'Don't give up', Mrs. Parks says

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Rosa Parks, the 76-year-old so-called "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," said Thursday that young Blacks must not give up their vigilance in preserving the rights others fought so hard to gain.

"There seems to be . . . something going on that we haven't experienced for many years," Parks said at a news conference in Tallahassee, where she was to speak to students at Florida State University in connection with events honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

"We should not be discouraged or fearful. We need to make it known that we are not as fearful or divided as people may think," she said.

Mrs. Parks, whose refusal to give her bus seat to a White man in Birmingham, Ala., more than 30 years ago sparked an era of non-violent civil rights demonstrations, said she is concerned about the resurgence of hostility toward Blacks.

She cited the recent bomb attacks on federal judges and other officials in the South thought to be racially motivated.

Mrs. Parks' arrest on Dec. 1, 1955, for defying Alabama bus segregation laws initiated a 381-day boycott and a legal battle that resulted in the end of bus segregation in Montgomery, Ala.

The battle for bus seats is considered the turning point of the civil rights movement, and catapulted Dr. King into national prominence.

Rosa Parks

U.S. troops may have foiled attempt on Powell's life

NEW YORK — U.S. troops may have foiled an attempt on the life of Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, during his visit to Panama last week, CBS News reported.

A unit from the 82nd Airborne Division traded fire with a sniper discovered in a building along a route the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff was to have taken during his visit to Panama, the network said.

A man with a rifle on a covered rooftop was spotted by Sgt. Robert Padin, one of the men inspecting possible routes for Gen. Powell's tour of Panama City.

"We dismounted and followed the sniper," Sgt. Padin told CBS News. "The sniper shot at us a couple of times."

As Sgt. Padin reached the rooftop the sniper leaped to an adjacent roof and then, as Sgt. Padin and another soldier moved up the second building's stairway, the sniper came down in an elevator. The sniper fired on Sgt. Padin from the ground before he escaped.

The bullet caught Sgt. Padin on his helmet, which the officer credits for saving his life.

Officers said alternate routes were being considered for Gen. Powell's travels, but the two buildings overlooked the most likely route for the motorcade.

The military told CBS news that the incident occurred just after noon. However, a CBS News camera crew shot the scene an hour earlier. Witnesses in the neighborhood also said the shooting was over before 11 a.m.

In a news briefing late Friday, Gen. Carl Stiner confirmed that Gen. Powell was in the vicinity at the time of the shooting.

"That was when Gen. Powell was out at Panama Viejo and we were getting ready to go out and one of our MPs reported a round had been fired," Gen. Stiner said.

Gen. Powell left the same day. Sgt. Padin suffered a mild concussion and was back on duty Sunday.

Dick Gregory

Gregory jailed during protest

MILWAUKEE — Social activist Dick Gregory, trying to make a point against the open sale of drug paraphernalia, chose to spend a night in jail Monday after being arrested Monday in a demonstration at a head shop.

Milwaukee police arrested Mr. Gregory for trespassing at the Smoke Connection, a store that sells devices used for ingesting cocaine and marijuana. Also arrested were two Chicago priests, the Revs. George Clements and Michael Pfleger.

Mr. Gregory and the priests were released, but were arrested again a short time later at the same store.

Milwaukee police said Mr. Gregory met bail, but refused to leave the jail insisting instead of spending the night.

He joined a group which had staged protests at the store on several other occasions.

The sale of drug paraphernalia is legal in Wisconsin.

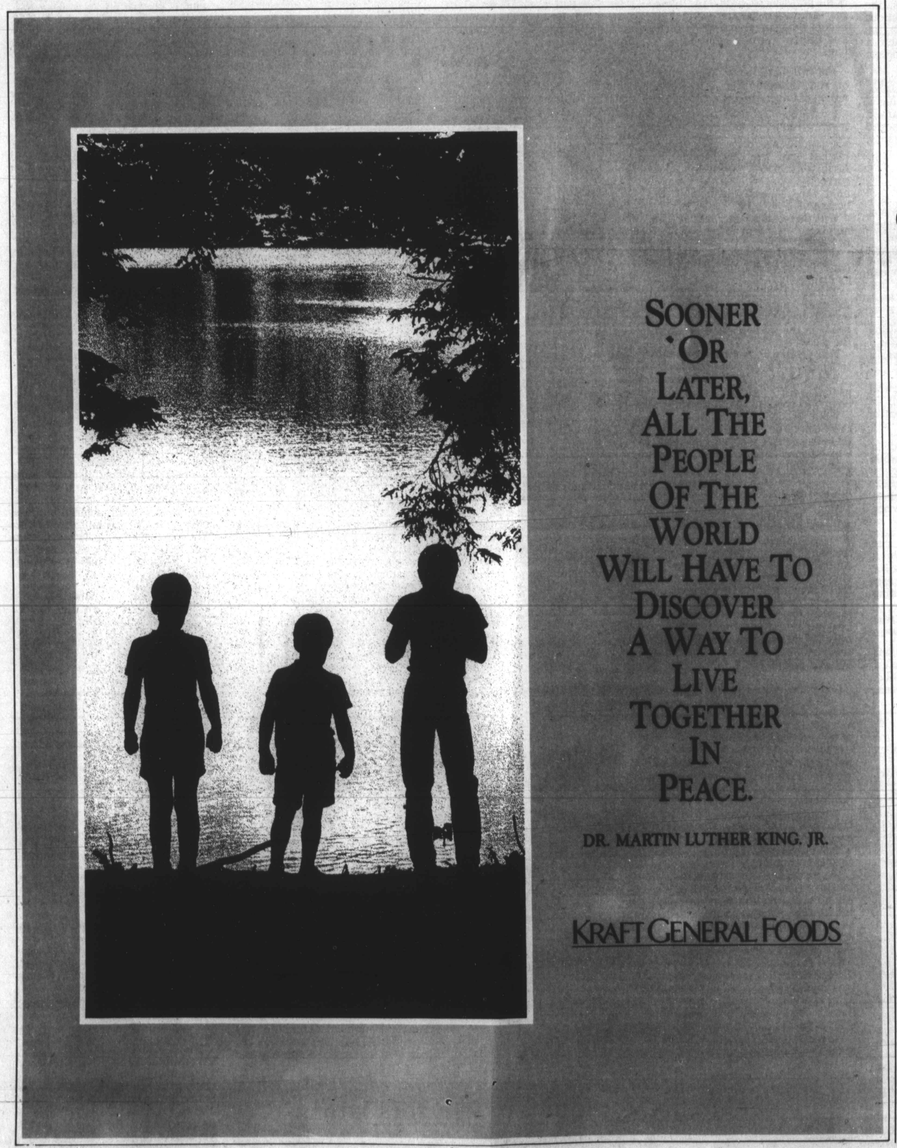
Race suit is settled

The Department of Justice and the owners of a South Carolina restaurant have entered into a consent order to settle a complaint alleging a pattern and practice of refusing service to Black people.

The order was entered by the U.S. District Court in Aiken, S.C., and settles a lawsuit brought Sept. 15, 1989 against Bruce Hayes and Rose Z. Salter, owners of the Buffalo Room restaurant and lounge.

The consent order states, "The defendants admit that the evidence supports the plaintiff's allegations of a pattern and practice of race discrimination."

The defendants have since closed the Buffalo Room and have placed the business up for sale. The order requires defendants to notify the Department in the event they reopen the Buffalo Room or open another place of public accommodation in the future.



Liberia claims victory over rebels

MONROVIA, Liberia — Liberia said it had crushed a three-week insurrection by Libyan-trained and funded dissidents in the West African nation's northeastern Nimba county.

About 100 opponents of the Liberian government, some of them army deserters, invaded Liberia from neighboring Ivory Coast on Christmas Eve.

The dissidents killed as many as 200 people and torched three Villages near the border before their invasion was "crushed," Liberia's official news agency LINA said.

Thousands fled from Nimba county, about 240 miles northeast of the capital, Monrovia, and two battalions were sent to the area to deal with the rebels, LINA said. Those who fled told reporters the invading force had shot and killed anyone refusing to assist them.

Two captured dissidents said in the capital that the invading force had numbered about 100 men who received "commando, combat, anti-aircraft, infantry and navy" training in Libya to destabilize Liberia and unseat President Samuel Doe.

The two prisoners' claim of Libyan involvement in the insurrection could not immediately be confirmed.

Alfred Sommah and former Monrovia City police officer Harrison Duopo said they and their colleagues were recruited in the Ivory Coast by a former Liberian soldier, Cooper Teah, who took them to a military camp in Libya.

WINNIE MANDELA says for the first time she feels her husband, jailed African National Congress leader, Nelson Mandela, is about to be released.

S. Africa rejects school deseg

JOHANNESBURG, — South Africa — The minister for Black education said Thursday the government would not — and probably never would — accept demands for the forced desegregation of public schools and ruled out an increase in state spending to resolve a crisis in Black education.

Education Minister Stoffel van der Merwe described the failure of 58 percent of Black high school students to pass their graduation exams last month as "saddening" but said equality in education could not be achieved overnight.

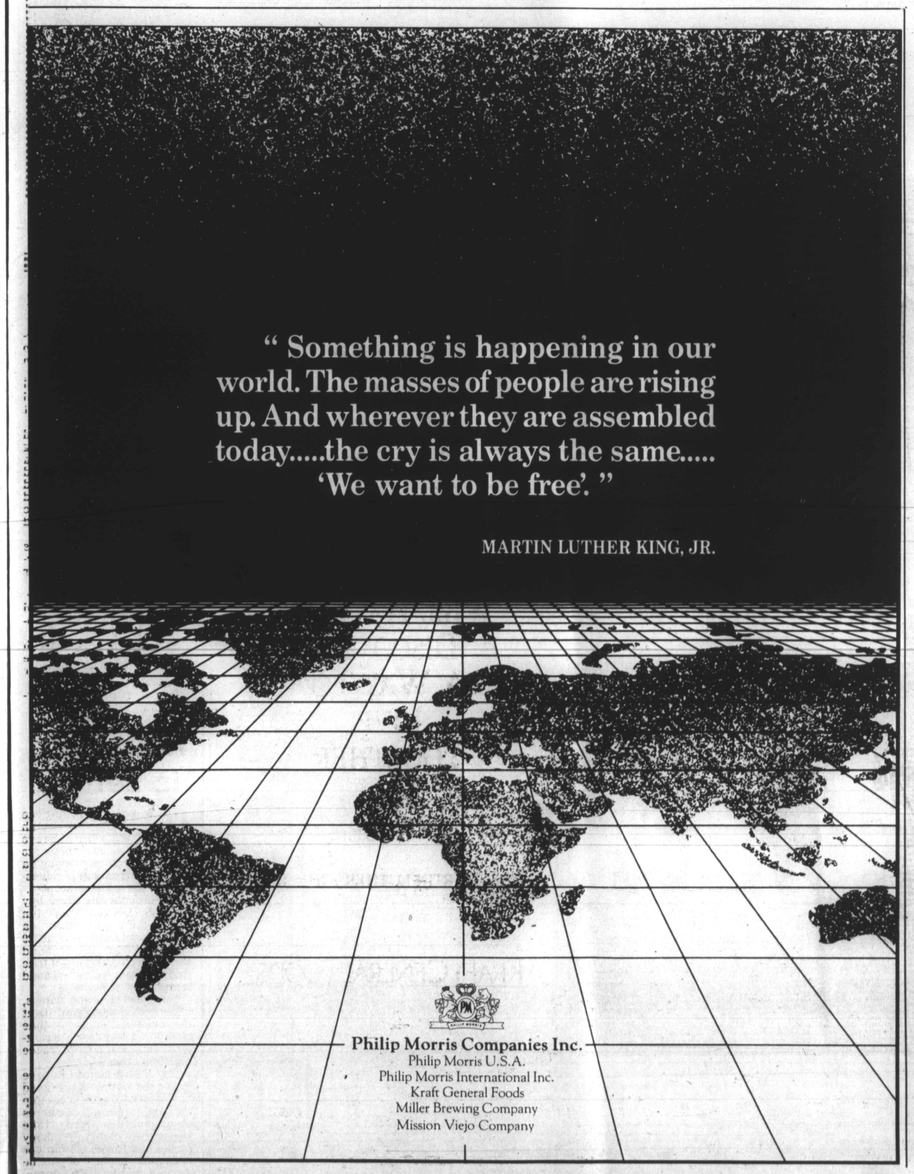
"To suddenly integrate all schools in South Africa is going to create such havoc that it will not be in the interests of any student of any color whatsoever and not in the interests of South Africa," he told a news conference.

Nationwide, only 74,249 Black high school seniors, or 42 percent, passed their matriculation exams last month. Of those, only 17,553 qualify for university entrance. In the Johannesburg satellite city of Soweto, more than two-thirds of the Black seniors failed to graduate.

The 58 percent failure rate involving more than 120,000 students was the highest in five years and up from 46 percent the previous year.

Mr. Van der Merwe, regarded as one of the most "enlightened" members of President Frederik de Klerk's Cabinet, said he hoped to improve the pass rate "dramatically" and had appointed a commission to investigate the causes for the failure rate.

But he cited both political unrest in the schools as having been responsible to a "large extent" for the poor results and severe restrictions on the national budget, brought about in part by the 1986 launch of a U.S. punitive economic sanctions campaign.



Fighting escalates in Angola

JOHANNESBURG — U.S. - backed Unita guerrillas said Friday heavy fighting over the past 10 days in southern Angola has left 99 people dead and 179 others wounded.

In a statement released in Johannesburg, the guerrilla movement said it had "undeniable proof" that Soviet advisers and technicians were present during the fighting. Four Soviets were wounded, it said.

Portuguese mercenaries also were manning combat vehicles, the statement said.

The heaviest fighting between Dec. 27 and Jan. 3 occurred in the Cuito Cuanavale area of southern Angola where Unita has its headquarters, Unita said.

It said 86 soldiers of the Cuban - backed government in Luanda were killed and 146 wounded, while 13 Unita fighters killed and 33 wounded.

Angola has announced a meeting of leaders from 10 African nations involved in efforts to end the 15-year civil war in the former Portuguese colony will be held in the Angolan capital of Luanda.

ANC vows to fight on

LUSAKA, Zambia — The exiled African National Congress vowed to intensify its armed struggle against South Africa's White government but left open the possibility of peace talks if a 30-year ban on its political activity is lifted.

In remarks prepared for delivery at celebrations in Lusaka of the ANC's 78th anniversary, ANC Secretary-General Alfred Nzo declared the movement's military wing a "critical and decisive component" that would remain intact until a political settlement is reached.

"The people's army must therefore continue to grow and further develop its combat capacity inside the country, so that it becomes a formidable force capable of delivering telling blows against the apartheid regime on a continuous and nationwide basis," he said.