



Elmer R. Rusco
Box 8947 Univ. Station
Reno, Nevada 89507

Senator Neal Accuses HUD Of Allowing Federal Rip-offs



State Senator Joe Neal has accused the Department of Housing and Urban Development of allowing poor people to be used as pawns by investors and financial corporations to rip off government funds through the low-income housing program.

"Financial corpor-

ations, such as, Western Pacific Financial Corporation of San Bernardino, Calif., returns house payments which are late because the late charge was not included. To state it another way, if a buyer of a 235-I home is late in sending in his payment and the late charge was not included, the payment is

returned to him," Neal said.

Neal added, "This practice is designed to cause frustration among the 235-I buyers which lead to early defaults on the loans. This allows the investors and the financial corporations which are involved to make a profit at an early period, rather

than having to wait 20 or 30 years, because the government insures these loans 100 per cent."

Neal said he has asked Julius Williams, director of Housing Management of HUD, to look into this matter, and "to do whatever he possibly can to put a stop to this practice."

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VOICE

NEVADA'S
BLACK COMMUNITY
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Welfare Check Stealing Ring Smashed

The North Las Vegas Police Department has smashed an alleged mail theft ring working in the West Las Vegas community.

Police have arrested five persons, who allegedly had three welfare checks in their posses-

sion stolen from unlocked mailboxes in apartment complexes on West Lake Mead Boulevard while the police watched.

The arrests came as a result of numerous complaints of missing welfare checks.

According to police the alleged thieves had cashed thousands of dollars worth of these checks.

Arrested and booked into North Las Vegas jail on charges of forgery, conspiracy to possess forged documents and mail theft were Walter Alex, 27; Landers and Bobby Ray Schneider, 22 and 26, both of 1001 Cunningham Dr.; Valda Faye Swanson, 24, of 1206 Bluff Ave., and Glenn E. Dodd, 19, of 2001 Hart Ave.



Three of the defendants in the so-called "San Quentin Six" murder trial squat in the chapel courtyard of San Quentin Prison as guards ring them, keeping them away from the jurors in their trial who toured the prison and viewed the scene where three guards and three inmates died in a breakout attempt Aug. 71. The field trip, or jury view, was ordered by Judge Henry Broderick to familiarize the jury with the maximum security adjustment center where the break-out attempt erupted. Defendants are, L-R: Hugh A. Pinell, David Johnson and Fleeta Drumgo.

Congress Approves Extension Of Voting Rights Act

Congress has voted final approval of a bill to extend the Voting Rights Act--the new law that led to the election of more than 1,500 black public officials and the registration of 1.5 million new black voters in the South.

The extension is for seven years--from August 6, 1975, to August 6, 1982. In June, the House of Representatives voted to extend the Act for 10 years. The Senate, however, approved a seven-year extension and returned the bill to the House on July 24. House and Senate managers of the bill said that there might be enough time for an effort to reverse the Senate action before the August 6 expiration date, so on

July 28 the House sent the bill to the White House to be signed into law.

Congressman Andrew Young voted for final passage and said: "If anybody doubts the need to continue the Voting Rights Act, we can point to numerous violations of voting rights in the South just this summer. The battle is not over. Congress should also pass legislation designed to register all potential voters and to provide permanent protection of voting rights."

Young is the first black congressman from Georgia in 101 years.

Under the Voting Rights bill just passed: *Six Southern States

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PPPT Head Becomes Housing Commissioner

Mrs. Irma O'Neal, head of Poor People Pulling Together (PPPT), has been sworn in as the new housing commissioner for Las Vegas.

The civil rights activist was named to replace Addeliar Guy, who resigned from the commission recently when he was appointed as the first Black district judge in Nevada history.

Mrs. O'Neal, backed

by PPPT, has become a noted figure in Las Vegas as a fighter and protector of the poor.

Her most recent activities have been centered around fair housing and renting disputes.

In addition, Ms. O'Neal was instrumental in forming Home Ownership and Management Education, Inc., 1237 W. Miller, an HUD-recognized agency.

Beside her work in

housing, Ms. O'Neal is a member of the Legal Services Board, the Work Release Program Board, and is a Certified Housing Counselor. She is the mother of two boys and resides in the Herbert Gerson low-income project here in Las Vegas.

She was also a strong supporter and loud voice for the special improvement district in Vegas Heights.



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