

# Delta Pres. Goes To Africa As U.S. Representative



**LIBERIAN AMBASSADOR**—S. Edward Peal held a special briefing for Mrs. Frankie Freeman, president of Delta Sigma Theta, just prior to her departure on a 6-weeks tour of Africa. Mrs. Freeman, sister of Mrs. Millard Peables of Raleigh, who was a member of the U. S. Civil Rights Commission, is inspecting housing advancements and problems in 7 African countries.

## Trip Planned Before Group Convention

WASHINGTON, D. C. - Mrs. Frankie Freeman, national president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, is spending the next six weeks in seven African countries meeting with government and private officials in the housing industry to discuss their housing needs and programs.

Mrs. Freeman also is one of the two official representatives of Aid for International Development (AID) of the State Department at the United Nations Housing Conference in Togo for West African Countries.

She will return to the United States in time to share her observations before the national convention of Delta Sigma Theta in Houston, August 6-15.

For 20 years Mrs. Freeman served as attorney for the St. Louis, Missouri Housing Authority. She presently is a member of the U. S. Civil Rights Commission.

Mrs. Freeman said, prior to her departure for Africa, "I will be discussing with African officials how people, and women in particular, are involved in the process of meeting housing needs in their respective countries."

Housing, Mrs. Freeman added, is one of the major program interests of Delta Sigma Theta. She pointed out that the Houston Alumnae Chapter has bought land and broken ground for a housing development to provide home-ownership for low-income families. Recently, the Detroit Alumnae chapter co-sponsored with the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, a housing seminar which was addressed by Mrs. Freeman.

According to Mrs. Lynnette Taylor, executive director of Delta Sigma Theta, a national public service sorority now in its 58th year, a record attendance of 2,000 Deltas are expected to attend the organization's 31st national convention.

Representing 405 chapters in 43 states, the Deltas will spend most of their convention time focusing on national priorities, especially as they relate to Black Americans.

"A major item on our convention agenda," Mrs. Taylor said, "is taking a look at our local and national programs to see the extent to which we are keeping our commitments to the community. Our convention theme is 'Promises To Keep.'"

"We will be seeking ways we can add new dimensions to the service we're performing through our five-point program. Each of our chapters examines its community to identify needs and then develops a program to respond to these needs," Mrs. Taylor said.

**State Grants \$15,000 Durham College**

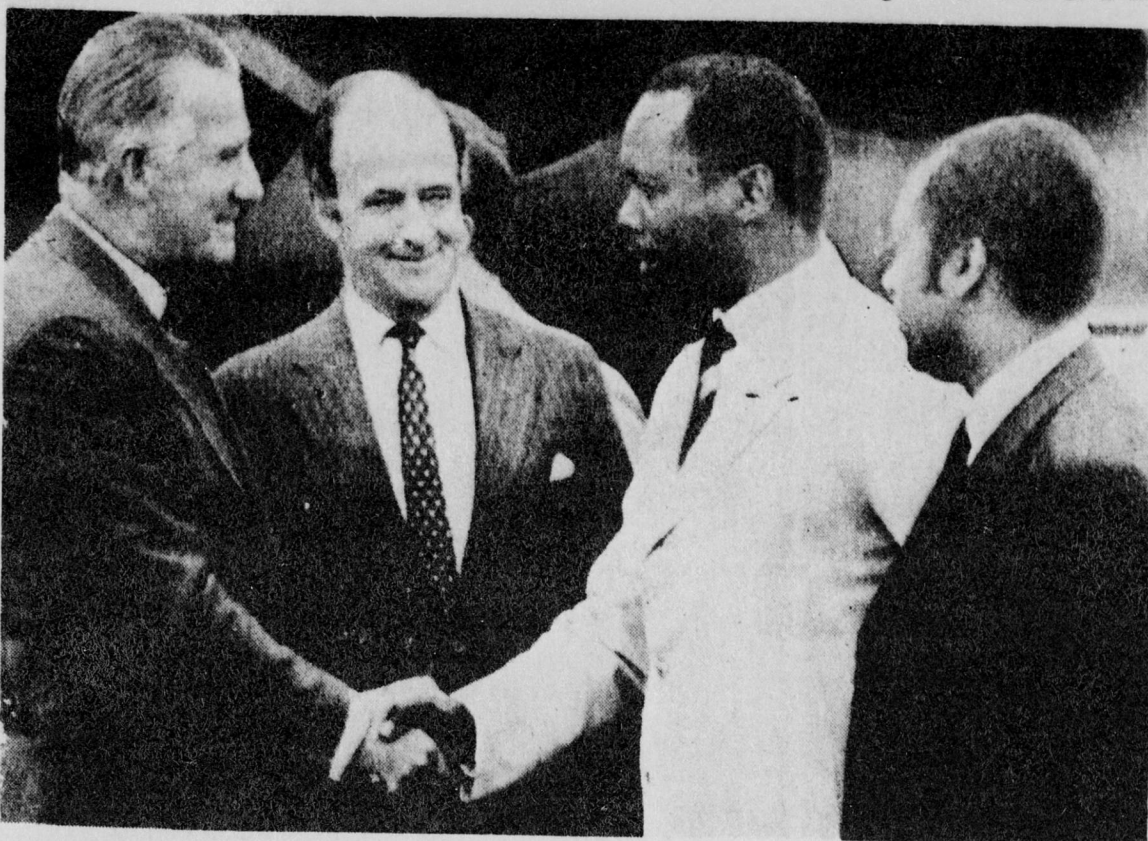
The North Carolina Department of Water and Air Resources has awarded a \$15,000 training grant to Durham College for the purpose of training and upgrading sanitation plant operators. The grant was received by the state through the Federal Environmental Protection Agency and was awarded to Durham College under its new Environmental Science Program.

All costs of the program are covered by the grant. Classes will be held twice per week from 6-9 p.m., Monday & Thursday.

# Rev. Sullivan To Receive The Elks' Lovejoy Award For 1971 In August

DETROIT, Mich. - Rev. Leon Sullivan has been named as the recipient of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the world's most coveted award, the Lovejoy Award for 1971, The Honorable Hobson R. Reynolds, Grand Exalted Ruler, announced from the Philadelphia based Headquarters of the national Order of Elks.

Reynolds added that the coveted citation would be presented to Rev. Sullivan at the public Meeting of the Elks Civil Li-



**AGNEW IN AFRICA** - Nairobi: Vice President Spiro T. Agnew (L) is greeted by Vice President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya (2nd from right) at Nairobi Airport July 12. In Kenya, his second African state visit on a month-long 11-nation journey, the Vice President is scheduled to visit the American community and hold talks with the head of state. At center is Robinson McIlvaine, U. S. Ambassador to Kenya. Man at far right is Dr. Njoroge Mungai, foreign minister of Kenya. (UPI)

## Hosea Williams Departs For SCLC Tour Around The World

Atlanta, Ga. - Hosea L. Williams, National Program Director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, left New York City Saturday on an official SCLC fact-finding and goodwill tour that will take him around the world.

Officially representing the President of SCLC, Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, successor to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Williams will present the head of each nation with a 45-minute film documentary on the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The 67-day tour will take Williams, who will be accompanied only by his wife, into more than 16 nations, including Vietnam and Cuba. The fiery civil rights leader has two weeks allotted for Hong Kong, which he will try to spend in the People's Republic of China, presenting a copy of the 45-minute documentary to Mao Tse-Tung and conversing with other Red leaders.

Five weeks will be spent in eleven African nations conversing with heads of states, addressing national legislative bodies and college students, and meeting with industrialists. The Meeting in New Delhi, India will include India's Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, daughter of the late non-violent Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi, who will accept the SCLC documentary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s non-violent approach to bringing about social change.

In Saigon, Williams will be the guest of South Vietnamese, friends of the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice that staged the unsuccessful attempt to close down the nations Capitol early this year, in an effort to force the end of the war.

In a personally signed letter which Williams will hand deliver to the head of each nation, Abernathy states, "As President of SCLC, it is my hope to establish a meaningful dialogue with our black and poor brothers and sisters of the other nations of the world, building upon the heritage of non-violent, loving political action; seeking justice, dignity and equality for all men. To this end, I have asked Mr. Williams to represent me and SCLC in making contacts and conversations about mutual problems in your country."

Mr. Williams is a long and treasured companion of mine in the civil rights and freedom struggle of poor and black people in the United States.

Recently, and most importantly, Rev. Sullivan was appointed to the Board of Directors of General Motors. And he is already urging General Motors to pull out of South Africa, because of their racial prejudice.

## Black Government Worker Has Goals Despite Blindness

WASHINGTON - The whole attitude toward blind people is wrong. It doesn't help a blind person when you do something for him. It would be much better if you showed him how to do it so that he can do it for himself when you are not there.

These are the feelings of Kenneth V. Reed, 28, a clerk-typist with the Labor Department who has been blind since birth. Because he strives hard to do everything possible for himself, Reed has done much to overcome the handicap of blindness.

Reed has been working about 3 months in the PSC office, which attempts to get jobs for disadvantaged and poor people. He gets around his office with ease and often uses the elevator to go from the third floor to the basement to make or retrieve copies from the office xerox machine.

"I hadn't worked in an office before," says Reed, who lives alone. "But I have worked in a factory. In adjusting, I just had to learn where I fit in an office."

Any blind person, after being in an office for a short while can learn his way about. I think people need to climb out of their shells and get to know blind people.

The black high school dropout landed his government job accidentally. Several months ago, Reed was trying to cross a street at a busy intersection during rush hour traffic when, by

chance, he met Fred Drayton, a supervisor in the PSC office. Noticing that Reed was blind, Drayton offered to help him across the street.

In the conversation that followed, Drayton learned that the blind man was unemployed, trying to help support a son by a former marriage, and running out of unemployment insurance payments. Drayton told Reed that he would try to help him get a job through the PSC program.

I took the GED (high school equivalency exam) and passed. Reed recalls. I waited for a while and eventually got a call from the office saying that I had a job.

Before coming to the Labor Department, the young civil servant worked as a film processor for Standard Photo in Springfield, Mass. His vocational goal, however, is to become a computer technician or mechanic.

I like anything dealing with machinery, he said running his fingers across the keys of a new braill machine. I was always the kind of kid that took apart tops to see how they were made.

A native of Middletown, Ohio, who grew up in Hartford, Conn., Reed is also a musician.

Administrator of Veterans Affairs Donald E. Johnson recently announced plans for a six-fold increase in the number of VA-operated drug addict treatment centers bringing to 32 the number in operation by October 1971.

The Veterans Administration -- the Government's largest independent agency -- employs 222 architects and engineers in its medical facilities construction program. This is more than any other Federal Agency.



**ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATOR** - England: A soldier shakes hands with Capt. Thomas Culver (right) in Lakenheath, England after a U. S. Air Force court martial found him guilty of participating in and encouraging other airmen to participate in an anti-war demonstration in London last May. He will be sentenced July 14. (UPI)

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**PREGNANCY PLANNING AND HEALTH**

By Mrs. Gloria Riggsbee

Dear Mrs. Riggsbee:

Would you please send me a free booklet concerning permanent birth control methods? My tubes were tied four years ago, and a doctor told me that I could have them untied.

I would like very much to become pregnant because my last child died from injuries sustained in a car wreck. I have four other children and would like very much to have another. Is this possible? Please send me your reply at once. Mrs. S.

Dear Mrs. S.:

Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your child. I know it has been an agonizing experience for you and your family.

When we speak of "tying the tubes," it does not actually mean that the doctor ties a loop in them which can then be untied. What happens is that the doctor cuts each of the two tubes in half and then ties up the ends so they will not grow back together again. To repair this operation, the doctor must take the cut ends of each tube and try to sew them back together again. This is a difficult operation - it is considered major surgery and is successful only about 40 percent of the time. It is also an very expensive operation.

Considering the cost and the fact that only 40 percent of these repairs work, I think you should give this a lot of serious thought. I know that you feel the loss of your child very deeply, but you do have four other children. Since no other child can completely take the place of the one you have lost - not even a new baby - perhaps it would be better for you to devote your time and your love to

the four you already have.

This is a decision only you and your husband (and your doctor) can make. I am sorry that I do not have a booklet on permanent birth control methods which would tell you any more about repair of a tubal ligation that what I have already mentioned to you.

Dear Gloria:

Why do some girls skip their monthly periods - sometimes as long as six months - when they are not pregnant? M. T.

Dear M. T.:

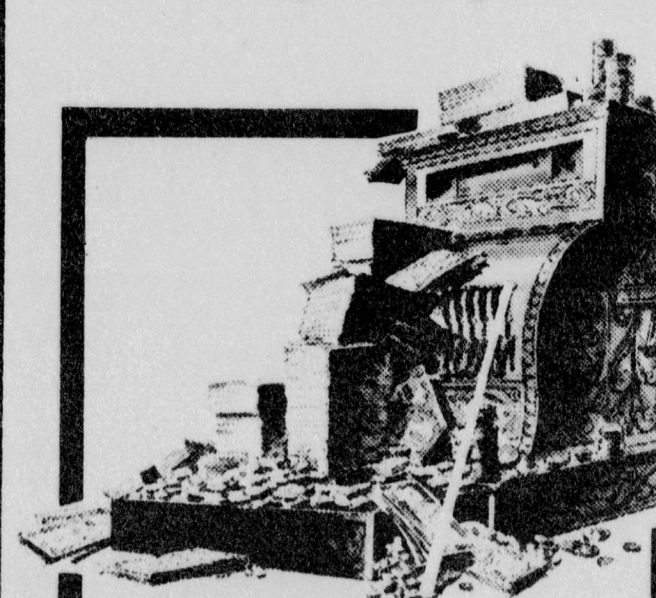
Often when a young girl first begins menstruating, her periods may be irregular for the first year or two. Missed periods are not unusual during this time. It seems to take the body a while to get on a regular cycle. When established, this cycle is usually every 28 days. However, many women menstruate every 30 days, or 27 or 29 days. As long as the time between the periods is the same, we say this is a regular cycle.

Some women never do establish a regular pattern. One time the number of days between periods may be 30, another time 26 days, another time, two months. Apart from the inconvenience of not being able to plan ahead, there is nothing to worry about in most cases.

However, six months is quite a long time to go without having a period. I would say a check-up with the doctor is definitely in order to make sure everything is alright.

Address letters or requests for a free booklet on birth control methods to: Mrs. Gloria Riggsbee, 214 Cameron Ave., Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514.

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