

Ticker Tape U.S.A.

By Simeon Booker, Washington Bureau Chief

Confidential: Arab nations are putting the squeeze on big American oil companies to hire Blacks in upgraded positions in their operations in the Mideast. Also, U. S. oil companies are searching for Black firms that can handle some of the subcontracting in the oil business. The change of strategy has made the Mideast a new area for minority enterprise. . . . White House Aide **Stanley S. Scott Jr.** missed the final days of former President **Richard Nixon's** term. After accompanying the new President, **Gerald R. Ford**, to the National Urban League convention in San Francisco, Scott traveled to Jamaica with his family for a long-sought vacation. But Scott was unable to get a plane out of the country. His assistant, **John Calhoun**, carried on the affairs of the office. . . . Baltimore's first Black school superintendent, **Roland N. Patterson**, faces ouster by the majority-white school board. The battle had divided the seaport city. Patterson, with an annual salary near \$50,000, is the highest-paid official in Maryland. . . . Congressional Black Caucus Chairman **Charles B. Rangel** (D., N. Y.) and Rep. **Shirley Chisholm** (D., N. Y.) urged all Caucus members to attend the first Capitol Hill session addressed recently by President Ford. This is opposite to an earlier Caucus action to boycott an opening speech of former President Nixon. . . . Four mayors of Michigan cities, **Edward Bivens Jr.** of Inkster; **Robert B. Blackwell** of Highland Park; **Lyman S. Parks** of Grand Rapids, all Republicans, and Detroit's **Coleman A. Young**, are emerging as key contacts in the new Ford Administration. The new President respects each of these men, sources say, because, like him, they talk the political talk.

* * *

National Headliners: Don't look for any head-on-battle for power between former assistant Labor Secretary **Arthur Fletcher** and White House Aide **Stanley S. Scott Jr.** Insiders hope that Fletcher will join



Charles Rangel

the White House staff as a domestic counselor to add input on problems of unemployment and the cities. Scott, an ex-broadcaster, would continue his present role in public affairs. . . . Former Watergate guard **Frank Wills**, whose discovery touched off exposure of the nation's worst scandal, has been unemployed for more than a month.



Shirley Chisholm