

A very well-known press secretary From Page A1

"Everybody has been pleased with him." Speaking for Helms, Fuller said the senator initially didn't know Allen is black. "He was hired because he was qualified," Fuller said. "His race had nothing to do with it. We don't think in those terms."

A religious, soft-spoken person, Allen was born in Philadelphia in 1960. His family later moved to Washington and then to Raleigh. He attended Sanderson High School and became that school's first black student body president in 1978.

Fellow conservatives have accepted him, Allen said. "I haven't received any negative calls from conservative whites," he said. "And I have gotten some positive calls from blacks."

Still, a number of students in Chapel Hill say they have reservations concerning Allen's role among the Helms forces.

James Exum, a UNC junior from Charlotte and a candidate for student body president, charged that Allen was hired only to be a token on Helms' staff. "Claude has been overzealous in trying to cover up some of Helms' positions," Exum said. "(Helms) is a blatant racist and his comments about King prove that."

Last year, Helms opposed the creation of a national holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr., saying King was influenced by communists.

Allen insists there is evidence to back up the claim.

In 1982, Helms led the fight among conservative senators against the extension of the 1965 Voting Right Act, and he is also a long-standing Senate foe of court-ordered busing for school

desegregation.

Said a political observer from Raleigh: "Claude is a nice fellow and has a brilliant future, but he is missing the boat. Jesse Helms has done blacks across the state no favors since he was first elected as a senator in 1968 (the same year King was killed by an assassin's bullet)."

But Allen said he will never regret his decision to work for Helms. "I can go through my life saying that I did what I thought was right," he said. "I followed principles."

Allen could be the most famous press secretary Helms has ever had because Gov. James B. Hunt Jr.'s bid to win Helms' Senate seat has generated widespread media coverage. Both sides also expect a bitter campaign.

"We have not written off any vote," Allen said. "We are going after the vote of Jim Hunt's mom and dad."

Allen also said he was not hired to go around the state and lobby blacks to vote for Helms, implying that Ben Ruffin, special assistant to Hunt for minority affairs, was.

Ruffin, who is black, would not comment specifically on Allen's statement, but did say, "I'm not going to coerce anybody to vote Gov. Hunt. Blacks are going to vote for Hunt because they feel like they are part of his administration."

As for the much-discussed King holiday issue, Allen pretty much subscribes to Helms' position. "King was instrumental in the civil rights movement," he said. "It would be a disgrace to that holiday if it was proven that he was a communist. That would be an embarrass-

ment to all blacks."

Instead of a holiday for King, Allen proposes the creation of a Civil Rights Day to honor all civil rights leaders such as abolitionist Frederick Douglass and inventor George Washington Carver.

Allen also favors using the money which Helms maintains will be wasted by the work stoppage on the King holiday to start a scholarship program for black students in the name of the slain leader.

Allen holds many of the Helms' conservative views. For instance, he praises the senator's efforts to cut wasteful government spending on social programs such as food stamps and welfare.

"Everything Sen. Helms does to perpetuate the free enterprise system helps blacks," Allen said. "It makes blacks more competitive in the job market."

Allen says he is a pro-life advocate and favors gun control as well as the death penalty. Abortion is genocide, he says, particularly among blacks.

The media will exploit the race issue in this election, Allen said, alluding to the campaigns of Chicago Mayor Harold Washington and Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson. "Here we go again with that black and white stuff again," he said.

"If Helms was for social programs, he would be labeled as pro-black by the media," Allen said. "However, since he opposes many social programs, he is labeled anti-black," which, Allen said, "just isn't fair."

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Aldermen From Page A1

In other business, the board approved an already zoned 250-acre, non-residential industrial park site near Winston-Salem State University. City Manager Bill Stuart assured the board that the new site would pose no threat to the surrounding community in response to Womble's questions concerning potential pollution pro-

"I want someone to tell me why these people are still living in houses with no plumbing, no electricity and the landlords are still taking money from them"

-- Alderman Vivian Burke

blems.

The board also directed the city's Relocation Committee to continue studying plans to reimburse downtown businesses in the 500 block of Trade Street that would have to move to make way for a planned 600-space parking deck near the Benton Convention Center.

Fire From Page A2

your house.

By the way, if your home contains any unusual fire hazards -- for example, if you're a sportsman who loads his own shotgun shells and stores quantities of gunpowder in the basement -- let the dispatcher know that. If you believe people are still trapped in the building, tell the dispatcher that and describe their location, if you know it. And be prepared to repeat that information to the first firefighters who arrive at your home.

Fire-wise telephoning can keep a potentially dangerous fire from becoming an unnecessary tragedy. So keep your head screwed on and you'll keep it for life.

This column is brought to you weekly as a public service of the Chronicle and the Winston-Salem Fire Department.

Crime From Page A2

- A gas meter was taken.
- 800 block, North Trade Street
A coffee machine was taken.
- 1200 block, East 17th Street
A food stamp card was taken.
- 1100 block, East 15th Street
Two leather coats were taken.
- 1800 block, Lime Avenue
Copper gutters were taken.
- 500 block, East 28th Street
Two "Members Only" jackets and shoes and shirts were taken.
- 1600 block, East 14th Street
Three power meters were taken.
- 1100 block, East 19th Street
A portable TV was taken.
- 1700 block, Cherry Street
One hundred gallons of oil were taken.
- 900 block, East 19th Street
A JVC stereo was taken.
- 1100 block, East 24th Street
Money was taken.

One Solution To Crime

Can anything be done about crime in America? This question is asked by many people each day all over the country. The answer is yes, but people have to get involved. If a person stands idly by and watches as his neighbor's house is robbed, his house may be next.

This is one situation in which people can't straddle the fence. If you have any information you feel would perhaps solve any crime, report it to your police department.

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