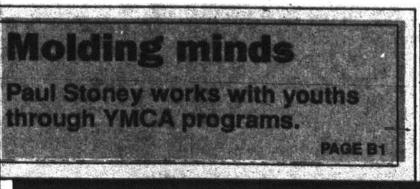
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N-A-T-I-O-N-A-L 'Desert Storm' Underway NEWS

Racism deepening

WASHINGTON (AP) _ In an effort to "sound a national alarm" and reinvigorate the civil rights movement, a major church group is issuing an unusual pastoral letter warning that racism is a deepening problem in America.

More than three decades after the start of the modern civil rights movement, poverty is worse for non-white Americans and racially motivated violence has increased, the United Church of Christ contends.



By PATRICIA SMITH-DEERING **Community News Editor**

True to his word, President George Bush ordered the launch of the first military action in the liberation of Kuwait. Calling Saddam Hussein's hand, at approximately 5:30 p.m. EST, the skies of Baghdad were bright with the light generated from Iraqi ground anti-aircraft fire, an indication the attack was on.

There was initial confusion in the early media reports when missiles were fired in an attempt to get a better view of Iraqi targets. Then at 7 p.m. EST, thesound of bombs being dropped on Baghdad could be heard as newscasters on all networks broadcast the first sounds of yet another war.

Marlin Fitzwalter, White House press secretary, announced to the world that as of 7 p.m. EST Jan. 16, 1990, "Operation Desert Storm" had begun. "Bombing has begun on selected targets in Kuwait and Iraq," were the ominous words that let the families of the American men and women who had been deployed as part of the United Nation's military operation, know that their loved ones are now in a war.

In Winston-Salem where many in the city have been keeping vigil, hoping for a peaceful solution, reaction was swift with a mixture of sorrow and anger.

The Reverend John Mendez, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church and an outspoken member of Voices Against Middle East Intervention, blasted the action saying, "I think it's insane. I think it's absolutely insane." At

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times so angry that he found it difficult to put his exact feelings into words, he said, "Problems as complex as those that have existed in the Middle East for over a thousand years cannot be resolved in six hours of talk."

Mendez and other members of VAMEI had been preparing to make a pilgrimage to Washington Saturday to rally with about 100 other organizations from across the nation in an effort to convince President Bush that the country did not want war, that the massive sanctions already employed should be allowed to work. Those plans are unchanged. "A military solution will not solve anything," Mendez continued. "When the last bomb is dropped and the last life is taken, they will still have to sit down and negotiate. All that life taken will have been

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What will the future bring?

FRANKFURT (AP)_Specialist Patrick Peaks (left) of Durham, North Carolina, tries out his binoculars while another serviceman, right (not identified) reads the latest copy of Stars and Stripes with the headline saying that Iraq accepts U.S. proposal for peace talks just before leaving for Saudi Arabia in the recreation area of the U.S. Rhein-Main Airforce base in Frankfurt, Germany Saturday. More than 100 men of the 5th Corps 3rd Armored Division departed for the Gulf that day. (AP Wire Photo).

Race not a factor

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) _ Race should not have been included among the factors used to grade North Carolina's 134 school systems, some educators say.

"Just to put race down with the other variables, and the message you have is that black is a barrier." Prezell Robinson, a member of the state Board of Education, told the Greensboro News & Record.

Third Sentence?

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) _ A North Carolina man, who already has been sentenced to death twice, sa third sentencing hearing because three blacks were improperly disqualified from serving on the jury, defense attorneys told the Virginia Supreme Court on Wednesday.

· Karen Meyer, a lawyer for Dennis Stockton, said it made no difference that her client is white.

"He has a constitutional right to have a raciallybalanced jury," she said.



Michael Riccardi, 27,

Winston-Salem's coordinator of the Minority and Women's Business Enterprise program has been suspended pending a recommendation about her employment status from assistant city manager, Al Beaty.

Problems for Betty Hanes, the M/WBE coordina-

Neither Beaty

that



Hanes had been Betty J. Hanes suspended or why,

saying they were prohibited by state law from discussing personnel matters.

The only answer provided by the M/WBE office is that Ms. Hanes is out of the office.

But Hanes, when reached at home, Chronicle Managing Editor confirmed that she was considering resigning. She said she was informed of her status Monday, Jan. 7, in a memo from Beaty. "I have the option to appeal, but I'm not sure at this point what will happen because that will be determined by what the city manager decides," Hanes said.

Hanes has been the M/WBE's coordi-

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Photo by L.B. Speas, Jr.

Sen. Ralph Hunt, Rep. Annie Brown Kennedy, and Denise Adams, former candidate, enjoy the reception for the Legislative Black Caucus. (see page A6)

King Holiday a reality!

By RUDY ANDERSON

The Forsyth County Board of Commissioners wasted little time Monday, Jan. 14, approving a paid holiday for county employees in honor of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King h.

Before a packed meeting room, the commissioners again voted 5-2 in favor of establishing the holiday just as it did Dec. 17. The second vote became necessary because the board's first vote was not unanimous.

Commissioner Earline Parmon made the motion for the holiday, and was seconded by Commissioner Mazie Woodruff. Both were elected to office in the first district elections ever held for the Board of County Commissioners. Both had made establishing the King holiday part of their campaign platforms. In addition to Farmon and discussion for the commissioners voting in favor of the holiday were board chair John Holleman; vice-chair Wayne Willard; and Gerald Long. .

Commissioners Richard Linville and For-

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County employees and other Forsyth County residents will have a wide array of activities to pick and choose from to honor Martin Luther King, Jan. 21. A listing of those activities can be found in the Chronicle's special Martin Luther King section.

One of the major events is the 11th annual noon-day observance of Dr. King's birth, sponsored by WAAA radio station. The Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission and the Winston-Salem NAACP are co-sponsors of the event.

This year's observance will focus on the theme, Living the Dream: Let Freedom Ring for Economic Justice, Peace, and Non-Violence.

Highlights of the program include a speech arguing the case for "A Martin Luther King Holiday" by attorney Gregory Davis.

There will also be a message delivered by Joseph Dudley, founder and president of Dudley's Products and Dudley Cosmetology University, on "Self-Help and Entrepreneurship."

Mütter Evans, owner of Evans Broadcasting Corporation, and of WAAA, initiated the commemorative celebration. "I keep doing this because I believe it is important

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