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HERITAGE AWARD
 Legendary Grammy Award winner Smokey Robinson saluted For Career achievement.
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THIS WEEK
 In 1831 Lloyd Garrison began publishing The Liberator, and founded the New England anti-Slavery Society with only 13 members.
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THE CAROLINIAN

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Priest Expresses Fear

Blacks With Military Livelihood Could Pay With Lives

CHICAGO, Ill. (AP)—In a corner of the city where young men face the lure of gangs and drugs and a life of struggle, the Rev. George Clements long has preached a strategy for survival: the military.

But the safe haven he steered so many to no longer is safe. The road to the good life could become the path to death. And the priest fears that his flock—and other blacks—could pay an unfair price in the Persian Gulf War.

"We are victims, just like we've been victims since slavery," Clements said. "There was an enticement for these kids to join the service. They couldn't find jobs. They were just wandering. No one ever suspected they would be caught in a shooting war."

"I've always felt this quasi-despair in this community," he said. "You have despair from infant mortality, from the narcotic wars. Now there's a much deeper one. These are people

who really had no idea what they were getting into. Now they're in, there's no way of getting out."

Clements is pastor of Holy Angels Church, one of the nation's largest black Roman Catholic parishes. Of its some 4,000 members, 103 have one or more loved ones in the gulf. Many enlisted for the security of a job, the promise of an education and a crack at a life they'd never get at home.

"The military has probably been the most equal opportunity employer

in the United States," said Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton of Washington, D.C.

"Many young blacks perceive that they will get a better shake in the armed forces than in their own hometown. That is a comment on American society, not on the military," she said.

"We ought to be troubled that such a large proportion of black youngsters... would rather risk war and all it implies than stay at home."

Although less than 13 percent of the U.S. population is black, blacks account for 21 percent of all U.S. military personnel in all branches. About a third of the Army forces in the Persian Gulf are black and almost half of U.S. servicewomen in the gulf are black.

Some black leaders nationwide call this a poor person's war and question whether minorities will bear a disproportionately large share of the casualties.

At Holy Angels, the question taken on a more urgent, heartfelt tone.

"When I get depressed and I cry, I say, 'The Persian Gulf or the streets of Chicago... what chance does a poor person have?'" said Carolyn Robinson, whose 20-year-old son Shomall Franklin is in the Navy.

"If you die in the Persian Gulf, you're serving your country, you die with dignity," said the mother of

(See FEARS, P. 2)

\$5,000 Reward Offered

Bragg Street Murder Unsolved

Police Seeking Suspect

The State of North Carolina is offering a \$5,000 reward for information in the Dec. 4 murder of a Raleigh man.

Gov. Jim Martin approved the reward at the request of the Raleigh Police Department.

The body of Daniel Tyrone Harvey was found the morning of Dec. 4 lying in the 500 block of East Bragg Street near Chavis Park. Police said he had been shot four times earlier that morning.

The reward is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for Harvey's murder.

Anyone with information in the case is asked to call Raleigh Police at 890-3555 or the State Bureau of Investigations at 733-3171.

In other news: a member of Gov. James G. Martin's staff who also teaches at N. C. Central University in Durham was beaten by several men as he was leaving the campus Thursday night, police said.

Mark A. Messura, 28, of Raleigh was treated at Duke University Medical Center for cuts and bruises and later released.

Messura told police that he was walking to his car about 10:15 p.m. after teaching a class when he was attacked by three or four men on Lincoln Street. They hit him with a

(See CRIME, P. 2)



THE CLEARING—Clearing has begun at Walnut Creek Amphitheater, a \$13.5 million open-air performing arts center featuring both reserved seats and festival lawn-seating. The facility will be centrally located in Raleigh's new Walnut Creek Park, just southeast of the Beltline near I-40 at the intersection of Rock Quarry Road and Sunnybrook Road. Opening scheduled for July, 1991.

Black Group See Norplant Device As Racist, Sterilization Attempt

Norplant, the newly approved implantable contraceptive, will become available in North Carolina within the next week or two, but doctors fear the cost may deter some interested women and an African group in Virginia says it is sterilization for

blacks. Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, the Philadelphia company that makes the device, is charging doctors \$350 for the Norplant kit. The doctors plan to charge between \$50 and \$150 to implant the contraceptive, which can last up to five years.

The Raleigh Women's Health Organization will offer the device for \$500, including insertion and removal, as soon as the first shipment arrives. Doctors say the price is putting it out of reach for a lot of people.

Wyeth-Ayerst officials are en-

couraging Medicaid and private insurance programs to cover the cost of Norplant. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Norplant in December 1990. Norplant is made up of six matchstick-sized silicone cylinders that are implanted on the inside of a woman's upper arm. The tubes continuously release minute doses of levonorgestrel, a synthetic hormone sometimes used in birth-control pills.

Members of the African-American Committee, a division of the

(See NORPLANT, P. 2)

Devastating Health Problem Physician Calls For A New Culture

BY DR. LOUIS W. SULLIVAN
 Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services

To me as a physician, America's problems have human faces—bullet-riddled assault victims, victims from alcohol-related accidents, unwed teen mothers, crack babies, battered wives, abused children, smokers racked with emphysema, drug overdoses, persons under the death sentence of AIDS.

To me, as Secretary of Health and Human Services, these problems are magnified almost incomprehensibly. They represent tragic societal devastation and staggering financial costs.

What is most distressing is the clear fact that so much disease and mortality in America is preventable:

- Health care costs for smoking-related problems last year came to \$52 billion. Smoking causes 400,000 premature deaths each year.
- Nearly HALF of the 48,000 motor vehicle deaths and 40 percent of the drowning deaths are alcohol-related.

- More than a million U.S. citizens are infected with the HIV virus and more than 155,000 of them have AIDS—with the number climbing daily.

- From one to three million Americans are regular users of cocaine. This has created a climate of fear in our cities. Drug abuse by

women contributes significantly to our nation's high infant mortality rate, low birthweight babies and other newborn disorders.

- Violence, homicide and suicide related to drinking cost our society \$70 billion in 1989.
- Poor diet is related to five of the 10 leading causes of death in the

United States, including coronary heart disease, some cancers, stroke, infant mortality and diabetes.

How did we get into such a mess? The diagnosis, though harsh and painful, has to be faced. Much of the disease and disability afflicting our

(See HEALTH CARE, P. 2)



READING POETRY—Poet Gwendolyn Brooks, the first black writer to win the Pulitzer Prize (1950), will read from her works at East Carolina University Thursday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m. in Jenkins Auditorium. She was also the first black woman selected to serve as poetry consultant to the Library of Congress. The reading is free and open to the public.

Symbolism Plays Role In Heritage, Accomplishments

With the celebration of Black History Month comes the remembering of the many significant accomplishments of black people. Perhaps the biggest accomplishment was the starting of the black history observance by Dr. Carter G. Woodson.

Woodson was born in 1875, the son of two former slaves. Because his family was poor, he had to teach himself the fundamentals of reading, writing and arithmetic. With diligence and determination, he mastered these skills by age 17.

He hoped to further his education by entering high school, but was

(See BLACK HISTORY, P. 2)



DR. CARTER G. WOODSON