiretaps; infiltration of civil rights organizations, political and civic groups; personal phone calls of a threatening nature made by the commissioner to black people holding responsible positions in city government and the courts; because their guilt and fear of the black community made them recklessly abandon due process of law.

And Pomerleau seized the moment, with their acquiescence, to regroup and extend his power over them also. Should one be reminded of the holocaust, one should also be reminded of what preceded it.

At the same time, considering the size of the black community, and the attendant police brutality, "the shoot to kill" mentality, it was conceived that these actions would also keep the lid on the rolling disquiet in the ghetto with unemployment, poor housing and benign neglect — rubbing salt into wounds that still fester in excess.

Of such things police states are made.

Particularly when our lawyer - mayor chooses to ignore these illegal excesses, as well as the plight of the black community. Perhaps he too is now a victim of this unseemly surveillance and control.

He, however, would rather we look the other way. Look at all the reforms!

I, for one, should like the confirmation hearing to explore just that: What reforms? How good is the morale of policemen? How available for questioning is Pomerleau or is he a law unto himself?

Now without accountability; without review; without citizen input on review boards, nor a willingness to welcome their involvement in open investigations of police brutality, should anyone have so much power in the next six years, while absolving his department so often of wrong - doing?

Also, in light of the stench, (oftimes overlaid by deodorized reports) that seeps upward nonetheless, with wafts of corruption within the "agency" perhaps a change in command from outside might reveal it to be far - reaching, a need to really clean house, and not merely rearrange the offal.

Is that really what the mayor fears with his upcoming re - election?

Another compelling and frightening observation is that many of those vehement black voices raised in a public meeting in 1971 seem impotent and quiet.

Is this because all those who Schaefer has not co - opted, Pomerleau has intimidated?

In addition, one must be concerned about some black political organizations whose self - interest may best be served by keeping the commissioner on at an increased salary to keep in the mayor's good graces, and to keep Pomerleau's henchmen at a distance.

One political bigwig railed once about working with the devil for our benefit. Well he's close now, but what good it has done us escapes me!

The entanglements, as you see, though not obvious always are there. We see it when we review the kind of black appointments to boards and commissions; the black religious communities winning grants, getting proposals approved from another overly powerful agency — the Department of Housing and Community Development, not known to be timid about interfering with the courts — and its Czar, Jay Brodie, and finally when we see the caliber of some black political candidates.

But Brodie and Schaefer are doing some pretty agile side stepping as they keep and increase their ilk white top personnel while firing blacks when budgets get cut. One might also look at the thinly veiled duplicity of Fells Point, the Rouse liner Harbor proposal, both clothed in double talk.

All three powerful officials "SBP," though strange bedfellows are comfortably sharing the same counterpane, with us as willing chambermaids! Ah, but with such guile.

STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT AGING

Dr. Matthew TAYBACK

Job-hunting for the over 40

By Dr. Matthew Tayback
Dr. Tayback is state director on aging.

Many people between 40 and 65 — and even past 65 — are looking for jobs for many reasons. Aside from financial considerations, a job gives a pattern to daily living. It offers status, independence, social contacts and intellectual stimulation and satisfies the human need for usefulness and accomplishment.

Regardless of federal law forbidding age discrimination, many over-40 job-seekers face prejudice on the part of potential employers. To give those employers the benefit of the doubt, much of their prejudice is probably unconscious. It is, nonetheless, something that older job-hunters must be prepared to face and overcome.

For some, self-employment is the answer. These are people who can sell their own service or expertise directly to their own clientele, without benefit of an employer-middleman.

The majority, however, wish to work for others. It is to this majority that the following job hunting hints are directed.

At the outset, establish in your own mind a reasonable relationship between your past training and experience and the job category you're interested in.

A thorough self-assessment is an important part of this preliminary step. What are you like? What do you do best? What do you do less well? Do you like working with people? Supervising them? Are you more of a loner?

In taking your self-assessment, it might be helpful to sit down and actually write a short autobiography, putting special emphasis on your abilities and aptitudes — and on your limitations.

Once you've drawn a good picture of yourself, once, in other words, you've made a clear blueprint of what you can offer a potential employer, your next step should be the creation of an ideal job, one that would best be filled by someone with your special blueprint. You should then look for the jobs that most closely resemble your ideal.

Look for them everywhere . . . in the newspapers, through private and governmental employment agencies, through friends. And, since 80 percent of all jobs that pay $7,000 or more are never advertised, don't hesitate to go directly to the source.

Once you've identified places that have jobs which match your blueprint, find out who's responsible for hiring new personnel. Make an appointment directly with him or her.

Before your interview, you should make some preparations. Assemble your personal records — your work history, special skills and training, your Social Security number, and so on.

If you are looking for a professional, technical, or managerial job, your personal record is best organized and presented in the form of a resume, which is a brief statement of your work and educational experience beginning with the most recent situations and working back in time. The resume should also list character references. It should be typed, and it should never be more than a page and a half long.

Once you've prepared the facts about yourself, it's important for you to prepare your state of mind. Remember that you're going to be interviewed by a business, not by a charity. You must prove that you can produce.

A job is open because something needs to be done, not because you need a job. Keep your potential employer's needs in mind, not yours.

During the interview (for which you have been punctual and for which you are appropriately dressed!), be confident. Don't apologize for your age or beg for consideration because of it.

Be businesslike. Stress your skills, your track record and your experience without leaping into the danger zone of "oversell." Always maintain an attitude of respectful dignity toward the interviewer. Don't malign previous employers, and, when the interview is obviously over, leave.

Always remember: If you can prove to an employer that you can help him solve his problems and get his job done, he won't care how old you are — and you'll stand a good chance of getting that new job.

LETTERS

Ode to Father Carcich

Dear AFRO

There once was a priest named Guido,
Who vowed the hungry to feed - o.
He gave "bread" to his kin
And political friends,
Instead of to those in need - o.

Alas, our father named Carcich,
Of justice has made a farcich.
This embezzling man,
With a slap on the hand,
Has gon back to his local parcich.

Now hear this, ye fund - raising scholar.
It's OK to pocket the dollar.
Just bargain a plea,
And you'll go scot - free . . .
That is, if your crime is white collar.

MAGDALENE B. FENNELL

Leave social work school where it is

Dear AFRO:

The United Way of Central Maryland raises and allocates funds to more than 80 voluntary non - profit agencies in the Central Maryland area. The United Way is concerned with the improvement of services to people and has recently learned of the possible relocation of the University of Maryland's School of Social Work and Community Planning from the city.

The location of the school in the heart of the city has enabled it to effectively work with the many voluntary and public agencies and other professional schools in its vicinity.

One effect of a relocation would be that many students would be unable to attend the school and - or to use these agencies for their field placements. This would adversely effect the school, the students, the agencies and the general community.

In addition, the school's efforts to train students to work with economically and socially disadvantaged persons would also be set back by a move out of the city.

We urge that the school be allowed to remain at its present location.

TRAVIS W. VAULS, Chairman,
Advisory Committee of Agency
Executives,
United Way of Central Maryland

Murphy Homes residents thank the AFRO

Dear AFRO:

Your thoughtfulness, concern and cooperation in the affairs and well-being of George B. Murphy Homes is highly appreciated by this community.

Members of the George B. Murphy Homes staff also extend their gratitude to you.

Again, the deepest and most sincere appreciation.

Mrs. Hattie Turner,
Program Director,
Tenants and Management
Together Program

Music is their way of life

Dear AFRO:

Many say that gospel music has lost its potential.

For example, one of the most popular gospel groups, The Mighty Clouds of Joy, was said to have changed their style of singing.

But if you listen to their song "Music is My Life," it tells the way that Jesus is not just for senior citizens but for everyone.

Yes, their interest is to promote and sell recordings but also to promote one to Christ.

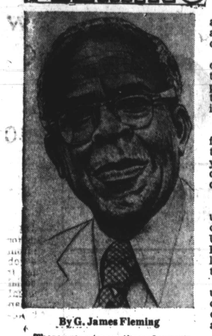
We cannot judge one because of what he does because Jesus will be at the crossroad of life, not me nor you.

A. LOUISE BREWER

G. JAMES FLEMING

NOW AND THEN

Not easy days for Americans



By G. James Fleming

These are not easy times for rank and file Americans, or for thoughtful Americans, or for those who thoughtlessly love their country.

Much as one would wish it otherwise, it is hard to convince one's self that ours is still assuredly a world power, much less a super power.

The best we can say for ourselves is that we want to be a moral power, a country of brotherly love, a country speaking up for human rights, a country willing to share our resources with others. The United States and its people are also honestly interested in building a world free of war and military overlordship.

To all these ends we are reducing our defense budget, we are taking the teeth out of our espionage apparatus, and Congress has ordered that we conduct our foreign policy in a gold fish bowl.

Millions of Americans are in favor of this "moral" posture, as this writer is, also. Just, as of mid - year 1978, we are all faced with the question: "What if other countries do not follow the same moral line?"

There are other questions:

1. While the United States "cleans up" its FBI and CIA, will other countries, especially the Soviet Union and its satellites and the People's Republic of China do likewise, to their counterparts of the FBI and CIA?

2. While the United States gives up monopoly of the Panama Canal, can our country guarantee that no other nation will move in and use it against us?

3. While the United States is satisfied with a volunteer army, can it be sure this plan is adequate against a potential enemy especially an enemy which still practices compulsory military training?

4. What is the asnwer to the fact that little Cuba can field substantial military units in African countries, far from its own shores, while its mammoth neighbor stands or sits, helpless with its hands tied for the most part?

Americans are also confused about the nation's future place among nations because they know that the United States did not win our "police action" against Korea, nor did it win our extended war with Vietnam. They also know that Castro is laughing at us, just 93 miles away.

These ponderings are not a plea for the United States to become a war - monger, with a gigantic military arsenal. Rather, it is to point up the difficulty that any country has, in following an "enlightened" policy when al opponents are taking the opposite route, or when opposite countries have a different value system.

Americans and Africans must also ask themselves whether or not it matters if a substantial portion of black Africa comes under the domination of a new type of colonialism, or under the domination of Soviet Russia, directly or indirectly.

Most of all we Americans must examine our individual positions on power and its use in international relations.

Can the United States hold its place as a super power, if it gives up, or undermines, most of its instruments and resources of power?

Can our country keep its allies and friends if it becomes a weak America?

Can the United States turn the tide away from the Khrushchev prediction that "We (the USSR) shall bury the United States without losing a man (meaning a soldier)."

Those who govern the United States know that the American people will not easily stomach another Vietnam. But what, then, is the way to survival? Ordinary Americans find the nation's plight disquieting.

Or, is there a certain historic inevitability that neither man, nor money, nor machinery (or all of them together), can prevent?

FOR ALL WE KNOW

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

By
Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

DUNBAR HIGH's English Class No. 1104 held a seminar on Black Writers this week and highlighted the AFRO's history in story and illustrated with several historic editions and a tape recording by Entertainment Editor Ida Peters on important happenings.

As guest speaker, I was amazed at the expertise of those juniors who conducted the entire program under their own power and in perfect order. Each one is scholar, highly capable, poised and every inch an admirable student.

TEACHER Miss Chisa Shango boasts they're the best and rightly so "excellent college material." Department Head Mrs. Joan Carr was equally proud.

The young men and women who receive best wishes for their coming senior and last year at Dunbar are: Marcia Bishop, Charmaine Railey, Dollyee Penn, Veronica Johnson, Sherie Green, Mischele Quarles, Nadine Cook, Thaddeaus Foster, Yvette Davis, Frank Rogers, Martina Ringgold, Fabian Stokes, Michael Holmes, Carolyn Nolan, Tamera Hill, Douglass Hayward, Linda Johnson, Lanier Howard, Andrew Davis and Darlene Dunlap.

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED is the title worn today by Antoinette Duren, the June 1978 Douglass High grad who has a citation to that effect; a trophy this high for ranking in the first five of the class; citations for service to the student government and for two years perfect attendance, all from principal Earl L. Hagan. She also gets a chance at the "I Dare You Award" and college scholarship for leadership.

GRADUATING with a Ph.D. degree is the daughter of Mrs. Rachel Eaton. Remember, Celia is the scholar the AFRO saluted two years ago when she was graduated from Harvard University with a master's degree. Her field is economics and political science.

Already an UN interpreter and in command of several languages, it is expected that this member of the celebrated Bumbry family will become an attache to some embassey. Relatives include Al Bumbry of the Orioles, Court Commissioner Sylvia Cooper, Opera Star Grace Bumbry, the toast of Europe and all those Bumbrys of King George County, Va.

WEEKEND AFFAIRS include the Saturday breakfast at Holiday Inn by the Business and Professional Women; the Sunday brunch at Woodholm Country Club where Morgan's James Lewis gets a top citation and the afternoon opening of the Lillie Carroll Jackson museum which is the talk of the town.

FRIDAY'S visit to Bethlehem Steel includes lunch at the country club and first - hand look at one of the largest such plants in the world, which, by the way is the employer or more of our citizens than any other in the section of the nation, Brent Snoddgrass is our host.

HANDSOME is the word for 18 - year - old Lutheran High, Towson, grad Timothy N. McAllister who has an unusual record; Senior Choir; varsity basketball team captain; sports editor school paper; among the top one - fourth of the class; all Maryland scholastic team; All - Metro team; selected to be featured in the 1978 edition of Outstanding Names and Faces; Metro - Five All Stars;

TIMOTHY is going to be a major in aeronautical science at Embry - Riddle Aeronautical University under a full 4 - year Air Force ROTC Scholarship.

PRESIDENT CARTER and his Rosalyn are as pleasant in person as they appear on your TV screen, so says Dr. Elizabeth (Bettye) Murphy Moss who was among the guests invited to the White House recently.

The event was the presentation of the final report of the President's Commission on Mental Health. In the previous administration, Betty was member of the President's Advisory Committee on Mental Health.

ATTENTION: Mothers and sponsors of babies in the recent NAACP Human Dolls on Parade Contest — copies of photos of you and your baby are available at the NAACP office, 2127 Maryland Ave., phone 637 - 5678. Go in, select the photos you want at a moderate price. Mrs. Lorena Branch, chairlady, says she wants to have the youngsters' photos.

PAINTERS MILL was the scene Wednesday of the U of Md. Nurses School graduation. Among the 12 (out of 300) of our nurses was Georgine Crawley, daughter of the Rev. Dr. George and Corla Crawley. Now a registered nurse, Georgine was cited for high honors. And Dad, pastor of St. Paul Baptist, took everyone out to dinner.

A 1969 POSTCARD for Bettye Moss from Dr. Lillie M. Jackson in Hollywood, Calif. says, "Thanks for what you've done for the NAACP and the race thru the years. Whatever success the NAACP has had, much is attributed to the AFRO - AMERICAN."

DALE DONITA BROWN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Brown, was in Las Vagas seven days representing her Georgetown University at the American Society for Micro Biologists.

Her paper, "The Role of Primary Metabolism in the Biosynthesis of a Secondary Metabolite" received an honor. Dale has one more year to complete her doctorate, all this at age 22.

Her mother, Doris is a teacher at East Baltimore's Johnson Square Elementary. Dad, Leon Brown, is AFRO's assistant mechanical superintendent. Brother Dexter teaches special education and Darryl is in the Air Force at Dover, Dela.

MORE LETTERS

Unbiased investigation

Dear AFRO:

After reading Gordon W. Crane's article on May 16, 1978 headlined "Conspiracy Against Black Baltimore Leadership Exposed," I realized that someone with a genuine care for the black community and for black leaders of Baltimore finally came forward and made their views known concerning the type of underhanded dealings conducted by the Baltimore City Police Department and the State's Attorney's Office.

They are being conducted under the guise of prosecuting the major drug peddlers.

We are all aware that John Denholm is the chief prosecutor handling drug cases. What we don't know is why Denholm was concerned with an automobile horn valued at $2 that was allegedly removed from a junked car on Norris Street.

The Baltimore City Police Department records will show that in mid - March Assistant State's Attorney John Denholm contacted Raymond Ladd of Ladd's Garage, 10 Norris St., and told him to remove two horns from a vehicle and mark them and hold them for the police.

Is Denholm working as assistant State's Attorney or is he working in the capacity of a police officer?

John Denholm is currently involved in the investigation of corruption and drug trafficking in Baltimore City. The investigation is centered around a top black official in the Police Department and is being conducted by Denholm and a white narcotics detective.

The two investigations mentioned here involving Denholm seem to have no connection to one another. However, let us take a closer look.

The suspect in the alledged larceny of the auto horns is a black Western District plainclothes police officer who comes under the area command of Lt. Col. James Watkins. The Police Department records will show that the police officer had permission to remove the horns. The officer has witnesses who stated this. Yet this officer, while being questioned about the larceny, was asked about other investigations.

It has become quite evident that all investigations are being centered around trying to discredit one black man who has done so much for the black community. Have we forgotten what happened to the first black district Captain Dennis Mello?

I believe that anyone who violates the law deserves to be prosecuted to the fullest extent. However, personal feelings should not enter into an investigation.

The State's Attorney's office has gone through at least two grand jury terms investigating drug trafficking and possible police corruption and has yet to make a decision. How long will this continue?

With the number of black organizations and black political leaders we have in Baltimore City, we should be able to muster enough support to approach the State's Attorney and the police commissioner and strongly suggest that these individuals either be charged or left alone to continue their work as law enforcement officers.

Baltimoreans, the State's Attorney's office and the Baltimore City police department serve the citizens of Baltimore City. Let us urge them to do their jobs, but in an unbiased manner.

Sincerely,
EARL I. NESBIT
President,
Vanguard Justice Society
Inc.

Community can stop violence

Dear AFRO:

"These approaches are not based on the premise that we should confront these problems by turning our schools into armed fortresses. Instead, they are educationally oriented strategies that can succeed in enriching the classroom environment and creating the kind of atmosphere in which education can best take place."

The above is an excerpt from the report, "Challenge for America's Third Century: Education in a Safe Environment," issued by the Subcommittee to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency and formerly chaired by Sen. Birch Bayh, (D - Indiana.

Among the steps to take as a positive approach to school violence and vandalism; the report suggests:

(1) community education and optional alternative programs;
(2) codes of rights and responsibilities;
(3) curriculum reform;
(4) police - school - community liaison;
(5) inservice and preservice teacher preparation courses;
(6) school security programs;
(7) counseling and guidance strategies;
(8) architecural and design techniques;
(9) student and parental involvement programs and
(10) various alternatives to suspensions.

Sen. Bayh has said, "The legislation enacted to deal with these problems is the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. This act is designed to prevent young people from entering our failing juvenile justice system and to assist communities in creating more sensible and economic approaches for youngsters already in the system."

Suspending or expelling students places them in "our failing juvenile justice system." Weed out the former student and the drop - out and what you have left is the "student already in the system."

There should be, as the Senator suggests, "more alternatives in disciplining youngsters for day-to-day offenses than putting them out on the street."

Students should not be allowed in school a half - hour to an hour ahead of classes unless under strict supervision. This type of permissiveness surely causes a hardship on some teachers as well as security personnel.

Sen. Bayh authored the Juvenile Delinquency in the Schools Act.

It is my hope that Baltimore will take the lead in implementing the goals of this amendment as well as the convictions of the Senator when he says, "Of course we must also be aware that students and teachers who are able to work together in a productive educational atmosphere will always be the best chance we have of preventing violence and vandalism.

"We should strive, therefore, to insure that teachers are assigned a manageable and reasonable number of students in their classrooms. I am convinced that one of the most important elements in the prevention of school violence and vandalism is the active involvement of the entire education community in local efforts to accomplish this goal."

CHRALES R. CURTIS Jr.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured:

Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody;

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

The AFRO-AMERICAN must become a bi-weekly, then a tri-weekly and eventually, when advertising warrants, a daily.

It has always had a loyal constituency, who believe it honest, decent and progressive. It is that kind of newspaper now and I hope it never changes.

From the Dec. 23, 1920 papers of JOHN H. MURPHY SR., founder of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper. Aug. 13, 1892.

Thanks

Dear AFRO:

I wish to send my heartfelt thanks for my nomination as first runner-up in the AFRO-Greyhound Woman of the Year Contest.

I feel really honored that you and your staff chose me over all the other qualified contestants.

Thanks again.

MS. MARY SUE JOHNSON

MAINSTREAM:

MARION BANFIELD

Mrs. Banfield is district director of Family Children's Society. She also hosts "Metro" which appears on WJZ-TV at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays.

Beware Zaire

Remember Vietnam and Korea! Copper mines are the issues. Human lives are not the issue.

Military leadership and our government have no priorities in sending dollars to rescue humans from danger or to defend humans from any suffering.

Human rescue is calculated on the basis of interests and concerns of men in positions of power to control economic resources, be it oil, uranium, copper, diamonds.

If we don't want our men paratrooping, then advising, and finally dying over who controls copper mines, we had better inform President Carter.

If we don't want our sons killing poor people in foreign countries, we had better start brainwashing them to achieve excellence in our public schools.

We need them as civilian leaders throughout this land. We need black men contributing their brains, skills and muscles to our survival right in our own communities.

The army is not the answer to our need to respect and care for each other.

We are black Americans need to be alert about future military involvement of our country. It is time for us to care enough about the lives of our men not to push our sons into military service as a safe way out of trouble.

Many of our young males, lacking peer support to succeed in school, find themselves barely literate but very bored and frustrated with school. It is stylish to do a minimum of school work.

Angry youngsters, made miserable by quarreling, unstable, unreliable mothers or fathers (sometimes both), can't concentrate on studying.

Discouraged boys aware of racist influences in politics, in justice, in economics have no dreams of success.

The escape clause is, "I'll go into the service when I'm 16." Some optimists who can't read sixth grade material are immature enough to think that the army will afford them a college career.

The army is not a soft bed for those too lazy, too immature, too hostile, too confused, too discouraged to deal with daily living.

What's more, we'd better keep an eye on President Carter and Zaire.

Feed the hungry

Dear AFRO:

Picking up a magazine, I listed the ads for caring for hungry and destitute children overseas. But where are the hungry and destitute children of America? Surely someone here is being deprived if our government can afford so much waste.

While millions of people worldwide starve the military installations of American dispose of food . . . in large quantities . . . The situation has always been at a drastic level but only just recently has it gotten to the point of being downright embarrassing.

Recently I had to pull kitchen duty with my reserve unit and the food that was being thrown away could feed a good number of people. . . What kind of madness is this that they can afford to throw away so much?

I was told that anyone taking this food would be prosecuted because it is a violation against the U.S. government. In my opinion this is a violation against the people, not only of America, but all over the world.

The U.S. government is doing nothing more than taking food out of a baby's mouth and watching him beg for it.

So far every time I've asked "why" all I get is "Don't be upset. There's nothing YOU can do."

There is nothing I alone can do, but surely there is someone who can do something. . .

I mainly place the blame on the spineless, gutless individuals who CAN do something. . . An attempt could be made. I still believe that there is such a thing as freedom of speech in this country.

The U.S. government fed more rats last year than its citizens.

What's it going to take? Will these wasteful adventures go on forever.

Another American child will go to bed hungry tonight while they continue to beg us to feed a ragged and unfortunate person overseas.

What it will take to make things like this obsolete I don't know, but some day America will come to realize that life only goes around once for each of us and what goes around comes around.

CLARA ALTHEA GREEN

Equal justice

Dear AFRO:

"Carich admits guilt in plea deal," the local newspaper headline on May 10 should have read "Eighteen - month probation for $2.2 million crime."

That's the real story. Far too often, in recent years, white collar criminals, often in well - publicized cases, have received sentences indicating a separate system of justice is working for them.

It is also apparent from the articles that a number of Supreme Bench judges, unfortunately all choosing to remain anonymous, feel that Judge Ross' decision was an abomination and an embarrasment to the criminal justice system.

The people in this country are learning quickly that more lenient standards of justice apply to those who are priests, rich, white and politically influencial than to the majority of us who are not rich, of minority races and in other ways just ordinary citizens.

It is imperative that those of us who feel strongly about issues such as this raise our voices and cease to remain anonymous. Only in that way will equality regain its prominence in today's legal system.

HOWARD 'PETE' RAWLINGS