### National news wrap-up

To presidential candidates

# Caucus issues emenes

The Congressional Black Caucus has laid down the policies it will demand presidential candidates to support in order to gain backing among the nation's 16 million potential black voters.

"We are no longer interested in empty promises," said Rep. Cardiss Collins, D - Ill., chairwoman of the 17 - member caucus on Dec. 20.

support the caucus' programs "in order to gain enthusiastic black voter support," she said. Blacks gave President Carter 90

percent of their vote in the 1976 election, providing him the margin Mrs. Collins said the guidelines would be used throughout the black

community to measure all presidential candidates but the caucus would not endorse any particular candidate. The caucus "has never endorsed

a candidate and does not intend to do so," she said.

the caucus have done so. Representatives Charles Rangel D -N.Y. and Harold Ford, D - Tenn. have both endorsed President Carter for re - election, for example, while Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., has backed Sen. Edward Kennedy for the presidential

Mrs. Collins said the six pages of guidelines and policy recommendations would be given to all presidential candidates and would be distributed throughout the black

community nationwide. The Black Caucus guidelines covered a broad range of topics, including employment, housing, energy, health, education, federal

rights and affirmative action. However the cornerstone of the guidelines called on candidates to support an overall economic policy which "requires balanced growth to maximum producation, full employment and reasonable price tability."

budget priorities, black par-

ticipation in the government, civil

Candidates should "oppose economic policy which applies the 'trade-off' of fighting inflation by slowing down the economy. increasing unemployment" and should endorse "fighting inflation by attacking directly the most serious problem areas of energy, food, health care and shelter," the

Candidates should support "an energy policy which does not use price to further conservation," it said, "but rather shares the burden of conservation equitably."

The caucus also called for support of continued subsidies to the poor, opposition to oil price decontrol and support for making the United States Government the sole importer of foreign oil.

The caucus called on candidates to support a five percent growth in programs providing assistance to lower - income Americans and minorities and "to work for a real reduction in defense spending."



Rep. Cardiss Collins

The caucus also called on candidates to support: - A program to increase the number of blacks in the federal

workforce, particularly at the higher civil service levels. - Full funding of the Com-

Training Act program. - An expansion of government housing programs for low and moderate - income families and the

- Ratification of the District of Columbia voting rights and Equal Rights amendments to the Con-

- Legislation to honor Martin Luther King Jr., with a national

 Increased economic assistance to African countries.

# National march proposed for Greensboro

ATLANTA - A call for a mass national demonstration in Greensboro, N.C., early in 1980 to protest increased Ku /Klux Klan activity across the country ended a two - day conference aimed at developing strategies to combat the resurgence of the hate - spewing, white supremacist organization.

The demonstration is scheduled murders of five persons by Klan members during a Communist Workers Party - sponsored anti -Klan rally in Greensboro on Nov. 3 according to organizers of the conference, held here Dec. 14 and

memorates the 20th anniversary o the beginning of the civil rights movement when five North Carolina A & T State University students attempted to desegregate a variety store winch counter in Greensboro. The Greensboro protest is considered the first sit - in demonstration in the U.S.

More than 400 representatives of religious, political and social action groups attended the meeting here co - sponsored by the New York based Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC),

based here. Rev. C.T. Vivian, chairman of the Black Action Strategy Information Center here, began the conference by saying that the klan is becoming more belligerent.

"It does not matter what area of life we're talking about, no matter what area of the country we're talking about, we see the klan he said. "The klan moving on every front and i being allowed to do so."

Rev. Vivian emphasized again and again that those who view the Greensboro incident as being the work of Communists are being

"Today it's just sommunists," he said. "Tomorrow it will be just

progressive."
The minister said that if the klan resurgence is not stopped, both lives and the political system of the United States will be at stake. "The shots that killed five anti

Marchers to appeal canvictions

KKK demonstrators in Greensboro Nov. 3 were aimed at all blacks. working people, regardless of class and color, and all who desire justice in America," the document calling for the demonstration and prepared by consultation participants said.

"This nation has not yet shown outrage equal to the acts of murder, intimidation and attempts to deny our basic humanity perpetuated by

"We refuse to be silenced by KKK terror, government repression and those who would tell us to close our eyes hoping the terror will go away," the statement continued. The document was adopted overwhelmingly by conference participants.

Greensbore where Klan action has taken place recently.

Representatives from Decatur, Ala., Mississippi, Dallas, Atlanta, Detroit, New York State's Napanoch Prison and Appalachia recalled incidents of Klan attacks on individuals, labor union representatives and groups publicly opposed to Klan activity. IFCO Executive Director Lucius Walker contended that the most dangerous aspect of the Klan's re-emergence in the late 1970s is the

and private organizations. Walker said the slayings i Greensboro and recent violence in Decatur, Ala. were an outgrowth "of the infiltration of our protective

KKK's infilitrationn of many public

forces by klansmen." Participants also heard historical overview of the Klan from Ms. Patsy Sims, author of a 1978 book on the extremist

Commenting on the development of the century - old organization,

Ms. Sims told the group that there is no one Klan today. Instead, she said, "there are as many as 30 different splinter groups within the Kian" that "get along badly with

Despite the factionalism, however, Ms. Sims said the Anti Defamation League set Klan membership at 10,000 as of November 1979. She compared this to the league's 1975 estimate of

Recent claims by Klan members that there is "a new Klan" were refuted by speakers and films shown during the conference.

Although there is substantial evidence to show that modern Klan leadership is more sophisticated -knowing how to use media effectively and to downplay the violent history of the organization when recruiting new members the basic racist ideology against blacks, Jews and other majority groups apparently remains the

Describing the climate which has permitted the growth of the Klan, Anne Braden, director of the Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Racial Justice, said the growth occurs in periods of "great economic and social turmoil in our country."

Likewise, Ms. Braden said, the Klan has not grown during periods when "there was a strong offensive in this country against the ideology of racism" as in the 1930s and 1960s, when labor unions and poor people's coalitions respectively prevented the extremist group from gaining a footbold.

Warning against what she perceived as a possible era of continued growth by the Klan, Ms. Braden said a climate exists today that is "the basis for a mass fascist movement in this country in the

To halt that movement, conference speakers called upon the participants to bring civil law suits against individual Klan members involved in violent attacks, consider a national lawsuit to seek ar injunction against the Klan, organize mass demonstrations and organize local and regional anti -Kian conferences based upon the national model.

#### Brig. Gen. Frank Peterson

### 'He flew beyond fighter pilot dream to become Marines' 'first' general

Lying in his bunk at boot camp in 1950, 19year-old Frank Petersen promised himself he would be the Marines' first black pilot. He never dreamed he would become the corps first black general instead.

A native of Topeka, Kan., Brig, Gen. Petersen Pentagon to watch for signs that the Soviet Union is gearing up a nuclear attack on the United States.

Leaving his watch in the Operations Directorate of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Petersen recently escorted a visitor into a high security cubby hole near the National Military Command Center.

He settled into the brown overstuffed couch in the windowless room; fished stiffly into his black socks for a pack of cigarettes, and lit up. "Nineteen fifty," he

said. "I call that the American magic year, forces were fighting in Korea for the first time in integrated units. I knew there were no black pilots and I wanted to take a shot at it.

"I knew there had been only three other blacks to through the Navy's flight school program. Jesse Brown, the first black, was killed in Korea. In fact, I was lying in my bunk at Diego when heard of the death of

"That provided me with two things: The fact that blacks were actually flying, and, secondly, that Jesse was the first." Petersen talked softly. His tone is direct; his

words, crisp, logical. Cracking the color barrier wasn't easy, despite President Truman's order to the to integrate.

required to perform at a level above what I would



WENT BEYOND DREAM - Brig. Gen. Frank Peterson, now assigned in the Pentagon, never dreamed he would become the Marine Corps' first black general. At boot camp in 1950 at age 19,

he promised himself he would become the Marines' first black pilot. Two years later he was flying combat missions in Korea.

without flying any further training flights, I was posedly, to restart that particular phase of training only to find that he climbed out of the on the curb and got drunk. airplane and said: 'Go fly "The cops came by and

taken a consensus among themselves and removed the instructor who had given me a down." Racial discrimination,

in those days, was evident almost everywhere. "In the gym," Petersen

said, "there were white drinking fountains and work force.

"On base you could sit anywhere on the bus. As soon as you hit the gate, you had to get up and move to the back of the bus. In interstate travel you had to sit in the

Petersen recalls the time he flew to Texas on a cross country training run with his instructor and

"We landed and went into one of the night clubs in Dallas. They wouldn't serve me. So the rest of the kids went inside and bought drinks and we sat

they learned what the situation was. They were ex-service men and they made sure nothing happened as we sat there. "These kinds of experiences — they were necessary to show that it

wasn't all bad. "America has progressed in quantum leaps and bounds from Petersen said.

As a 21-year-old in 1952, Petersen was missions Korea. As a lieutenant colonel 17 years later, he was a squadron commander in Vietnam where he flew 300 missions. He

was downed once. Petersen disputes charges by black leaders that the military turned black soldiers into cannon fodder in vietnam.

"I fought in Vietnam,"

squadron commander. had quite a few blacks in my outfit. When lacks came in, they tested low. It was from that particular group that you draw your riflemen.

"So what do you find? You find that you have black rifle companies. But I would defy the socailed black leaders to explain to me their thesis of black destruction. think it's a bunch of bull." Petersen concedes

there are things wrong

with "the system."

The biggest failing, he believes, lies American public high inadequate job of teaching how to read and

"The kids who come out of the high schools are novices in the American world. The reading and writing, the very basic tools for getting along in the United States are not

Still, he sees the

## Black ministers respond to Iran's invitation

A black Los Angeles Bishop says he would go to Iran to conduct Christmas services for the black clergyman scoffed at Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's invitation as "another propaganda

In Los Angeles, the Rev. Thomas Kilgore, pastor of the city's Second Baptist Church and head of a group of black clergymen known as "The Gathering," said he is for anything that might bring the hostages' release and that he would be willing to go to the Iranian capital.

Another prominent Los Angeles black clergyman, The Rev. H. H. Brookings, bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, said, Dec. 21, he too would go "to any lengths if I thought it would help the

"But I don't think we are likely to get any place if this is just another propaganda ploy through the news media."

Khomeini said in Tehran that

Christian churchmen were welcome to visit the hostages and emphasized black clergymen would be particularly welcome to help the captives celebrate Christmas "in

complete peace." The militants at the embassy who had rejected a similar request by Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, agreed at once Friday after Khomeini spoke and then added that "clergymen of all faiths" would be allowed.

"Yes, certainly rabbis," said the spokesman, explaining there were

protestants, armenians and rab-

can include catholics,

several Jews among the hostages. The State Department refused Friday night, Dec. 21, to give any information on possible clergymen who might be allowed to enter the trapped compound and stressedsit was not supporting any

official mission. "We are willing to assist anyone

responsible who wants to go to Iran," a department spokesman said, but added: "We are not out

Throughout the nation, there were few declarations by churchmen about invitations to celebrate Christmas with the hostages now in their 49th day of captivity. But there was reportedly a list of

leading candidates headed by former Vietnam anti - war activist and one - time Yale chaplain, the Rev. William Sloane Coffin. The list also included the Rev. William M. Howard Jr., president of the National Council of Churches

and executive director of the Black Council of the Reform Church in In New York, a spokesman for the National Council of Churches of Christ, an ecumenical grouping of 32 protestant and orthodox denominations said, "assuming acceptable conditions, our president (The Rev. Howard) is

inclined to go for pastoral reasons.

credit for such contributions has

compensation may be required for

the first time to include all or part

of such benefits in gross income.

paid to relatives, including

grandparent, unless the relative is

The IRS says broadening the tax

on tax liability — will be

- Recipients of unemployment

- Credit for child - care

### U.S. tax forms headed your way

By James Hildreth WASHINGTON (UPI) - The

average American taxpayer probably will pay less federal income tax for 1979, says spokesman for the Interna Revenue Service (IRS).

The first of more than 87 million receiving their 1979 federal income tax forms shortly after Christmas, with the majority of the packets expected to be delivered "Generally, the average

American will pay less taxes in 1979 than he did on the same income in 1978," said one IRS spokesman, "because the tax tables have been broadened."

"There are more pluses than minuses for taxpayers," he said.

prompted by congressional action. that could influence the amount of money to be paid. They include: Tax rate schedules have been

widened, reducing taxes in several income brackets. Filing levels have been raised. - The "zero bracket amount" nayments will be allowable when

or standard - is increased. - The deduction for personal

exemptions has been increased from \$750 in 1978 to \$1,000 this rate schedules — the bottom lines year. This increase also applies to 'he extra exemptions for age and blindness.

- The \$35 general tax credit has expired, but will be more than made up by the higher exemption. - State or local gasoline taxes are no longer deductible.

abolished, but the limit for a tax

been doubled.

a dependent.

the couple's tax before credits political contributions have been would be \$4,633 - a \$323 savings.

For example: A married couple filing a joint return showing a taxable income of \$25,000 in 1978 would have a tax of \$4,956 before any tax credits. On the same taxable income in 1979, - Itemized deductions for