

BRYANT CASE SENT TO GRAND JURY

(STORY IN COLUMN 6)



GLAMOUR, MUSIC ENLIVEN AFRO HOME SHOW — There was plenty glamour, entertainment and prizes galore at the AFRO Home Show held at the Continental Ballroom in Newark Wednesday and Thursday. (Left) Vivian Braxton (right) AFRO Suburban columnist greets Michelle Martin

(left) and Sandra Ruffin at the AFRO booth. (No. 2) Congressional candidate William Stubbs, is surrounded by Dolores Daniel, Shirley Jenkins, Lillian Hammond, AFRO society editor and Cynthia Cagnina, who was crowned "Miss AFRO of 1964." (No. 3) Song stylist Renne LaMarr Winston,

enlivened the evening with songs and music appearing with the Skylighters orchestra; (No. 4) Mrs. Lillian Stalks, secretary of the Newark Planning Board and Mrs. Ethel Moore discuss the NAACP Freedom Fund dinner and 50th anniversary celebration with recording star Jimmie Mill-

er, who entertained the audience. (No. 5) Mrs. Nancy Walsh, demonstrator for the Public Service Electric and Gas Company discusses food preparation as L. Duckat, managerial assistant looks on approvingly. (Boykins Photos)

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ASK U. S. TO HALT REIGN OF TERROR

Find no conspiracy by Oswald

By JACK C. VANDENBERG

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Was Lee Harvey Oswald trained in Minsk as a Soviet undercover agent? Did he stop off in Havana on his way to Russia in 1959? Did he make it to Cuba by way of Mexico City eight weeks before the assassination? These and hundreds of other questions were asked here and abroad in the weeks following President John F. Kennedy's death last Nov. 22. Most of the speculation and rumors centered around the idea that Oswald acted as part of a conspiracy.

THE WARREN Commission, appointed by President Kennedy to investigate the Nov. 22, 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy, ruled that Lee Harvey Oswald was acting alone when he shot and killed the late president in Dallas, Texas.

In the 300,000-word report released to the public Sunday, the commission's findings said that the assassin, who himself was shot to death before a nationwide television audience two days



THE WAY HE LOOKED — Minutes before he was assassinated, President Kennedy had this happy look on his tour of Dallas. Warren Commission report made public this week definitely names Lee Harvey Oswald as killer, his security measures for protecting President.

later, was not part of a conspiracy "foreign or domestic." The commission, headed by Chief Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren, also issued sharp criticism of two of the

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Cites 10 blasts in McComb alone

WASHINGTON — Urgent pleas for the government to halt the "reign of terror" in Mississippi were voiced in Washington this week by Congressmen, civil rights leaders, and four bomb victims who appealed directly to President Johnson.

Even as the protests were being registered, new violence flared in the state. In the latest bombing, late Friday night, the home of Natchez mayor and that of a colored contractor were damaged.

Mayor John J. Nossier blamed the attack on white

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Mayor sends Bryant case to jury

The case of the late Benjamin Bryant, who allegedly died under mysterious circumstances while being held in police custody as a suspect in a slaying has been turned over to the grand jury for thorough investigation by Mayor Hugh Addonizio upon the urging of the Newark Branch NAACP, he announced last week.

The case has been under investigation by the Human Rights Commission which made its report to the mayor for study recently.

In his statement to the

Senate okays Shaw as L.A. postmaster

WASHINGTON (NPAP) — The Senate on Thursday confirmed the nomination of Leslie N. Shaw, 41, as postmaster of the Los Angeles Post Office, the third largest postal facility in the Nation.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. Shaw was named acting postmaster at Los Angeles by the late President Kennedy on April 15, 1963.

Swim club in hot water over bias

The Clover Hill Swimming is a colored person "with all the advantages and benefits generally accompanying such membership." The order, signed by Division Director George S. Pflanz, resulted from a public hearing held last March in Newark which found that the Clover Hill Swimming Club "had violated the Law

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NEW 'MISS AFRO' CROWNED — Miss Joan Lear (left) ended her reign as "Miss AFRO of 1963" by placing her crown on the pretty head of Miss Cynthia Cagnina (right) who topped the crown for 1964 at the annual AFRO Home Service Show held at the Continental Ballroom in Newark Thursday evening. (Avery Photo)

Thousands at AFRO Show

By LILLIAN HAMMOND — Pretty Cynthia Cagnina, a 17-year-old senior at East Orange High, was crowned 1964 queen of the AFRO AMERICAN Newspaper, at the Annual Home Service Show held here last week which drew several thousand for the two night and matinee performances.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cagnina of Hamilton Street, East Orange, Cynthia won the title over 12 other contestants ranging in age from 17 to 25.

Based on charm, poise and stage presentation, the contestants were also required to write an essay, in 50 words or less, on "What I Like Best About the AFRO."

A FAVORITE with the capacity audience as well as the judges, Cynthia made her 1st appearance in a leopard-type one-piece swimsuit, displaying her 34-23-36 figure in its best advantage.

The 5'5" beauty made her final appearance in a full length blue line formal gown, created from glittering 'eyelash' fabric in a brilliant shade of deep violet.

FOLLOWING Her graduation next year, Cynthia plans to enter college, majoring in the field of chemistry. Her prizes included a portable stereo tape recorder presented through the court-

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La. to 're-study' JC letter policy

NEW ORLEANS — State officials are going to take a second look at a State Prison ruling that has ended a three-year correspondence between a condemned colored man and a Swedish woman. Press reports of the prison's segregated letter policy have been received with astonishment in Sweden.

"Any policy we have is subject to change," O. C. Sills, director of the State Board of Institutions, said. "I'm going to look into the history of this policy and its legal background."

lengthy series of appeals has given him eight stays of execution. This year, prison officials cut off their letters because they are not of the same race.

Mrs. Johansson, an engineer's wife, read a new story of Labat's death-row term and corresponded with him from 1960 to 1963.

She said she tried to raise his spirits and give him courage. This year, prison officials cut off their letters because they are not of the same race.



BEAUTIES BY THE DOZEN — The Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Diplomat in New York was the scene last Friday of the graduation exercises of the Ophelia DeVore School of Charm in which both graduates and former models who have won professional reputations participated. A number of graduates from the New Jersey area were among those honored during the ceremonies.

Let's all VOTE

General Election Nov. 2, 1964

Mayor sends Bryant case to jury

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Bryant case

(Continued from page 1)

press Mr. Addonizio said in part:

"IN MAKING this report to me on the Bryant case, the Human Rights Committee, of which Benjamin Epstein, principal of Weequahic High School, acted as chairman, inquired into all the aspects of this matter that were voluntarily brought to their attention.

In its report, the Human Rights Committee indicated that the NAACP was instrumental in bringing this case to the attention of my office.

The Committee in its report commended the NAACP for the responsible manner in which it assisted the investigation of the committee.

I WISH to personally commend the leadership of the NAACP for its conduct in doing everything in its power to avoid acts of public declarations which could only be provocative and inflammatory. The NAACP has only sought what all of us seek, a sincere search for the true facts.

In making this report to me, the committee was very aware of the complexity of the problems involved in this case and their very serious implications.

"IN CONNECTION with the report, I wish to make the following points:

1. Certainly the family of Benjamin Bryant has the right to know the circumstances which led to his death.

2. Furthermore, since allegations of police brutality have arisen in connection with this case the possibility of arousing community sentiments to such a pitch of hostility and resentment as to cause events as disastrous and damaging to life and property as happened in other communities in the past several weeks.

"3. On the other hand, the morale and effectiveness of the Police Department and its personnel must not be diminished and impaired. Individual police officers have a right to be protected against unsubstantiated accusations and to be judged with all the protections available to them under our due process of law; when their reputations and careers are at stake and when the final effect of all gations against them may result in criminal prosecution, then it must be doubly certain that due process takes place.

THE HUMAN Rights Committee in its report said as

follows:

We are aware that at the same time that our search for information was taking place, separate investigations were simultaneously being undertaken by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to see whether any events had taken place which would require the participation of the U. S. Department of Justice, by the Essex County, Prosecutor's Office to see whether offense had been committed in connection with this case which would warrant prosecution, and by the Inspection Department of the Newark Police Department.

Each of these agencies is staffed with investigators who have far greater investigative training and experience than the members of the committees and who, in addition, have clearly defined legal power to secure formal testimony and evidence.

"I HAVE reiterated time and time again that I, as Mayor, will not tolerate or condone any acts of police brutality but at the same time it is my duty to see that effective law enforcement is not hampered by false accusations of police brutality.

"Therefore, it is my intention to review any such accusations that are made and to transmit any findings, if such a case should develop, to the proper legal authorities for impartial consideration and action.

"In the Bryant case all of the facts now will be presented at this session of the Essex County Grand Jury. Therefore, an independent and impartial group of citizens will be in a position to evaluate the facts and make their recommendations in accordance with law.

However, we have a responsibility in government which we have not said away from.

It is important that we increase the channels of communication between the Police Department and the public. We have already taken steps in this direction. At meetings of community and civil rights leaders the Police Director has openly discussed problems that are inherent in effective law enforcement.

At my direction, Police Director Spina has made the necessary arrangements to have authorized persons from community organizations visit police precincts and other operations of the Police Department on a regular basis."

—Swim club