

# Urban Policy Report Released

[NNPA] Housing and Urban Development Secretary Samuel R. Pierce, Jr., said last Monday that "the Reagan Administration is pledged to work jointly with state and local governments and private sector to improve the quality of life in our cities."

In releasing the National Urban Policy Report, the HUD Secretary noted that the Administration views its urban policy as an evolving one within the context of the President's historic Federalism Initiative, which would achieve a better balance of resources and responsibilities among the Federal, state and local governments.

Secretary Pierce pointed out that the foundation for the Administration's urban policy is the Economic Recovery Program: "If cities are to prosper, our economy must be healthy and vital."

Secretary Pierce cautioned that the Economic Recovery Program cannot be expected to cure all urban ills. "The Administration's evolving urban policy will focus attention of all three levels of government and the private sector on pervasive urban problems, such as crime and infrastructure needs," he said.

Quoting from the Report, Secretary Pierce said: "Our values as a free and caring people and the lessons of recent decades suggest the following basic premises to guide the development of the Administration's urban policy:

—that cities are a valuable asset; —that our urban policy should be broad enough to encompass the diversity of our cities; —that states and cities, properly unfettered, state, and local governments have

the responsibility to care for the needy who cannot help themselves; —that the Administration is committed to guaranteeing civil rights, to enforcing vigorously the constitutional and statutory safeguards against discrimination, and to ensuring that no one is denied equal treatment and participation in publicly-funded programs because of race, sex, creed, or national origin;

—that certain problems in cities, such as crime and infrastructure needs, require special attention; —that certain forms of federal aid should be directed to cities bearing the brunt of economic dislocation; —that the private sector, both corporate and voluntary, contains important sources of strength and creativity that must be tapped for the Nation to progress; and —that, ultimately, the key to healthy cities is a healthy economy."

The Secretary noted that, operating on these premises, the Administration has already launched a number of initiatives aimed at revitalizing America's cities:

—Reducing the inflation rate from 12.5 per cent to 6.7 per cent over the past year through the Economic Recovery Program; —Reducing the burden on cities of Federal regulations; —Stimulating private sector investment in urban areas through the Economic Recovery Tax Act; —Increasing use of block grants to return decision-making closer to the people; —New approaches to the nation's housing problems, including vouchers to house poor families, a Rental Rehabilitation proposal to improve existing housing stock, the Joint Venture for Affordable Housing to reduce housing costs, and en-

couraging pension funds to invest in mortgages; —Comprehensive anti-crime legislation, particularly recognizing that "city-dwellers are the predominant victims of crime;" —Establishing the Task Force on Private Sector Initiatives "to help encourage greater private activities on behalf of America's communities."

Stressing that the "Federal Government should focus aid toward severely distressed cities to overcome the effects of economic dislocation," Secretary Pierce emphasized the Administration's support for Enterprise Zones to create jobs and revitalize cities. He also

outlined steps which have focused the Community Development Block and the Urban Development Action Grant programs on economic development.

Underscoring the Administration's confidence in the ability of mayors and governors to formulate local solutions to local needs and to work creatively with the private sector, Pierce said: "The Administration believes that states and local governments have amply demonstrated that, properly unfettered, they will make better decisions than the Federal government acting for them."

"The increased capabilities of state governments and the growing trend of local governments to engage the private sector in addressing urban problems are signs of progress and promise in the continuing drive to achieve an urban renaissance," he concluded.

## NAACP Prexy Adds Special Touch

NEW YORK — Given the rousing reception it received before a limited audience in Boston, the dramatic presentation, "Without A Doubt," is being acclaimed a success. The presentation which is a collage of poetry, speeches and song, is being sought for repeat performances throughout the nation.

First put together in February for "Black History Month," "Without A Doubt" is a tribute to W. Montague Cobb, the NAACP's 77-year-old president. It is directed by Mrs. Amelia Cobb Gray, daughter of Dr. Cobb. Works featured in the collage are by Langston Hughes, Sterling Brown and other outstanding black poets and men of letters.

Lending historical poignance are dramatic excerpts from Booker T. Washington's 1895 Atlanta Exposition speech and from a detailed analysis by W.E.B. DuBois in 1898 of the black condition in America.

Structurally, the collage is divided into four segments: "Portraits of Endurance," "Taking A Perspective," "Perspective In Action" and "Reconvergence".

Dr. Cobb has been called a "Renaissance man". He is a distinguished professor emeritus of anatomy of Howard University.

Mrs. Gray is an accomplished playwright and director. She is an associate professor of theater at the University of the District of Columbia.

## Reynolds To Investigate SCLC Charges

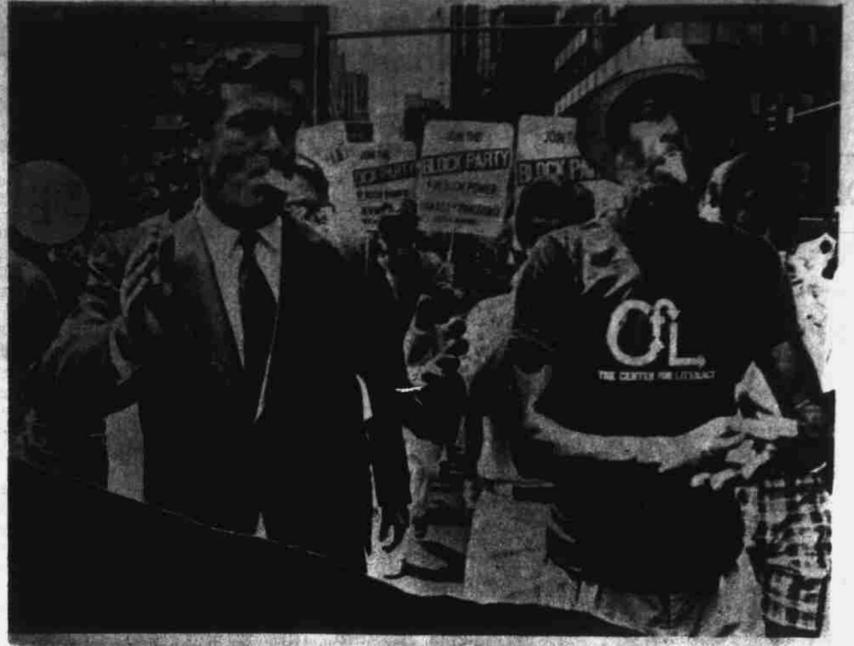
William Bradford Reynolds, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department, announced that it will investigate reports of racial harassment and intimidation directed against the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Pilgrims who marched from Tuskegee, Alabama to Washington, D.C., in support of an extension of the Voting Rights Act.

In a press statement, Reynolds said, "We are awaiting more detailed information about the alleged incidents, and are prepared to call upon the FBI to initiate a full investigation into the matter to the extent necessary."

"We welcome this forceful statement," said Dr. Joseph Lowery, president of SCLC. "We urge a speedy and full investigation."

Lowery and an SCLC delegation met with Reynolds to discuss the incidents and the case of Mrs. Maggie Bozeman and Mrs. Julia Wilder.

A detailed report of the SCLC pilgrimage will be presented at the organization's annual convention in Birmingham, Ala., August 10-13.



PHILADELPHIA—Philadelphia Mayor Bill Green (l) and Wally Amos, maker of Famous Amos Cookies, blow kazoos as they lead a parade of children blowing and holding balloons. They are marching downtown here in support of libraries and to promote literacy. (UPI Photo)

# NAACP To Hold Victory Celebration

NEW YORK — The NAACP will hold a Port Gibson victory celebration in Mississippi to mark the historic importance of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling overturning the \$1.25 million boycott judgment against the association.

The three-day program will begin in Jackson, Miss., on Thursday, July 29, when NAACP Executive Director Benjamin L. Hooks will launch a massive voter education campaign and membership drive. In Port Gibson that night, Hooks and board chairman, Mrs. Margaret Bush Wilson, will lead the "Port Gibson Victory Celebration" at the First Baptist Church.

Other speakers on the program will be Aaron Henry, Mississippi

NAACP State Conference president, a long-time civil rights activist, and one of the defendants in the boycott suit. Other defendants will be recognized during the program.

Thomas Atkins, NAACP General Counsel, will pay tribute to the lawyers who represented the NAACP during the trial.

Leading the defense was Charles Carter, associate NAACP counsel.

The Port Gibson celebration will also include a parade over what is known as the town's civil rights march route.

On Friday, delegations will lead membership and voter education drives throughout six principal rallying points. In addition to Jackson, there are Greenwood and Grenada, West Point and Columbus, Hat-

tiesburg and Gulf Coast, Meridian, Vicksburg and Natchez.

It was into a crowded First Baptist Church in 1969 that the local police fired several shots one night killing one black man. That tragedy set off more demonstrations which initially had begun in 1966. Following these demonstrations, the merchants filed a \$3.5 million damage suit against the NAACP and more than 100 NAACP members and other black residents.

At the conclusion of a nine-month trial that began in 1975, the

Mississippi Chancery Court in Jackson handed down a judgment of \$1.25 million against the NAACP and 91 defendants. The NAACP's appeal against the judgment was argued before the Supreme Court last March.

July 2, the final day of the NAACP annual convention in Boston, the high court handed down its unanimous ruling

overturning the judgment. The judgment is considered historically important not only for the NAACP and other civil rights organizations that utilize various forms of protests, including selective buying campaigns, to press their demands of grievances, but also for labor union and similar organizations.

## Kool-Aid...On A Stick

BRAND SOFT DRINK MIX

### Frozen Suckers

1 envelope KOOL-AID® Unsweetened Soft Drink Mix, any flavor  
2/3 cup sugar  
1 quart water

Dissolve soft drink mix and sugar in water. Pour into plastic ice-cube trays or small paper cups. Freeze until almost firm. Insert wooden stick or spoon into each. Freeze until firm. Makes about 20.

**GO GREYHOUND FOR COMFORT AND RELAXATION.**

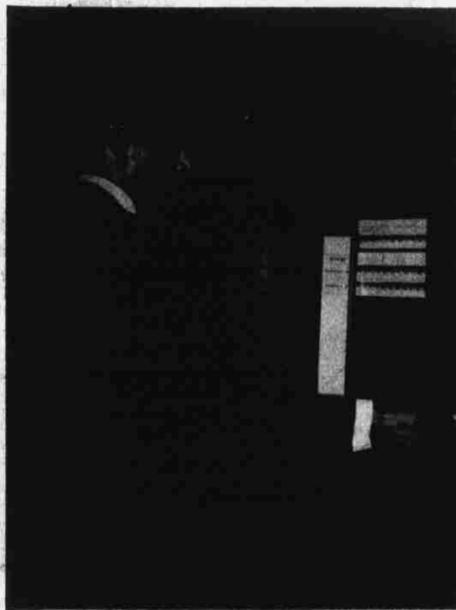


If you're thinking about taking a nice, relaxing vacation, think about the nice, comfortable way to travel. Greyhound.

And if you're going to the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee, be sure to call us. As the official motor coach carrier to the 1982 World's Fair, we can take you directly to the front gate.



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**TUES. JULY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

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