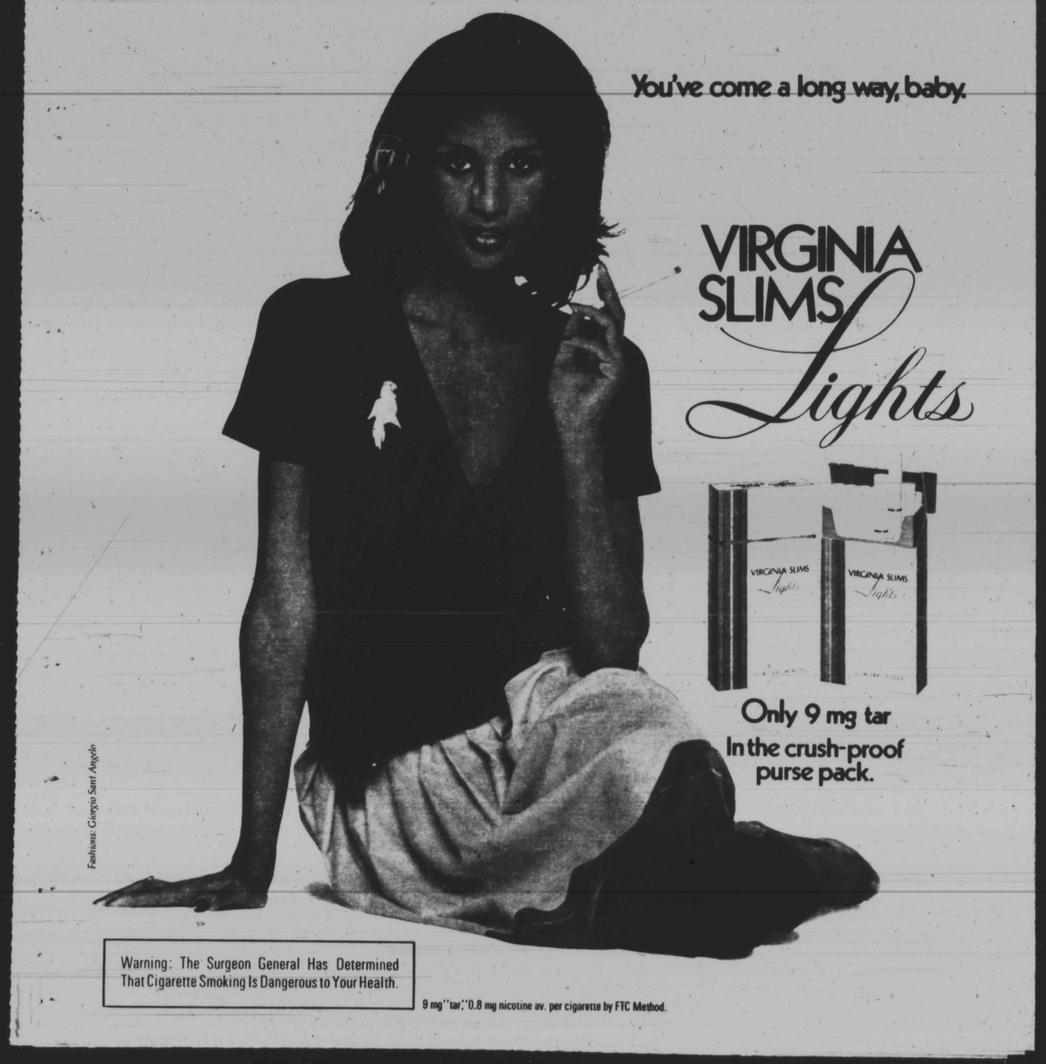

Reagan's plan will take

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

The word has come down from the mountain, and already citizens across the nation are reacting to President Ronald Reagan's plan to save the nation from "the worst economic mess since the depression".

But, according to a black economist, Reagan's proposals may set blacks back almost fifty years, or to pre-Depression economic uncertainty.

"It will take us back about fifty years," said Dr. Cleveland Chandler, head of Howard University's Economics Department. "What the president is saying is that we will stay away from sharp increases and decreases in the money supply, but instead increase money supply by a slow, constant rate each year so that interest rates are determined by supply and demand and not the federal monetary authorities."

He said that such a policy will hurt blacks because "we are not established as owners and managers, nor are we suppliers of goods and services, except labor."

Although Reagan's proposals may, in the long run, correct the current inflationary spiral of the economy, Chandler says that the president is putting all of his eggs in one basket.

"People will not have the patience to to wait and see what the ultimate beneficial effects of the program will be. It is a long-range program which should be coupled with some short-range actions that are needed to keep people from going all the way back," he said.

Chandler compared the situation to a family's having to make short-term decisions such as buying food and shelter, and long-range goals such as college for the young.

He said that the speech was definitely history-making, in that it signifies a break with traditional federal economics practiced since the New Deal of Franklin Roosevelt. Instead of putting money in the hands of the consumers to increase spending, Reagan is giving the private sector - business the free hand needed for producers to make more products.

Chandler pointed out that although this may arrest inflation by creating more products than there is money to buy, Reagan's defense posture is contradictory to the rest of his program.

"Defense goods are good for national security, but they don't create any real goods, they just generate federal spending," he said. "The goods they do produce are blown up, not used by consumers," Bob Cheeks, head of the Welfare Rights Organization, was grim after hearing the televised speech Wednesday night.

"Based on what he is saying, and what we already know, this administration will be literally taking the food out of people's mouths. On one hand they are talking about creating 3 million jobs, but on the other hand they want to reduce jobs and benefits for those who are really needy." I think he is saying that he has more poor people than he needs."

Cheeks sharply criticized Reagan's defense posture, and like Dr. Chandler, drew on an analogy from the past.

"He is using scare tactics that go back to the McCarthy era," he said. "He is creating a bogeyman, the Soviets, and we're supposed to forget that he's going to take resources from one group and give it to another."

Cheeks likened the address to the declaration of a state of war on the poor and black community.

"The black community should be seeing itself as a colonized people or a nation within a nation," he stated. "We should

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Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 89TH YEAR

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America's 'new beginning'?

Minister, wife robbed in home

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

The Rev. James L. Garrison and his wife, Alease, never thought much about gun control until they encountered a frightening ordeal this week. Now they wonder why the black community has not addressed itself more to the gun control issue.

The Garrisons were robbed at gunpoint by four youths in their Gwynn Oak Avenue home Monday night.

"When you're faced with this type of thing, you can't help but believe in gun control," said Mrs. Garrison.

About 9:30 p.m. Monday while Rev. Garrison, who is pastor of Howard Park Methodist Church, was working in his study and his wife was upstairs preparing for bed, four youths, believed to be all males, broke in to the home through a side door.

At least three were armed. One carried a handgun while two others had sawed-off shotguns. They found Rev. Garrison and told him to lie on the floor.

"They tell me you have money around here," Rev. Garrison reported one of the intruders saying. The 73-year-old minister told the youth the money was kept

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(AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz)

SPRINGTIME? Malkia Alumday seems to think so as she skates along Gwynns Falls Parkway. City, as has rest of country, has been graced by unseasonably warm temperatures and a lack of precipitation which has some environmentalists worried about the impact later on, but for right now, the good weather is fine for just about everybody.

Proposed Reagan budget spells doom for poor, needy

By Sue Williams
AFRO Staff Writer

President Ronald Reagan's "Program for Economic Recovery" was released to the American public this week, containing within it unmistakable measures to curb inflation and provide recovery to at least one segment of the population while spelling out certain hardship for the nation's poor and needy.

Maintaining that the federal government should not be used to regulate the economy or to bring about social change, the President outlined his four-point program, making official many of the anticipated cuts in social programs that had been talked about for weeks.

The major thrust of the President's message was that federal spending must be decreased, giving states and cities more jurisdiction over their own economies. Reagan said that, under his plan, the country should experience economic relief by 1984 and see a creation of about 13 million new jobs.

The main focal points of the program include:

- A 10 percent across the board tax cut on personal income over the next three years, amounting to a 30 percent tax cut in total and adding about $500 billion to the general economy;
- A re-evaluation and overhaul of the government regulatory measures now in effect. According to the President, such regulatory agencies have accounted for increased prices and unemployment in the last decade, in addition to millions of federal dollars being spent on salaries for the personnel that man them;
- An overhaul of the country's present social assistance programs, including the food stamp program, social security benefits, and educational benefits.
- A reduction of federal subsidies to businesses.
- Increased spending for the military.

In his opening remarks, the president spoke of "restoring the promise of economic parity to Americans, saying that the economy was "getting out of control." Citing criticisms that have been levelled against him and his administration for their anticipated blow to the nation's poor, Reagan said that the comments had been unfounded and unfortunate, and attempted to convince the public that the truly poor and needy would not be hurt.

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'HUB members urge support of 'Buy Black' campaign

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

Members of HUB, Inc., a non-profit organization of black business and community persons, at their monthly meeting held Feb. 18, continued to push for support of the buy black campaign set for the first of March.

"Buy In, Buy Us," the brain-child of Terry Addison, is aimed at getting black Baltimoreans to support other blacks in business.

The group is asking that each black person in Baltimore buy their regular consumed products, goods and services from black-owned businesses during the week of March 1-7.

A fundraising banquet will be held March 8 at the Baltimore Hilton. The day will begin with a 9 a.m. conference to discuss black economic issues and strategies for the future.

Also on the program were several members of the new Harbor Bank of Maryland, the city's first proposed black - owned bank. The bank, which received its charter in March 1980, is still in need of at least $700,000 before it can open. The directors have already raised $800,000 of the needed $1.5 million.

Attempts in 1975 through 1978 to form what was then called Harbor National Bank, failed because the

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Citizens attack bank lending practices to blacks

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

A local citizen's advocacy group Wednesday revealed shocking statistics about how local banks do business in the black community.

In a meeting at Our Lady Of Lourdes Church, located in the 3200 block Denison St., members of Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development, (BUILD), said that a survey of local lending institutions said that only two percent of their funds are used to provide mortgage loans in black communities.

"They insult us but they take our money," said Phyllis Douglass, president of the organization.

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"Money is like the economic lifeblood of our communities," said Father William McKenna, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church. "When it is there there is life, growth and development, but when it is absent there is decay."

BUILD, a thirteen-year-old organization of 23 churches and neighborhood groups, surveyed 15 local banks, and found that one institution, American Federal, invested almost no money in the central city, while the highest amount of mortgage money invested in the black community was 7 percent, loaned by the Savings Bank of Baltimore.

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In round numbers, that means that American federal invested $70,000 out of $17,215,750 in the inner city, while $1,448,000 of the Savings Bank of Baltimore's $20,040,000 in mortgage funds went to poorer neighborhoods.

The most favorite spot in the city to invest money, their data showed, was in the Mt. Royal area, around Federal Hill, Loyola College and the Johns Hopkins University.

Ms. Douglass said that the next step will be to meet with the banks surveyed to determine if more of their funds could be used to generate rebuilding the inner city, since many of these customers use the banks included in the survey.

She said that the organization might be forced to boycott the banks targeted in the survey but that she hopes that it won't come to that."

Monumental supporters to meet

The Concerned Citizens In Support of Monumental Health Plan have scheduled a mass meeting tonight, Friday, Feb. 20 in hopes of enrolling new members in the plan.

The 7 p.m. meeting at Garrison Boulevard Methodist Church will include several groups and organizations who plan to submit lists of persons interested in the health plan, despite the current battle it's fighting to stay alive.

Officials at the black-owned health maintenance organization recently relinquished control to the state isurance commissioner, who now serves as the rehabilitator and has final say on the daily routine.

The administrators also had until Feb. 19 to respond to charges made by the director of the U.S. Office of Health Maintenance Organizations, who stated that the plan was in deep financial trouble.

Howard Veit, director of OHMO, made the decision to withhold the second installment of $2.5 million and the corrective action plan he requested from Monumental by Feb. 19 will determine whether the federal loan will be granted.

Dr. H. Garland Chissell, president of Monumental, stated that the action plan would include evidence of a better cash flow, reduced deficit and an outside source interested in investing the health plan.

However, Dr. Chissell was not certain when Veit would respond to the plan. Veit could not be reached for comment.

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

The House of Delegates Ways and Means Committee heard testimony Wednesday on a bill proposed by Del. Steven Sklar, D-Baltimore, which would prohibit the State Lottery Commission from enacting an "Insant Lottery" game.

The game, which is part of Governor Hughes' budget package for fiscal 1982, would consist of a ticket which, when the covering is rubbed off, may make the buyer an automatic winner.

"It will stop it dead in its tracks," said Sklar of his bill. "It will prohibit the instant lottery in any form in the state."

Proponents of the game argue that it will enrich the state coffers by about $30 million, but Sklar questioned the figure.

"I question whether Maryland should get deeper into the lottery game when D.C. will be starting their game soon. We will be getting ourselves into the hole, and the lottery will be a shaky source of revenue."

"It's a negative way of dealing with human problems," said Rev. Vernon Dobson, pastor of Union

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