

LEADERS MUST ORGANIZE



ARE WE GOING TO SIT AND LET BLACK COMMUNITIES CRUMBLE AROUND US? GRASS ROOTS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, MUST EMERGE, TO FORGE A UNITED EFFORT AGAINST CRIME, NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING, BLIGHT AND DECAY.

Editorial

It Is About Time

New students entering the Atlanta University System in fall, 1981 — even those pursuing the master's degree — are required to take tests in reading, English grammar and composition.

We applaud these new developments at the predominantly black institutions, and we hope that there are many other institutions that have decided to "return to basics."

The so-called freedom, beginning in the mid-sixties, i.e., the lack of behavioral restraints; the personal choice to avoid English and reading classes, except to satisfy the minimal requirements;

In a competitive society where discrimination against blacks has become more subtle and very highly effective in excluding blacks from high-paying, high-ranking positions, it is incumbent upon our black institutions to reassess the type of preparation that is being given to our black students.

Thus, the first step involves cutting out the nonsense and returning to a realistic standard for education that many of our foremothers and fathers who made outstanding contributions to themselves and their society had to adhere to.

To the Atlanta University System and other systems which have revised their educational standards, we salute your efforts. It is time that we black folk return to our fundamental realities.

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.

—Frederick Douglass

Things You Should Know

FROM DOOR TO DOOR TO SUCCESS

S. B. FULLER

AN OUTSTANDING BUSINESSMAN WHO OPENED THE DOOR FOR THOUSANDS OF BLACK PEOPLE FOR SELF-HELP WITH HIS DOOR TO DOOR DIRECT SELLING.



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FOR FULLER, THE MASTER SALESMAN, WAS ABLE TO SELL MEN AND WOMEN WHO NEVER DREAMED OF SUCH EARNINGS.

United Nations

The Reagan Crowd Creates A Dilemma For Blacks

Part II

By Curtis T. Perkins

FOR BLACKS A CRISIS

There have always been blacks who often out perform whites in ostracizing, demeaning and not properly helping to advance blacks.

I also regret that our pitifully small number of black Republicans never confronted Mr. Reagan, really on letting him know forthrightly black demands.

It would have been additionally courageous if Mrs. Margaret Bush Wilson, chairman of the NAACP, has repeated Mr. Hook's demands before introducing President Reagan before he spoke at the last NAACP convention in Denver last June.

Appointments of blacks to the Reagan Administration have been sparse — not near the number named by former Presidents Nixon and Ford.

I feel blacks must accept their fate by fighting back to survive. I know we must challenge these ultra rightists at every turn.

We must work within and outside the system to overcome the economic chaos the President and his chief economic high executioner, David Stockman, are about.

Our black members of the U.S. Congress have been a good investment. We need more to push our programs.

With Mr. Reagan and Mr. Stockman cutting back on student grants and loans we must sacrifice more and send these youngsters on to our black colleges in particular — our of our meager resources.

We must again pool our quarters and pennies to help create goods and services and — thereby jobs.

We have to face up to the demise of federal aid and tackle the governors and legislatures of the various states to get our share of the "block grants" Mr. Reagan brags about.

It is sad to see Social Security commitments not being respected in President Reagan's zeal to reduce the taxes of the rich.

Taking away food stamps, medical privileges, diminishing the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) spell bad news for all blacks.

Above all, we blacks must find some more aggressive movements to lead us and fight our battles.

I am very much impressed with the rebirth of the Southern Christian Leadership Council, led by the Rev. Joseph Lowery and the Black United Front, ably chaired by the Rev. Herbert Daughtery.

John Procope, the energetic publisher of the New York Amsterdam News is now the president of our National Newspaper Publishers' Association.

The cause of blacks in America is interrelated to [the causes of] blacks in Africa and the Caribbean. There is no African policy by the Reagan forces as of now.

Blacks must view the United Nations as a forum of last resort if their rights, economic and civil, are violated by those who now lead our nation.

MR. REAGAN'S MANDATE

I am the first to admit that waste, fraud and ineptness must be eliminated if the government of our country is to be effective for all of our citizens.

The fairest way to meet the needs of the American people is through the income

tax system. Here abuses by many of the well-to-do through tax shelters and various other gimmicks are dodging their responsibilities in making the American system work.

Deferring to the states' federal prerogatives and obligations seldom works. States have been weak in voter rights and the care and upkeep of the less fortunate.

Fifty years of social legislation has been hammered out by our Congresses, Presidents and the Courts — mostly of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Reagan did win the Presidency by an overwhelming electoral vote. His popular vote was less than five million.

Over our form of government, our President, now Mr. Reagan, has the awesome responsibility of not only setting the moral tone of an egalitarian society but ministering compassionately and objectively and without favoritism to all elements in the United States.

However, I believe that "voluntarism" will not work in the United States. The President must have courage and the tenacity to demand of Congress the necessary laws to apply mandatory rules at will.

It was Republican President Herbert Hoover who conceived the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC). If private industry is to be retooled and be competitive, we need a similar agency which with the cooperation of our banks can get this done.

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A View From Capitol Hill: Savage Leaves Delegation In South Africa as Protest

By Gus Savage Member of Congress

I am reporting from Kenya on the East coast of Africa.

This scenic Texas-sized nation of sixteen million people sits astride the equator. Hence, its temperature varies little year-around.

In its modern, bustling capital city of Nairobi, with a population of about one million, the temperature is always mild because of its 5,000 foot altitude — and that's where I am, in the fairly new and well-serviced Hotel Hilton.

Now, Kenya is bounded on the north by Sudan and Ethiopia, on the west by Uganda, on the south by Tanzania, and on the east by the Indian Ocean and Somalia.

It is struggling to become a capitalist democracy, under Daniel Arap Moi, who became president upon the death of the leader of independence, Jomo Kenyatta, August, 1978.

Of course, Kenyatta, "The Flaming Spear," is known for his ten-year imprisonment as leader of the Mau Mau rebels during the 1950's.

However, he apparently succumbed to neo-colonial interests during the 60's and 70's. Moi continues this seeming subservience to foreign capital, despite the fact that his poor country is mainly agricultural.

It imports coffee beans and tea leaves while importing food products at a price higher than it could produce food on the land reserved for export products.

Perhaps, that is why soon I will probably have to maneuver my way through a horde of prostitutes in the lobby to meet the American Ambassador's wife and son, who are to drive me through the wildlife preserves on the outskirts of the city.

The prostitutes from Uganda and Somalia, in addition to Kenya, are permitted to loiter apparently to boost this country's effort to promote tourism from Europe, in order to overcome its balance of trade deficit.

A prostitute was brutally murdered by an American sailor in the port city of Mombasa last September. A mass uprising of Kenyans was threatened when a white Kenyan judge let the sailor go scot-free.

Tomorrow, I expect to meet Africa's greatest writer, Ngugi wa Thiong'o. This

former chairman of the Department of Literature at Nairobi University, taught African Literature for one year in the United States at Northwestern University, just outside Chicago.

He has written four novels, one volume of short stories, two collections of essays, and three plays. The best known of his novels, *Petals of Blood*, has been reprinted in English in the U.S.

His best known play is "Ngaahika Ndeenda," a perceptive criticism of the Kenyan government's preference for European culture. For this, he was dismissed from his post at Nairobi University and "detained" and degraded in a maximum security prison during all of 1978.

"Detained" means imprisonment without formal charges or trial or sentencing by a court. Incidentally, "Detained" is the title of his most recent work, a diary of this horror, now available in English.

I urge you to read it. It is published in paperback by Heinemann Educational Books Ltd., Kijabe Street, P.O. Box 45314, Nairobi, Kenya.

But more about Ngugi and the status of civil liberties and neo-colonialism in Kenya next time.

For now, let me explain why I am reporting from here rather than from Cape Town, South Africa, as I promised in my last report.

To better prepare to fulfill my responsibilities as a Member of Congress, I especially wanted to learn first-hand about South Africa's racist, anti-Christian system of fascist state capitalism. I even hoped that during my visit I could in some small way help the struggle for democracy, racial equality, and self-determination for blacks there.

Well, in my first evening there in Johannesburg, I learned first-hand enough about my impotence and our government's support of the South African government and economy.

I learned enough to separate myself in disgust from the congressional delegation's four-day stay.

After listening to the heroic black nationalist leaders, Bishop Tutu and Dr. Motlana, I left alone the next day and took a commercial flight to Nairobi. Meanwhile, I boycotted all meetings of the delegation with South African business and government officials. World War II taught me that you cannot talk a fascist into justice, even though I was

treated as an "honorary" white in South Africa and housed in the Carlton, that nation's finest hotel.

The other two black members of the delegation, Shirley Chisholm (New York) and George Crockett (Detroit), remained on this visit to fascism despite reported objections of most South African black leaders to our presence.

Indeed, I was shocked upon our arrival in South Africa when Congressman Crockett declared in an airport press conference that he had come with "an open mind and judicial countenance" regarding this shame on humanity. At least, Congresswoman Chisholm joined me there in expressing objections to fascism in advance.

(To be continued next week)

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