

Negro Official Warns: New Nations Must Eliminate Injustices Inflicted by Selves

MADISON, Wis.—Gradual awakening of the world to the real meaning of human rights reveals inescapable responsibilities according to George Weaver, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Foreign Affairs.

Speaking on the international implications of "Human Rights and the Struggle Against World Poverty" at the University of Wisconsin, Weaver said that the 59 nations which have become independent since World War II must recognize and purge discrimination and prejudice within their own societies because economic well-being and human rights are intertwined.

"We live in an extraordinary age; an age in which the human spirit is finally breaking out of the bonds of enslavement and denials," Weaver said. "This is not a renaissance, it is not a resurgence, it is not a reaffirmation of what human rights are about. This is the awakening of what human rights mean. I believe we are at last at the point of seeing a recognition of the need for the fulfillment of social justice at all levels, domestically and internationally.

"For today, in 1965, two great tides in the affairs of mankind sweep the world. There is no quarter of the earth which has not, to some degree, felt the wave of human aspirations for freedom and equality--freedom from colonial rule and freedom from racial discrimination.

"Indeed, so strong and intense have been these movements for freedom and equality that we might easily conclude that these two words are far more characteristic of this century than is the release of the energy from the atom. What we are now witnessing is the release of the highest human ideals, the ideal of human freedom and the ideal of justice.

"Social justice, however, cannot be fulfilled until there are recognized levels for economic growth and development; in other words, an end to grinding poverty throughout the world.

"FIFTY-NINE nations have gained their independence as a direct result of the second world war and the demise of colonialism. The movement towards self-determination for all peoples, and the subsequent independence, was one of the greatest blows against injustice the twentieth century has witnessed. This is not to say that human rights, human dignities and fundamental freedom came instantly to the newly freed peoples. On the contrary, too many of them still are denied basic rights. But casting off colonialism enabled the formerly oppressed to walk in dignity and participate in the councils of men on an equal basis.

"This political revolt was only the beginning of a wider and deeper revolt against the indignity of poverty; and political independence provides only the freedom to try to do something about it.

"One of the great difficulties in the newly developing nations is that their rural, or vil-



BAPTISMAL CEREMONY -- Robert Lewis Reid Jr., held by Godmother Mrs. Bob (Anna) Bailey, is baptized by Msgr. William Devlin in recent ceremony at St. James Catholic Church. Godfather James McMillan Jr. holds candle, partially hiding child's mother, Mrs. Robert L. (Sondra) Reid Sr. rear right.

lage, civilization now wants to become immediately an urban civilization. Their rural inhabitants flock to urban centers even before there is any promise of economic opportunity. Indeed, in a number of cases, the influx has been so great that new urban cities of poverty, disease, and chronic malnutrition have been created, with absolutely no means of gainful employment. Such developments have caused not only havoc in development, but despair as well.

"It is developments such as these which have caused national leaders in the developing countries to become impatient with the slow pace of economic growth.

"We who are associated with the International Labor Organization are now witnessing a growing conflict between economic development and the preservation and guarantee of human rights. The chronically poor are in a rush for subsistence, and they have no hesitancy to compromise with basic issues.

(See WEAVER, page 14)

NAVY CANCELS CARRIER'S SOUTH AFRICA STOPOVER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A refueling stop in the Republic of South Africa by the U.S. aircraft carrier Independence has been cancelled because Negro members of her crew would be "unwelcome" in the rigidly segregated police state.

Although the Pentagon gave no specific reason for the cancellation of the planned stopover in Capetown tomorrow (May 28) through May 31, the Defense Department said the visit was called off for "operational reasons."

It was learned on good authority, however, that South African officials had requested the U.S. Navy to restrict activities of Negro sailors when the Independence was in port. It was further established that the South African government had made the request through "diplomatic channels."

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