Sullivan heads help for African nationals

WASHINGTON — Rev. Leon Sullivan, originator of the Sullivan Principles designed to help eliminate inequities experience by Black workers under apartheid in South Africa, has signed a landmark agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development for a Debt for Development program in three African countries.

In a special signing ceremony, hosted by Congressman William H. Gray, III, (D.-Pa.) and witnessed by more than a dozen key U.S. senators and congressmen, Dr. Sullivan announced that his newest organization, the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH) will coordinate the new AID grant in cooperation with Africare and the participating African countries of Nigeria, Niger and Guinea.

"This is the first agreement of this kind, with the U.S. Department of AID, to allow IFESH to purchase debt owed to U.S. commercial banks, in exchange for local currency which will be used to support human development programs in the three African countries," Rev. Sullivan said.

He added, "With the multiplier effect, the $2,050,000 AID grant will more than double the availability of funds for the purpose of supporting self - help programs in these countries. The projects will be administered by American Private Voluntary Organizations, such as Africare, Opportunities Industrialization Centers International and others."

Rev. Sullivan said he was determined to assist and have "significant impact" in the strengthening of the "individual and institutional capacities in Third World countries" as a way of helping Africa in its drive toward economic independence.

Rev. Sullivan commended Ambassador Mark L. Edelman, acting administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, and his staff for creating this initiative designed to make resources available to African countries, but challenged AID to expand this effort "so that millions of people throughout Africa can receive education and human development training."

Rev. Sullivan estimated that the present grant from AID will help IFESH to reach over 40,000 grassroots people in the three participating countries.

Rev. Sullivan also challenged American Express, Inc. to do more for Africa. he cited the fact that American Express Bank, is playing an important role as financial advisor to IFESH.

According to Rev. Sullivan, Jim Robinson, chairman of American Express, and his staff have provided invaluable technical assistance to IFESH, and the company has already donated more than $6 million to IFESH through foreign currency swap transactions.

GAVIN RELLY (center), former chairman of the Anglo-American Corp., one of the world's most powerful companies, joined African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela and ANC Foreign Affairs Director Thabo Mbeki at a briefing in Johannesburg following unprecedented talks May 23 between South African White businessmen and the ANC on post-apartheid economic reforms.

Blankets for Uganda

BALTIMORE — Catholic Relief Services has donated $21,275 to purchase Blankets for displaced villagers in northern Uganda where 125,000 people have been forcibly moved to camps by the Ugandan Army.

The funds will purchase 7,200 blankets to be donated to the Diocese of Soroti for distribution to the displaced people. The blankets are particularly needed since the villagers were removed from their homes with few possessions.

In mid-February, the Uganda National Resistance Army moved about half the population of the Kumi district in Northeastern Uganda into camps in order to facilitate elimination of Uganda People's Army (UPA) rebels in the area.

The existing camps continue to grow, and new camps are being formed.

It is not known at this time how long the people will be detained.

Riot erupts in S. Africa town

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Police fired into crowds of rioting Blacks in a township in the gold-mining belt, killing three people, police and hospital officials said.

Police said the rioters set fire to houses in Thabong township and stoned several vehicles, including a hospital ambulance. Officials said the violence that continued into the night forced police to open fire.

Witnesses said demonstrators erected barricades in the streets and set fire to several houses and a tavern owned by a White.

"The place is very tense. It's vicious. There's a lot of violence going on," said Brian Brink, administrator of nearby Ernest Oppenheimer Hospital.

The fighting erupted following a tentative decision taken at a community meeting to end a nearly 2-week-old boycott of White businesses in the nearby town of Welkom, where racial violence erupted in the gold fields recently.

State - run radio reported that the latest confrontation between police and demonstrators began at a main entrance to the township where thousands of Black waving banners of the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party refused police orders to disperse.

Mine security officials fired on Black Workers demonstrating near a mine shaft, triggering a clash that killed two Whites. For the next 24 hours, the mining company closed the shaft to some 5,000 workers, who were mostly Black but included some Whites.

The superintendent of the provincial hospital, Flip Nel, said at least three Blacks were shot and killed and five others wounded, two struck by rubber bullets and three suffering shotgun wounds. A White man also was stabbed in the back and lashed near Thabong, he said.

At Oppenheimer Hospital, Mr. Brink said at least 13 people were admitted following the violence. He said an ambulance was sent into the township to pick up additional medical personnel, but it came under attack by rock throwing mobs, smashing the vehicle's windows and forcing its return to the hospital without the additional staff.

"We can't get in. We can't get staff," Mr. Brink said. "The ambulance got through, but it could have ended up differently. I think they planned to set it on fire.

Mr. Brink said other area hospitals treated several other people wounded in the confrontation. "I just hope this isn't going to escalate into a disaster."

Ertha Pascal Trouillot, Haiti's provisional president, held a news conference in Miami recently while on her way to Washington to meet with President Bush to discuss her country's finances.

French airlift foreigners after unrest in Gabon

LIBREVILLE, Gabon — France began evacuating foreigners from Gabon May 25 after two days of anti - government riots sparked by the mysterious death of an opposition leader.

Also, the government set up a commission to investigate the death of Joseph Redjambe, leader of the Gabonese Progress Party, found dead in a Libreville hotel room with syringe marks on his body hours after he was lured there by an Ivory Coast woman, officials said.

Some opposition militants and demonstrators accused President Omar Bongo's government of murdering Redjambe and demanded Mr. Bongo's resignation.

There were no official reports of casualties in the burning and looting that erupted May 22 after Mr. Redjambe was found dead in a room at the Hotel Dowe. The newspaper L'Union reported two people were killed and 17 seriously injured.

A precarious calm held in Libreville after a second night of curfew, with only isolated incidents reported.

But unrest continued in the oil city of Port Gentil, 80 miles south of the capital, where Gabonese commandos were dropped by parachute to try to restore order.

A French Air Force Transall transport aircraft began ferrying some 700 members of families of French, American, British and other foreign expatriate employees from Port Gentile to Libreville, where two jetliners were expected to arrive to take them to Paris, officials said.

In Paris, Cooperation Minister Jacques Pelletier said the situation at Port Gentil remains "tense and worrisome" and that there were "acts of looting" in the city, considered Gabon's economic capital, during the night.

"The government has taken the necessary measures to permit the departure from Port Gentil of the French who want," Mr. Pelletier said. "Other Countries having nationals there, notably the Netherlands and the United States, have been informed of the deployment of this disposition that naturally is open to them."

About 3,500 of the 15,000 French nationals in Gabon are based at Port Gentil. Many foreigners are employed by oil companies operating in the African nation.

France flew 200 Foreign Legion troops to Gabon on May 24 to reinforce some 500 French troops based in its former colony under terms of a bilateral defense agreement.

A spokesman for ELF-Gabon, the largest oil company in Gabon, said its personnel will remain there for now but that it turned off its offshore oil production pumps on May 23.

One French officer took part in negotiations with demonstrators that led to the freeing of seven French oil workers and one British executive who were taken hostage by the rioters.

Southern Africa refugee problem

The people of Mozambique and Angola continue to suffer intolerably. Many are dying needlessly. Some are starving, others are being purposely killed. Every month, another 13,000 Mozambicans flee to Malawi.

There are now more than 750,000 refugees in that country alone. Throughout southern Africa, more than 4.5 million people have been uprooted by conflicts that continue to ravage the area.

These are among the findings in **Peace or Terror: A Crossroads for Southern Africa's Uprooted**, a newly released report from the U.S. Committee for Refugees (USCR).

According to USCR Director Roger Winter, "In the past, refugees and internally displaced people could count on the international community to come to their aid.

"But international assistance is drying up. Services to refugees are being curtailed because the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN agency mandated to assist and protect refugees worldwide, is facing a severe funding crisis.

"In Mozambique, lack of donor response to the government's appeal for good aid could lead to a serious human tragedy."

Yet, in the midst of this deteriorating situation, there is hope. The dramatic changes taking place in the world's geopolitical climate are being felt in southern Africa. Following a U.S. - brokered agreement between Angola, South Africa, and Cuba, Namibian refugees have returned home, and that country is heading towards independence.

And now, for the first time, there is glimmer of hope for a solution to the conflicts in Mozambique and Angola.

The Mozambican government and the Mozambican National Resistance (RENAMO) — a group that for years has terrorized the Mozambican countryside — have taken tentative steps towards peace talks. In Angola, the government and the U.S.-backed rebel movement UNTA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) have promised to start peace talks, but have have yet to keep those promises.

According to **Peace or Terror**, "If the fledgling peace efforts fail, for Mozambicans and Angolans the terror will continue. Refugees may find themselves no longer welcome." Even if peace were achieved, however, there would still be a need for significant international assistance. A coordinated response would be needed to help deal with the "returnee emergency" that would follow.

Mr. Winter says that USCR's new report focuses attention on two groups that are particularly vulnerable: children who are victims of RENAMO and Mozambican refugees in South Africa.

Tanzania bans chimp sales

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania — No chimpanzees will be exported from Tanzania and no licenses will be issued for export, the country's wildlife department said, responding to charges the internationally protected apes were being offered for sale to the United States.

Wildlife director Costa Mlay issued the statement after a U.S. conservation group, the International Primate Protection Legue, said it had obtained a price list from a hunting and safari - organizing concern, on which chimpanzees were being offered for sale at $10,000 apiece.

Once prized by zoos and circuses for their humanlike behavior, chimpanzees have fallen drastically in numbers as their forest habitat has declined in recent years.

Bank loans to Africa

Washington — The World Bank announced loans for development projects in the Central African Republic, Rwanda and Tanzania.

The Central African Republic will use a $19 million loan to start a project to manage forests and wildlife resources.

A $40 million IDA loan will help Rwanda finance a $149 million transport - sector project.

A $38.3 million IDA Loan will help Tanzania finance a $63.6 million educational project.

Liberia rebels move

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Liberian rebels claimed they seized control of the southern port of Buchanan after two days of heavy fighting and said they were planning to move along the coast toward the capital of Monrovia.

A rebel force of up to 1,000 claimed the insurgents had attacked the road between Buchanan and Robertsfield airport near the capital, cutting off government troops from Monrovia. Buchanan is only a hour's drive from Liberia's international airport at Robertsfield and is less than two hours from the capital.

A revel force of up to 1,000 attacked Buchanan. Rebel spokesman said they captured the town.

Civilian casualties were reported to be light because many residents were aware that the rebels were coming and had fled to Monrovia, a rebel spokesman told United Press International.

In Monrovia, the government of President Samuel Doe had issued no statement on the latest fighting in the port.

Buchanan is the railhead for supplies of iron ore from the Limco iron ore complex at Yekepa in the north of Liberia on the border with Guinea.

The rebels, who call themselves the National Patriotic Forces of Liberia, attacked the mine and took control of its operations.

In an interview, rebel leader Charles Taylor predicted victory within two weeks.

Ivory Coast agrees to cuts

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Agreement has been reached on new economic austerity measures aimed at rebuilding the country's beleaguered economy.

Cuts in public spending are to be introduced, but salary cuts have been permanently scrapped, sources said.

Plans to cut public sector salaries by up to 40 percent caused riots in the streets in March, forcing the government to delay imposition of the austerity program.

Dinkins calls for racial harmony

NEW YORK — Top city officials have called for racial harmony in the wake of a race killing trial that divided the city and ended with the acquittal of a White youth on murder charges, sparking two days of protests.

Mayor David Dinkins, Police Commissioner Lee Brown and Schools Chancellor Joseph Fernandez all appeared on television talk shows to present plans for peace after verdicts in the trial convicted one White youth of murdering a Black teen and acquitted a second White male.

The broadcast was played while marchers in the African-American parade, in a tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr., made their way up Fifth Avenue and a civil rights group went to Brooklyn to speak out against racism and violence.

Tensions in some parts of the city ebbed with no reports of violence four days after accused triggerman Joseph Fama was convicted of killing Yusef Hawkins, 16, last August.

Hawkins, a Black youth who had gone to the predominantly White Bensonhurst neighborhood with three Black friends to look at a used car, was surrounded by a gang of White youths, some with baseball bats, and was shot to death.

Keith Mondello, the accused ringleader in the slaying, was acquitted on murder and manslaughter charges but convicted of several lesser counts.

The verdict was followed by minor incidents of violence, mostly against television news crews, and a bitter march through Bensonhurst led by Hawkins' brother. Racial slurs were spewed during the march but there was no violence.

Police said that in Bensonhurst, three Whites sprayed beer onto a car occupied by Blacks that was stopped at a traffic light. Mr. Fernandez, appearing on WNBC-TV's "News Forum," announced the formation of the Blue Ribbon Committee for Racial Harmony, calling on students, teachers and administrators to wear blue ribbons to show their commitment to racial harmony.

"I invite all members of our school community to join me in wearing a blue ribbon as a symbol of our dedication to the goal of understanding and mutual respect," Mr. Fernandez said in a memo to city schools.

"Wearing these ribbons until the end of the school year will identify us as members of the Blue Ribbon Committee for Racial Harmony," said Mr. Fernandez, who wore a ribbon while appearing on television.

The idea for the ribbons came from Gerard Pappas, president of FLAMES, an interracial athletic group that works in Bensonhurst and Coney Island, Mr. Fernandez said.

At the African-American parade, the Black boycott of Korean grocery stores in Brooklyn was highlighted by a group of Korean students who rode on a float to thank a class of Black students who defied the boycott last week.

The New York City Civil Rights Coalition, which was formed following the 1986 Howard Beach killing, marched in Flatbush, calling to fight racism and violence.

Mr. Dinkins, appearing on the nationally televised "This Week With David Brinkley" on ABC, again said continued marches in Bensonhurst would be counterproductive and announced a rally against racism in Manhattan.

He called on the federal government to increase aid for schools and jobs in the city as a way to ease racial tension.

"We need job opportunities and educational opportunities that we're not supplying in sufficient quantity right now," Mr. Dinkins said.

PEOPLE OF ALL RACES, creeds and colors joined in a recent candlelight rally during unity efforts at New York's Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. New York Mayor David Dinkins called for the rally to promote racial harmony in the city.

Judge affirms racial goals

BOSTON — A federal judge said the city of Boston must maintain affirmative action goals in its hiring of public school teachers, a ruling that means White teachers could be laid off before Blacks with less seniority.

In issuing what he called final orders, U.S. District Court Judge W. Arthur Garrity said the Boston Public schools were obligated to continue hiring Black teachers until they made up 25 percent of the workforce, and also ruled that the percentage of minority teachers could not be diminished below mandated levels by pending layoffs.

"This is not a teachers' case, this is a pupils' case," said Judge Garrity. "Pupils and parents have to prevail. This is the law of the land."

The Boston Teachers Union had hoped that Judge Garrity would leave the 16-year-old school desegregation case, so that lay offs would be based on seniority, as stated in a new contract.

Following the ruling, BTU President Ed Doherty said, "We will be sitting down with the mayor (and with Black teacher representatives) and try to come out of this without being at one another's throats. Certainly, it's not good for the school system."

School Superintendent Joseph McDonough earlier this month issued pink slips to 375 teachers, but the School Committee announced its intention not to proceed with the layoffs.

Mayor Raymond Flynn wants the School Committee to pare its budget to $390 million for fiscal year 1991, but the panel has said it will go no lower than $409 million and has refused to approve the layoffs.

Justice shakeup after Gray case

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department ended its investigation into a politically embarrassing and misleading "news leak" involving Rep. William Gray, D-Pa., without prosecuting senior aides to Attorney General Dick Thornburgh.

Solicitor General Kenneth Starr was assigned to investigate the sensitive case, including examining the role Mr. Thornburgh's longtime personal spokesman, David Runkel, and another key aide to the attorney general.

Mr. Starr said there was no basis for criminal prosecution of anyone and "no further investigation is warranted."

Mr. Thornburgh abruptly ordered the reassignment or departure of two of his top three aides. Both were questioned in the criminal investigation of the Gray leak and were members of his inner circle, dubbed the "palace guard" by detractors.

Both of the attorney general's aides failed FBI lie detector tests or showed deception, according to news reports on the Gray matter. The FBI put teams of agents on the case after Mr. Thornburgh assigned top priority to finding the "leaker."

In a statement, Mr. Starr said, "While several individuals experienced difficulties on some aspects of their polygraph examinations," there is no evidence that anyone at Justice Department headquarters "served as the original or confirming source of the story," other than Mr. Runkel's role.

Mr. Runkel, who was reassigned, had acknowledged in April that he may have played a role in helping confirm the report by CBS News, broadcast almost a year ago.

Mr. Thornburgh's other top assistant, Robert Ross, Jr., will soon leave the Justice Department to return to private law practice. He was Mr. Thornburgh's most important aide and "gatekeeper."

The high-level Justice Department shakeup, which began late last week, occurred as the leak investigation came to a head. The issue has deeply embarrassed Mr. Thornburgh, personally and politically.

Mr. Thornburgh launched a personal crusade to halt "news leaks." The highly publicized effort frightened many Justice Department employees from talking about even routine legal matters.

Mr. Thornburgh spent $224,000 of taxpayer's money in his effort to find the leaker — including FBI agents armed with lie detector machines only to face the disclosure that his personal spokesman may have played a role.

The CBS news report suggested that Mr. Gray's financial dealings were being investigated. The Justice Department later said Mr. Gray was not a target. Subsequent reports suggested the investigation involved an accountant once retained by the congressman.

Mr. Gray, the ranking Black member of the House is the Democratic whip. Many Democrats regarded the report about Mr. Gray as politically motivated by Republicans. At the time, Mr. Gray was involved in a race for the key House leadership post, which he eventually won.

The case also is sensitive because Mr. Gray is considered a possible candidate for statewide office in Pennsylvania, Mr. Thornburgh's home state. Mr. Thornburgh is the former governor of Pennsylvania.

Bush considers civil rights bill

WASHINGTON — President Bush has laid out conditions for his acceptance of new anti-discrimination legislation but was optimistic agreement can be reached with Congress and civil rights groups on a compromise.

"I'm confident this can be done," Mr. Bush said at a Rose Garden ceremony honoring the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. "I want to sign a civil rights bill, but I will not sign a quota bill. I think we can work it out."

Only a month after the administration threatened to veto the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1990, Mr. Bush's remarks came as agreement between the White House and Congress seemed near on a revised version of the proposed legislation.

Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and John Danforth, R-Mo., called a news conference May 17 to announce a settlement on a key provision that sources said would hopefully eliminate White House concerns about job quotas.

Mr. Kennedy and Rep. Augustus Hawkins, D-Calif., are chief sponsors of the bill that would reverse a series of 1989 Supreme Court rulings that made it more difficult to prove job discrimination.

In one of his strongest statements to date, Mr. Bush assured civil rights leaders that his administration "is committed to action that is truly affirmative — positive action in every sense — to strike down all barriers to advancement of every kind for all people."

The president, however, who has been meeting with civil rights groups and other interested parties, said he would be guided by three principles in accepting legislation: That it not establish or encourage quotas, that it ensure due process in alleged discrimination cases, and that it not turn the law into "a lawyers' bonanza" of excessive litigation.

The White House said previous changes had helped alleviate some objections.

Franklin Williams, ambassador, dies at 72

NEW YORK — Franklin Williams, a civil rights activist who served as the first American Black ambassador to the U.N. Economic and Social Council and helped found the Peace Corps, died May 20 of lung cancer. He was 72.

Mr. Williams died in his home on the Upper West Side of Manhattan after leaving New York Hospital - Cornell Medical Center this weekend following a lengthy stay.

He served as the American ambassador to Ghana during the 1960s and led several American delegations to United Nations conferences before being named president of the Phelps - Stokes Fund, a foundation that works to improve education for American Indians, Blacks and Africans.

"For his hometown of New York City, he was an institution, one of those rarest people who always found time and energy to give of himself for the good of others," said Mayor David Dinkins, a close friend of Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams sent Mr. Dinkins a telegram May 13, two days after the mayor made a major speech on race relations in an effort to ease racial tension in the city, the mayor said, adding it was the last time he heard from Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams served in a racially segregated division of the army before becoming an assistant to Thurgood Marshall, then special counsel to the NAACP, and appeared before the Supreme Court, winning reversals for several young Blacks facing death sentences.

In 1963, Mr. Williams became the first Black American ambassador to the U.N. Economic and Social Council and two years later was appointed by President Lyndon Johnson to be ambassador to Ghana.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, Shirley; two sons, Franklin, Jr., and Paul Anatole; and two grandchildren.

Funeral plans were incomplete.

MICHAEL KENNEDY, last son of Sen. Bobby Kennedy, chats with Zenani Mandela-Dalmini, daughter of Nelson Mandela, as they announced plans to welcome her father when the Black nationalist leader arrives in Boston June 23 for a parade and a rally on Boston Common.

Holiday restored

PHOENIX — Two years after Gov. Evan Mecham was ousted from office following a series of events that began when he rescinded Arizona's Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday, his successor signed a bill that restored it.

Just hours after the House gave the legislation final approval on May 16, Gov. Rose Mofford signed the bill creating a King holiday and reinstating Columbus Day as a state holiday.

The controversial bill will become law within 90 days unless opponents collect enough signatures to put the issue on the November general election ballot.

At a signing ceremony in her office, Mrs. Mofford said it was a "great day" and said she hoped the legislation would end Arizona's reputation as a "racist" state.

The governor also spoke by telephone with Coretta Scott King, the late civil rights leader's widow, who called it a "very significant moment."

The legislation repealed last September's bill that created a King Day on the third day in January in exchange for nullifying the paid state holiday for Columbus Day. Opponents of the King holiday and Italian-Americans obtained enough signatures on referendum petitions to force a vote on that bill in this November's election.

Once Mrs. Mofford signed was canceled.

The Senate passed the bill 16-14. The House approved it 35-25.

Julian Sanders, a Tempe architect who was instrumental in the earlier petition effort, pledged another signature drive to force a public vote. Mr. Mecham has said he will join the effort.

Mr. Mecham, a conservative Republican car dealer who won the governor's seat on his fifth try, got into immediate political trouble when one of his first acts in office in 1987 was rescinding the King holiday that his predecessor, Bruce Babbitt, had mandated.

The controversy grew after Mr. Mecham was accused of making remarks offensive to women, Blacks, homosexuals and others, and after a stormy 15 months in office he was indicted, impeached and ousted from office for obstruction of justice and misuse of public funds.

He and his brother were acquitted of criminal charges of perjury and fraud.