10-15-1973

Daily Beacon Articles: “JFK Assassination Explored Today,” “Ross Tells Blacks to Start Thinking,” & “Yarbrough Sings the Poetry of Black Culture”

Commission for Blacks

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Landlords were absent

Testimony at last Friday's State Senate Judiciary Subcommittee hearings on the tenant-landlord law was one-sided, Rep. Bill Carter, R-Chatt., told the 40 people attending.

"Why are no landlords here?" Carter asked. He said the state goes to a lot of expense to send legislators around the state for hearings for the purpose of hearing both sides of issues.

"From the seven or eight people we've heard here today, you can imagine what direction we are going in," Carter said.

One landlord in the audience, Lola Plummer of 1516 Laurel Avenue said "I don't even think a lot of the landlords knew this bill had passed."

Rep. John Mann, R-Knox., who chairs the committee, assured her the community had been fully alerted to the hearings, and that three people personally invited did not come.

A.T. Burleson, Chief Building Official for Knoxville said his "previous commitments and a crowded work schedule" kept him from appearing, but he sent a written statement.

The people who did testify presented several common points of contention about the bill as it now stands. The committee heard about security deposits, the methods of recovering them, housing standards that will have to be adopted before the bill can be enforced, problems of absentee ownership, rent-reduction for repairs, and the hardship the present bill works on lower-income tenants.

As the bill is worded, the tenant who wishes to file a complaint must give the County Court Clerk one month's rent. Those who testified said renters that the bill is designed to help (those paying less than $200 a month in rent) cannot usually afford to pay a month's rent twice in one month.

Several people, including UT Tenants' Association representative, Steve Hart, and Bill Nolan, last year's Student Senate vice-president, called on the legislators to enact into law a provision for a UT bureau which could act as a clearing house for rental property around campus.

Several people at the hearing begged the legislators to come with them to see the areas where they live. Mann decided they would visit areas of Memphis before meeting in that city Dec. 3.

JFK assassination explored today

On Nov. 22, 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald perched inside a warehouse and methodically fired three shots which tore into President Kennedy's limousine.

Robert Katz, correspondent for the Washington Base Committee to Investigate Assassinations, will lead a seminar at 8 p.m. today in the University Center Auditorium, to explain exactly what happened on that day.

The seminar will attempt to answer some of the more intriguing and provocative questions raised over the past ten years. Among the questions to be discussed are: 1) Why did two-thirds of the eye witnesses believe that the shots came from the front, when Oswald was allegedly positioned behind the motorcade? 2) Why do home-movies taken of the scene reveal the president being blasted violently backwards? 3) Why did Oswald, reputedly a leftist, have a history of involvements with the Central Intelligence Agency? 4) Why are the eleven files compiled by the C.I.A. on Oswald prior to the assassination being withheld from the public until the year 2039? 5) What ever happened to the precise, detailed itinerary of the assassination compiled by the Warren Commission?

The seminar will include showings of slides and home movies of the assassination.

Energy needed

The Rev. Ralph Ross tells the audience at the Tennessee Association of Black Students that black students are responsible for providing the energy to forward the situations of black people.

Ross tells blacks to start thinking
By SUSAN SCARBROUGH

Camille Yarbrough presents in a combination of song, emotional expression, and movement her poetry of the problems, lives and humor of the "black experience." She calls blacks "uprooted tropical seeds scattered in foreign places," and in her performance calls herself a "Griot," an African oral historian who relays the history of the black heritage.

"Black experience"

Yarbrough sings the poetry of black culture

By KAREN FUSON

A low, sensuous, pounding bass, a sing-song performance of very personal emotional poetry—this is Camille Yarbrough. Young and soft-featured, Yarbrough recited her poetry before a crowd of about 100 people Friday in the Music Building Auditorium. She entered dressed in flowing silver robes. "I've been reborn to share with you foreign places," she said, and "I would rather write than anything," Ross said.

By United Press International

Israeli big guns were shelling military targets on the outskirts of the ancient Syrian capital. While fighting raged on both fronts, Israel announced in its first casualty report that 656 soldiers and pilots were killed in the first eight days of the war. One of the dead was Maj. Gen. Avram Mendler, commander of the Armored Corps in the Sinai. The report said an unknown number of other Israelis had been taken prisoner.

The figure of 656 dead in eight days of the new war compared with the figure of 777 military dead in the entire Six-Day War of 1967. An Egyptian communiqué said the Egyptians jumped off at dawn along the Sinai front east of the Suez Canal and fought battles all day Sunday with the aim of destroying Israeli armor in the desert.

"Our forces succeeded in capturing new areas of land all along the battlefront in Sinai," the Communiqué said. The communiqué claimed Israel lost more than 250 tanks. But the Israelis said they threw back the Egyptian tank attack of the war.

The Israeli military command said its Suez Canal front smashed more than half the entire Egyptian tank corps in the all-day battle there. Maj. Gen. Haim Herzog, in a radio analysis, said the attack in the south could signal the start of the war's critical stage.

The commander of the southern front said: "We are grinding them into the ground. The Russian tactics they are following call for waves of infantry behind the tanks, which accounts for their heavy losses." Israel also said its planes had shot down two French-built Mirage fighter-bombers in action with Egyptian forces on the Sinai front Sunday. It protested to France about the alleged transfer of the planes from Libya to Egypt.