

"IT'S THE SAME AS IT ALWAYS WAS, BUT IT'S GOING TO BE DIFFERENT THIS TIME"



PRESIDENT CARTER IS RIGHT

Those who favor the racist regime of southern Africa have opposed President Jimmy Carter's decision not to lift U.S. economic sanctions against Zimbabwe (Rhodesia).

The President is right. We congratulate him for taking a stand for right even though it is an unpopular one at this time.

The Rhodesian elections, which many in this country have hailed as "free and fair" were neither free nor fair. Consider, if you will, that a bus rolls into your neighborhood, all voting age adults are rounded up at gun point, herded to the polls, and watched while ballots are marked. Americans would yell "bloody murder" to the tops of their voices. This is what happened in the so-called "free and fair" elections in Zimbabwe. Of course some semblances of free and fair elections were staged for observers and television camera crews. Ian Smith is no dummy. He knew the importance of what the world saw and heard. These charades

must not be interpreted as a total basis for changing this country's official position toward human rights.

The so-called "black majority" government headed by Bishop Abel Muzorewa is the joke of the century. Twenty-eight of the 100 seats in the government are reserved for whites who hold veto power over the votes of the 72. How could the 72, under such circumstances, possibly constitute majority rule? What about the opposition parties whose members were not even allowed to vote? What about the thousands of refugees now living in camps in Botswana and other bordering states who fled their homeland in fear of their very lives because they opposed Ian Smith's inhuman apartheid policies?

Though the U.S. Senate defeated a compromise move to extend the sanctions through December 1 three weeks ago on a 75-19 vote, Tuesday night's vote of 52-41, though still a defeat shows a strengthening of support for the President's position.

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who propose to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the oceans majestic waves without the awful roar of its waters."

Frederick Douglass

Things You Should Know

Alice Dunbar
NELSON

BORN

JULY 19, 1875 IN NEW ORLEANS, AND A GRADUATE OF STRAIGHT UNIV. SHE SOON WENT NORTH TO TEACH IN COLLEGE

—SHOWN HERE AS A YOUNG LADY, AT THE TIME SHE ORGANIZED THE DOUGLASS PUBLISHING CO., HARRISBURGH, PA. SHE EDITED MANY IMPORTANT BOOKS BEARING ON NEGRO LIFE. ON MARCH 6, 1893, SHE MARRIED THE POET DUNBAR. SHE WAS FAMOUS IN WORLD WAR I AS AN ORGANIZER OF WOMEN FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF DEFENSE!



—CONTINENTAL FEATURES

TO BE EQUAL

JOBS ARE THE TOP ISSUE

By Vernon Jordan
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NATIONAL URBAN
LEAGUE



The nation still refuses to confront the crucial issue of mounting unemployment, especially among blacks and young people. Experts are still talking about a slowdown this year, perhaps even a full-scale recession. But few seem concerned that even as we're supposed to be wallowing in prosperity nearly six million people are officially counted as jobless.

And if you count the discouraged workers who have given up hope of finding work, involuntary part-time workers, and new entrants into the labor force, the ranks of the jobless almost double. Black unemployment remains extraordinarily high — well over double the white rate. Official national unemployment figures mask the full extent of joblessness in many cities and states, and they hide the true impact on blacks.

In some big states, black unemployment is triple that for whites. In 1978, fewer than five per cent of white workers in Illinois were unemployed, but about fifteen per cent of black workers in the state were jobless. Six per cent of white Pennsylvania were out of work in 1978, but the black rate was triple that — about eighteen per cent.

And those are the official, understated unemployment rates. If white workers were unemployed in the numbers black workers are, Congress and the Administration would be falling over themselves to expand job programs and get people back on payrolls.

Instead, there is a mix of difference and comforting statements about how the total number of jobs are shrinking.

Racism can't be ignored as a factor in this national indifference. As long as unemployment is concentrated among blacks, America appears to be content to go about its business, cutting federal jobs programs, clamping a lid on food stamp spending, and refusing to implement job and income maintenance programs.

And to soothe their consciences, many people simply blame the jobless for their plight. I am constantly bombarded by letters and statements from people who claim there are plenty of jobs available and that blacks are just too lazy to get out there and find work.

As proof, many people cite the newspaper want ads. Pages upon pages of job openings listed, even in cities where jobless rates are high.

Well, a few months ago Washington Post reporter Martha Hamilton looked at those want ads. She picked a day on which over 1,000 jobs were listed. Observation number one — on that day 77,600 people were unemployed, or over seventy people for each job opening!

Of the jobs offered, nearly one out of five could be eliminated immediately. Some were for part-time work, some were come-ons, some required moving out of town, and others required special tools or licenses.

Another fifteen per cent were for professional managers, a group with very low

unemployment levels. Another 22 per cent were for skilled craftspeople, gainly rarely found among the hard core inner city jobless.

A quarter of the jobs were for clerical positions. Thanks to inferior educational opportunities and keen competition for skilled office workers, few of those jobs become available to the inner city poor.

So what's left? A fourth of the jobs advertised were for unskilled workers. Those jobs were snapped up quickly, with many applicants for each opening. Those so called "lazy" people line up hours before opening time to grab what jobs they can. And for every fortunate person who lands a low-paying, unskilled job many are turned away.

So there goes the argument that plenty of jobs are available, just look at the papers. The fact is that few jobs are available for unskilled, poorly educated workers — the people most in need of jobs.

Yes, jobs are available, but there is a mismatch between the job requirements and the skills of the people available for work. Sometimes that mismatch is artificial — employers demand credentials or skills that could be taught on the job or aren't needed at all. Many jobs today demand high school diplomas or even college diplomas for work that used to be performed by people with only elementary school education.

So there are many more people out of work than there are available jobs. And this is no temporary phase, but a permanent feature of our economy.

OUR NEW DAY BEGUN RELINQUISHING POLITICAL POWER

By Benjamin L. Hooks
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NAACP



In what must be viewed as an almost unprecedented move, President Carter scolded black Americans for not exercising their right to vote to help overcome what he quite correctly characterized as "the cancer of racial injustice" that "has always been near the heart of America."

Mr. Carter was speaking in commencement exercises at the 141-year old black Cheyney State College in Pennsylvania just three days after the NAACP celebrated the silver anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision outlawing "separate but equal" facilities.

"How are we going to have the leadership to fight for equal opportunity and affirmative action in jobs, schools and housing if even the act of voting is too great an effort?" he wondered.

Given the fact that without the nearly total support from black voters in 1976 Mr. Carter would not now be President, it is understandable that he appreciates the potential political clout of America's still largest minority group. Not only that, but Mr. Carter, a southerner, has to a large extent prided himself on his lifelong association with blacks.

His close friendship with the Martin Luther King family, his open expression of affinity for blacks, has recent vacation on the nearly all-black Sapelo Island off the Georgia coastline where he and his family worshipped in an all-black church proudly savoring cultural delicacies afterward all distinctly differentiate Mr. Carter from other avowedly liberal presidents, except Lyndon Johnson, another southern of

historic note.

As a result of his open embrace of the traditional victims of racial discrimination, Mr. Carter's association has often been criticized as being more symbolic than substantive. Some critics attempt to compare his record of achievement on social programs with his expressions of support for blacks. As a result, they have found his achievement record disappointing.

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One of President Carter's indisputable strengths, however, clearly is political realism. Without his genius for sizing up voter sentiments, he never would have been able to defeat an incumbent president, and his chances for reelection next year would be dimmed.

His often repeated statements that he will not challenge President Carter next year notwithstanding, Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy looms as a major threat. There is also California Gov. Jerry Brown whose non-orthodox form of politicking could very well undercut fatally Mr. Carter.

Given these prospects, the President almost desperately needs good political insurance. Blacks still represent that opportunity. In moving to awaken black political consciousness, therefore, what are his

chances of success?

Clearly, Mr. Carter recognizes that without the 1965 Voting Rights Act, his chances of victory in 1976 would hardly have been possible. The passage of that act represented one of the bloodiest and humanly costliest phases in the civil rights movement.

But it signalled an historic victory that, properly utilized, could be one of the most significant stepping stones to full racial equality. Ironically, however, southern blacks have utilized the power of the ballot box much more effectively than their brothers and sisters in urban centers in the North.

The political tragedy of blacks in such cities as New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Hartford, Conn., Chicago and elsewhere is that their political power is almost minuscule compared to their numbers. On of the national level, the tragedy is the same. Special interest groups out maneuver blacks on almost every major issue that concerns them.

But it makes a little sense to complain against racial injustice and exploitation when blacks themselves do not utilize the power they now have. Blacks have the opportunity to register and vote. Yet they do not do so.

The NAACP, recognizing this problem, has therefore shifted its voter education program from Birmingham to Detroit. Our branches around the nation have been alerted to this crisis. It is time for black Americans now to join in developing their political might.

•Congressman Hawkins' Column

I'LL TAKE BUTTER OVER GUNS

By Augustus F. Hawkins



The battle over the 1980 Congressional budget has a mean one, involving an attempt by liberals to increase the human needs side of the budget resolution. In the House version of the bill \$1.9 billion was added for defense purposes, while \$1.8 billion was cut for education and training programs. Liberal House Members were upset with these factors in the resolution, because these factors closely paralleled the Senate version of the resolution and because they provided no "real choices to spend real dollars," in the words of one of my colleagues.

In fact many Members in the House, felt that the budget resolution, was overly geared for defense, and poorly prepared to deal with problems relating to the human needs of this society.

The emphasis of both the House and Senate Budget resolution, in my view, were too defense or security oriented, and in effect placed human societal needs in a secondary spot.

And there was great expressed concern in the Congress over this issue. This concern has not abated, and will continue in the Congress, especially when the Second Budget Resolution comes up for final and binding approval, by September 30, 1979.

In the context of this question of the overutilization of our budget for defense or

security matters, former Secretary of Defense and now President of the World Bank, Robert McNamara, recently presented his views on this subject at the University of Chicago.

His view is that we have become so security obsessed, that we are failing to properly address sensible investments in needed social services and he notes that:

"A society can reach a point at which additional military expenditures no longer provide additional security."

Not only have we become overly committed to bigger and better bombs, but we are doing this in such a way, says McNamara that these forced reductions in our social services are only going to erode security rather than enhance it.

Just in dollars alone, the nations in the world are spending \$400 billion on bullets, bombs and bombers. They are also furthering their weaponry sophistication by spending \$30 billion in weapons research and development.

What a waste? McNamara believes that our definition of security is not out of date. I support his thesis, because security to me means that secure people don't need better bombs. Secure people become additionally secure with proper attention being paid to meeting

their need for good housing, adequate nutrition, effective health care, good schools for their children and secure employment for those who want to work.

No one can convince me that 100 more anti-nuclear submarines, are going to make me any more secure now than with those already on hand.

But I will certainly feel a lot better knowing that we are using most of our resources for the primary objective of fighting human misery.

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