

# Ruby Says

by **Ruby Duncan**

As you know, I'm still lobbying every day at the State Legislature in Carson City for an urgently needed raise in payments to ADC recipients. Clark County Welfare Rights Organization (CCWRO) is working for a grant giving families 100% of what they need to live on rather than the 61% they are now getting.

This week we're encouraging all ADC recipients and all concerned citizens to write their assemblymen and senator, making them aware of what a grave issue the ADC grant is.

We need your help. Please write to your legislators. If you are an ADC recipient, tell them so and how many children you have. Let them know how much your check is and what your expenses for food stamps, rent, utilities, and other needs are. Ask them to help you get an ADC grant large enough so you can adequately feed, shelter, clothe, and provide for your family.

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Last week Aldine Weems, Shirley McGee, and I were in New Orleans for the National Free Clinic Council (NFCC) Conference. NFCC is concerned with

the total health care of all people.

Once again I was elected as Treasurer of NFCC and also as the Southwest Regional Representative. This means that, as soon as the legislative session in Carson City is over, I'll be serving as a technical assistant to all clinics in the Southwest Region: Nevada, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas and Louisiana.

While we were in New Orleans, we also had the opportunity to attend the National Drug Abuse Conference, where we learned what's going on in that aspect of health care.

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Getting back to the subject I really want to emphasize to you, here are the names of the two legislators you should write to if you want to see your ADC check increased. They are: Congressman Donald Mello and Senator Floyd Lamb; address both to the Nevada State Legislature, Carson City, Nevada 89701.

Even if you are not an ADC recipient, you can help too. The more letters that go in, the better our chances are that the legislators will listen.

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# V \* A FACTS

Q -- Some six million veterans were released from military service between 1955 and 1966. Is it true that these veterans have an additional two years to use Their GI Bill benefits under a recent law?

A -- Yes. Under a law approved in July 1974 (PL 93-337) veterans released during that period who have not exhausted entitlement have 10 years or until May 31, 1976, whichever is later, to complete training. Farm cooperative, flight, apprenticeship and on-job training are available to them until Aug. 30, 1977.

Q -- Do VA hospitals and clinics take care of reservists injured reporting to, or returning from military training?

A -- Yes. Medical care is available for injuries and illnesses which occur during travel time as specified in the reservist's military orders. Both active duty and inactive duty training are considered active duty for this purpose.

GI Bill students who demonstrate a clear need can qualify for loans up to \$600 per academic year from the Veterans Administration to help them meet training costs, the agency pointed out recently.

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A 1970 law allows restoration of compensation and pension benefits to widows of veterans whose remarriages end in death or divorce, the Veterans Administration reminded recently.

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VA research indicates

a diet supplement of an amino acid, tryptan, may help alcoholics stay dry by relieving some of the symptoms of alcoholic related body chemistry disorders.

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Spurred by a recent 22.7 per cent increase in education allowances and economic conditions, a record 74,548 veterans enrolled under the GI Bill for the first time in February, pushing total enrollment to 1.6 million, the VA reported recently.

\*\*\*\*

Low-cost Veterans Group Life Insurance is available to veterans separated from service between April 3, 1970, and Aug. 1, 1974, if they apply and send premiums before August 2, 1975, to: Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, 212 Washington St., Newark, N.J. 07102.

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The Federal Government spent a total of \$223 billion through June 30, 1974, providing benefits through the VA and its predecessors. World War II veterans accounted for a major portion of the expenditures, nearly 48 per cent according to VA.

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According to latest VA statistics, California, with 3.22 million veterans, retained its rank in 1974 as the state with the most veterans, followed by New York with 2.52 million, Pennsylvania with 1.76 million, Texas with 1.59 million and Illinois with 1.6 million.

# THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY April 1975

- THURS. **10** Jackie Robinson, first Black in major league baseball, signed by Brooklyn Dodgers. 1947
- FRI. **11** Civil Rights Act bans racial discrimination in housing. 1968
- SAT. **12** Confederates fire on Fort Sumter, opening the Civil War. 1861
- SUN. **13** Thomas Paine's first published article was an attack on African slavery in America.
- MON. **14** Sidney Poitier is first Black to win Oscar award from film academy for best acting of year. 1964
- TUES. **15** A. Philip Randolph, labor leader, born in Crescent City, Fla. 1889
- WED. **16** Ebenezer Bassett, first Black appointed to U.S. diplomatic service, becomes Minister to Haiti. 1869

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