Minorities Feel Little Optimism About Gains

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Black Americans feel they made some social and economic progress in the recent past but have trimmed their hopes for more substantial gains in the immediate future.

A series of polls ranging from full-scale national samplings of attitudes to relatively restricted spot checks of specific issues give evidence that U.S. non-whites believe they moved slightly upwards in the late 1960's.

They have less optimism about the future now than in the last decade however.

Opinions were probed in the most depth by Albert Cantril and Charles W. Roll Jr. for their book "Hopes and Fears of the American People."

Some of the areas they did not touch were filled in by recent surveys by the Louis Harris Organization, the National League of Cities and researchers at the University of Massachusetts.

Cantril and Roll found this year that non-whites in a national sample prepared by the Gallup organization believe they had moved up about half a point on a 10-point scale of personal aspirations between 1966 and 1971 and expect to rise by another point in the next five years.

Asked for the same information seven years ago said they had progressed three-quarters of a point in the previous five years and expected a two-point leap from 1964 to 1969.

Significantly the non-whites interviewed in 1964 had expected to be almost at the same point of their "ladder" of aspirations in five years as did the whites who were interviewed.

But this year, the non-white view of the future placed them about three-quarters of a point below white expectations.

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A recent Harris Poll supplies some possible explanations for the shrinkage of optimism.

Harris' sample showed 72 per cent of blacks believed that the government could be depended upon to help them a "great deal" during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Under President Nixon 65 per cent looked for "Not much" help.

As an indicator of non-whites' view of present conditions the League of Cities surveying 10 medium large cities found majorities in seven who did not believe they were getting their money's worth from their local taxes.

In each of the seven cities — Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Milwaukee, Nashville, Kansas City, Kans. and Kansas City, Mo. larger percentages of blacks than whites expressed dissatisfaction with the use of their tax payments.

The white figures ran from just below 50 per cent in Atlanta to nearly 80 per cent in Boston, but the non-white percentages were higher than 70 in every city.

The league asked both groups of citizens whether more, less or the same amount of public funds should be spent on a list of 16 government services.

Baltimore, the city with the second largest percentage of non-white population in the group of 10 (46 per cent), gave the strongest endorsements of all the cities in the sample to spending more for schools, nighttime Police Patrolling, Medical Care for the poor, recreation for teenage youths, housing inspection, combating drug abuse and aid for dependent children.

Atlanta, with 51 per cent black population, was third in most of those service categories behind Boston, which has a 16 per cent black population.

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The areas of concern pointed up in the League of Cities' poll also turned up to some extent in the Cantril-Poll Survey.

Rating their personal hopes for the future, non-whites in that poll gave the same first choice as whites—good health and a better living standard.

But non-whites were substantially more interested than whites in high aspirations for their children, owning their own home and holding a good job in a congenial work atmosphere.

Some of the most striking findings were made in the smallest of the surveys, a series of questions asked a sampling of non-whites in an unidentified New England locality by University Of Massachusetts researchers.

Their purpose was to determine attitudes toward birth control programs, and on that subject they found evidence of mistrust: 68 per cent of those interviewed agreed with the statement "Birth control projects are aimed at the low income population."

However, only 28 per cent of the total (but 48 per cent of non-white males 30 or younger) agreed with the proposition that "Encouraging blacks to use birth control is comparable to trying to eliminate this group from society."

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The researchers also asked a number of questions unrelated to birth control to determine black power and separatist feelings in the community.

They found that 60 per cent of those interviewed believed "All the businesses in the black community should be owned by blacks," and 23 per cent felt "Black Americans should have a country of their own."

A full 35 per cent of the young non-white males favored a separate country, while 48 per cent of the same group believed "Black Americans should not try any more to integrate into American society."

On the statement, "It is wrong for blacks and whites to intermarry," the highest percentage of agreement, 33, came from young black females. For the entire group, the figure was 26 per cent in agreement, 74 per cent in disagreement.

Harris also asked some questions designed to measure non-white feelings toward whites and the white-dominated establishment.

He found that blacks believed the television industry cared most about seeing blacks achieve equality.

Asked who had tried to prevent equality, the blacks gave the highest rating to "Local Police."

AT THE WHITE HOUSE: Colston Lewis of Richmond, commissioner on t heU.S. Equal Employment Opportunty Commission, greets President Nixon after church services at the White House. Lewis is followed by his wife Glennis and son Chunky. Lewis is on crutches as the result of injuries sustained in an auto accident. (AFRO Photo by Clifton Cabell).

Minorities seek denial of TV license renewal

WASHINGTON—A coalition of Indians and blacks and Mexican-Americans has filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to deny renewal of a station license to KGGM-TV, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

The group, known as "The Coalition for the Enforcement of Equality in Television and Radio Utilization of Time and Hours" (CEETRUTH), is composed of 19 community organizations.

Technical advice and legal counsel has been supplied to the group by the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ.

The petition charges that the television station employs 61 persons of whom seven are Spanish-surnamed and none are black or Indian.

The coalition noted that the city population is 34 per cent Spanish-surnamed, and that there are sizeable groups of blacks and Indians.

In addition, the coalition suggested that the seven Spanish-surnamed employes are employed in lower-level jobs.

The petition also alleges that the station failed to ascertain the program needs of the Spanish-surnamed, blacks and Indians as required by the FCC.

It also states that the station has failed to provide adequate programming of news.

"KGGM has consistantly failed to carry news of the Chicano, Indian and black communities even when specifically requested to do so and even when such news events were of great interest and significance to the larger community," the petition read.

The petition further charged that the station failed to allot a sufficient proportion of the broadcast day to local programming, and that "The station serves as a network (CBS) conduit whose programming bears little relationship to the needs and interests of its community of license."

The coalition charged that KGGM-TV devoted "barely one per cent" of its time to public affairs broadcasting, and that religious programs and public service ar acements pertaining to minorities were at a minimum.

Vincente T. Ximenes, vice-president of the Urban Coalition and former chairman of the cabinet committee on Mexican-American Affairs, submitted an affidavit which was included with the petition.

"Even though there was a consistent cry from the Spanish-speaking and Indian community in Albuquerque for relevant programs, at no time did KGGM-TV ask for assistance from any committee to meet these demands," Ximenes said.

He continued, "At no time did KGGM-TV ask for my assistance on the matter of equal employment, even though it was well known that I was a commissioner of the Equal Opportunity Commission whose duty was to assist in the affirmative action programs."

Drug dealers get life under new statute

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — A Yonkers woman and two Bronx brothers have been sentenced to life imprisonment under a new state law equating the penalty for possessing large quantities of drugs with the penalty for murder.

The indictment charged that Madeline Pineda, 29 years old, had sold drugs for $44,000 to the brothers, Martin Hernandez, 35, and Victor, 25, just before police raided her apartment last Nov. 6.

Mrs. Pineda, who was also convicted of drug sale, and the elder Hernández were each sentenced to a minimum of 25 years in prison. Victor received a minimum 20 year sentence.

The three, who had been convicted on July 27 of possessing nine pounds of cocaine, were sentenced by State Supreme Court Justice George Beisheim, who denied pleas for clemency in the first application of the new law.

Assistant District Attorney Francis T. Donoue, in arguing for the heavy sentences, said the reasoning behind the new state law was "obvious."

"The crimes of taking a life by shooting, stabbing or mayhem are of no greater magnitude than the taking of many lives through the living death of narcoticism," he said.

Under the law, the maximum penalty for possessing more than one pound of dangerous drug is equal to the penalty for murder.

All three received automatic appeals. Should these fail, they must serve the minimum sentences before becoming eligible for parole.

$35,000 grant goes to Center Stage

Center Stage, Baltimore's resident, professional theatre, is the recipient if a National Endowment for the Arts' grant. The grant, amounting to $35,000, was awarded for production support and to defray the expense of the theatre's regional touring program.

Center Stage is one of 36 professional theatres sharing $1,379,500 in Federal funds.

Scientists confirm moon rock's age

STONY BROOK, N.Y. (UPI) — Scientists at the State University of New York have confirmed the so-called "genesis rock" is the oldest ever brought back from the moon.

It was this rock that caused Apollo 15 astronaut David R. Scott to exclaim, "I think we've got what we came for," when he found it last month at the base of a lunar appennine mountain.

The scientists, in a news conference Friday, dated the white and green anorthosite rock as 4.15 billion years and said it could be some 200 million years older than that. The age of the rock confirms scientists' belief that the moon is about 4.6 billion years old.

Previous rocks returned from the moon have been no older than 3.8 billion years, although some fine grains of soil were nearly 4.5 billion years old.

The rock was tested by bombarding it with neutrons to make it radioactive at the nearby Brookhaven National Laboratory reactor. Then it was placed in a mass spectrometer for chemical analysis.

Dr. Liaquat Husain, a nuclear chemist, said the rock's age was found by comparing the relationships of the content of potassium and argon isotopes.

"This is the oldest lunar rocks found on any of the missions so far,"

Rocks found earlier on the lunar plains were much heavier than anorthosite. Scientists had hoped to find anorthosite to explain the relatively light mass of the moon compared to the heavier rocks.

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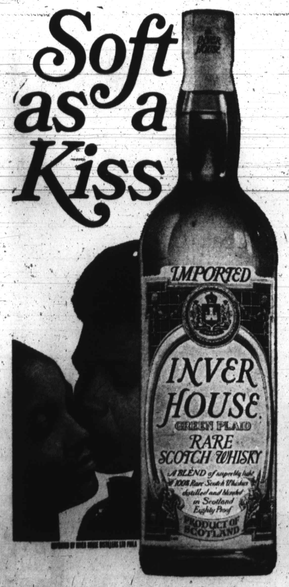

Vets Prepare For Job Combat

NEW YORK—For many Vietnam veterans, returning home has meant exchanging one combat zone for another. They have quit the deadly game with the Viet Cong only to join the deadening struggle of job-hunting.

Recently, 30 veterans met in a Harlem apartment to plan an operation into the hostile job market.

Everyone had spent at least a year in a combat zone defending democracy in Southeast Asia. All were living in ghettos and all but one said they were unable to find decent jobs or live in decent apartments.

They were not complaining because they did not have glamorous, good-paying jobs or demanding luxury housing. What they did want didn't seem like much at all.

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On small file cards they wrote their names, ages, the jobs they wanted and how much money they expected to earn.

Robert Anderson, 22, wanted to work outside and earn $125 a week. Donald Cummings, 34, wanted to open a hero sandwich shop. James Wentworth, 23, wanted to make $125 at almost any sort of job.

George Milton, 23, was the only veteran who thought he should earn more than $200 a week. He wanted to be a helicopter mechanic, as he was in the Army.

And he wanted to make the kind of money the recruiting people had told him he would be able to make when he enlisted three years ago.

Most of the men in the room had gone through interviews at the Veterans Administration and state and local employment agencies. Some had gone to interviews for jobs they had seen advertised in the papers.

Only one had gotten a job paying over $120 a week. Seven were still unemployed.

The job market is, of course, depressed and thousands are out of work in the city. But the veterans seemed to feel a very special intense resentment at being out of work.

"Out there in the jungle, out there where people are shooting at you," said one veteran, "you look around and you see a lot more black faces than white faces.

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"And you get back here and it's the same thing in the unemployment lines.

"It's not only black veterans who are suffering from unemployment, but it seems they're more bitter than the whites," said Jerome R. Coner.

Coner directed a veterans' training program in a bank and organized the meeting. "It may be hard to believe," he said, "but Vietnam veterans are at a disadvantage when looking for a job."

One of the disadvantages, according to Coner and other veterans, is that prospective employers have an exaggerated fear of hiring drug addicts.

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"There is so much publicity about drug use in the service that a lot of personnel people believe that all Vietnam veterans use drugs,' said Coner.

Dozens of veterans reported that most interviews consisted mainly of pointed questions about the soldiers use of drugs in Vietnam. One veteran said:

"For a while I told the truth. I mean I smoked a lot of grass and every once in a while took some ups (amphetamines to stay awake on patrol or in battle. But being that honest was really stupid.

"I'll bet 90 per cent of the kids who went to college used drugs at some time or other and that isn't stopping them from getting jobs."

Other veterans who had been interviewed for various jobs with large companies indicated that the personnel directors they spoke with made them feel they weren't ready to go to work yet.

Coner said that in his conversations with a number of personnel people he got the impression that they believed a returned from a combat zone wasn't going to be readjusted enough to work until about six months after his discharge.

Some of the veterans felt they were at a disadvantage in job hunting because of the tests they were given.

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"Even after you've graduated from high school," said one veteran, "two years in the Army and a year of that in a combat zone kind of dulls your brain a bit. I mean it's not that you're dumber. It's just that you have trouble putting your brain into civilian gear."

The group of veterans who met in Harlem wound up the meeting by forming strategy, speaking, coordinating and proposal committees. They'll meet again together and try to meet with political, community, business and education leaders.

Most of the veterans interviewed believe that the society to which they have returned would rather not be reminded that young American men are fighting a war in Southeast Asia.

And most said they'd like to forget the things they had been doing in the war. It was just that the unemployment lines didn't help you forget.

PERSONAL ENDORSEMENT — Majority House Leader, Rep. LeRoy Irvis (L), of Harrisburg, Pa., talked with members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, who were lobbying for better jobs, more veterans benefits, and an end of the war, last week in Harrisburg. Irvis promised his personal endorsement for their aims. L to R are: Irvis; Willard Landis, Carlisle; James Brophy, Pittsburgh; Paul O. Riordan, Carlisle; and Thor Halse, of Philadelphia. (UPI Telephoto).

All food recalls not publicized

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A Food and Drug Administration official says food companies often recall contaminated goods without making a public announcement.

Dr. Virgil O. Wodicka, director of the FDA Bureau of Foods, said in a UPI interview that the government often doesn't know about the recalls.

"Quiet recalls" usually are limited to problems unrelated to public health, such as inadvertently putting corn labels on frozen peas. Wodicka said a food processor "is under no legal compulsion to tell us it's accomplishing a recall for whatever reasons."

The FDA and the Agriculture Department are responsible for assuring that foods are safe for human consumption.

The Campbell Soup recalled without notice chicken vegetable soup packed at its Paris, Tex., plant. When it was discovered the fault in the soup was caused by a deadly botulism toxin. Campbell immediately notified the FDA, the Agriculture Department and the public.

"This is not an unusual situation," Wodicka said. "If a company finds a quality defect it will go out and pick up the product and it will not usually advertise the fact. . . . they don't tell us about it."

Wodicka also said water pollution was forcing federal and state regulators to ban harvesting of oysters and clams in more areas.

"The problem is that shellfish draw their sustenance by pumping water in and out and straining out of the water what they choose to eat," he said. "But they strain some other things, too, so they serve as concentrators of what's in the water and thereby become pretty good indicators of water quality."

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Mrs. Delee ordered to stand trial

CHARLESTON, S.C. (UPI) — Civil Rights Leader Mrs. Victoria Delee has been ordered to stand trial on charges of resisting arrest and assaulting a police officer stemming from an auto accident she was involved in last May.

Magistrate Mendel W. Gay fined Mrs. Delee $15 on a charge of following too closely in connection with the accident and then sent the case to the court of general sessions for action on the other charges.

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Mrs. Delee ran an unsuccessful campaign for the First Congressional District seat last May on the ticket of the black-oriented United Citizens Party.

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She was involved in a four-car accident on May 5 shortly after the election. She told authorities at the time of the accident that the road was wet and that she skidded into another vehicle when she applied her brakes.

Mrs. Delee said at the time a police officer investigating the accident gave her a ticket which said the weather was fair when the accident occurred. When she tried to question the officer, Mrs. Delee said she was grabbed by the arm and pushed into the car.

UN dinner guests hear Ambassador George Bush

Ambassador George Bush, US representative in the UN, said her Wednesday night it would be a dangerous precedent for the UN to unseat Nationalist China in the Security Council in favour of the Peking Government.

He head his government will vehemently oppose that move because so far as the US is concerned the admission of Peking into the UN will not be at the expense of old friends.

"It will not mean abandoning old friends in favour of others. Our policy is to be friendly to all nations in the interest of world peace," he stated.

He said the US will not concede to the unseating of Taiwan. To his Government admission of Peking means shifting 20 years of confrontation endangering world peace to peaceful negotiation and easing of world tension.

Ambassador Bush was speaking on admis ion of Communist China into the UUN at a dinner organized by the United Nations Association of Maryland.

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On a panel and among distinguished platform guests was Morgan President Dr. King V. Cheek.

The function which attracted a large number of people was attended by many distinguished Maryland Personalities including the U.S. Senator Charles McC. Mathias, and Theodore R. McKeldin, former governor of Maryland.

Ambassador Bush noted that Peking's willingness to join the UN after all these years is a radical departure and failure in its attempt to set up another world body similar to the UN.

The ambassador observed that in the interest of peaceful co-existence and easing of world tension it is realistic to re-adjust policies. He told the over 400 members that his government will relentlessly organize its resources to prevent any issue that may inflame the cold war to possible.

Tests judged fair but hiring policies cited

MIAMI Fla. — Two University of Miami professors, who investigated the frustrated attempt of Lt. Leroy Smith to become the city's first black police captain, found Smith was treated fairly by civil service examiners who said he failed the captain's test.

The professors, Gordon Foster and Michael J. Stolee, went on to sharply criticize the absence of non-whites in high positions on either the city police force or the civil service board.

They recommended that Chief Bernard Garmine immediately consider appoint a non - white to the rank of major, a position that is not filled through civil service procedures.

"It is essential that black policemen hold administrative and policy-making positions in the department" the professors saidIdi in a report to the city commission.

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They also said the racial composition of the civil service board and staff should be similar to the racial makeup of Miami.

"Regardless of whether it is true or not, the black community believes a relationship exists between the lack of blacks in the civil service office and the poor record of blacks in civil service examinations," they said.

They said the test Smith failed was "constructed, administered, scored, scaled and announced with honesty and integrity," but criticized the test as being "of little value."

"It is very doubtful that passing a test often examination based on eight books is an accurate measurment of a maan's ability to perform . . as captain of police," the professors said.

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