Rail fares will rise

Marylanders who normally ride one of the state's three commuter rail lines were notified this week that fares to Washington will go up in July, some by as much as 33 percent, state railroad administration officials said.

The notices to passengers on the B&O lines from Brunswick and Baltimore also said 22 newly "rehabilitated" rail cars should be in service by this fall, and that they will be pulled by newly rebuilt locomotives already in service.

The new cars will replace older cars now being leased from Amtrak and a private company in Baltimore.

Riders on the Conrail line from Baltimore to Washington were also told they will be able to ride on newer cars with higher seating capacities if the Board of Public Works approves a contract later this week to lease the cars.

The 10 Arrow III cars to be leased from New Jersey Transit Corp. in Newark, New Jersey will cost $975,000, half of which is to be paid for with federal funds. The 13-month lease would include the cost of maintenance on the cars.

The increases are the result of legislation passed by the 1981 General Assembly that requires the two lines from Baltimore and the one line from Brunswick to cover at least half of their operating costs from fares.

Railroad administration officials said current fares would raise just over $3 million, but approximately $8 million will be needed to keep the three lines in operation through fiscal year 1982, which begins July 1.

The new fares are designed to raise the approximately $1 million additionally needed to meet the 50 percent req requirement.

"Strongly supported by commuter railuser groups, the new law also requires the state to continue operation of its three commuter lines at their present or expanded levels," said notic to be distributed to passengers this week.

The legislation was introduced this year after transportation officials said they planned to end the commuter services because they were too expensive.

Fares on the Conrail Baltimore-to Washington line will increase about 30 percent for monthly ticket booklets to $99 27 percent on one-way tickets, up to $4.50, and 32 percent on 10-trip weekly booklets, up to $28.

Riders on both B&O lines from Baltimore and from Brunswick, will pay an average of 33 percent more for weekly tickets, 30 percent more for monthly tickets, and 14 percent more for 10-day tickets.

From Baltimore, the cost will be $26.50 for an unlimited use, weekly ticket $93 for an unlimited use, monthly ticket $4.25 one-way and $40.50 for a 10-ride ticket.

Atlanta young show stress

TOM'S RIVER, N.J. — Atlanta children have developed psychological problems in the wake of the 28 mystery murders of the young there, State Senator Julian Bond stated in an after-dinner interview in Holiday Inn last Friday, where the Ocean County NAACP held their Freedom Fund banquet.

He said to calm child fears the Atlanta NAACP pursued an alert against more murders and four recreation centers for youth care are in operation, manned by volunteers.

BUILD Makes progress -in war on bankers

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

A group of area churches and community groups, Baltimoreans United In Leadership Development, (BUILD), has met with the president of Provident Savings Bank as part of their effort to increase the amount of dollars funnelled into the black community.

"Our feelings were mixed as a result of the meeting," said Phyliss Douglass, president of the organization. "He, (Ronald Mason) said that he would consider the Dedicated Dollars program and the Maryland Housing Fund."

The Housing Fund provides low-cost mortgage rates for low-income prospective home-buyers, and the Dedicated Dollars program offers investor the opportunity to have their dollars invested by their banking institutions in communities customers prefer.

The Provident meeting came about only after more than 75 BUILD members led a protest action against the bank three weeks ago. Those the members lined up and approached the tellers for small change, bus tokens, and other items.

Mason is expected to give BUILD a decision early next month. Next week, the organization is expected to receive word from Baltimore Federal Savings and Loan Association on its strategy in response to BUILD's demands.

The latest actions are part of an effort begun by BUILD on Febuary 21 this year, when they released a survey which revealed that most area banks failed to make any sizeable investments in the black community including the granting of mortgages to inner-city blacks.

The survey also disclosed that banks usually went where the money already was—to areas such as Mt. Royal or the Homewood area of the city.

Last week, a group of black bankers announced that they were beginning a campaign to get black investors to take their money out of white banks and place it in black institutions, where the money would be used to improve the community.

Ms. Douglass said that "there will be some options after we talk (with the banks included in the survey), but right now, we're looking at places where people have their money deposited."

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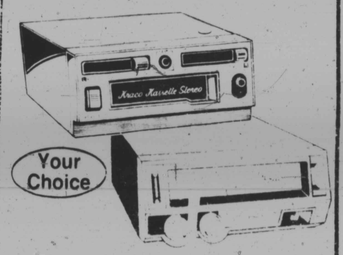

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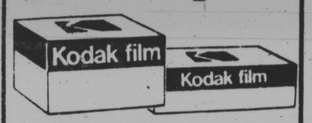

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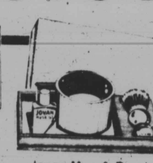

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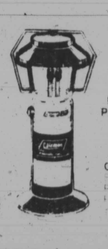

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Commentary by Marion Banfield

No military programs in public schools!

By Marion M. Banfield

How do your family members respond to the expansion of DePartment of Defense programs in Baltimore high schools? Have you taken time to weigh the effects of the Pentagon's inroads into our schools?

Many families look upon the Department of Denfense as a government paid support system beyond high school. The snappy uniforms, the parade formations, drill tricks with real guns lure thousands of us into a military network about which we really know little.

College students aren't flocking into the armed services so the Pentagon has decided to do brain washing at an earlier age. High school students feel less threatened at the prospect of actual combat. College students are very much aware of Pentagon propaganda. Viet Nam is too recent to be closed in a history book.

The Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps have become a part of high school curriculum throughout this country. In 1972, the Army began enrolling girls in its Junior ROTC programs.

I ask that we pause and think where we as a nation are going with the thoughts and attitudes of our youth. Television and movies deluge us with violence and sexual appeal. The black community is cursed with the angers and frustration, the temptations and lack of moral values that foster an abundance of violent acts. There is an irony in our approach to violence.

When an individual chooses violence as a way of coping with feelings of hostility, the courts and society condemn that act. If a girl or woman feels that an unwanted pregnancy should be terminated by abortion, there are cries of "murder!"

Yet, when soldiers slaughter unknown men, women, and children who have done them no personal insult, there is no cry of "murder!" That is society's condoning of destruction of human life and valued property under the propagandizement of war. The more lives destroyed, the more "valiant" the deed. Mr. Reagan tries to demolish human services as he pumps our taxes into war programs.

What is the difference between individual murder and mass murder? The attitude that we are taught is the difference. Media and groups in all countries influence who and how much adults and children are taught to hate. Please remember that the government (a group of controlling humans - mostly male) told us when to hate and when to love the Germans and the Japanese.

In my opinion, the military program should not be accepted as a part of our children's schooling. The Pentagon's philosophy, termed as defense or patriotism, is a sophisticated power extension of which we citizens need to become aware.

We either stop its growth now or shudder with fear thirty years from now. Our generation of junior ROTC enthusiasts can become a menace to our democracy as they carry out instructions as super-patriots with their real guns not in parade position

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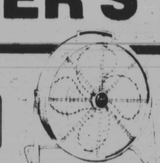

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Redistricting meetings begin

A gubernatorial task force established to devise a plan to reapportion Maryland's 47 legislative districts tried to agree this week on where to start the process, but agreed on little more than the broad guidelines under which the bill will work.

The five-member task force, headed by State Treasurer William S. James, acknowledged that drawing the lines for any redistricting plan must start in Western Maryland and move east, and on the lower Eastern Shore and move north.

Beyond those relatively undisputed starting points, however, the task force could agree on little else except for a seven-page statement of legal considerations prepared by Deputy Attorney General George Nilson and Assistant Attorney General Robert Zarnoch.

Among their conclusions were that factors such as population equality, race, incumbency, political fairness, natural or historical boundaries, integrity of political subdivision, contiguity and compactness of districts, could all be considered with varying weight when the new lines are drawn.

Maryland, like all other states, must redraw both its state and Congressional district lines this year based on population figures supplied by the 1980 census.

The task force is to recommend a General Assembly reapportionment plan to Gov. Harry Hughes, who must then introduce his own plan next January on the first day of the 1982 session.

The governor's plan will go into effect automatically unless the legislature rejects it and replaces it with one of its own within 45 days.

Whatever plan is ultimately approved will be in effect by the 1982

All 47 senators and 141 delegates, eight members of the U.S. House of Representatives and one member of the U.S. Senate, will also be chosen in that election.

Baltimore is certain to lose some of its legislative clout. A decline in the city's population will almost certainly reduce the city's 11 state senators to nine and cut its 33 delegates to 27.

The Eastern Shore is likely to get slightly more representation, a are fast-growing areas such as Howard County.

Two dozen or more legislators, all keenly interested in how the reapportionment process will affect their personal political figures, jammed into the crowded hearing room to listen as the task force and state planners discussed several different ideas on how the remapping process should begin.

George Liebmann, a lawyer and former gubernatorial aide still closely involved in the reapportionment planning, suggested starting by dividing the state's 47 districts along existing county lines, but the task force found even that to be too controversial to adopt.

"Nobody likes to be cut up, but it don't hurt too bad," said Senate President James Clark, Howard, a member of the task force.