Hooks suggests 'conspiracy' in bombing incidents

WASHINGTON (UPI) — NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks suggested Friday that two recent attacks on organization officers in Atlanta and Baltimore may be part of a conspiracy and he has asked the FBI to investigate the prospect.

Hooks also vowed that the "terrorist" attacks against the offices of the 80-year-old civil rights group would not alter its mission or postpone a march on Washington Saturday to protest recent Supreme Court decisions viewed as setbacks to minority gains.

In Atlanta, a package delivered by mail to the group's Southeast regional office Monday turned out to be a tear gas bomb that ignited when the package was opened. The building was evacuated and eight people went to the hospitals with eye irritations and breathing problems; a small child who stopped breathing had to be resuscitated.

In Baltimore July 19, several gunshots were fired at night into lighted rooms at NAACP national headquarters. No one was injured.

Police in Atlanta and Baltimore "have been magnificent" in investigating the incidents, he said, but "we cannot ignore the possibility of a conspiracy that crosses state lines... Racism is on an upward swing in this country.

Earl Shinhoster, executive director of the NAACP's regional headquarters in Atlanta said the incident occurred about 12:30 p.m. when he and his secretary opened the package, a white, hat box-sized container that had been part of the day's mail delivered an hour earlier.

"I can't imagine why anyone would do this," said the visibly shaken Shinhoster. He said no threats had been made recently against the civil rights organization. "I could not imagine that evil that would propel someone to take this kind of action."

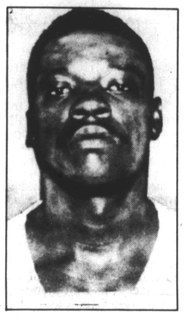
OAKLAND — Mourners gather at the spot where Huey Newton was killed to light candles and place flowers. Sympathizers marched and rallied in remembrance of Newton at the steps of the Alameda County Courthouse last Friday.

Earl Shinhoster, executive director of the NAACP's regional headquarters in Atlanta, wipes his eyes as he tells Rep. John Lewis of the booby-trapped package that spewed noxious gas through the building. At least 12 people were hospitalized.

Suspect arrested in Newton killing

OAKLAND, Calif. — A member of a gang of convicts and ex-convicts has confessed in the killing of Huey P. Newton, telling authorities he shot the Black Panther Party co-founder in self-defense during an argument over cocaine, police said.

Tyrone Robinson, 25, was arrested in the killing of Newton, police said. The West Oakland resident allegedly shot Newton because he wanted to advance in the narcotics trade with a gang of convicts and released convicts called the Black Guerrilla Family, police said.



Tyrone Robinson

Newton, 47, who co-founded the Black Panther Party with Bobby Seale 22 years ago, was shot in the head three times before dawn on Aug. 22 in a rundown West Oakland neighborhood where drug dealing and shootings are common.

According to police, Robinson confessed to killing Newton when the two met by chance on the street after earlier contact at a "crack house," where crack cocaine is dispensed.

Police said he claimed he shot Newton in self-defense because Newton threatened him with a gun. But police said there was no evidence Newton was carrying a gun at the time of the encounter.

"Robinson also considered the murder as a means to advance a narcotics organization operated by the black guerrilla family," Oakland police Sgt. Robert Chenault told the UPI Radio Network in a telephone interview.

Chenault said he and his partner arrested Robinson after receiving a tip he was involved in the Newton killing. He and his partner spotted Robinson's car, stopped it for traffic violations and found weapons in the cars, Chenault said.

"They did know each other for at least two years," Chenault said. "They would run into each other on the street. They were both involved in narcotics. That's what they had in common."

There were no other suspects in custody and no other arrests were anticipated, police said.

On Monday, some 2,000 mourners were expected from around the country to file past Newton's open coffin at Oakland's Allen Temple Baptist Church, his family said.

6 whites charged in fatal attack

NEW YORK — Six White youths have been charged with assault and riot for their alleged role in a racial attack in which a black teenager was shot to death, but police were still searching for the gunman, authorities, said.

Police received death threats against the suspects Friday and the youths wore bulletproof vests when they were taken from the 62nd Precinct to Brooklyn Central Booking, detective James Coleman said.

Yusef Hawkins, 16, was shot to death, last Wednesday night on a Brooklyn street in an attack by a gang of young White men seeking revenge for a friend whose girlfriend spurned him to date blacks and Hispanics, police said.

The White youths apparently mistook Hawkins and his three friends, who had come to the predominantly White Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn to look at a used car, for the young white woman's new friends, police said.

Detectives said they were investigating the slaying as a racially motivated incident.

Keith Mondello, 18, and Steven Curreri 18, of Brooklyn, were charged with first-degree assault, first-degree riot, conspiracy in the fourth degree, aggravated harassment, menacing, and criminal possession of a deadly weapon, a baseball bat, police said.

Pasquale Raucci, 19, and Charles Stressler, 21, of Brooklyn, were charged with the same crimes, except for conspiracy.

Joseph Serrano, 20, surrendered to police and was charged with first - degree assault, first - degree riot, aggravated harassment, menacing and civil rights violations, police spokesman Officer Edward Feeney said.

Steven Curreri, 18, was released along with Mondelo on $75,000 bond, said Tom Antenen, a city Department of Correction spokesman.

The three other white youths — James Pitino, 24, Pasquale Raucci, 19, and Charles Stressler, 21, were released Saturday about 11 p.m. after posting $75,000 bond, Antenen said.

Borders is jailed

WASHINGTON — William Borders, a key figure in the Senate impeachment case of Judge Alcee Hastings, was jailed Friday on a charge of contempt of court.

Borders declined three times to testify before a special Senate committee holding an impeachment hearing for Hastings, a Black U.S. district judge in Florida.

Borders was convicted in 1982 of conspiring to bribe Hastings in exchange for $150,000 from two men who were seeking leniency in a case before the judge. Borders later refused to testify against Hastings, who was acquitted in 1983 of seeking to obtain a bribe from Borders, and served 40 days in jail in contempt of a federal grand jury.

Despite the acquittal, the Senate is considering removing Hastings from the bench of the same bribery charge, and has sought testimony from Borders. Borders is to remain in jail until he either decides to testify before the Senate impeachment committee.

Pierce testimony due

WASHINGTON — Former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Samuel Pierce, Jr. will likely face questions from a congressional subcommittee about a $1.4 million loan made to a partnership including Hampton University President William Harvey, the panel's director says.

"I think it's a likely area of inquiry," said Stuart Weisberg, staff director for the House Committee on Government Operations' subcommittee on Employment and Housing.

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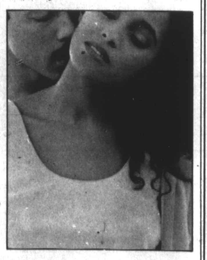

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LIFESTYLE

Social Notes

Pinderhughes scholarship

When Alice Pinderhughes retired about a year ago, she was heard to say that she was concerned about attracting the best and brightest people to teach in the city of Baltimore. She was keenly aware of the fact that teachers are powerful forces in the molding of young minds for the future. She also realized that any improvement in our educational systems must begin with improving the status and quality of teachers.

Mrs. Pinderhughes says, "When we compare societies of the world, it is not surprising that in countries like Japan where teachers are revered and highly respected, and held in great esteem, the quality of the product (the child) is greater. We would do well to model our teaching profession in such a manner so that the status of teachers is elevated to a more lofty and attractive positions."

As a legacy to the children of Baltimore, Mrs. Pinderhughes has made a commitment to bring this city some of the best and most promising teachers in this country. She wants to establish a fund to encourage outstanding college bound students to seek careers in public education and to attract outstanding new teachers to the BCPS.

This fund would provide financial aid to young people who want to go to college and then teach in this city. Initially, the fund hopes to raise $200,000.00. Contributions to the Alice G. Pinderhughes Scholarship Fund are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. The fund will be managed by the Scholarship Program of the BCPS.

A salute to Mrs. Pinderhughes will be held on September 13 at Martin's West. Proceeds from this affair will benefit the Scholarship Fund. Your participation and contribution will be appreciated by generations to come.

For further information contact Dr. Edmonia Yates, 448-0192.

Champagne and roses

The Sorors of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc, Rho Xi Omega Chapter, cordially invite you to attend a Labor Day Brunch on Monday, Sept. 4. This event entitled, "Champagne and Roses" will be held at the Kittamaquindi Room in Columbia, Md. from 11-3:00 P.M.

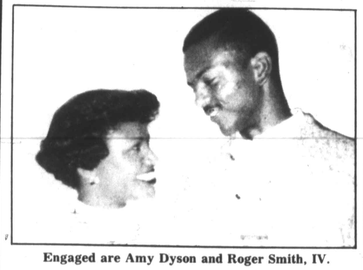
Proceeds will benefit the Educational Advancement Foundation and community projects in Baltimore metropolitan area. For further information contact Moncenya Broadus at 964-8374 or 358-8357.

Dyson/Smith

Mrs. Mary Dyson of Baltimore is proud to announce the engagement of her daughter, Amy C. Dyson, to Roger Smith, IV, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Smith, III of Baltimore.

The bride-elect is a graduate of University of Maryland, College Park and is currently employed at Maryland Medical Labs. Mr. Smith attended the Community College of Baltimore and is currently employed at Allied Security.

A September wedding is planned.



Engaged are Amy Dyson and Roger Smith, IV.

Fitzgerald reunion

"Let Brotherly Love Continue" was the theme of the Fitzgerald-Glass-Henry-Terry 42nd annual reunion. The host for the reunion were the family members living in Baltimore with Mrs. Frances Terry Colona, chairperson.

The Fitzgerald-Glass-Henry-Terry families originated in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. The family members attended this reunion from far and near including Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Washington,D.C.,Indiana, North Carolina, Delaware and Maryland.

The beautiful 130 acre Nixon Farm was the site of the reunion. A delicious buffet was enjoyed by all. Home made cakes and pies were the order of the day. The program included greetings music, memorial, achievement awards, family introductions, games, face painting, hayrides and business meeting.

Saturday evening the family reassembled at the Holiday Inn, Belmont. Here they enjoyed swimming, games and video tapes of last year's reunion. Many past events were also shared by family members.

The week-end activities concluded with a beautiful breakfast at the Holiday Inn. A program of "Love and Unity" was shared by the family, which includes family reflections, quotes from older members, a family circle and a parting prayer sent the family members back to their homes with memories that will last a lifetime.

Iota Convention

Members of Kappa Chapter, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. have recently returned from the 60th National Convention of the sorority held in Shreveport, Louisiana. Beta Psi Chapter was the host. The theme of the convention was "Business Women: Catylist for Economic Change."

At the convention, the delegates heard national president. Priscilla Thomas, deliver her state of the sorority address in which she reported the many areas in which the sorority has networked with other Greeks and organizations to promote their objectives in the area of scholarships donations, career education and tutoring for minority pupils.

Eastern Regional Director, Evelyn B. Faulk, of Baltimore presided over the Networking Roundtable and International Involvement. During this time, reports were heard concerning the sorority's involving with NAACP, National Urban League, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Congressional Black Caucus, and the Legislative Committee.

Doris Browning Austin recently elected National Vice President.

Evelyn Faulk Eastern Regional Director.

Also addressed were women's concerns, such as National Council of Negro Women, Black Women's Agenda, and Cataloguing Iota Women Entrepreneurs.

Soror Fannie B. Poulson urged the group to intensify its involvement with the Assault on Literacy Program, a coalition of organizations committed to eradication illiteracy by community building.

Dr. E. Grace Payne, of Los Angeles was elected as the new National President to provide leadership for the next two years, along with Doris Browning Austin, of Kappa Chapter, Baltimore, elected as National Vice President.

Soror Christine Frazier, also of Baltimore was reelected as the National Recording Secretary. Soror of the Year honors went to Lula Rogers, Alpha Chi Chapter, Norfolk, Virginia.

The coveted Lola Mercedes Parker award, which is given bi-annually to an outstanding business woman, went to Dr. Elaine Whitty, of Norfolk, Virginia; and for outstanding accomplishments in regional development, Soror Evelyn Faulk was recipient of a plague.

Among delegates and visitors from Baltimore were, Doris Browning Austin, Kay Biles, Evelyn B. Faulk, Mildred G. Marlow, Fannie B. Poulson, Blanche Williams, Elvera Richardson, Ruth Elder, Christine Frazier, Ruby B. Lee and Frances Ricketts. The Eastern delegates and visitors joined others in a post convention trip to the exciting port of New Orleans, Louisiana.

Soror Kathy Parrish, California; Soror Blanche Williams, Regional Treasurer of Baltimore.

Soror Mildred Marlow, President of Kappa Chapter, Baltimore joins other delegates at the Auxiliary Banquet.

Annual Noble conference

Marcellus Boles, Noble national president.

"Building on Noble's Past—Preparing For Our Future" was the theme of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (Noble) 13th Annual Conference and Exposition held in Atlanta recently.

Representatives from local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, and the business sector gathered in to address concerns that impact heavily upon the urban communities throughout the country, like the epidemic drug problem from which stems a multitude of problems.

Marcellus Boles, a lieutenant colonel in the Baltimore Police Department was sworn in as the national president of Noble. Noble's membership is comprised of over 200 chiefs, police commissioners, sheriffs, and U.S. Marshals from across the country, as well as the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, and Trinidad. The organization represents all law enforcement agencies from the local, state, county and federal levels of government.

Over 800 participated in the Atlanta conference.

An inspirational memorial march of uniformed chiefs and executives, as well as plainclothes members, wound through downtown Atlanta and culminated at the Martin Luthor King Center and Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Kappa Alpha Psi Charity Awards

The Baltimore Alumani Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. recently held its annual charity awards ceremony. Greetings and introductions were given by Alumni Chapter Polemarch Robert G. Jacobs.

Awards were presented by Samuel H. Adams, Charity Chairman, with the able assistance of the Mayor, the Honorable Kurt L. Schmoke. The grand total of money awarded for 1989 was $25,000.00. The following organizations received donations from the charity fund.

NAACP, Baltimore Chapter; the United Negro College Fund; League for the Handicapped; Camp Farthest Out; Eubie Blake Cultural Center; Big Brothers/Big Sisters; Associated Black Charities; James Mosher Little League; Lake Clifton/E.H.S. (SADD); Substance Abuse Program; Mrs. Santa, Afro American Newspaper; Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital; Maryland Special Olympics; Project Survival; Salvation Army; Florence Crittenton Services; Boy Scouts of America; Johns Hopkins Children's Center; Leith Walk Elementary School; and the Kidney Foundation.

Photo by Ricardo Gray

Among those attending Kappa Charity awards were John Patterson, Samuel Adams, George Buntin, NAACP; Lynette Locke, AFRO; Yvonne McKinney, Kidney Foundation; Robert Jacobs, Alumni Chapter Polemarc; Honorable Kurt Schmoke, mayor; Edgar Powell; and Russell Lyles.

DHR acting Director

Carolyn Colvin, Secretary of the Department of Human Resources has named Regina Bernard as Acting Executive Director of DHR's Social Services Administration.

"Regina Bernard has a long record of service to the disadvantaged in Maryland, especially the young," said Secretary Colvin. "She is a an experienced administrator, a leader, and a caring person. I know she will bring those qualities to DHR's Social Services Administration."

Ms. Bernard will be responsible for a comprehensive range of health and human service programs for the young, the old, the disabled and other disadvantaged Marylanders. She will oversee 20 programs, a staff of 140 and a budget of $17.35 million dollars.

Ms. Bernard is a graduate of Morgan State University, and holds a Masters in Social Work from the University of Maryland and a post-masters certificate in social work administration from the same university.