Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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The Caucus

Another session of the Maryland General Assembly has ended. For the second straight year a veteran black legislator has expressed extreme dissatisfaction and dismay with the way the legislative black caucus, or some elements of same, has conducted its business over the past session

Last year Del. Troy Brailey resigned in disgust at what he termed the tendency by some caucus members to vote contrary to the best interests of their constituents.

Now Del. Lena K. Lee, who with Brailey, was one of the caucus founding parents, has told the AFRO she is taking leave of absence from caucus activity until the present chairman Frank Conaway is replaced.

Delegate Lee singles out what she terms Mr. Conaway's lack of a program and what she feels is his cavalier treatment of State Sen. Verda C. Welcome and herself.

She has other serious concerns stating that the caucus leadership is now controlled by "outside forces" (whom she does not identify), that its original purposes have been corrupted and that the integrity upon which it was created is pretty much null and void.

These are serious allegations. Delegate Lee must be listened to. She has been in Annapolis well long enough to know all the political ins and outs and has many times been as brilliant a legislator as this state has produced.

Delegate Lee does not like the way the caucus is going. Neither do we, although our reasons just might differ.

Delegate Lee does not like the way Conaway communicates with black women legislators, notably Senator Welcome and herself. We have no reason to doubt either lady; therefore, neither do we approve of his approach on this regard.

We suggest that if the chairman is posturing as some filmic image like "tough guy" Edward G. Robinson, or for those younger, as Al Pacino in Mario Puzo's 'Godfather' scenarios then he ought just plain cut it out.

Perhaps Conaway is simply an ageist and views himself as the young brave challenging the aging chieftains.

This is certainly just as inappropriate for our strength depends on energy, wisdom and unity.

Delegate Lee, in complaining of the caucus chairman's lack of a program, could have been slightly more specific if the voters are to be aware of all the dynamics.

We have never doubted for an instance that Conaway has a program as chairman of the black caucus. That program seems extremely clear to us. It is the 40th district delegate's springboard to higher elective office.

As such, it is a personal program, as distinct from a caucus program but Conaway has never really denied this.

This we do know. Someone elected Frank Conaway chairman of the caucus and someone re-elected him to another term.

We agree with Delegate Lee that the caucus' original mission has strayed far from its founding principals and we deeply respect her desire to not participate in caucus endeavors until the body begins once again to reflect the needs and aspirations of the voters it says it represents.

Delegate Lee's concerns make it abundantly clear that the legislative black caucus is not running on all cylinders. There is deep division and factionalism.

We are thankful that Delegate Lee waited until the Assembly adjourned before making her sentiments public.

Many months are ahead before the state legislature convenes again.

In that time we hope our elected officials can sit down and face some harsh realities, chief of which, it may well be, is whether the black caucus is going to be a force representing its constituency or just another special interest group of politicos on the make for themselves and the rest of us be hang.

As Richard Pryor says, "That's what it always gets down to Baby!"

The Hettleman affair

Kalman "Buzzy" Hettleman, czar of the state's human resources programs, as everyone must know by now was arrested by a rookie policeman on a downtown parking lot and has been charged with an sexual episode with a young black woman.

It was an extreme indiscretion to say the very least but ultimately, the affair is the concern of Hettleman and those close to him. The incident is legally a misdemeanor.

Our immediate interest is that the young woman charged along with Hettleman not face a different kind of justice.

Seeing as how this all transpired a few blocks away from police headquarters and seeing how there seems to be some unspoken agreement that prostitutes, male and female, can solicit rather openly in this section of our downtown Hettleman's tragedy has much irony to it.

Obviously the law against solicitation is not being evenly enforced.

This may seem a tangential issue but we think not.

On the positive side, Hettleman has done yeoman service on many fronts of direct concern to black Marylanders and he has been a progressive administrator.

Beyond our primary concern that the young woman who consorted with the powerful public servant not end as the scapegoat in what was at base a consenting transaction between two adults, our second concern is that Hettleman resolve to keep as much distance between himself, The Strip and booze as possible.

He is an administrator who must decide on programs totalling millions of dollars which affect many in our community.

We think it fair, at this point, to want assurances from the Governor that he is confident Hettelman can continue to handle one of the state's most stressful public service posts.

Truth in media

We are not laughing at the Washington Post having to return a Pulitzer Prize because the young black woman reporter who wrote the award - winning story has admitted that her reports on an eight-year-old junkie in the District were a hoax.

That the Washington Post, which through its Watergate reporting, brought Richard Nixon to his knees, and is possibly the nation's most powerful newspaper, has to say it erred for these reasons is a tragedy for all of us in print media.

And as for the young reporter, it is tragedy multiplied.

We hope she has not irretrievably damaged her career in journalism.

She has done the one thing that newspeople must not do, she has deliberately written untruths and offered them to a readership as fact.

This is the cardinal sin.

Whether it be an international newspaper like the Post or a community publication such as the Baltimore AFRO - AMERICAN, a news story must be based on facts.

We have a saying here at the AFRO If you cannot prove it, do not print it.

All news medium make their fair share of errors (most are a result of rushing, typography and making deadlines) but someone at the Post forgot to ask this young reporter to prove that what she had written was fact.

The blame is not all with the writer.

MADELINE MURPHY

Maybe next week

I have no ideas.
I have no thoughts.
I've analyzed until I'm paralyzed.

But when I drifted off last night, at two a.m., I wrote the most elegant column in my head, witty, brilliant, absolutely perfect—the first time!

Then as I crawl out of bed, this morning, search with my left toe for my slipper, try to avoid tasting that cottony mouth, while scrutinizing the puffy-eyed bedraggled hag I spy in the mirror, all those great thoughts have evaporated, have become even more remote than the nightmare. (It must have been the pizza, last night.)

I slip slowly back on the bed, cradle my head in my hands and moan, "Oh, blankety-blank, what will I do it's 11 A.M. Deadline was yesterday!

I shuffle to the bathroom and brush out the cotton, never looking in the mirror. Being scared by the nightmare was bad enough!

"Get some coffee and juice first, for Pete's sake!"

You know all wives should be so lucky. I never, never have to make morning coffee, nor squeeze an orange or section a grapefruit. Just going into the kitchen perks (no pun intended) me up as I spy the red light on the coffee maker. "He's done it again. He loves me, bless his heart!"

With half the eye-opener down, notice the date on the morning paper, jerk around to look at the calendar and suddenly realize its Monday, I've got another whole day to procrastinate.

I put off paying the bills; washing the clothes. I put off doing the dishes; leave the bed unmade. I don't get dressed, just schlep around for a while in robe and slippers.

It's dark, dreary, rainy. I don't turn on the lights. I worry about being lazy; about being unproductive; about being inadequate.

"I'm getting a back ache—my spine is shriveling and I haven't even read the paper yet." The protest is audible.

The time just goes at a snail's pace. I know what it is. I've been drinking decaffeinated coffee. No pep, no vim, no vigor.

So I dump it out and make some strong Eight o' clock. That's what it really means—how to feel like it's eight o' clock at noon.

Waiting for it to finish usually takes 5 minutes, but in this mood, five minutes is an eternity. But when it's drunk, when it courses through the veins, pumps the heart, warms the stomach, suddenly the dark no longer is bearable. On go the lights, off go the slippers and robe, on go the slacks and sweater. Boy I'm cookin' now!

It's like a chain reaction; down in the cellar, start the washer; back to the bedroom—I think I'll change the sheets. Whiz bang, bip, bop! The vacuum zones over the rug, effortlessly. The feather duster fairly propels itself. All those comforting mechanical hums and bangs; swooshes and gurgles, tell me: "No, you're not lazy, no, you're productive, kiddo!"

The housewifey chores have taken over. The back feels good. There's a song in the heart, a spring in the step.

Chop, chop, dinner is simmering.

"Geez, it's 4:30, already."

But guess what? Not an idea has emerged. Not a thought has come forth, nothing, nothing, nothing. I'm dry, I'll never write again.

The mechanical habitual ritual, requiring no thought has taken control, with its pleasant, mindless familiarity; with its ready excuse that this too is being productive, productive.

So why now do I feel so cranky? Why now don't I have a pleasant, reply for the returning breadwinner when he asks, "What did you do all day, honey?" (As if he were blind and didn't see a sparkling house, nor smell a great dinner.) Why must I merely mumble, "Nothin'. The usual"?

Without missing a beat he keeps moving not knowing the agony of dried up creativity, only concerned about "what's for dinner". Probably would never understand completely if I told him:

...That I chose to cop out for a while with an all too easy solution to this damnable writer's block,

...That "I rebelled against independence and chose the easy dependency, (pay back for all those years of coffee and juice: I guess!) the only thing that makes him feel all's right with the world: me going about my womanly chores, those things that nag and control; those things that always seem foremost and even urgent; those things that mainly block the creative spirit, a spirit that must fly infetted, uninhibited, uninterrupted.

Which one really wears the ball and chain, I wonder?

Maybe by next week, I shall have learned.

Poems on Atlanta's sorrow

Holy Innocence...
We all grieve thy martyrdom.
Youth so vibrant and alive
Suddenly cursed by an evil demon—
...Deprived of future generations.
...Gift of life denied.
...Laughter of hope shattered.
...Contribution to society stifled.
...Love for humanity lost forever.
Holy Innocence...
Remember us before God's throne.
He loved children, hearing their
For justice, peace, love and forgiveness.
...It's not too late
...To pray and hope.
...To love and serve.
...To understand and forgive
...To laugh and cry.
Holy Innocence ...
Your Good Friday gives way
To your Easter Morn.
Forgive us!

FRANCIS X. MARKLEY

Once you had many
Now you're less twenty
No matter what the number,
My heart roars like thunder.
It is so sad, senseless, and cruel
Whoever said, "murderers" shall rule?
You suffer another death,
You shed another tear,
You constantly live in fear;
Dear Atlanta - All Americans hear.
You're not alone in your sorrow
For all of us who know -
Have certainly felt the blow.
We're sad because of your loss
But leave it to the boss!
He sits high and looks low
Trust Him - His righteousness will flow.
Unlip - ALL on one accord
Humble yourselves before the Lord.
He has the power to change a storm into a shower,
a night into a day,
a tornado into a breeze.
Ask in prayer and you will receive.

ALEASE LOGAN

Black history text

This month marks the appearance of the first comprehensive encyclopedia of Afro-American history.

Edited by Dr. Augustus Low, professor of history at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, the Encyclopedia of Black History covers the entire history of Afro-Americans from the colonial trade period and Atlantic slave trade to the contemporary civil rights movement and its present day ramifications.

Attempting to "fill a long-neglected need," as Dr. Low writes in the introduction, the thoroughly researched and authoritative encyclopedia presents both factual information and interpretative commentary on major and minor aspects of black American life.

With contributions from over 100 experts and specialists in the field, the volume explores the past and present contributions of blacks in business, the professions, the arts, and American economic life, containing biographical entries of both famous Afro-Americans and obscure blacks whose contributions have not been generally recognized.

Other entries in the encyclopedia consider the subjects of health, housing, employment, education, women, urban development, politics, class stratification, political organizations, slavery and important social and political movements.

Notable characteristics of the Encyclopedia of Black History are its readability and usefulness for all types of people. The easy-access format contains cross-references, bibliographies following each entry, a critical analysis of reference sources, and illustrations. McGraw-Hill, publisher of the work, describes the volume as "perhaps the most concise yet complete listing of sources on black Americans ever brought together in a single piece."

Despite the encyclopedia's comprehensiveness, Dr. Low does not claim "all inclusiveness," instead citing the "massive review, research, and coverage." With the help of associate editor Vergil A. Clift, professor of education emeritus of New York University, Low spent eight years working on the text.

Low and Clift were selected by McGraw-Hill from among other invited scholars to write the encyclopedia on the basis of a prospectus which took the editors a year to write.

—LETTERS—

Vietnam, dope, our community

Dear AFRO:

The drug traffic is heavier now than ever. It all started when the vietnam war began when the Americans went to fight another country's war. When there is a war or conflict going on, drugs are in easy supply.

However, since the end of the vietnam war, it has gotten worse.

There are homemakers, blue collar workers, people in the political world, doctors and even young children using some kind of narcotics.

Drugs have always been hard to control. Drugs can be used safely or abused. There are all types of narcotics and drugs: cocaine, heroin, morphine, barbiturates, marijuana, etc.

Until the early 1900's many drugs were home remedies. During World War II drugs had been a problem, often used for thrill seeking and escape.

Although Vietnam caused a lot of drug problems for this country, greedy, money-hungry people contributed to the problems. Drugs were transported over here from vietnam and other countries in all types of ways.

During this war, blacks were still fighting for their rights here in America. Men were being drafted into a war they knew nothing about. The manpower that was so needed here was put where it did harm to the people. Soldiers were using drugs just to keep going and to keep from wondering why their brothers were dying for nothing.

The U.S. has tried to fight this war against drugs. A lot of government-funded programs are trying to solve the problems. Is it working? The government feels the way to stop the problem is by giving the user a substitute for the other drug.

So they set up programs.

Instead of going to the pusher, you get on a drug program. Is that really the answer to the problem? They feel that as long as they have the minorities and even the poor people on this drug program, it will keep the crime rate down. Only the oppressed people go to drugs and violence. However, you still have the homemaker and the young children using drugs today.

The governmental programs are OK, but you can't keep using it as a crutch.

It is to get you on your feet. It is not to run your life forever. If you don't try to let it go, you will never be totally free. Making an attempt is better than doing nothing. If we stay drugged up, we might as well kiss this country good-bye.

The war is over but we are still fighting a war against ourselves. So think about it. Give yourself a chance. Nothing beats a failure but a try. Try it out. Take-it slooooow.

KATHY TAYLOR

Police praise AFRO on 'Vicentia' stories

Dear AFRO:

It would seem appropriate at this time to recognize your media agency for untiring assistance during the past five months in our efforts to identify the body of Vincentia Suzy Adu-Kwame, whose body was found by hunters on Nov. 8th, 1980, along Interstate 70 in West Friendship, Howard County.

The media campaign during this period can be directly attributed to her eventual identification and your agency can take pride in this fact.

The Public Information Office was in contact with many people from your organization. We would like to especially thank Pam Widgeon for her personal and professional involvement.

The combined efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN have demonstrated once again a useful societal purpose.

Best regards and wishes for future cooperation in matters of mutual concern.

Col. Paul H. Rappaport

AFRO welcomes letters

The AFRO welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be brief and must bear the writer's name and address.

All letters will be given consideration for publication.

G. JAMES FLEMING

The other side of the assassination

Let's tell the truth. Black men and women had an additional and special reaction to the assassination attempt of President Reagan. Of course, they were stunned, saddened and frightened with the rest of America, over the dastardly deed. But, they were mightily relieved when the airwaves revealed that the gunman is "blond with sandy hair."

"I'm sure glad he wasn't black," has been repeated time after time.

Today's blacks are not especially interested in proclaiming, as their forefathers did, that "no Negro has ever assassinated a president or betrayed the United States."

Nevertheless, these modern-day blacks know, just as their ancestors did, what would happen to the entire black race if a black person should assassinate a president.

After the Reagan near-execution, no newspaper used its God-almighty-sized headlines to announce

WHITE MAN SHOOTS PRESIDENT or WHITE MAN TRIES TO KILL PRESIDENT.

In the black experience and memory, however, are such headlines which exploded the race and color of an alleged culprit for much lesser crimes. Some of these headlines led to the lynching of black men and women, from Maryland to the southern-most borders of the nation.

We wish it could be "Let bygones be bygones" but black Americans know that, if the Reagan gunman had been black, all kinds of hate groups would have exploited the racial connection and would now be blaming liberals, moderates and Jimmy Carter for "giving Negroes an inch— now they are taking a yard." We can imagine the Ku Klux Klan escalating its membership with venom.

More seriously and proximately, one could bet that some blacks would lose their jobs, or would not be employed, or would not be promoted if, by some misfortune or neurotic mixup, John W. Hinkley, Jr., were black instead of white.

The pseudo-historians would also, sooner or later, find anthropological arguments to support claims that blacks, in general, are prone to assassinate presidents.

The entire black race would be blamed, indicted, penalized.

Some years ago, this writer did a piece for radio entitled "It's great to be white." Its main thrust was that any white man or woman, as an individual, could commit any crime, without the entire white race being blamed, indicted or penalized for such crime, or without all whites being considered criminally disposed.

This commentary was given at a time, when, even more than the present, it was the custom to generalize about blacks in all areas of life. In the terminology of those yesterdays, one could read or hear respectable white preachers, teachers, judges, politicians and others declare that "All Negroes will steal," or "You can't trust Negroes with money" or "the only thing Negro men think about is going to bed with a white woman," or "all Negroes are immoral." (Sometimes whites would debate whether blacks were immoral or unmoral or amoral.)

A single crime or other offense (alleged or actual) by a single black male could lead to the shooting up of an entire black neighborhood or the barring of all blacks from some place of public accommodation.

Some whites have been horse thieves, some have been bank robbers, some have slaughtered Indians and other native peoples, some have embezzled millions, and some have been members of Mafia-type organizations generation after generation.

Thank the gods, however, nowhere and at no time, (with miniscule exceptions) have ALL white people been classified as, or held generally to be, horse thieves, or bank robbers or embezzlers or members of the Mafia.

Rather, whites are glorified in history and fiction as if they all were, and are, the likes of Sir Christopher Wrenn, Lord Nelson, Sir Isaac Watts, William Shakespeare, Florence Nightingale, Mme. Curie, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and others of the world's great caucasians.

Yes, blacks are very happy that John Warnock Hinckley, Jr., is not black (and that he is not from a broken family and did not live in the slums). As a white man, one of these days he can slip back into the dominant society, change his name (or not change his name) and start a new full life.

And, he will not have to bear the guilt of knowing (or feeling) that all white people have suffered, or are suffering, because of what he did in front of the Washington Hilton Hotel on March 30, Anno Domini 1981.

Even more important, all white people will not have to feel guilty and ashamed just because one white person tried to kill President Reagan.

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

City Editor

ANNAPOLIS HAS A BLACK MAYOR.

Whether for a day or a year Annapolis, Md. has a black man heading the city government. He was sworn in at the Municipal Building Monday evening.

HE IS John T. Chambers, a barber by trade and the most entrancing person, pleasant, full of wisdom and a good administrator. Born in Annapolis, he has been a member of the City Council 13 years. (See Photo)

ANNAPOLIS was the first capital of the United States.

GEORGE WASHINGTON marched there with his troops from New York to surrender his command as chief of the Army so that he could become president of the United States.

This is how the Crownsville Road became Generals Highway, named for Washington who marched along that very road to Annapolis.

ANNAPOLIS is the capitol of Maryland now. The General Assembly meets there for 90 days (beginning each year in January) to make laws for the state.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY is located there and since the racial bars are down, there are hundreds of black mids/midshipmen graduates who are stationed all over the world.

One I recall, Ensign Mack Johnson, was a Russian scholar and scheduled to go to Russia with President Eisenhower.

When the trip fell through, Mack became a Navy jet pilot. (Others command Navy vessels on all the seas. There are several distinguished professors on the Academy faculty.

AS YOU KNOW, there are 20 black members of the Maryland House of Delegates and six senators, the highest number of black state representatives in the nation.

Sen. Clarence M. Mitchell III elected at age 22 is still serving and was at election the youngest senator in the United States.

WE WELCOME John T. Chambers who is second of the Eastern Shore mayors.

For All We Know

THE FIRST was George Thomas, a descendant of Frederick Douglass who served the legal term as mayor of St. Michaels, Md.

St. Michaels as you know was the plantation where Frederick Douglas was a slave. He was declared an unruly and sent to prison while attached to the master of the mansion which stillstands on the Miles River.

The family owners who had come from royal blood in England sent Douglass to Baltimore after he was released from prison in Easton, Md.

After working as a ship caulker for a wealthy ship owner here, he escaped and went on to become Ambassador to Haiti.

THE STORY I LIKE TO TELL is the one told to me by Aaron Sopher.

Frederick Douglass returned to St. Michaels when he became a diplomat and his name was known around the globe, more famous than the master who once owned him.

WHEN HE WENT to the plantation where he had been flogged and starved many a day, the master opened the front door, bowed to him and let him in.

YOU SHOULD take the school children to Annapolis to visit Mayor Chambers and then go on down across the Bay Bridge to St. Michaels.

THERE YOU CAN still see the mansion where Douglass was a slave. His master's relatives have a riding stable on the old plantation land.

ACROSS THE ROAD is the Douglass Elementary School on the very land given Douglass' family after slavery.

TODAY black and white youngsters attend the school which bears the great Frederick Douglass' name.

MANY of Douglass' relatives are there. Mr. Thomas owns a filling station (or at least he did a few years ago when I listed him, his wife and family.)

MARYLAND manages to make history quite often, unforgettable history

THE FIRST permanent Inaugural Committee in the nation has been established permanently by resolution of the 1981 General Assembly. (SEE PHOTO)

MRS. LOUISE JOHNSON of Baltimore arranged the 1981 ball on Capitol Hill in Washington in January and it was a charming success.

From now on, don't care who is the new US president, white, black, green or gray, Republican of Democrat, Marylanders will have an inaugural ball of their own in Washington.

SPONSORS OF the House Resolution 330 and Resolution 331 are Del. Walter R. Dean and Del. Raymond E. Beck. Present at the ceremonies the final day of the 1981 General Assembly in Annapolis were GOP Sen. Aris T. Allen, who was honorary chairman of the Inaugural Ball and Dem. Sen. Rosalee Abrams.

THE RESOLUTION commended Mrs. Johnson and the Special Inaugural Committee who established a tradition in the political annals of Maryland. The document carries the signatures of Benjamin L. Cardin, speaker of the House and Jacqueline M. Spell, chief clerk, and of course the Great Seal of Maryland.

I AM ON VACATION until next week. Then you'll hear about the cruise down the Chesapeake hosted by the new owners of the Port Welcome.

The event, the first of the season, has invoted hundreds of special guests to enjoy the new food and the newly embellished ship and tell everyone about it.

ALSO NEXT WEEK, we'll go over Easter holiday events in Baltimore including one of the finest classical recitals, the one on Palm Sunday at Wayland Baptist Church. It can not be beat, how those singers performed arias from George Fredericl Handels Messiah with such perfection.

AND, the Wayland men's fish fry on Good Friday plus the ladies luncheon on Saturday and of course the various Easter sunrise services.

THE HIGHLIGHT is the one coming at 6:30 a.m. sunday down in South Baltimore where a white Baptist congregation will hear Dr. A.C.D. Vaughn as the main speaker. The service will be out in the street at sunrise.

We'll have photos.

BUT, perhaps the most thrilling ever was what the event last Sunday at Rev. Harold Carter's New Shiloh Baptist Church which was packed to the ceiling.

PHOTOGRAPHER RYALES food a picture from the pulpit of the people waving thousands of palms and singing songs as they did almost 2,000 years ago when Jesus entered triumphantly into the

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK, after Easter.

P.S.— Next week I'll recall 20 years ago when Dr. Carl Murphy sent me as a reporter to California for a week to visit Joe Louis and his new pretty wife, Martha, at their beautiful home. She was a wealthy lawyer then. They had a fantastic house, beautiful lawns and fountains and flowers and a Japanese gardner.

APR

Tony Brown's Journal

Will a black revolt start in '83?

The riots in the 60's in the nation's northern cities left their mark on American society.

But many of the conditions that fostered the outbreak of racial violence have not been eliminated. In the struggle of black Americans to achieve social and economic parity, one scholar has found a pattern marking the resurgence of black activist periods.

An historical comparison on the national documentary series TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL indicates that a black revolt will hit the country in 1983.

"Protest movements have been the way blacks have made gains in this country since 1865, but even beyond that, since the Revolutionary period," says Dr. Robert Brisbane on this edition, "Black Revolt In The 80's."

According to Dr. Brisbane, a professor at Morehouse College in Atlanta, there have been five major black protest movements in the United States. In his book, "Black Activism," Dr. Brisbane outlines the periods of black revolts in America.

Although the black struggle in America has taken varying forms, Dr. Brisbane's research has uncovered a clear pattern marking the development of black protest movements throughout the nation's history. He says black activist movements generally developed as a result of let down from a period of rising expectations.

Now a conservative mood seems to be sweeping the country. Some blacks perceive a growing opposition to affirmative action and the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan has gained momentum.

High unemployment continues to thrive in the black community. Evidence indicates that the black-white income gap is growing and black advances are being systematically eclipsed by greater white progress.

After nearly 20 years of sporadic civil unrest, protest and government programs, the cities continue to decline while a permanent underclass of poor blacks is caught in a revolving pathology of hopelessness.

The riots in Miami, Florida — an area ironically called Liberty City — illustrate the growing discontent in the nation's urban black neighborhoods. The economic instability and urban plight of the poor could very well fuel the anticipated black revolt in the 1980's.

"I don't think the black middle class will be as deeply involved in another black protest movement as it was in the last one, the King movement," says Dr. Brisbane. He continues, "The young black middle more and more is becoming establishment oriented.

"We are inside the gate, at least the black middle class is, but the vast majority of blacks are not middle class and they live in the black central cities. That's where I think the sixth protest movement is going to center. I think the leadership will be the young black youth in the ghetto."

The program filmically highlights the fifth black protest period in America, known as the civil rights movement or the black revolution, featuring clips of Dr. Martin Luther King, Malcolm X and President John Kennedy.

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL, the longest running national black television series, is sponsored by Pepsi-Cola Company. It can be seen in the Baltimore area on Sunday on channel 11 at 3:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLY CLOSING SCENE witnessed the citation presented by Del. Walter R. Dean to Mrs. Louise Johnson and witnessed by Del. Raymond E. Beck, Sen. Aris T. Allen and Sen. Rosalee Abrams. RYALES PHOTO

—MORE LETTERS—

Blacks at Hecht Co.

Dear AFRO:

I had not visited the Northwood Shopping Center for quite some time. I was most impressed as I entered the Hecht's Store, to see numbers of black sales ladies.

However, jobs are top priorities for people throughout this country, particularly Baltimore City. Therefore, I would like to suggest, to some of the above young ladies, to take a course in good public relations, before too many negative complaints are taken to the manager, concerning attitudes towards customers. Thus, causing jobs to be lost.

Blacks cannot afford to have this to happen. But, when or if it does happen, these young ladies have only themselves to blame.

Listen, black sisters, evaluate yourselves. "A hint to the wise is sufficient."

A. B. Hunley

The president's budget

Dear AFRO:

I would like to comment on President Reagan's budget cuts. He has told us (THE POOR) that we will not be affected by his cuts in social programs. That's a lot of bull because the poor need these social programs. Instead of cutting these programs they should be investigated for fraud. Because there are some people who abuse the system.

Melvin Bailey - (18)

Warns U.S. to shun apartheid

Nigerian diplomat says his nation will use oil against S. Africa

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Nigeria's ambassador to the United States Wednesday reiterated his president's claim that his nation is prepared to use oil as a bargaining tool to help change the U.S. policy toward South Africa.

Speaking at the World Trade Center before an audience of almost 200, Ambassador Olujimi Jolaoso warned that the current U.S. mood of reapprochement with South Africa "can only lead to unrest on the continent, (of Africa)."

According to Ambassador Jolaoso, the U.S. preoccupation with the Soviet Union may be the reason for the latest warming of U.S.-South African relations.

"We can only conclude that the United States regards South Africa as more important, (than Africa), in its East-West rivalry" he noted. He added that the U.S. tilt toward South Africa may prove damaging to African-U.S. relations because African leaders "will see this not just as an effort to (compete with), the Soviet Union,...but as giving succor to the forces of racism...."

Ambassador Jolaoso recalled the Nixon years, and said that during that administration "a Nigerian chief of state could come to the United Nations but could not secure an invitation to visit the White House...the president was busy spending his weekends in San Clemente."

He said that the Carter years saw the greatest effort by the U.S. to improve relations with his country and Africa, as Carter's administration "tried to identify African interests in and of themselves," instead of attempting to involve the continent in the East - West rivalry. He praised Carter's government for helping to supervise the decolonization of Rhodesia.

The ambassador said that recent moves by the Reagan administration and South Africa have led most African leaders to conclude that the apartheid regime and the United States may fashion a new alliance.

He referred specifically to the recent decision by South Africa to abort talks concerning the decolonization of Namibia, a southwest Africa Colony "protectorate of South Africa; the reception given by members of Reagan's cabinet to several high-ranking South African intelligence officials; and the lack of a spirited condemnation by the U.S. of a raid by South African troops on Mozambiquan soil.

Ambassador Jolaoso had high praise for Zimbabwan leader Robert Mugabe, who spent almost 15 years fighting a white minority in that country, formerly called Rhodesia.

He blasted the western portrayal of Mugabe as a "socialist", and defended the "freedom fighter's" decision to seek Soviet aid after being refused by the United States.

Ambassador Olujimi Jolaoso

He said that African freedom fighters such as Mugabe "were interested in ridding themselves of one foreign yoke and not in a hurry to submit themselves to another."

"If they had been granted security, there would have been no reason to flirt with the East," he said.

Ambassador Jolaoso has been the Nigerian representative to the U.S. since 1977. Previously he had served as a member of the Nigerian delegation to the United Nations General Assembly as director of administration and finance in the Ministry of External Affairs.