$71,000 raised

Mrs. Mitchell thanks community

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

In an exclusive interview with the *AFRO* on June 28 Mrs. Juanita Mitchell thanked the community for supporting the financial drive that raised $71,000 — thus successfully preventing the auction of her home which was once used as a base of operations by the fledging civil rights organizations of the 60's and 70's.

Mrs. Juanita Mitchell

Mrs. Mitchell said, "I want to thank my friends of freedom who helped turn disaster into a blessing and my crown into a cross. The outpouring of love, the caring and sharing was healing for me. Each night I go through the many letters and notes of love.

"I was not expecting a miracle but I got one. Praise God, I love you all.

The fundraising drive to save the Mitchell home extended far and wide. Most monies came from the Baltimore area, but there was also a strong showing from Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C. *WOL* radio station owner, Cathy Hughes solicited the aid of civil rights activist and *AFRO* Publisher, Frances Murphy as well as syndicated journalist, Ethel Payne. Using the forums at their disposal (*WOL* and the *AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS*) these women mounted a massive fundraising drive throughout the DC metro area.

On June 22, as the deadline for money collection drew to a close, Ethel Payne arrived at the Harbor Bank of Maryland to present a cache of checks totaling $12,500, along with many notes of goodwill from Mitchell supporters, to Mrs. Mitchell.

In a June 28, *WOL* radio interview, from the Lewisburg Federal Prison where he is incarcerated, Clarence Mitchell, III spoke to Cathy Hughes. Mitchell said that he could now rest a little easier knowing that his mother is no longer in dire financial circumstances concerning the home.

Mitchell said, "We were not found guilty of charges of conspiracy to impede and obstruct the committee's (the House Small Business Committee's) Wedtech probe. *Neither were we found guilty of accepting a $50,000 bribe to stop that probe. The jury had inaccurate instructions and thus found me and my brother (Michael) guilty of charges flowing from the conspiracy charge of which we were acquitted.*

Mrs. Mitchell is in default of a $60,000 commercial loan which she borrowed from the First American Bank of Maryland in December of 1987. As payment for the loan and the interest accrued on it, the bank planned to auction the home which has been occupied by her family since 1942.

Members of the original Advisory Committee to "Project for Equal Results," the Baltimore Urban League's Education Initiative received Certificates of Appreciation for their service at a recently held Recognition Breakfast for the project's 14 elementary schools, 24 community organizations, and its volunteers. Left to right are Dr. Guilbert Daley, Mrs. Beverly Lapinski, Mrs. Odelle Rea, Mrs. Carl Johnson and Dr. Nathan Pitts.

2 beatings, 1 death

Brutality claims mar PG police

By Robyn-Denise Yourse
AFRO City Editor

A Howard University doctoral candidate has leveled charges of brutality due to racism against Prince George's County police officers — the second such allegation in recent weeks.

Gregory Habib

Derek J. Marryshow, 28, claims that three county patrolmen knocked him to the ground, and kicked him in the head and groin as he was leaving a Bladensburg apartment after visiting his infant daughter and her mother June 10.

Marryshow's alleged attack by Prince George's officers follows the fatal beating of Gregory K. Habib May 25 after he struggled with law enforcement officials in Langley Park. A preliminary autopsy report released shortly after the incident stated that Habib died from blows to the chest and abdomen sustained in the beating.

Funeral services for Habib, a native of Ghana were held June 3 at the Marshall Funeral Home in Washington.

According to the obituary, Habib came to the United States in 1978 to attend Southeastern University in Washington.

After obtaining a degree in automechanics, he started his own businesses along with his brother Martin.

Authorities maintain that both Marryshow and Habib were subdued by force because each man resisted arrest, and was under the influence of drugs.

"That's their standard defense for their abusive tactics used against black men," Marryshow's attorney Mason Charles said of the Prince George's police force.

"They have been unleashed on young black men and they feel they have been given a green light by the community to stamp out drugs—no matter who they abuse in the process."

Although observers said Habib incited the beating by officers because of aggressive and violent behavior, witnesses said Marryshow's attack appeared to be unprovoked. "I looked through my bedroom window at about 2 a.m. when I began hearing screams," one witness, Chrys Edet said. "I saw one of the officers knock him to the ground, and then another sat on his back."

Edet said a third officer pressed Marryshow's head to the ground with his foot. "This man was not resisting arrest, he was pleading for his life," said Edet. "I shouted to them that I was looking and said 'you don't want to kill him, do you?' Then one of the officers shined a big, bright flashlight in my window and told me to mind my own f——g business.

Right about then, Derek's girlfriend came out of the building and they began cursing her. 'Get your a— back inside, n—-r bitch,' they said. I've lived in this county for 12 years and I've never seen anything like this."

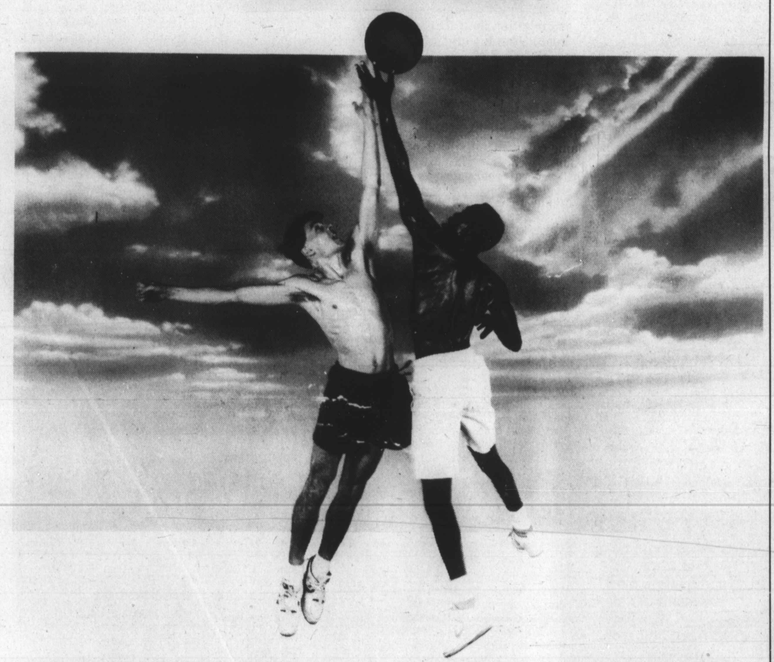
The woman — who Marryshow requested not be named publicly for fear of reprisal — could not be reached for comment. "I was abused and I was humiliated," Marryshow said. "One of those officers put is foot in my crouch. They did this in front of my child and her mother.

They said they were looking for drugs, and they ripped my car apart. They didn't find a thing, but they ripped it apart anyway. And then they said a marijuana roach found on the ground outside of the car belonged to me. That's all they found — one roach on the ground beside my car and they did this to me."

Sgt. William Parr of the Bladensburg City Police Department confirmed the arresting officer's report, but declined to say if authorities would investigate Marryshow's charge of brutality.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY doctoral candidate, Derek Marryshow, shown here with bloodied face after the beating he says he received from PG County police officers.

Some changes are made one-on-one.



Competing against each other in a basketball game can teach kids a lot of respect for the other guy's ability. And sometimes the changing of a whole society begins as simply as that. The exchange of an idea between a student and teacher. The common concerns of neighbors.

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ENDING A WAR—In Zaire, Angolan President Jose Eduardo des Santos (R), rebel leader Jonas Savimbi of UNITA (L), and Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida (C) posed for a picture after their historic handshake signaling a formal truce in the civil war in Angola. Zaire President Mobuto Sese Seko (second row with glasses) organized the peace talks at his place. (UPI)

Angola truce holds, troops quit Namibia

By Jack Reed

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (UPI) — Peace plans for southern Africa began to interlock Saturday, with a cease-fire in effect in Angola and South Africa completing a major troop withdrawal from neighboring Namibia to meet a U.N. independence plan deadline.

The cease-fire, accepted by the two rivals on a handshake at a summit Thursday, went into effect at midnight Friday between Jonas Savimbi's U.S.-armed guerrillas and the Cuban-backed government in Luanda.

There were no immediate reports of violations of the truce, the first cease-fire in 14 years of civil war.

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The ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, known by the Portuguese acronym MPLA, and Savimbi's Union for the Total Independence of Angola, or Unita, both regard the truce as the first step in negotiating a political settlement in the oil-rich former Portuguese colony along southern Africa's Atlantic coast.

The summit was in the northern Zairean village of Gbadolite.

Savimbi says he will go into exile.

In neighboring Namibia, U.N. officials celebrated completion of another step in the independence process Saturday — the withdrawal of all but 1,500 South Africa Defense Force Troops from the territory.

Ninety-six SADF soldiers were flown back to South Africa Saturday morning, leaving the territory where they fought a bush war with guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization, or SWAPO, for 22 years.

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Under the independence plan, the remaining 1,500 SADF troops are confined to base and will remain in the territory until certification of the results of a November election for a constituent assembly to draft a post-independence charter.

South Africa had as many as 40,000 troops stationed in Namibia when the independence plan went into effect.

Settlement of two of southern Africa's bloodiest conflicts began in December, when South Africa agreed to surrender control of Namibia after 74 years of colonial rule, under the 10-year-old U.N. Security Council Resolution 435.

South Africa also agreed to end support for Savimbi's rebels, including direct military intervention in southern Angola and arms. U.S. Aid to Savimbi was expected to continue, however.

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In exchange, Cuba and Angola agreed to the phased withdrawal of all 50,000 Cuban troops stationed in Angola by July 1991. Angola also took a pledge of non-interference, denying both SWAPO and the outlawed African National Congress bases in its territory.

In Mozambique, another former Portuguese colony on the Indian Ocean coast, President Joaquim Chissano was quoted Saturday saying he hoped the Angolan truce would have "some influence" on the right-wing Renamo rebels fighting his government for more than a decade.

He described the Angolan cease-fire agreement and plans to negotiate a power-sharing formula as the result of "the maturing of objective conditions," including implementation of the Namibian independence plan.

When asked about those who had sponsored Unita in the past — a reference to both South Africa and the United States — Chissano said, "Those who were part of the problem yesterday are now part of the solution."

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According to a report by the state-run news agency AIM, Chissano indicated his own Marxist government would be open to negotiation with Renamo if it renounced violence and recognized the "existing order."

"This does not mean that the existing order cannot be modified," Chissano added. "But those who modify it must be the Mozambican people . . . and not through pressures exerted with the support of interests alien to the Mozambican people."

Mozambique in the past accused South Africa of backing the insurgents. It now publicly accepts that official support has ended but continues to claim Renamo has the support of right-wing South Africans.

In recent months, Pretoria's minority white government has publicly called for negotiations similar to those on Namibia and Angola to end the Mozambican conflict.

Drug 'strike force' backed by Manley

By Joe Davidson
(Analysis)

WASHINGTON — Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley has a bold, new idea which could make a difference in the fight against drugs.

He wants countries in the Americas to form an international drug strike force that would use military style operations and intelligence gathering to eradicate drug crops, interdict shipments and arrest the big-time dope dealers.

In Washington to address the annual dinner of Trans-Africa, the African-American Lobby on African and Caribbean issues, Manley said the strike force would be similar to United Nations peace keeping troops, who can be mobilized for quick action at the invitation of any nation in the pact needing assistance.

Manley's idea is a good one for several reasons. As big city mayors in this country frequently point out, the drugs America smokes, snorts and shoots often are grown elsewhere. And while the demand certainly is a major part of the problem, cutting the supply should be a major part of the solution.

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But that's easier said than done in small, poor countries where cocaine, for example, is grown. The big-time dope dealers sometimes have their own armies to protect their illegal crops, enough money to bribe local officials and enough power to eliminate those who stand in the way of big profits. Manley noted that forces loyal to drug lords have defeated government troops and Colombian dealers have brazenly offered to pay off the country's national debt. Their potential for intimidation and corruption is enormous.

An international strike force, drawing on the resources of numerous countries, could muster more force than the drug lords. And because the force would move in and out of problem areas as needed, its members would be much less susceptible to payoffs and threats than local armies frequently populated by a country's poorer, less educated residents.

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The strike force, of course, would be reserved for large operations and not routine police actions that would continue to be the responsibility of the individual nations. Sovereignty, always a sticky issue when considering multilateral law enforcement, would be much less of a problem using an international force rather than simply having the U.S. military give direct assistance to a smaller government.

"You would sidestep every one of those problems if an American helicopter pilot or a French or a British came under some kind of international sponsorship," Manley said of sovereignty. "It gets that problem out of the way."

Manley hasn't yet worked out the details of his plan, which he also is presenting to leaders of Europe and the British Commonwealth. He did meet briefly with President Bush during a recent visit and the administration's initial reaction has been positive.

"It's a very interesting idea and we'll give it close attention," said Don Hamilton, a spokesman for the Office of National Drug Policy.

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Marijuana, or ganja as the Jamaicans call it, has been a major cash crop on the island and, in fact, tolerated by the authorities. The same drug lords who began using Jamaica as a transshipment point for cocaine within the last several years also are taking over the ganja trade.

Manley realizes that in order to defeat the increasing coke problem in his nation, he'll have to essentially fight a lifestyle among some of his citizens who feel ganja smoking is their right. Toward that end, his government is starting anti-drug education classes in the school system with the hope that teachers and parents will learn about the dangers of drug abuse along with the students.

That's a long, long, difficult road, as the U.S. experience demonstrates. But Manley is correct and courageous to start down that path. President Bush and other world leaders should offer all the assistance they can.

SWAPO exiles return to vote

By Gwen McKinney
NNPA Special Correspondent

WINDHOEK, Namibia — Tears, cheers and ceremonial kissing of the ground marked the homecoming for leaders of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), who returned to this once war-torn country to launch an election campaign that will signal the demise of Africa's last colony.

"I didn't think it would be me who would return home; maybe my daughter but not me," exclaimed Hague Geingob. "This is truly an emotional moment. The world doesn't know what it feels like to leave your home and to live in exile."

Geingob, head of SWAPO's eight-member election directorate, has lived in exile for 27 years. He and other SWAPO leaders arrived in a chartered jet with 191 other Namibians who are returning home under a United Nations-supervised repatriation. Within the next month over 45,000 Namibians will be returned to participate in independence elections in November.

U.N. urges Sudanese rebels to pass relief trains through

NAIROBI, Kenya (UPI) — The United Nations has appealed to Sudanese rebel commanders to ensure safe passage for relief trains bringing emergency food supplies to the famine - threatened region, a Nairobi - based spokesman said.

U.N. officials announced in Khartoum Friday that hundreds of hungry villagers, including some armed men, had mobbed one train at several locations on a journey southward, stripping train workers of their valuables and carting off hundreds of sacks of sorghum and other foodstuffs.

Fifteen of the train's 25 cars were emptied of their contents during the June 18 attacks, all in rebel-held areas of southern Sudan, according to Vincent O'Reilly, Nairobi director of the U.N. Operation Lifeline Sudan.

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"Representations to the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) were made last night," O'Reilly said. "We have requested that the local commander there make every effort to ensure safe passage for future trains."

O'Reilly said the world body had also asked the local commander to meet with the train workers and assure them of their safety when the train passes through again on its way back north to be reloaded with more provisions.

A rail shuttle to the south, originally scheduled to begin in early April, did not get underway until late May, largely because of difficulty in assuring train workers it was safe for them to travel through rebel-held areas of the south.

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When the first train did get underway, it was attacked by more than 100 armed men who seized three Western relief workers on board and held them in a wooded area for several hours, stripping them of their valuables.

The train attacked last week was only the second in three months to reach Aweil, 600 miles southwest of Khartoum.

U.N. officials estimate that 250,000 people died of starvation in southern Sudan last year because of disruptions caused by the war and say another 100,000 could die this year if the relief effort is not successful.