

# MARINE GRADUATE



SAN DIEGO - Marine Pvt. Stony Jackson, son of Mrs. Corine Jackson of 1908 Leona St., Las Vegas, Nev., graduate from basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.

# Spring Thing



"Spring Thing" - B. B. King, blues star presently appearing at the Las Vegas Hilton, happily buys a ticket from Von Tobel Jr. High School Pep Club member Debbie Smith. The Pep Club is presenting the talent show, March 28, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at the school in North Las Vegas. Funds raised from the show will enable the club to visit Disneyland. Donations are \$.50 for students and \$1 for adults.

# Blacks And Hypertension Mystery Within A Mystery

(First of a Series)

High blood pressure, known medically as hypertension, is one of the unsolved mysteries of science. For black Americans, it is a mystery within a mystery.

Why?

Because, in over 90 per cent of all cases, the exact cause of hypertension can't be determined. Because science has not found a cure--only ways to keep it under control. And because science also doesn't know why this killer disease is particularly vulnerable to black Americans.

Consider these facts:

\*Black Americans are twice as likely to have high blood pressure as white Americans.

\*When a black American develops hypertension, he will probably do so at an earlier age. It will be more severe and more deadly. \*In most cases, a black American will die seven years sooner than a white American who develops hypertension at the same age. The cause of death, in all probability, will be heart attack or one or more of the complications of high blood pressure--hypertensive heart disease, kidney failure or stroke.

What causes this abnormally high incidence of hypertension among blacks? Science doesn't know for sure. But there are theories and a leading one is heredity. Suggests the American Heart Association:

"Take a hard look at your family history. How many people in your family--parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts--developed high blood pressure early in life? How many died of stroke, heart attack, kidney failure or hypertensive heart disease--usual end results of hypertension? If they have, there's a good chance you have inherited an abnormal tendency for high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol or diabetes."

This applies to Americans in general, and to black Americans in particular. For, although it has not been proven that heredity plays a major role in causing more high blood pressure in black Americans than white Americans, it is known that an abnormal tendency toward hypertension can often be inherited.

Dr. Frank A. Finnerty Jr., professor of medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D. C., believes heredity is a key factor. He contends that black Americans "inherit bad blood vessels" from ancestors not too many generations removed. He also points to the high salt content in the diet of most black Americans and the stresses of ghetto life--two factors missing from the life (see HYPERTENSION, page 12)

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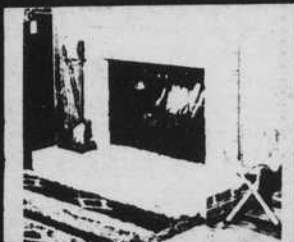
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