

**The Black Press—
Our Freedom Depends
On It!**

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

Words of Wisdom
The English language isn't dead — but at
times it seems to be sick in bed.

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W-10 WITNESSES: PROSECUTOR INDUCED LIES

BURGAW — As the three witnesses against the Wilmington 10 recanted their 1972 testimony, representatives of the State of North Carolina still insist that the first testimony of Allen Hall, Eric Junious, and Jerome Mitchell was the truth.

Each of the witnesses that New Hanover County Prosecutor Jay Stroud relied upon for testimony in the 1972 conviction now points a finger at Stroud claiming he induced them to life for favors, money and time off their prison terms.

Two of the witnesses, Allen Hall and Jerome Mitchell, had prison terms when they say they were approached to lie against the Wilmington 10. Allen Hall testified that after he was

convicted of arson and sentenced twelve years in prison, Prosecutor Stroud told him (Hall) that there were witnesses that said Hall had burned Mike's Grocery. But Hall continued saying Stroud said that he didn't want to prosecute me, but "they wanted Ben Chavis."

Then there was Jerome Mitchell, a very impressive witness, sixteen years old at the first trial in 1972, who testified he was charged with first degree murder and robbery and represented by a state-appointed attorney. According to Mitchell, he saw his lawyer only two times before trial, the second time, the lawyer told him he could get reduction of sentence if he pleaded guilty to second degree murder.

Mitchell now maintains he was innocent, pleaded guilty to avoid the maximum death sentence.

Eric Junious, the third recanting witness, is 17 years old now, but has only twelve years old when he said Stroud approached him with an attractive inducement, a mini-bike for Christmas. Unlike Hall and Mitchell, Junious was not in jail and had no sentence that could have been bargained for in exchange of testimony against the Wilmington 10.

"He (Stroud) didn't ask me to say nothing. He promised me a mini-bike for Christmas and then showed me some pictures and asked me if I had ever seen them (members of the Wilmington 10) doing certain things. I wanted the

mini-bike, so I said that I had seen them do those things."

The alleged inducements to Hall and Mitchell were different. Hall said Stroud contacted a Judge Blount and got a reduction of his sentence from one day to twelve years, meaning he could be released from prison at any time. Mitchell said Stroud promised and later got his sentencing judge to reduce his sentence from one day to fifty years.

There were other alleged inducements. While serving their time in prison, both Hall and Mitchell were brought to Wilmington, housed in motels and a beach cottage owned by a former KKK official and real estate salesman. As they were

prepared for trial, each gave accounts of liquor, "dope to smoke and easy living" at the motels and beach cottage. Allen Hall's girl friend, Deborah Simpson of Asheville, her mother, Mrs. Jean Simpson Samuels, were transported by sheriff's deputies to Wilmington and lodged in the Holiday Inn. Both Hall and Ms. Simpson testified that Stroud was match-maker, trying to get the two married so Hall's testimony that he met Ms. Simpson while in New York, could be corroborated. Mrs. Samuels, Deborah's mother testified that she fooled all of that when she decided to make the trip to Wilmington with her daughter.

But then, there was the question. How do three wit-

nesses get a lie straight against ten people they claim now that they did not know?

Hall and Mitchell said Stroud provided them with notes in Stroud's handwriting, detailing what they were to say. The notes were not seen again by Mitchell and Hall until the post conviction hearing. Mitchell identified them as the ones his testimony was coerced from. As they were presented by Defense Counsel James Ferguson, the notes were almost identical to the testimony given by Mitchell at the 1972 trial. Stroud's notes were obtained by the defense from federal grand jury proceedings in March by defense counsel.

Chief Defense Counsel James Ferguson maintained,

after he presented Allen Hall, that he had shown "how the testimony of the witnesses was introduced at the original trial with promises of special treatment."

How much of the testimony Judge George Fountain will believe is yet unknown. Fountain has an easy courtroom demeanor after questioning witnesses, but seldom gives indication of belief or disbelief. Fountain's refusal to allow Rev. Ben Chavis and the other eight defendants still imprisoned to attend the proceedings, was strongly criticized by supporters of the Wilmington 10. Fountain said their presence was not necessary at the post conviction hearing unless they were going to testify. Ferguson maintained

that he needed their assistance in cross-examining other witnesses.

The hearing has been well attended, with the 300 seat courtroom packed the first day. Caravans from Raleigh, Wilmington, Oxford, Charlotte, and Washington, D. C., covered on Burgaw, a town of 2,000 giving it new life. Many of its merchants were overjoyed at their quick business success. One witness at the only restaurant in town, admitted new prices went into effect especially for the trial.

COMMENTARIES

The post conviction hearing drew sharp remarks from many who attended. Congressman Don Edwards [Continued On Page 10]

Walk-Out At NAACP Headquarters End, Contract Terms Initialed

NEW YORK — After a week-long walkout, and a series of "job actions" by unionized professional and clerical employees in the National Office of the NAACP, a settlement has been reached which returned the work force to their jobs. The terms of the agreement between the NAACP and the Community and Social Agency Employees Union, District Council, 1707, were outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding, signed late Tuesday night April 26.

The settlement entails across-the-board salary increases and the NAACP picking up the expected increases in premiums to maintain current health and welfare benefits. Also, the agreement places a cap on the number of days employees can accrue in re-employment (severance) pay. When a retrenchment of staff becomes necessary, permanent clerical employees are entitled to one month's notice, and terminal vacation pay, plus eight (8) days' severance pay for each year of service. Permanent professional employees are entitled to three months' notice, terminal vacation pay, plus eight (8) days' severance pay for each year of service. The new agreement places a cap of 130 days accrual in severance pay and freezes the severance entitlement of those employees who have already accrued more than 130 days. Their severance benefit is frozen at the number of days accrued on January 1, 1977. However, new employees (those hired after Jan. 1, 1977) will be allowed to accrue severance pay at the rate of five (5) days per year, up to a maximum of 65 days.

of employment as a paid holiday. This will allow the NAACP offices to remain open on Election Day, except every fourth year.

The parties could not agree on the issue of exempting certain supervisory and confidential ad-

ministrative employees from the cap. The settlement also provides for a cap on the number of days employees can accrue in re-employment (severance) pay. When a retrenchment of staff becomes necessary, permanent clerical employees are entitled to one month's notice, and terminal vacation pay, plus eight (8) days' severance pay for each year of service. Permanent professional employees are entitled to three months' notice, terminal vacation pay, plus eight (8) days' severance pay for each year of service. The new agreement places a cap of 130 days accrual in severance pay and freezes the severance entitlement of those employees who have already accrued more than 130 days. Their severance benefit is frozen at the number of days accrued on January 1, 1977. However, new employees (those hired after Jan. 1, 1977) will be allowed to accrue severance pay at the rate of five (5) days per year, up to a maximum of 65 days.

ALEX HALEY'S RELATIVE TO ATTEND FORUM AT DURHAM COLLEGE

Sain Kinte, "Roots" author Alex Haley's relative from the Gambia will attend a forum and be honored at a reception at 7:30 on Friday night at the Durham College Gymnasium. Haley's relative, of the famed Kinte clan, will attend a forum on "Images of Minorities in the Media" sponsored by the Black Presence Committee. Kinte is touring the U. S. along with a delegation of twelve other Gambians.

radio TV promotions specialist, and Dr. Marvin Duncan, Educational Media Specialist. These events are being sponsored by the Black Presence Committee of Chapel Hill and Carrboro. The project is funded by the North Carolina Humanities Committee.

President Carter has pledged to work toward increasing federal deposits in minority banks to \$100 million by the end of this year.

Carter met with 11 presidents of minority banks in The White House, all representatives of the National Bankers Association, a trade group representing 153 minority banks.

"My guess is we'll exceed (the goal)," President Carter said.

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LANCE JEFFERS



DR. DONALD MARTIN

Carter Has Pledged To Work Toward Increases

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President had sent a memorandum to all departments and agencies, urging officials to "make every possible effort, within the constraints of good cash management, to locate deposits under your control... in minority banks."

The President named his Special Assistant for Minority Affairs, Martha (Bunny) Mitchell, to serve as liaison between the banks and the Treasury and Commerce Departments for this project.



FOUNDER'S DAY PARTICIPANTS AT FSU — Dr. Charles "A" Lyons, Jr., (second from left) Chancellor of Fayetteville State University poses with participants recently during the 100th Founders Day activities when distinguished black journalist Carl Rowan was the principle speaker. The participants included (l-r) Fayetteville Mayor Beth Finch, Chancellor Lyons, FSU Trustee Chairman Jackson F. Lee, UNC System President William Friday, Carl Rowan and Dr. John R. Larkins. (FSU photo by J. B. Henderson).

"Schools Like FSU Must Survive To Serve Young Blacks"

FAYETTEVILLE — Nationally syndicated black journalist, Carl Rowan, the son of poor parents from Tennessee told an audience of over 1,000 at Fayetteville State University's 100th Founder's Day ceremony recently that "Jim Crow ain't dead and black institutions like Fayetteville State University must be kept alive because they are valuable to

young black students."

FSU, founded in 1867 and ten years later given state appropriations (1877) is the second oldest state supported institution of higher learning in North Carolina.

Rowan said that all state-supported black institutions are under a great deal of

attack and pressure from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and other persons that question the value of the institutions.

"Minorities make great progress in the good times," Rowan said. "When the money is plentiful, there are plenty of grants and scholarships. But when the money is scarce, blacks take a back seat in admission appropriations

and scholarships and grants," he said.

Dr. Charles "A" Lyons, Jr., chancellor of the university, presided and introduced Rowan.

Following his speech, Dr. Renee Wescott Hill received the Distinguished Alumni Award and James Edward Coppage received the Distinguished Service Award from the University.

"WHAT WE NEED IS A CHANCE"

CHARLOTTE — Nearly all public construction contracts totaling more than \$1,000 in North Carolina are legally required to be awarded by sealed bids, in which any licensed contractor can participate. However, that bid must be bonded so that the owner of the project, municipality, or state government can be insured against loss by failure of the contractor to complete the work or pay his or her creditors. That bond is called a bid bond.

Chances of a small black contractor getting a public job are very slim for several reasons. This problem was explored in a seminar held in Charlotte, May 5, by the Associated General Contractors and the Office of Minority Business Enterprise of the Department of Natural and Economic Resources.

The ins and outs of construction estimating and bid procedures as well as bond-

requirements were discussed. A crucial stumbling block confronting many black contractors is that they cannot get bonding for their bids, and thus they are not able to bid for the jobs in the first place.

Leon Clark, manager of the North Carolina Office of

the Bond Market, Inc., said lack of financial records and experience in the area contracted are the factors that [Continued On Page 10]

COMMENTARY: WHO ARE INTERVENTIONISTS?

PEKING (Hsinhua Correspondent) — The Kremlin boss, Leonid Brezhnev, in a speech on April 18 unreasonably accused those countries supporting the people of Zaire in defense of national independence and territorial integrity, of "violating one of the basic principles for interstate relations — the principle of non-interference in domestic affairs" and "meddling in other people's affairs."

At the same time, the Soviet mouthpiece heaped slanders and abuses on Morocco, Sudan and Egypt by name.

Who are the interventionists? The people of Zaire

know better than anyone else and they have informed the world of what they found out.

On April 19, President Mobutu in an interview with the Zaire press agency pointed out: "As a leader of a sovereign state I have the full liberty and independence to appeal to any countries when Zaire is menaced. It is therefore by no means interference when these countries responded positively to Zaire's demand."

President Mobutu's statement is a sharp rebuff to Brezhnev's outburst.

In an interview with the Parish newspapers 'Le Fi-

gare" and "L'Aurore" on the same day, King Hassan II of Morocco pointed out that Zaire, "like us, is a member of the Organization of African Unity. She asked for our help. It is, therefore, normal for us to answer her appeal."

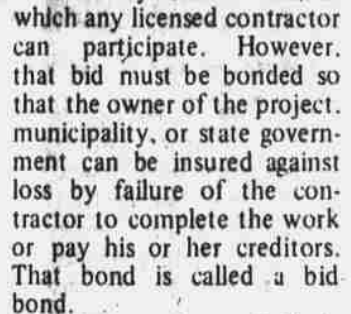
Foreign Minister Kargougou of Upper Volta, declared on April 16 that it was in accordance with their agreement of cooperation with Zaire that certain friendly countries had not hesitated to pledge solidarity with Zaire.

The Executive Chairman of the Organization of Africa Unity, Prime Minister Seewoosagur Ramgoolam of Mauritius, declared on April

15 that the OAU cannot tolerate violation of the territorial integrity of an African country by arms. The OAU Secretary General has proclaimed "full support for and solidarity with the government and people of Zaire." All this has been regarded by Brezhnev as "intervention". What is this if not pure despot logical ex-

In the past several weeks, countries and people of the Third World, have extended a helping hand to the people of Zaire, particularly African countries which demonstrated an indomitable spirit in pledging themselves to share

[Continued On Page 10]



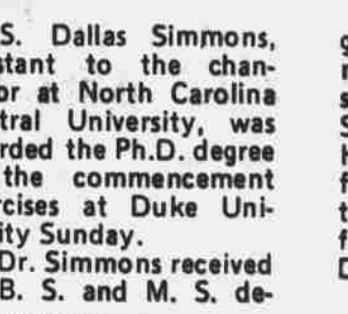
S. Dallas Simmons, assistant to the chancellor at North Carolina Central University, was awarded the Ph.D. degree at the commencement exercises at Duke University Sunday.

Dr. Simmons received his B. S. and M. S. de-



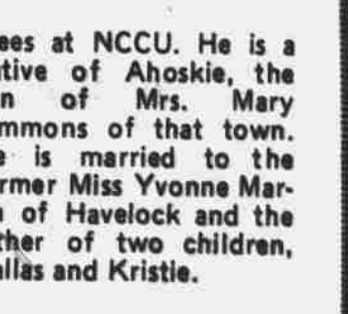
CLEON F. THOMPSON, vice president student services and special projects, University of North Carolina General Administration, received the Ph.D. at the Duke University commencement Sunday.

Dr. Thompson is a native of New York City. He received the B. S.



and M. S. degree in biology from North Carolina Central and did graduate study at Columbia University and UNC-Chapel Hill.

Dr. Thompson's doctoral thesis was a "Comparisons of Black and White Institutions of Higher Education in



grees at NCCU. He is a native of Ahoskie, the son of Mrs. Mary Simmons of that town. He is married to the former Miss Yvonne Martin of Havelock and the father of two children, Dallas and Kristie.