# LAW & JUSTICE

Few Black Military Officers in Ranks



(503) 823-HELP 111 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon

### **Protect Your Vehicle**

surance card with you when

or garage, leave just the ignition

key with the attendant. Make

sure no personal information is

attached. Do the same when

hicle Identification Number

(VIN) on the windows, doors,

Install a mechanical locking

locks to the steering wheel, col-

Consider installing a secu-

For more information on

visit portlandpolice.com to ac-

cess A Guide to Home and Ve-

is popular among thieves.

before selling the car.

For added auto theft protec-

you take your car for repairs.

When paying to park in a lot

you leave your vehicle.

### Police offer prevention tips

If you own or drive a 1995 Honda Civic, a 1991 Honda Accord, a 1997 Ford F-150 or a 1989 Toyota Camry, you may be surprised to know that, despite their age, these cars are among the tion you can also etch the Vemost popular cars stolen by thieves across the country.

No matter what make or model fenders and trunk lid. This helps of caryou own there are a number to discourage professional of things you can do to improve thieves who have to either rethe security of your vehicle. The move or replace etched parts Portland Police Bureau recommends the following a basic prevention policy to help ensure your device - commonly referred to vehicle is not an easy target for as clubs, collars or j-bars - that thieves on the prowl:

Never leave your car running umn or brake to prevent the with the keys in the ignition when wheel from being turned more you're away from it, even for "just than a few degrees. a minute.

Always roll up the windows rity system if you live in a high and lock the car, even if it's in theft area or drive a vehicle that front of your home.

Never leave valuables in the car. If you must, never leave them keeping your vehicle secure in plain view

Park in busy, well-lighted areas. Carry the registration and in- hicle Security.

### 60 Years after desegregation

(AP) -- Sixty years after President Truman desegregated the military, senior black officers are still rare, particularly among the highest ranks.

Blacks make up about 17 percent of the total force, yet just 9 percent of all officers. That fraction falls to less than 6 percent for general officers with one to four

The rarity of blacks in the top ranks is apparent in one startling statistic: Only one of the 38 fourstar generals or admirals serving as of May was black. And just 10 black men have ever gained fourstarrank-five in the Army, four in the Air Force and one in the Navy, according to the Penta-

The dearth of blacks in highranking positions gives younger African-American soldiers few mentors of their own race. And as the overall percentage of blacks in the service falls, particularly in combat careers that lead to top posts, the situation seems unlikely to change.

Still, officials can point to some historic gains by blacks in the services as the Pentagon commemorates Truman's signing of an executive order on July 26, 1948, mandating the end of segregation in the military.

Best known among the four- only way he'd get a college edu-



African-American airmen train at Tuskegee Airfield in Alabama in 1943.

stars is retired Gen. Colin Powell, cation. who later became the country's first black secretary of state, under President Bush. Another is retired Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, who in 1961, at age 17, spied an "Uncle Sam Wants You" poster and joined the Army.

The second of 12 children, Wilson grew up in a housing project outside Cleveland. Enlisting in the Army, he said, was the

As a young recruit, he found that the older, black noncommissioned officers were eager to guide him, and they urged him to try for Officer Candidate School. Over the next 38 years, he rose through the ranks to become a four-star general.

Why haven't more done the

sky's the limit when they look up and don't see anyone" who looks like them.

The Army has led the way with black officers, with nearly double the percentage at times over the past three decades as the other services. Blacks represented 11 percent to 12 percent of all Army officers during that time, compared with 4 percent to 8 percent For one thing, Wilson said, in the Navy, Air Force and Ma-"it's hard to tell young people the rines.

### Army Scientist Tied to Anthrax Terror, Takes Own Life

(AP) -- Anthrax-laced letters that killed five people and severely rattled the post-9/11 nation may have been part of an Army scientist's warped plan to test his cure for the deadly toxin, officials said.

The brilliant but troubled scientist committed suicide last week, knowing prosecutors were closing in.

The sudden naming of scientist Bruce E. Ivins as the top — and perhaps only - suspect in the anthrax attacks marks the latest bizarre twist in a case that has Bruce E. Ivins



Last month, the Justice Department cleared Ivins' colleague, Steven Hatfill, who had been wrongly suspected in the case, and paid him \$5.8 million.

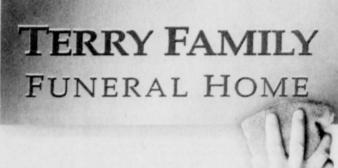
Ivins worked at the Army's biological warfare labs at Fort Detrick, Md., for 18 years until his death on July 29.

He was one of the government's leading scientists researching vaccines and cures for anthrax exposure. But he also had a long history of homicidal threats, ac-

powder were sent on the heels of leaving a deadly trail through post panic in many locations.

confounded the FBI for nearly cording to papers filed last week the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, offices on the way. The powder in local court by a social worker. and turned up at congressional killed five and sent numerous vic-The letters contained anthrax offices, newsrooms and elsewhere, tims to hospitals and caused near

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### House **Apologies** for Slavery

(AP) -- The U.S. House of Representatives issued an unprecedented apology to black Americans last week for the wrongs committed against them and their ancestors who suffered under slavery and Jim Crow segregation laws.

The resolution, passed by voice vote, was the work of Tennessee Democrat Steve Cohen, the only white lawmaker to represent a majority black district.

Congress has issued apologies before — to Japanese-Americans for their internment during World War II and to native Hawaiians for the overthrow of the Hawaiian kingdom in 1893. In 2005, the Senate apologized for

failing to pass anti-lynching laws. Five states have issued apologies for slavery, but past proposals in Congress have stalled, partly over concerns that an apology would lead to demands for reparations - payment for damages.

The Cohen resolution does not mention reparations. It does commit the House to rectifying "the lingering consequences of the misdeeds committed against African-Americans under slavery and Jim Crow."

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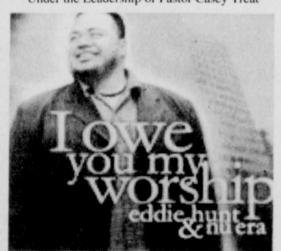
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