

NBL President Hails Trade Mission To Africa

WASHINGTON — Returning from a fourteen-day trade mission to scout new business in West Africa, National Business League President Theodore R. Hagans, Jr., pronounced the tour a success, and predicted that this effort would lead to an improvement in relations between U.S. firms and African nations.

Hagans declared: "The nations in Africa are striving to build strong economies on modern foundations, and welcome the opportunity to do business with U.S. firms. The opportunities for investments are enormous, and present an attractive avenue for black Americans engaged in business to develop and expand their enterprises through increased penetration of this international market."

Hagans joined a seventy-member delegation of government officials and corporate executives for this first trade mission of the Reagan Administration, and the first to West Africa by such a high-level U.S. delegation. Headed by Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige and Agriculture Secretary John Block, the group met with trade and government officials of the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Morocco. The 26 corporate executives on the tour represented U.S. firms specializing in construction, transportation, communications, mining, and agriculture. Officials of the State Department, Agency for International Development (AID), the Export-Import Bank, and the Overseas Private Invest-

ment Corporation also participated in the trade mission.

Noting the League's long-standing commitment to business and economic development among blacks and other minorities through trade and investment in African nations, Hagans reaffirmed the organization's goal of penetrating productive markets and strengthening the partnership between black Americans engaged in business and the emerging business sectors of Africa.

Hagans declared: "The most pressing need of these countries is to develop their economic infra-structure so that the areas can become self-sufficient. The contracts which were negotiated during this short trade mission indicate the willingness and capabilities of the African private sector to conduct business with U.S. firms. Given our historic commitment to support economic development among blacks and other minorities, the League fully intends to ensure that black Americans will have the opportunity to participate equitably in these developing markets."

A View

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in federal revenue, eventually and temporarily. And this is to come from imposing more taxes on those who can least afford them — the consumer whose decreasing real income already has caused such a depressed demand that the auto, steel and housing industries are operating below fifty per cent



Birthday Celebration

Sopranos Shirley Verrete (l) and Grace Bumbry (r) flank Marian Anderson during a birthday salute to Miss Anderson recently at Carnegie Hall. Miss Anderson is celebrating her 80th birthday anniversary.

UPI Photo

capacity. Reagan hopes to advance the Congress and his scheme, the American people that

JOCCA Offers Emergency Aid

Cold, hungry residents of Orange and Chatham counties may be eligible for free emergency assistance, according to officials of Joint Orange-Chatham Community Action, Inc. (JOCCA). Mrs. Shelia Crump, JOCCA's Crisis Intervention coordinator, says that the agency has stockpiled food, firewood, heating oil, blankets, clothing and electric heaters for low-income families in emergency situations. Mrs. Crump emphasized that the program cannot be considered a solution to long term problems but only as temporary relief for people facing potentially life-threatening or health-related conditions.

Residents can apply for the emergency aid at JOCCA's central office, Chatham St., Pittsboro, and the Multi-Purpose Centers at: 410 Caldwell Extension, Chapel Hill (929-0492); Old Hwy. 4-North, Moncure (542-3321); 215 N. 2nd Ave., Siler City (742-5645); Hwy. 86-North, Hillsborough (732-8194); and Hwy. 70-W, Efland (563-6358).

The program is being coordinated with the Chapel Hill/Carrboro Inter-Faith Council and the Orange-Chatham Departments of Social Services, who also offer several types of emergency assistance. Applications can be made at the IRC office in Chapel Hill and the Department of Social Services offices in Carr Mill Mall, Hillsborough and Pittsboro.

New Federalism is something other than the discredited States Rights programs in the past. He is betting that by getting the country embroiled in controversy, he can

divert attention from the fact that his supply-side economic theories are trickling down poverty instead of wealth and producing hardship instead of industrial

revitalization. We in the Congress must be equally as bold in presenting alternatives to the President's New Federalism — alternatives designed to pro-

vide full employment and interracial harmony to the people of our great country.

An average restaurant serving of baked lasagna has 910 calories.

Broken Promise

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problems Mr. Reagan is trying to change the subject by concocting a scheme to deal with issues beyond the period for which he was elected.

While Mr. Reagan's effort to deal with the problems which may face America in the late 1980's and the 1990's is a worthy goal, I feel that it is every citizen's duty to let him know that we want him to deal with the problems facing us today.

The Administration's program which was supposed to renew America has been in place for sometime now. Yet, so far, there has been no increase in jobs, or saving or investment, nor are there prospects on the horizon for these things to materialize. However, because of the recession, interest rates have been coming down. But they are still very high and are likely to increase in the near future.

The President claims that we have to give his program more time to work before we can feel the benefits. But our nation's people are suffering now, and many more will feel the sting of Mr. Reagan's program with his pronouncement that he will strive to make social programs more economical.

The catastrophic results of Reagan's "trickle-down" economics is clear: higher unemployment, more small businesses going belly-up, and unprecedented interest rates and mortgage defaults. The illegal trade-off of creating unemployment to reduce inflation is the worst possible choice in any situation.

The broken promises of this Administration have created an unacceptable situation which we can no longer tolerate. We simply cannot accept the magnitude of human suffering which Mr. Reagan is heaping upon us, based on his hunch that things will improve. We must join together now and demand that this Administration make people of America its number one priority.

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