

to take somebody off. Spending some time in the streets of New York I know what type of person it takes to be a Zooman. There are people out there who have no heart, they just don't feel. The things that Zooman talks about I can visualize. I've been exposed to these elements in real life."

One of the most vital points about the play "Zooman and the Sign" is its timeliness as a social commentary. Giancarlo's characterization is that of a real person.

"Some people try to be naive." He says. "They don't want to believe that there are young people on our streets like Zooman. That's because they turn their backs to it. They don't want to see it."

"I just read where two fifteen year olds shot a cop and got away. Both kids had guns. Its getting much tougher to live. As it gets tougher for the rest of society to live its even tougher for street people to survive. But they ARE going to survive whether they have to take you out, me out—it doesn't matter. That's Zooman's story. That's why he is called Zooman because he is such an animal. But he is a product of his environment. He mirrors the viciousness that he has always been exposed to. He can only relate to what he knows."

When asked what he would like to do after "Zooman" Giancarlo expressed interest in a more mature, intellectual, upscale role. He would like to show a different side of himself while continuing to create and grow. He would also like to work with the Negro Ensemble Company again. But the most immediate goal for Giancarlo is simply to keep working. With the vivid breath of life that he has infused into the role of Zooman, there should be no shortage of work nor growth for Giancarlo Esposito in the future.

"ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN" by Charles Fuller.

Directed by Douglas Turner Ward, presented by The Negro Ensemble Company. Featuring Alvin Alexis, Mary Alice, Ray Aranha, Terrance Terry Ellis, Giancarlo Esposito, Francis Foster, Carl Gordon, Steven A. Jones, and Carol Lynn Maillard. Scenery is by Rodney J. Lucas, lighting by Shirley Prendergast and costumes by Judy Dearing.

Resurgence

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Hyatt cited 1980 incidents such as the back-shooting of National Urban League President Vernon Jordan; the

vandalism of synagogues and Jewish cemeteries; the bombing of a Paris synagogue that killed four persons; the offhand anti-Semitic remarks by the President of the Southern Baptist Convention which drew heated controversy; the murder of six Black males in upstate New York; the bizarre case of the dead and missing Black children in the South, and the plight of the Hispanic community in America, as issues of paramount concern for everyone.

"We live in a world in which man has raised the concepts of color, race, culture, material and national consciousness to such a level that it is seemingly impossible to relate to people except of the basis of these factors," he declared.

"Our human aspirations for dignity, achievement and unity as a single human race too often have been forgotten."

Recalling the NCCJ-sponsored national survey by Louis Harris on attitudes toward racial and religious minorities and toward women, Hyatt told the group:

"Our survey found that most whites, beset by inflation, to be oblivious to the depths of the problems faced by Blacks and other minorities. The white attitude was one of vague concern coupled with a heavy dose of indifference.

"Harris reported that the so-called pattern of 'benign neglect' resulted in the belief by Blacks that indifference was not a strategy but a fact. The truth of his statement was evidenced in cities like Miami, Orlando, Chattanooga and Philadelphia last year.

"And as such acrimony occurred the Klan, neo-Nazis, or some other strand of the same cancer sought to exploit the situations to foster more hatred.

"The tragedy is that there are a lot of sympathizers with hate groups like the Klan," Hyatt continued. "People are looking for scapegoats and that's why it's important for us to continue to expose the Klan for what it really is—a hate group that is anti-Semitic, anti-Black, anti-Christian and anti-American."

"...somehow in the 80s we've all got to awaken the conscience of America to its crying human relations needs and awaken a new breed of men and women who care deeply and who are determined to wipe out anti-Semitism; to make anti-Catholic and anti-Protestant feeling a medieval ghost, and to make racial prejudice the extinct dinosaur it deserves to become.

"Every problem we ignore, as history has shown, will return to plague our children tomorrow."

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Minority Recruits

"This visit is particularly significant to me since it represents Aminoil's initial step in an intensified effort to seek out prospective professionals at predominantly Black schools which do not offer degrees in the petroleum disciplines," Trimble said.

"I believe that the petroleum industry is overlooking a valuable source of potential administrative and technical talent when it recruits solely from those traditional institutions that focus on petroleum studies," he added.

A & T State University offers several degrees in engineering and business administration. Although petroleum engineering is not among the university's areas of specialization, Trimble said his company's development program would enable non-petroleum technical degree graduates to "convert" to petroleum engineers. Trimble added that graduates holding business or finance degrees provide almost immediate value to a company since little additional formal training is required.

Trimble said that the current levels of oil and gas exploration and production activities, which have reached the highest point since the 1950s, have placed a heavy burden on the pool of professionals available for careers in the oil industry.

He said minorities—Blacks and women—currently represent a very small percentage of the industry's professionals, particularly in the specialized fields of geology, geophysics and petroleum engineering.

Trimble said that his company's new program will make it possible to take a person graduating with a mechanical engineering degree—such as that offered at A & T—and provide extensive training to prepare that person for a career in petroleum operations.

Trimble said that in addition to the intensified recruiting program, Aminoil is providing minorities and women more opportunities to be exposed to the company's operations before graduating from college. Under a summer intern program, an individual may have the opportunity to work at on-shore sites or offshore platforms, possibly becoming an engineering aide, performing calculations and taking on an individual assignment. The intern program also provides opportunities for career development in financial and other business administration positions.