

THE LEVEL OF FEAR IS SHOCKING...



IT IS UP TO BLACK WHO CARE ABOUT THE BLACK FUTURE, TO IMPOSE ORDER WHERE NONE EXISTS TODAY. WE HAVE TO DO IT FOR OURSELVES, WE HAVE TO DO IT BECAUSE WE CANNOT ASK OUR OLD PEOPLE TO SPEND THE REST OF THEIR LIVES PASSING THROUGH A GAUNTLET OF MUGGERS.

Spit In The Face

A story appears on the front page of this week's issue concerning the expulsion of United States Central Intelligence Agency officials from the southern African country of Mozambique accusing them of subversion. Mozambique accused the CIA not only of spying but also of trying to disrupt that country's economy.

We do not doubt the veracity of the accusation, for we long ago learned that America isn't as "free" and "just" and "peace-loving" and "honest" as she would have the world believe. She ought to be all of those things, but she is just as ruthless, unfair and devious as any.

That our country — a great super power — engages in such dirty dealings with a developing country struggling to achieve independence and self-sufficiency is distressing. It seems that our leadership is hell-bent on destroying the ideals on which this country was founded. If we truly believed in "liberty and justice for all" at home, we would believe in it for others — no matter the color of their skins or their political orientations.

That story, connected with the secret 1978 Presidential Memorandum-National Security Council 46 dealing with the issue of "Black Africa and the U.S. Black Movement", ought to signal black Americans that we've go a job to do if we are going to save ourselves and this country from her white racist detractors — and they are legion — and cash that "Insufficient Funds" check the late Dr. Martin Luther King talked about.

Our government recommended some dirty tricks against black Americans to "protect" the U.S. and Europe's economic and political interests. She wouldn't have to be concerned about "protecting" if she played an honest game with all of her citizens. That Presidential Memorandum recommended:

"1. Specific steps should be taken with the help of appropriate government agencies to inhibit coordinated activities of the Black Nationalist Movement in Africa and the Black Movement in the U.S.

"2. Special clandestine operations should be launched by the CIA to generate mistrust and hostility in American and world opinion against joint activity of the two forces, and to cause divi-

sion among black African radical nationalist groups and their leaders.

"(b) To elaborate and bring into effect a special program designed to perpetuate divisions in the U.S. black movement. . . to stimulate dissension and hostility between organizations representing different social strata of the black community; to encourage divisions in black circles;

"(e) To support action designed to sharpen social stratification in the black community, which would lead to the widening and perpetuation of the gap between the successful educated blacks, and the poor, giving rise to growing antagonism between different black groups and weakening of the movement as a whole."

And to think the Number Two man in this government, the Vice President, is the former head of the Central Intelligence Agency. White America's obsession with racism blinded it's voters to the disastrous potential of, God forbid, this man ascending the top position should anything happen to Ronald Reagan. Many think Reagan is bad enough, but we "ain't seen nothing yet" if George Bush should have to become President.

Black Americans belong to the most loyal ethnic group this country has ever known and yet have to continue to wipe the government spit off our faces.

How much longer is it going to take before we (black folks) get ourselves together to save the ideals for which this country stands? Maybe this is our *raison d'etre* — our reason for being here — because it sure appears that white America is dead set to destroy those ideals.

"Freedom loving" America has no business undermining any other country's government or citizen movements toward self determination — be they Mozambique's or El Salvador's or anybody else's. If it's guilt were not so great, it wouldn't need to worry about any black American movement either. That guilt could easily be cured — cheaper than all the clandestine operations and dirty tricks — by simply beginning to treat EVERYBODY right. Then America wouldn't see a ghost behind every tree — her conscience would be clear.

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 ocean's majestic waves without the awful roar of its waters.

—Frederick Douglass

Reagan Budget Threatens Urban Education Programs

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

Ghetto school children, and barrio school children, who may just be on the brink of overcoming their classroom learning problems, are about to see the scuttling of the educational program that's been helping them.

For some sixteen years now, federally financed, state-run compensatory education programs have been paying the bills to reduce class size, hire more specialized teachers, implement special basic skills courses, give teachers classroom aides, and buy effective classroom teaching tools.

Most of us know the program by its popular name, "Title I". In reality, Title I is a part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. It is designed to help raise the academic achievement level of low income, disadvantaged school children, by providing federal funds to states to carry out this mandate at the local level.

Over the years, questions have been raised about the effectiveness of Title I programs. The proponents of Title I have consistently said: give the program a chance to work, because time is needed to put all the proper learning mechanisms in motion.

It appears that the proponents were right. School systems have been noting some significant improvements in the class work and test scores of youngsters involved in Title I efforts. With understood caution, educators are beginning to comment on what they regard as some important Title I pay-offs. They are expressing optimism about the impact of compensatory programs.

But this optimism may be short-lived, because the Reagan Administration wants to fundamentally change the whole character of Title I programming, and other related education endeavors.

For fiscal year 1982, the Reagan budget lumps Title I, and about 56 other special education programs into "block grants". If Congress adopts the Reagan budget and the block grant concept, no longer will the Federal government earmark categories for which Federal monies can be spent. The states will be given these monies (which will also be cut in the Administration's 1982 budget), and will be able to spend these for any educational purposes they so choose. Many states will choose not to spend, or to severely limit the spending of monies for helping disadvantaged youngsters overcome

their educational disadvantage. Without the kind of Federal sanctions that now are mandated in Title I law, local governments, already strapped for funds, will spend less on schools attended by the poor, the disadvantaged, and the handicapped.

There are efforts being made to prevent the killing of compensatory education (Title I) programs. Not only are these efforts going to oppose killing Title I programs, these efforts will also oppose any attempt to cut the funding of Title I programs.

A major fight to keep Title I programs fully alive and well will be mounted here in the Congress by me and many Representatives who agree with me, and who need to hear from you. As you can see, this fight is going to need millions of allies. To this end, local community organizations and groups need to make plans to enlist the assistance of locally elected officials, educators, human and civil rights activists, neighborhood associations, child-advocate groups, and PTA's.

A massive campaign of this kind can turn the tide, but it needs to happen quickly, and with real "deliberate speed".

To Be Equal

Whitney Young Still Missed

By Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

I recently attended a special ceremony held by the U.S. Postal Service to launch a commemorative stamp in honor of Whitney M. Young, Jr.

It was a moving occasion. Whitney died ten years ago, March 11. But he is still very much a part of the consciousness of black Americans and of all who strive to make ours a better society.

At a time of national withdrawal from the civil rights goals he fought for, Whitney Young is sorely missed. His was a voice of strength and reason; just the voice so desperately needed when other voices, voices of irrational racism are so loud.

A master persuader, Whitney unlocked doors that had been slammed shut against black people for years. He got key corporate and foundation executives interested in backing civil rights long before it became fashionable.

Without capturing headlines he used his intelligence, his charm, his integrity, and his high moral ideals to inspire others. Whitney was directly responsible for getting thousands of trained black people into jobs that had been traditionally reserved for white males.

He developed close friendships with key political leaders — the Kennedy brothers, Lyndon Johnson, Hubert Humphrey, Nelson Rockefeller, and many, many others. More important, he used that friendship to

enlist their backing for the social programs that evolved into the War on Poverty.

It is bracing to realize how many ideas that still hold so much hope for so many people originated with Whitney Young. It was Whitney who came up with the idea for a Domestic Marshall Plan, an idea which, had it been fully implemented back in 1963 when he first spoke of it, might have spared our nation so much misery and hardship in the years that followed.

But Whitney Young, for all his ease in the corridors of power with the movers and shakers of our society, was most at home with the common man. I vividly remember the tears streaming down the faces of the thousands of black people who lined the route his funeral caravan took through Harlem a decade ago.

Some of those people barely knew what he had done in their behalf; many had never heard of the Urban League or knew of its programs that helped make their lives a bit better. But Whitney's humanity and graceful style of leadership touched a chord in them, and his loss was felt deeply.

One of my favorite pictures of Whitney was taken on a routine trip he made to a Head Start program in South Carolina. In the photo, he kneels to be at eye-level with the kids, who crowd around him. Their smiles of joy tell of the warmth they felt in his presence; his wide smile communicates

his joy at being with them.

Black people have, despite the most incredible adversity, developed an astounding array of leaders, going back to leaders of slave revolts and continuing to the civil rights struggles that still continue. Each of them — DuBois, Douglass, King, and others — had some special trait we can remember them for.

With Whitney that trait was warmth. I have rarely met a human being who could so easily communicate his joy of life and personal concern for people.

Perhaps more important, he was able to turn that personal warmth and interest in individuals into sophisticated advocacy work on their behalf. Others too, have been magnificent advocates for the poor, but Whitney was unique in his ability to infuse everything he did with his own brand of personal warmth and joy.

It has been ten years since he left us but his memory is still green. And that memory is reinforced by the issuance of the new stamp in his honor.

I've never done a commercial plug for a stamp, but I suppose there's always a first time. When you put the Whitney Young stamp on your next letter you honor a great man, and at the same time affirm his underlying principles of justice and equality.

Business In The Black

Reagan Resolution: Jobs Paying \$30,317

By Charles E. Belle

In order to maintain a "comfortable" life style, and truly be taken for middle class, an urban family of four needed income of \$30,317 a year ago, according to the Conference Board, a non-profit research organization.

This "comfy" family has a "working" husband and a wife to watch over a thirteen-year-old son and an eight-year-old daughter. It's a good thing the children are too young to look for jobs since the teen-age unemployment rate is at depression levels.

Looking ahead the teen-agers can expect to take home a lot less pay than their counterparts, considering the administration's admitted desire to cut the minimum wage rate paid to teen-agers. If things aren't tough enough, wait until the tough gets going!

Getting a job is just the beginning for most black Americans intent on entering the middle class. With unemployment for black Americans above fourteen per cent, it's the first thought! Considering the challenge of black Americans in the 60s to start working, and the 70s to survive on the job, the 80s appear to be an era of hibernation and hope.

President Reagan apparently has decided

to run the risk of allowing the aspirations of black and other minority Americans to hinge on a mythical political self-help vision. With the blessings of the new President, Richard N. Richards, new chairman of the Republican Party, will run the GOP with the criteria that for minority members of the country to gain access to U.S. affluence they must elect Republican officials.

In short, if black Hispanic and other minority American groups get Republican congressional and legislative representatives elected, then and only then will they get a "piece of the pie." Strange sounds from a man who readily admits the Republican Party is "still a minority party."

There can be little quarrel with the fact that the Republican Party can put its large cash coffers to work behind any candidate it believes in, but if black Americans or any other minority group must go with any party just because it is in power, the nation is in a negative state of affairs.

All presidents, regardless of party, are elected to serve all of the people, all of the time. The Republican Party can play a major role in gaining access to black American and other minority communities by appointing a fair share of individuals from these com-

munities in the newly won GOP positions. People will respect the Republican Party more for its sense of fair play when it is in power, than for its well known ability to buy its way into positions at any point in time.

President Reagan must make people like Mr. Richards aware that it is a sad state of affairs in America when people already know it takes thirty grand a year to get your act together in this country. An impossible task without a job!

Compromising affirmative action programs which put minority people in jobs while pledging to broaden the Republican Party's appeal among minorities by making more cash contributions to minority political candidates is too little and too late for the current and growing crowd of job seekers.

The Carolina Times (USPS 091-380)

L.E. JUSTIN Editor-Publisher 1927-1971

Published every Thursday (dated Saturday) at Durham, N.C. by United Publishers, Incorporated. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3825, Durham, N.C. 27702. Office located at 923 Fayetteville Street, Durham, N.C. 27701. Second Class Postage paid at Durham North Carolina 27702. POSTMASTER: Send address change to THE CAROLINA TIMES, P.O. Box 3825, Durham, N.C. 27702.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One year, \$12.00 (plus \$0.48 sales tax for North Carolina residents). Single copy \$0.30. Postal regulations REQUIRE advanced payment on subscriptions. Address all communications and make all checks and money orders payable to: THE CAROLINA TIMES.

NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE: Amalgamated Publishers, Inc., 45 West 45th Street, New York, New York 10066.

Member United Press International Photo Service, National Newspaper Publishers Association, North Carolina Black Publishers Association.

Opinions expressed by columnists in this newspaper do not necessarily represent the policy of this newspaper.

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George Washington WILLIAMS

...Celebrated Lawyers & Historian whose two-volume work on Negro history came out in 1882! His history of the Negro troops in the war of the rebellion was published in 1887! One fact he helped unearth, (himself a Civil War Veteran) is the battle of Milliken's Bend, on the Mississippi River June 6, 1863, in which a Negro soldier took his former master prisoner!

