Medic Accused of Passing Other Woman Off as Wife

A Happy New Year to All AFRO Readers

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN

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First Colored Paratroop Unit at Ft. Benning

War Dept. Completes Plans for Activation of 555th Parachute Co.

TO NAME MEDICAL, EXECUTIVE HEADS

Enlisted Cadre to Be Volunteers from 92nd Division at Huachuca

WASHINGTON

Plans for the first colored parachute unit in the American Army have been completed, and the unit, designated as the 555th Parachute Infantry Company, will be activated at Fort Benning, Ga., the War Department announced today.

Brigadier General Leo Donovan, commanding general of the Airborne Command, under whom the unit will serve, has been authorized to appoint a field officer and a medical officer to select volunteers for an enlisted cadre from the 92nd Infantry Division at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Other personnel necessary for the cadre will be furnished by the Third Army, and the balance of the company's strength will be provided later from qualified volunteers.

Paratroops Prove Worth

In taking its place under the Airborne Command, the 555th Parachute Infantry Company is joining an element of the army that is comparatively new, but has already made a spectacular contribution to the war effort, both in this country and overseas.

Parachute units have been used successfully in combat in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and the Southwest Pacific. Recently, in an important demonstration of this nation's striking power from the sky, an entire airborne division was landed in a single night-and-day operation during maneuvers near Camp MacKall, N.C.

Volunteers accepted for the new unit will receive the rigorous training at the Parachute School, Fort Benning, which every soldier must undergo in order to become qualified for duty with parachute troops.

Rigid Training Course

First, there will be a month for each man to learn the rudiments, building up through special conditioning and controlled jumps from towers to their first jumps from planes.

They also will be taught the details of proper care and maintenance of their parachutes, handling of their equipment and weapons and every other phase of their new activity.

After the first month, qualified

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Baltimorean Runs P.O. in England

AN ENGINEERING UNIT, SOMEWHERE IN BRITAIN — Running an Army Post Office for this unit is no desk job. Ask T/4th Clinton D. Hughes, 23, of 1163 Argyle Avenue, Baltimore.

For he's had to haul mail by sled in the icy wastes of Alaska and through turgid-watered, flood-terrained Arkansas in weather ranging from sub-zero to temperatures 100 degrees above.

This engineering unit does a fast and furious job, either building the Alcan Highway or constructing camps, which they are doing now. Sgt. Hughes handled $93,000 in money orders the day the unit left the Alcan job for Claiborne, La.

New Ohio Factory Has U.S. Contract

CLEVELAND. — The American Enterprise Associates, newly formed $100,000 corporation headed by Olander Smith, on Thursday will begin the manufacture of cooks' coats for the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps.

The firm's initial contracts with the government are estimated at approximately a million dollars. Its plant, with 18,000 square feet of floor space, is located at 1250 Ontario Street, in the downtown section, and is equipped with 110 power sewing machines, cutters and presses.

Both colored and white operators are being employed, with Mr. Smith as factory manager and a white specialist supervising production.

Capital for the enterprise was raised in Cleveland, after Mr. Smith failed to obtain sufficient financial backing in his home town, Toledo. Principal investors are William Pierson, Roger Price, Robert Pinn, and Bennie Mason.

FEPC Files Seized

Congressional Group Studies Proceedings of Ry., Ship Hearings

Showdown Between Congress and President Seen; Army Rail Czar Not Concerned with Job Policy

WASHINGTON

Three important developments affecting orders and status of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) took place here early this week.

First of these was unprecedented confiscation, by the Smith Committee, of FEPC records in the cases against the railroads, the AF of L Boilermakers' Union and five West Coast shipyards which had recently been ordered to end discrimination against colored workers.

This action is viewed as a move by Congress to force a showdown with the President over the power to dictate employment policies of Federal agencies and war plants.

Second was action of FEPC itself, which on Monday tossed into the President's lap the refusal of fourteen railroads and seven rail brotherhoods to comply with its instructions to obey his anti-discrimination order.

Railroad Seizure Effective

Third action was Presidential seizure of the nation's railroads, which faced threatened strikes by December 30 unless a wage dispute was settled to the satisfaction of major unions. This move by the President puts him in a position to enforce any action he may take in the railroad discrimination case.

Malcolm Ross, FEPC head, reluctantly admitted that requests for information from his committee had been made numerous times by the Congressional committee to investigate executive agencies, headed by Representative Howard Smith (D. Va.).

But the FEPC head denied persistent reports that subpoenas had been served to ferret out this information. He admitted, however, that Aaron Ford, chief general counsel for the Smith Committee, and two of his aides, or so-called "investigators," had sat with the committee on Monday.

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Commendation from the Chief

Detective Patrolman James H. Butler, left, is shown receiving commendation for meritorius work done during the year from Police Commissioner Hamilton R. Atkinson, right, during the annual Baltimore police department exercises at Central Police Headquarters Wednesday afternoon. Governor Herbert R. O'Conor, center, featured speaker at the exercises, also extended congratulations to Detective Butler, who was one of 371 policemen honored for services in 1943.

Butler Honored for Fourth Time

For the fourth consecutive year, during his five and one-half years as a member of the police department here, Detective Patrolman James H. Butler was cited for commendable services to his department during 1943.

He was among 371 of the city's policemen who received citations

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the week

Anything But Love
800 Vacant Houses
People Are Funny
Fight Hate with Love

By B. M. PHILLIPS

The late Fats Waller did not share in the profits of his greatest tune, "I Can't Give You Anything but Love," which was the hit of Lew Leslie's "Blackbirds."

Reason: When Fats composed the number back in 1928, he was in need of money, so he sold it to a white friend, Jimmy McHugh, for $500.

The song netted McHugh $35,000 the first year.

Red caps at Pennsylvania Station say that checkers indicate 125,000 persons pass through that depot a day.

The Western Maryland Dairy is seeking men who are not in war work to serve as route salesmen. Pay averages $50 a week.

Housing Senseless Mess

Glenmar Gardens, a Federal housing development for white Glenn Martin Company workers in the Middle River area, is reported to have only 200 of its 1000 units occupied. It has been open since October.

Hundreds of colored workers are prevented from occupying these vacant units because of Maryland's custom of separating the races.

Housing for colored workers is slow to go up. It has been eleven months since the Federal Govern-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

War Plant Is Slated to Cease Operation by End of February

260 Colored Employees of Boulevard Plant of Koppers Company Affected by Order

The Washington Boulevard plant of the Bartlett-Hayward division of Koppers Co. is scheduled to cease operation by February 29, it was learned this week.

Attempts to ascertain the real reason for the shutdown were unsuccessful. Some sources indicated that army contracts expire of that date. The plant makes and assembles anti-aircraft weapons.

This move will affect approximately 260 colored skilled and semi-skilled workers who were hired in September, 1942, a month after the plant opened.

The Scott Street main plant is not expected to be affected by this move. No colored persons are employed in skilled capacities at the main plant.

Welders Will Be First to Go

First division of the Boulevard plant to cease work will be the welding department, which will close on January 16; the machine shop will complete its work by February 15 and the entire plant will be out of the building by the twenty-ninth.

It is not known what use the army will make of the plant after it is vacated.

Leon Deane, head of the CIO United Electrical Workers' Union, which in August of this year won the NLRB election and the right to represent employees at the Boulevard plant, told the AFRO he was informed two months ago of the contemplated move.

He said his union had tried unsuccessfully to get the army to grant the plant additional contracts for other materials.

He added that it is his understanding that the company itself

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Count Nix Out in Council Vote

PHILADELPHIA

Petitions protesting the rejection of 757 votes in two divisions by Judge Vincent Carroll, causing the defeat of Robert N. C. Nix, attorney, in his previously approved bid for a seat in city council are expected to be filed in the State Supreme Court on Friday.

By the jurist's decision, Republican councilmanic candidates made a clean sweep of five seats in the West Philadelphia district at the official recount which ended Friday.

Action Swamps Democrats

Invalidation of 757 votes in two Democratic divisions by Judge Carroll in the Election Court swamped the Democratic candidate's chances and saved Councilman George Maxman, now in the U.S. Army Air Force, from what appeared to be certain defeat.

Before the votes in the two divisions were rejected because identifying stubs had not been re-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Baltimore Girl Says Physician Kept 2 Homes

Chief Resident at Mercy Held under $500 Bail for Court

PHILLY MEDIC ALSO HIT HER

Charges Rival Came from Chicago after Hubby's Vacation

PHILADELPHIA

The wife of Dr. Charles F. (Pete) Baltimore, chief resident physician at Mercy Hospital, charged this week that he has been presenting as his wife, a woman who came here from Chicago after his vacation.

The accusation was made by the wife, Mrs. Martha Higginbotham Baltimore, an attendance officer

MRS. MARTHA H. BALTIMORE

in the school system, after she had the young physician haled before a magistrate on a charge of striking her, following an altercation that developed over the appearance of the "other woman."

Met Alleged Rival

According to Mrs. Baltimore, she was waiting for her husband in his room at the hospital, recently, when her alleged rival, identified as Miss Mary Davis, opened the door and quickly closed it upon seeing the wife, then stood in the hallway. Dr. Baltimore appeared a little later, the wife said, and admitted that Miss Davis was the woman with whom his spouse had accused him of associating.

In the "excitement" that followed, Mrs. Baltimore said, the physician accused her of taking a check belonging to him, and struck her. She swore out a warrant and had him arrested for assault.

Bail Set at $500

At a hearing before Magistrate Medway, Baltimore was held under $500 bail for court.

Mrs. Baltimore came here in June from Baltimore, where she was employed in the city recreation department, and since September she and her husband have maintained an apartment at 1729 N. Twenty-third Street, she said. But at the same time, she declared, she learned that Dr. Baltimore also maintained an apartment in West Philadelphia where neighbors knew him and Miss Davis as "Dr. and

Miss Davis

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Segregation Is Social Question, Says Federal Commerce Com.

Declares 30 Seamen Have Right to Pullman Travel and Meals, but Can't Complain If They Are Served in Their Seats

WASHINGTON

Compelling colored Pullman car passengers to eat in their seats or wait for dining car service until white passengers have been served, or sit in a part of the diner shut off from the rest by curtains, is not discriminatory, the Interstate Commerce Commission said recently in dismissing the complaint of eighteen colored seamen against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company.

The seamen, survivors of a torpedoed ship, were traveling from Tampa, Fla., to New York City after termination of their services aboard the steamship Seminole. Agreements for their travel and meals were made by the New York & Puerto Rico Steamship Company, their employer.

The colored seamen were all put together in one Pullman car by themselves on the night of June 29, 1942. A white man and a white woman, members of the same steamship crew, were put in another car on the same train.

Refused to Eat in Car

Testimony showed that the Atlantic Coast Line Company proposed to serve these shipwrecked seamen breakfast in their car and the men refused, demanding the right to go to the dining car.

They received no breakfast. Subsequently, they were served lunch in the diner at 3 p.m., after all the whites had eaten.

The seamen got no dinner because they refused to eat in their own car and the diner was filled with whites until nearly 10 p.m., when it was cut out from the train at Richmond. The company said that the crowd was so great that the separate curtains could not be used.

Handled as Group

The Atlantic Coast Line declared that it handled the seamen

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

1,000 Strikers Still Defy F. D.

Approximately 1,000 white workers of Western Electric Company, defying an order of President Roosevelt, have not returned to their jobs since striking twenty days ago when the War Labor Board rejected their demands to direct the company to re-establish separate sanitary facilities for the races.

A spokesman for the Army, which seized the company's five local plants December 19, said on Thursday that about 90 per cent of the total personnel had re-

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Give My Black Brother a Chance to Serve!

(EDITOR'S NOTE—The following letter was sent this week to Comm. Howard A. Kelly, Jr., commanding officer of the Baltimore Port Security Regiment by Seaman 1/C Leo V. Miller, white, a member of the unit. Commander Kelly has refused to accept colored applicants for this volunteer coast guard unit.)

Commander Howard A. Kelly, Jr.
17 South Street,
Baltimore, 3, Maryland
Dear Sir:

I am a member of the regiment under your command. This, however, is not my only contribution to the war effort. I am working with and for a minority group of Americans who are fighting and dying for certain rights constitutionally guaranteed, but which they have yet fully to receive.

Commander, racial discrimination regardless of the reason by which we try to justify it, is as un-American as Hitlerism.

Jim Crow Contrary to Democracy

Jim-crowism is as contrary to our principles of democracy as are the racial supremacy ideas of our enemies. If these ideas find refuge in our hearts, can we say we are not enemies of democracy.

My Irish grandmother and perhaps yours probably told us the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Orioles Won't Use Colored Players

By E. B. REA

BALTIMORE — The proposed integration of colored players into the framework of organized baseball finds no favor with Alphonse (Tommy) Thomas, manager of the Baltimore Orioles, a member of the International League.

Queried recently, following the meeting of major and minor leagues in New York, Mr. Thomas, in reply, left it up to the dictates of organized baseball. "I do not feel that I can have any opinion on the subject . . . except such as is expressed by organized baseball," he said.

While both Judge Kenesaw M. Landis, high commissioner, and Judge W. G. Branham, president of the minor league, said they knew of no existing "unwritten

(Continued on Page 19, Col. 7)

Tubbs Tells of Christmas, GI Style, in New Guinea

Day Rainy with Mercury at 103; Singing Features Troops' Solemn Celebration

BULLETIN

NEW GUINEA—Press headquarters on Tuesday announced the landing of Allied troops at Cape Gloucester, on the northwest coast of New Britain.

By VINCENT TUBBS

AFRO War Correspondent with U.S. Troops in the S.W. Pacific

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SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA — (By Cable, Censored) — The singing was as crude as a child's copy of Whistler's "Mother" because work-toughened GI's found it hard to get into the right frame of mind for carols.

But it was sincere—as sincere as the unexpressed wish in each man's heart that this thing will soon be over.

Women Best Gift

Women on the scene served to temper the usual boisterous New

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Air Chief Visits Squadron Leader

Gen. Henry H. Arnold (left), commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces, chats with Capt. George Roberts of Fairmount, W.Va., commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron, at an advanced air base in Italy. General Arnold visited the Italian front after attending the Cairo and Teheran conferences.

Charges Against Troops in New Caledonia Denied

Correspondent Refutes Governor's Accusation That Soldiers Attacked White Women

NEW YORK—Charges that colored American troops terrorized white women of New Caledonia were denied last week by J. Norman Lodge, white Associated Press war correspondent, who recently returned to this country after a year in the New Caledonia area.

The charges were made by Governor Christian L'Aigret who said that colored soldiers had attacked white women of the island "even in the company of their husbands and brothers."

Lodge said he found nothing to substantiate allegations "that American troops, particularly colored troops, misbehaved in any manner."

Natives Gouged Troops

"On the other hand," he added, "the native population of Noumea (the capital) continually gouged American troops, one shopkeeper in particular having become a local millionairess by her terrific prices for ordinary merchandise."

Lodge pointed out that the Governor had been critical of Americans from the first, and that many establishments in the city had been placed off limits because of these gouging tactics.

Behavior Called Excellent

Major General Rush Lincoln, commander of American forces on

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

P. B. Young, Sr., Hurt in Crash

NORFOLK, Va. — P. B. Young, Sr., publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, was resting comfortably at his home here Thursday morning following an automobile accident about 7:30 Monday morning fifteen miles south of Fredericksburg.

Mr. Young, driving alone, was en route to Washington for a meeting of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee of which he is a member.

On an icy portion of the highway, the car traveling behind Mr. Young got out of control and struck his auto from the rear,

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

$7,428 Goes Begging!

2,520 Quarts of Milk, Playground Facilities, Motherly Love Lost Too

This is the story of $7,428 which has gone begging for the past six months.

With it, 2,520 quarts of milk, some new playground equipment, facilities at three warm school buildings, and an untold amount of motherly care, are also being wasted.

And all because Baltimore's working parents have failed to enroll their school-age children in the child-care centers sponsored by the city recreation department.

The money to operate three such centers with accommodations for thirty-five colored school children at each center has been available since July. Not one is now in operation.

Center Opened Twice

Twice in October a center was established at Alexan-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Afro Honor Roll Out January 8

Who were Baltimore's ten outstanding citizens of 1943? Which of your neighbors has performed superior service in his particular field and is therefore deserving of special commendation?

The AFRO's annual honor roll will name these citizens. Suggestions from readers are solicited.

School children, ministers, labor leaders, a war worker, a mother, residents from all walks of life are eligible for selection on this yearly scroll. Only requirement is service to the community.

This year's honor roll will be published in the January 8 issue. Address your suggestion to the AFRO Honor Roll Editor today.

Highlights of 1943

Following is a series of thumbnail sketches of the most outstanding events in a busy year, now in its waning hours:

JANUARY

Capt. Hugh Mulzac, first colored man to be named skipper of a ship by the U.S. Merchant Marine, returned to this country at completion of initial voyage of his Liberty ship, S. S. Booker T. Washington.

Winfred Lynn defied U.S. Selective Service order for him to report for induction, refusing on grounds he opposed army's jim-crow set-up.

Rep. William L. Dawson seated as congressman of the first district of Illinois.

Judge William H. Hastie quit post as civilian aide to the Secretary of War in protest against perpetuation of army's anti-colored policies. Also resigning key jobs were Atty. Charles Houston and two other members of FEPC legal staff.

FEBRUARY

Lt. Col. H. D. Queen named commander of 366th all-colored infantry.

Heavyweight Champion Sgt. Joe Louis and wife, Marva, became parents of seven-pound, five-ounce daughter.

Truman K. Gibson, Jr., of Chicago, named to succeed Judge Hastie.

Bishops of AME and AMEZ churches agreed on salient points in plan to merge two churches.

MARCH

First contingent of colored doctors and nurses reported landed in Africa for service in North African theatre.

Judge Hastie selected as Spingarn Award recipient.

AFRO dispatched Vincent Tubbs

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Transit Co. Signs FEPC Agreement

WASHINGTON

The Capital Transit Company has signed a written commitment with the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), Chairman Malcolm Ross revealed at his press conference Monday.

Details of the agreement were not revealed, but it was understood that the statement expressed willingness on the part of the company to abide by the President's executive order. E. T. Merrill, transit company president, signed the statement.

Mr. Ross also revealed that the Rapid Transit Company in Chicago is now employing seven colored motormen, and that the Market

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)