



THE POWER & THE GLORY

By Dr. G.E.A. Toote

Burdensome To Black Youths

BLACK PROBLEM
Life has become so burdensome to black youth, that daily death is flirted with in the use of drugs and involvement in crime.

Poverty, and unemployment are the principle causating factors for black crime. A look at a major city like New York, reveals how tragic and pervasive the problem can be.

NOT ENOUGH POLICE
As a result of New York City's fiscal crises, 2,600 policemen were laid off. Two thousand four hundred vacancies created by retirement were not filled.

Major crime in the city increased at the fastest rate of the decade. During the first six months of last year, there were 50,000 more felony crimes.

RACIST ARGUMENT
Black involvement in crime in New York City is so oppressive that racist arguments were used at the end of last year to defend whites who criminally assaulted or intimidated blacks. Examples: A gang of white youths used bats, axes and knives to ram-

sack the home of a black art dealer, who lived in a white community.

Thirty five young whites, screaming racial slurs, attacked blacks and hispanics in the park. Wielding chains and nailed bats, 12 minority youths were injured, and one was killed.

Three white teenagers were arrested for a week long campaign of terror against a racially mixed family. "Die Nigger" was scrawled on the driveway; a black doll hung in effigy; pellet guns were fired; windows smashed; and sugar placed in the family car's gas tank.

WHY
These reports are shocking and senseless. The reason why is even more incredulous.

One out of every eight Americans, 12 percent of the population, fall within the poverty category, with incomes of \$5,500 or less.

The largest proportional poverty increase has occurred among white families with a male head of household; and the white elderly.

Black Americans still dominate the poverty level, and constitute 31 percent of the poor.

INCREASED STRESS
Black crime, even though frequently practiced upon blacks, reinforces racial fears and myths.

Involvement in crime does not improve the family economy. In fact the cost of legal counsel has bankrupt many a family. It does confirm that socio-economic limitations produce minority psychological stress.

Twenty eight percent of white America still object to having a black at their home for dinner. God knows how many resent blacks holding jobs while whites are unemployed.

INFESTS INTERRELATIONSHIPS
Black crime is a black problem. In many cities, 50 to 80 percent of crime is drug related. The black community has the responsibility to combat this dilemma that infests and infests our youths, and social economic relationships.

Gillam IV Is Johnson C. Smith Speaker

The 1977 Honors Convocation at Johnson C. Smith University will feature Isaac Thomas Gillam IV, director of shuttle operations at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Mr. Gillam will address the annual assembly on Thursday, April 21 at 10 a.m., during which members of the student body are awarded honors and recognitions from various honor societies.

A former Air Force pilot, Gillam joined NASA after leaving the Strategic Air Command in 1963. In 1973 he was program manager of small launch vehicles, heading two of NASA's most important missile-launch programs, Delta and Scout. Last year he became NASA's director of shuttle operations.

When the United States' first shuttle orbiter is launched into space in about two years, much of the success will be because of the work of Gillam, who is the highest ranking black operations officer at NASA.

In addition to other responsibilities, Gillam must coordinate the efforts for getting the space orbiter airborne, insure stability of the orbiter while it is in flight, handle separation maneuvers to search out problems in releasing the orbiter in flight and determining safety factors that will insure its safe landing.

Gillam's responsibilities also include seeing to it that

functions run smoothly for the people who work at Dryden, Rockwell International, American Airlines, Boeing and the Johnson and Kennedy Space Centers.



The executive board of Holidays, Inc. met on Saturday, April 16 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel here in Charlotte. The national president, Mrs. Lois Byers, presided over the business session which began at 11 a.m. Representatives from nine chapters of Holidays, Inc. attended the meeting. A social organization which sponsors such activities as bridge parties, Holidays, Inc. presently has chapters in six states. At the last board meeting two chapters, one in Houston, Texas and the other in Raleigh, N.C., were accepted for membership. National officers of Holl-

days, Inc. are: President - Lois Byers, Charlotte, N.C.; Vice-President - Alfreda Webb, Greensboro, N.C.; Recording Secretary - Gladys Scott, Atlanta, Ga.; Asst. Recording Secretary - Gladys Oldman, Winston Salem, N.C.; Corresponding Secretary - Lelia Lindsay, Charlotte, N.C.; Treasurer - Laura Bell, Charlotte, N.C.; Historian - Lydia Alexander, Birmingham, Ala.; and Parliamentarian - Gloria Lewis, Nashville, Tenn. Holidays, Inc.'s next concourse is scheduled for the weekend of November 5-7, 1977, with the Greensboro, N.C. chapter serving as host.

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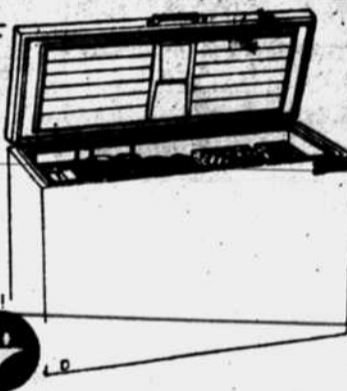
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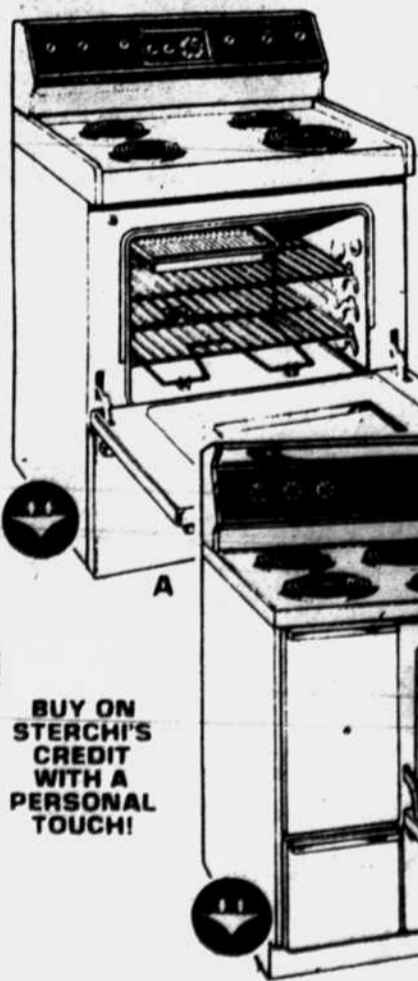
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