

INSIDE AFRICA

BY SHIRLEY REED-BLASH
NPA News Service

South Africa is a country which controls a group of people through hate, brutality, force and oppression. The suffering of nonwhites who are subjected to the strong hand of apartheid is commonplace. That was very apparent at a recent rally.

Supporters of the anti-apartheid movement had gathered to attend a memorial service, appropriately held in front of the South African embassy, for two young black youths, killed by a South African patrol as they attempted to cross the border to freedom in neighboring Botswana (countless black South Africans are shot and killed while fleeing the country across the border; most of the bodies are never recovered, according to speakers).

Thokazile, 6, and Mandla, 8, were the children of Phillip and Virginia Dlamini, a black South African couple living in Washington. Phillip's aunt, Anna Ramosime, was also killed in the escape attempt.

Phillip and Virginia were luckier than their children. They had traveled over the same route over a year ago to freedom. Before their successful escape, the Dlaminis were not spared from the South African government's brutality. For helping to organize peaceful anti-apartheid demonstrations and working to improve the education of blacks, Phillip, 41, spent six months in a Johannesburg jail. While incarcerated, police poured melting rubber down his back, sliced off his ear with a razor, and whipped him mercilessly. Virginia, now 26, was jailed and subjected to repeated blows to her head and face. The Dlaminis made their way to a refugee camp in Botswana then to the United States, where they've been granted political asylum.

John Dear, 29, who works at the McKenna Center for the poor at St. Aloysius Catholic Church here, said Phillip came to the center on Thanksgiving Eve last year and asked for his help. Dear, who is studying for the priesthood, was able to find housing for the Dlaminis at a Catholic-run shelter in Northwest Washington, obtained medical and dental care (Virginia, whose teeth were knocked out, was recently fitted with dentures) and legal assistance for the couple. They have applied for and are expected to obtain permanent residency status.

The Dlaminis' excitement about a reunion with their two children, reported in a recent newspaper article, were dashed when word arrived of the tragedy. According to several anti-apartheid activists interviewed by NNPA, the news came three weeks after the children and Phillip's aunt were killed. There are unconfirmed reports that a 14-year-old boy, who was shot with the others, managed to reach a refugee camp in Botswana.

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Dr. King Statue Gets Gaining Momentum With Community

A community-wide effort to raise funds to erect a life-size bronze statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is gaining momentum day by day, according to the leaders of the Raleigh-Wake MLK Celebration Committee, Inc.

Extensive plans were announced on March 11 seeking small contributions from community residents. The planning committee developed the King Statue 10-10 Plan. This plan asks residents to commit a modest amount

of \$10 per month for 10 months, April through January 1990. The King statue is slated to be unveiled on Jan. 15, 1990, King's official holiday.

Since the announcement of the 10-10 Plan, 114 area citizens have mailed in their first contribution for April, giving the first month's fund drive \$1,740. According to the overall master plan of the drive, there should be a minimum of 125 people participating in the plan by the end of April with the ultimate goal of 500

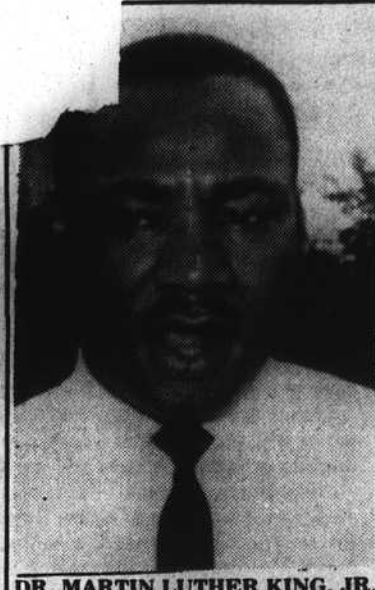
participating per month by July.

Dr. Clifton E. Buckrham, immediate past president of the Raleigh Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, stated, "This is something we think the total church community, large and small, black and white, can support. It is not self-serving to anyone or any group, it is a total community effort. This project tends to monumentalize in a very concrete way King's dream and legacy. I am very proud to be associated with this

committee and what it's doing."

After a nationwide search for an artist to develop the King statue, the planning committee recently approved and commissioned Ms. Abbe Godwin of Colfax. Ms. Godwin is a sculptor of international acclaim who is recognized in artistic circles as a creator of "profoundly moving and emotional work." She is considered among the top sculptors in realistic work and shows unusual artistic maturity. She has done independent study in England, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Nigeria, Italy, France, Spain, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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Eliminate Shortages

Nursing Issue Studied

Attracting Personnel To The Area

The Legislative Study Commission on Nursing has issued a report which proposes a multifaceted approach to eliminating the nursing shortage in North Carolina. The major emphasis of the recommendations is to attract more persons to the nursing profession.

Rep. Martin Nesbitt, co-chair of the study commission, said that last spring the General Assembly was made aware of the critical nature of the nursing shortage at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill. An ad hoc committee on nursing was formed which studied the problem statewide and determined that part of the shortage was caused by noncompetitive nursing salaries in state institutions. In June 1988, the General Assembly appropriated \$3.5 million to increase nurse salaries in these institutions. Another bill also established the Legislative Study Commission on Nursing.

The 14-member commission is co-chaired by Sen. Marvin Ward and Rep. Martin Nesbitt. Members of the General Assembly serving on the commission are senators Wanda Hunt, William Martin and Kenneth Royall and representatives Ed Bowen, Jack Hunt, and Barney Woodward. In addition there are six public members including four nurses and two administrators representing hospital and long-term care administration.

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AWARD PRESENTED—The Quarter Back Award was presented by 'Y' CEO Norman E. Day to YMCA membership chairman, John P. Greene. The award presented on behalf of the Garner Road YMCA board of directors was for Greene's dedicated and committed service as chairman.

Child Abuse Problems Growing Across U.S.

Child abuse is a serious and growing national problem. More than two million suspected cases of abuse and neglect are reported each year. Several thousand children die as a result of abuse and neglect annually. Hundreds of thousands of cases are unreported.

In North Carolina 35,000 suspected child abuse and neglect cases were reported last year.

"The first step in preventing child abuse is education, so we make an extra effort to inform the community during Child Abuse Prevention Month in April," says Vera Khayrallah, director of the Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center.

"Citizens can help prevent child abuse by knowing the warning signs and how to report a suspected case of abuse or neglect—it's up to each of us to help stop child abuse," said Ms. Khayrallah.

"Through cases such as the highly publicized Lisa Steinberg death, we have seen the result of people looking the other way when it comes to child abuse. We must each do our part to ensure that this does not happen in our community. Individuals are not held criminally liable for reporting a suspected child abuse case if the report is made in good faith—meaning without malice," she said.

The Exchange Club Center is one of a network of 49 Exchange Club Centers in 26 states and one in Puerto Rico coordinated by the National Exchange Club Foundation for the

Prevention of Child Abuse. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the National Exchange Club Foundation.

In operation since May 1988, the local center uses professionally trained and supervised volunteer parent aides to work with families where abuse has occurred as well as families considered "at risk." The volunteers visit the families at home to demonstrate proper parenting

(See CHILD ABUSE, P. 2)

Just 'Locking 'Em Up' Means Throwing Away More Than Key

BY LAO RUBERT
Special To The CAROLINIAN

Convicted last year of a lengthy list of forgeries, Deborah W. prepared to serve out her punishment outside a prison cell instead of in one.

Her sentence—a "Community Penalties" plan involving financial restitution, community service, and close supervision—was a wise one. Deborah, a 35-year-old mother, is a non-violent offender. So, clearly, no one would benefit by locking up Deborah and throwing away the key.

Taxpayers wouldn't benefit, since putting Deborah behind bars would cost a steep \$12,000 per year. The victims wouldn't benefit. And neither would Deborah herself—because prison could delay but not defuse her old patterns.

The reason is that Deborah was shoplifting and writing bad checks purely to support a drug habit. For Deborah, prison would be unlikely to end that habit, and out on the street

again—still drug-dependent—she could be expected to return again to her former crimes.

What Community Penalties offers Deborah is a new life and ways to change the old one. Through mandatory attendance at Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and counseling at a mental health center, Deborah today is drug-free and starting college. Lest anyone doubt that she is being "punished," she is still under daily Intensive Probation. And she is performing unpaid community service and paying the victims financial restitution.

For taxpayers, a Community Penalties plan costs one-sixth the price of prison.

Currently, Community Penalties programs—and happy endings like Deborah's—are under way in 13 judicial districts. Judges are expected to approve some 468 such plans for non-violent offenders like Deborah this fiscal year. And in Raleigh legislators have recently ap-

proved \$29 million for expanded community penalties programs, plus funds for added probation officers, electronic house arrest and other prison alternatives.

I hope constituents will join me in congratulating our lawmakers for this important step. They have made a major commitment to community-based sanctions. Prison construction, however, continues to be the primary solution to our corrections ills. In response to a lawsuit that challenged prison conditions in 49 state prisons, legislators have voted \$48 million for new prison construction.

They have agreed to a settlement requiring the state to stop stacking prisoners three bunks high and to provide 50 square feet per inmate rather than face costly federal takeover of our system.

That \$48 million expenditure is just a start. "Over an eight-year period we will spend \$600 million," predicted Senate Democratic leader Henson

(See LOCKING UP, P. 2)

Chairman Asks Entire CR Commission To Quit

BY CHESTER A. HIGGINS, SR.
NPA News Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In one of the most bizarre activities of an organization that has had more than its share in recent years of loony, off-the-wall events and personalities, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights was asked by its chairman, William Barclay Allen, to resign en masse from this "badly fractured" commission that has been "rendered impotent."

Allen's startling invitation came after he had replied to 38 questions in a 23-page document concerning his arrest at gunpoint on the White Mountain, Ariz. Indian Reservation after allegations that he kidnapped a 14-year-old Apache girl in a celebrated adoption case, and queried her "as to where she wished

to live." The case was brought to Commissioner Allen's attention last year, and he journeyed to the reservation with an NBC-TV camera crew and a commission consultant, Barry Goodfield, a psychologist, it was reported.

The case involves Lalita Altaha, 14, who had been adopted as an infant by a white couple, Nadine and Normand Desrochers. She had been returned, however, under court order last year to live with her natural mother, Thurza Altaha. Allen learned that the little girl had lived with her adoptive parents off the reservation nearly all her life, and he wanted to know whether she had been given a chance to say where she preferred to live.

In a Keystone Cops-'n'-robbers caper, Allen, Goodfield and some

Educator Puts Faith in Bush As President And A Friend Of UNCF

GREENSBORO (AP)—After speaking at Yale University in 1948, William J. Trent, Jr. was approached by a tall, thin student who introduced himself as George Bush.

Trent, then the executive director of the United Negro College Fund in New York, was spreading the word about the needs of the country's private black colleges.

The student standing before him seemed genuinely interested.

"He told me he knew about the fund because his father (then a U.S. senator) had been chairman of the fund in Connecticut," Trent recalls.

The conversation was the beginning of a friendship. Trent and Bush visited in each other's homes. In 1967, when Trent received an honorary doctorate from Livingstone College in Salisbury, Bush sent a personal note of congratulations.

The relationship hasn't slowed just because Bush has become president



GEORGE BUSH

of the United States.

Right after Bush's election last fall, the United Negro College Fund invited him to address its annual meeting March 9 in New York. When the fund received no reply, its leaders turned to Trent, long retired to Greensboro.

Trent jotted off a note to Bush. Trent doubts the note had anything to do with it, but one thing is certain: On March 9, Bush delivered the keynote address at the fund's dinner. Trent and his wife, Viola, were seated nearby.

A few days before the Bush speech, a White House staff member called to invite the Trents to the White House and to fly with the president on Air Force One to New York for the speech.

The Trents had lunch at the White House, toured the big house and posed for photos with the president in the

(See EDUCATOR, P. 2)



MEDICAL CARE—The Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program currently serves health care needs of more than 91,000 North Carolinians living in Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill and Charlotte. Ms. Esther Watson has been



appointed quality assurance and resource manager for the North Carolina region. Ms. Jan Carter is the new membership services supervisor and Greg Lee is the pharmacy buyer for the North Carolina region.