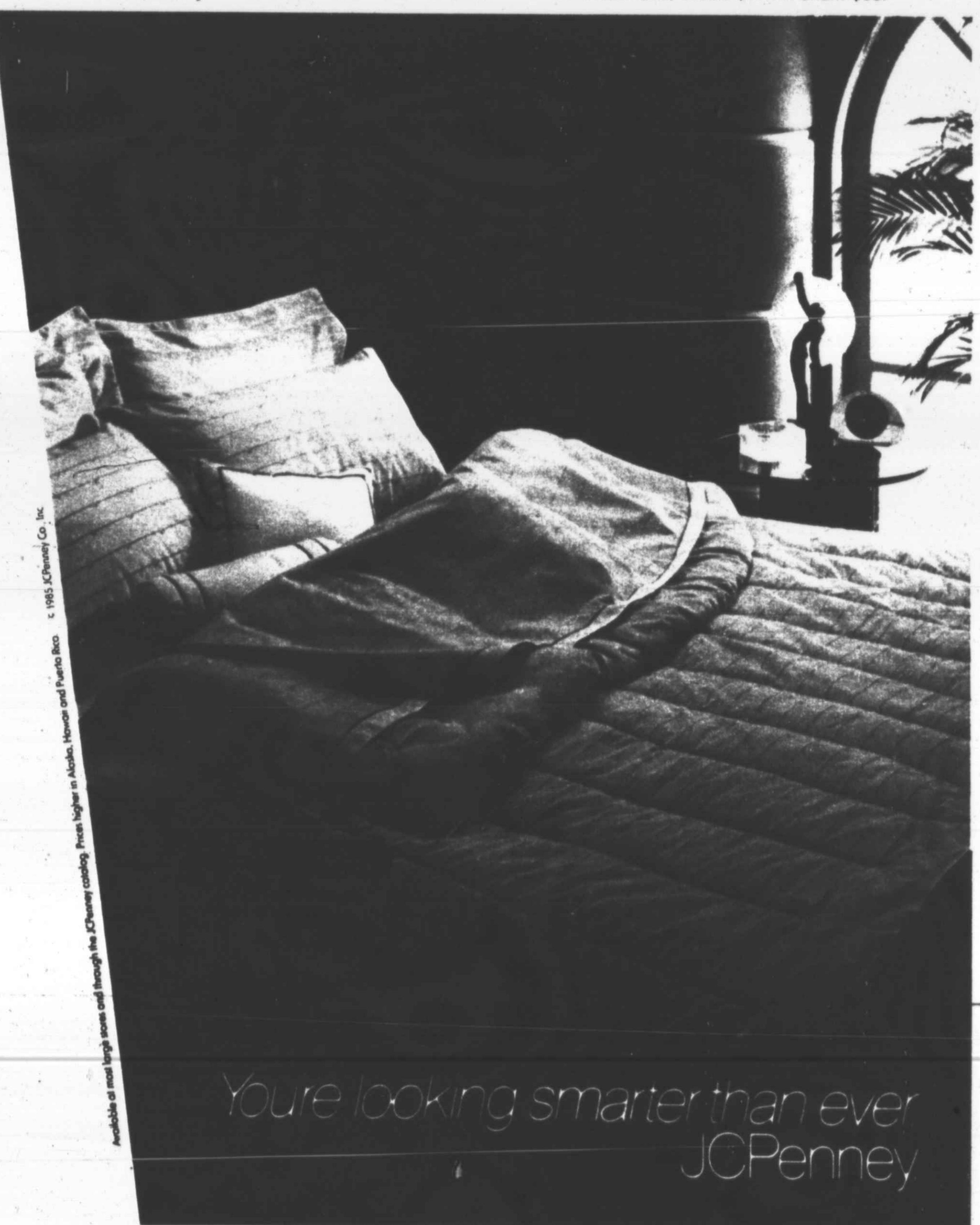
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## NATIONAL ROUNDUP

Washington, D.C. — While celebrating the first official, national holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., (January 15), the 99th Congress, elected to serve in 1985 to 1986, still has much unfinished business in seeking passage of the Civil Rights Restoration Act and possible Affirmative Action legislation President Ronald Reagan's administration, along with budget proposals by House of Representative Budget Committee Chairman Rep. William Gray (D-Pa.)

Despite firm opposition to continuing the Presidential Executive Order on Affirmative Action from conservative Atty. General Edward Meese and reactionary Civil Rights Commission Chairman Clarence Pendleton, 230 members of Congress (including 55 Republican Senators) have written President Reagan, backing the executive order. If the law is weakened or eliminated as urged by Meese and Pendleton, it will not be the end of the battle, only the beginning, supporters say.

Stronger legislation is sponsored by Republicans and Democrats in both houses of Congress who have already drafted more legislation, reports Ralph G. Neas, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights which is planning its annual conference of representatives of over 150 progressive organizations here...Write your representative and senator now urging support of Civil Rights legislation which could lose by default while you are observing Doctor King's birthday.

The King observance was scheduled to begin January 11 in Atlanta at the third annual Freedom Bowl All Star football classic, followed by a national religious observance the next day (Sunday) at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change.

Highlight of the month was the scheduled Congressional tribute in a joint session of Congress with the truly historic unveiling of the bust of Dr. King in the Capital Rotunda, (January 16), in Washington, followed by the international Salute to Greatness dinner back in Atlanta. The observance will be climaxed South African with Bishop Desmond Tutu speaking at a United Nations observance and former President Jimmy Carter leading an ecumenical march through Atlanta with representatives of all faiths in the procession.

The events will end with a national television tribute to Doctor King, originating in Atlanta, New York and Washington, and closing with appropriate fireworks. However, the " observance is likely to continue for the solemn mourning period until April 4, the day of King's assassination in Memphis in 1968.

The unheralded role of the National Council of Negro Women in the civil rights movement in the south was disclosed during the organization's annual conference at the close of 1985 as Dr. Dorothry Height presided on crutches with a broken leg during the weeklong sessions... The NCNW provided the backbone of the revolutionary Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) during the 1960s when the members served as shock troops for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. throughout the "Movement."

The NCNW kept hundreds of the students on the payroll throughout the critical period,



Joseph E. Jenifer

says official Ruth Sykes, key aide to Dr.

Appearing at a testimonial roast for ex-SNCCer John Wilson, D.C. city councilman in Washington, ex colleagues Washington Mayor Marion Barry and Atlanta chief executive Andrew Young joined in the fun as Young declared "John proves the civil rights movement can provide equality for anybody when he became a city councilman. "But back in Atlanta, councilman John Lewis, another ex-SNCC leader, is serious in his challenge of former SNCC colleague Julian Bond for the former Congressional seat held by Mayor Young and recently won again by progressive Wyche Fowler.

Reverend Bernard Lee, who was Doctor King's top aide once, is now a member of D.C. Mayor Barry's cabinet before returning to the the district manager post of the Maryland-D.C. pulpit after graduating from the Howard district in 1981. University School of Divinity... And over 800 supporters recently turned out for a testimonial banquet for Rev. Ralph Abernathy in Atlanta to show they remembered his famous marches through Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi with Martin....

Catholic Bishop Eugene Marino was among the 200 top prelates of the Church attending

the historic Catholic Synod of the denomination's hierarchy in Rome to consider religious policy for the next century... Bishop Marino was the first black Catholic elected secretary of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops meeting in Washington.

. . .

Association for the Study of Afro American Life and History members are struggling to save the organization while threatened with loss of their national headquarters building here as a result of internal strife over the ouster of Dr. Samuel Banks as president while the newly organized National Black Heritage Observance Committee has scheduled an elaborate annual kickoff of Black History Month, February 1, with a traditional luncheon attracting new supporters under ASALH critic Sammie Ellis.. We hope the various Black History supporters can rally around their cultural unity and resolve their differences.

NEW FACES IN HIGH PLACES: JOSEPH E. JENIFER, a 30-year veteran of the Government Printing Office, is now the Deputy Public Printer, the agency's second highest post. Jenifer was graded to the new post near the year's end. He started with the GPO in 1954 as a skilled laborer and later was selected for the printing apprenticeship program where he graduated as a journeyman linotype editor in 1961. He became head deskman in the electronic photocomposition division in 1972 and later served as foreman and vision superintendent.

Jenifer is president of the National State Printers' Association and is a member of the Printing and Publishing Advisory Board of the University of the District of Columbia where he also served as an instructor.

In nearby Baltimore, a new face is James McDougald, who has been elevated to the postmaster post of the city. The 35-year veteran of the postal service, is the 31st postmaster of Baltimore and the first black person to achieve this status. He is a Pittsburgh, PA., native who took a postal supervisory job in Washington in 1966 and gained

In the new post, he supervises 8,000 employees who serve a population of more than 3.3 million people.

INEZ RAMSEY ARRENDELL recently was appointed to the Private Industry Council by Mayor Marion S. Barry of Washington. She will serve out the unexpired term of Marguerite I. Gilmore which extends to June 1987.

By Larry Still and Art Carter