

Editorials And Comments

BLACK DOCTORS MUST TAKE POLITICAL ACTION

(Guest editorial from the Carolina Times)
If gains and progress made in the care of nation's minorities and poor are to be maintained, the National Medical Association, the professional organization of the country's more than 6,000 Black doctors, must take an active role in national politics.

Dr. Paul Batalden, an assistant surgeon general who is director of the Federal Bureau Community Health Services, stressed this point during his address to delegates of the 78th annual NMA convention in New York.

Dr. Batalden said when attention is placed on financing health care, there is great danger that programs designed for the poor and supported by groups such as NMA might not survive.

In short, Dr. Batalden charged NMA members to take clear steps to insure that this involvement be translated into public policy.

The Tribune supports Dr. Batalden's stand. Black physicians must become active in politics to insure that health programs geared to aid the minorities and poor are not brought to a sudden end.

The Tribune believes in the right to all citizens to have the best medical care available, regardless of his or her ability to pay.

In the last 10 years because of action by groups such as the NMA, the national infant mortality, which affects poor people most severely, has dropped 26 percent because the National Health Services Corps has been sending corticos into poor areas and the neighborhood family care program.

These programs, supported by the Tribune, provide much of the health services now available in Black and poor communities.

The Tribune urges the National Medical Association to continue to support these programs and work towards gaining additional health care for all citizens.

NIX ON NIXONISM

The unfair equating of the protests for social and legal justice as well as needed economic opportunities for all Americans and for Black Americans in particular by President Nixon in his message to the Nation on Wednesday August 15 to the most sordid illegal acts characterized by extortion, pay off monies, burglary and theft, wire-tapping and who knows what else by his Gestapo-minded subordinates brings shame and dishonor to those who have long fought and died to preserve this so-called democracy of ours.

It has always appeared to many that since this Administration took office the growth, development and progress of the Blacks and other ethnic minorities had been geared to advance only the interests of the powerful and the rich. Nixon, by his own statements on nation-wide TV in the message of August 15, by his tactics of equating the illegal actions of his aides, appointees and his administration in the Watergate Horrors in the legitimate activities by the protestors in the 1960's is deplorable at the least and disgraceful at the most and should cause unequivocal alarm to all Americans.

The Congress of United States must truly rise to its duties and certainly make this Number One citizen, the President, observe the same rules of justice that is forced upon others.

For if we are to survive, Nixon and other alleged guilty ones among his subordinates must be taken to task and not be granted the immunity from prosecution that many appear to be seeking. To do otherwise would be a miscarriage of justice and is certainly an outrageous insult to the intelligence of the American people.

Let the Watergate Investigations continue so that the American people may be apprised of all the facts. For in the final analysis the sovereign right lies in the American people.

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To Be Equal

We Should Aid Starving Africans

BY Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.
Starvation has come to Africa, and unless a major international effort is successful, millions of people may die before this fall.

The affected area is at the lower end of the Sahara, taking in parts of Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger, and Chad. Unfamiliar place-names most of them, and that may be part of the slowness of the world to respond.

The first warning signs went up more than three years ago, when drought hit the region. It has continued, and is likely

to go on for some years yet. Last fall, word was spread by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization that crop failures in the area were due

So the world knew about it, but little was done until tribesmen started streaming into towns and villages, pleading for food. Where were the members of the vast army of international experts then? Why didn't our State Department start things moving sooner? Was information about the impending disaster filed in neat folders while people died? Now relief supplies are

coming in, too little and too late. The UN and individual countries, including our own, are sending food, but it is one thing to get them to the ports and airfields of the region and another to get them into the hands of the people off in the hinterlands. Lack of roads and local transportation has been a stumbling block and the improvised nature of the operation results in waste and confusion.

While Africans are starving and a small amount of food is seeping in, American grain is filling the holds of ships bound for Russia, and this

cargo bottleneck hampers relief efforts.

Right now, the biggest dangers facing some twenty million Africans in the drought region is not starvation—that's still a few months off. It is disease, for their weakened condition leaves them prey to otherwise controllable illnesses. There have been reports of hundreds of children dying in a measles epidemic, and the very old and very young dying of other sicknesses.

The whole fabric of many tribal societies has already died. Nomadic cattlebreeders have moved to the cities, abandoning a way of life that goes back over a thousand years. An estimated forty percent of their livestock have died. Farming peoples are eating their seeds, meaning that future crops will not be sown. And the drought-driven desert is pushing relentlessly southward, threatening future progress in the region and upsetting the delicate balance

of life and ecology in northwest Africa.

hardened to pictures of hungry people, even of children with distended stomachs and matchstick limbs. But this current catastrophe in Africa can't depend solely on the goodwill of individuals moved by tragic photos. It requires large-scale international and governmental action.

The United States should take the lead by establishing an African relief "czar" empowered to cut the red tape and deliver the goods. The UN ought to act boldly, for since most people have doubts about its effectiveness as a peacekeeper, its total credibility now lies in its ability to stave off disasters such as that which threatens six African nations.

Beyond the immediate emergency relief that is required, American and international policy ought to be



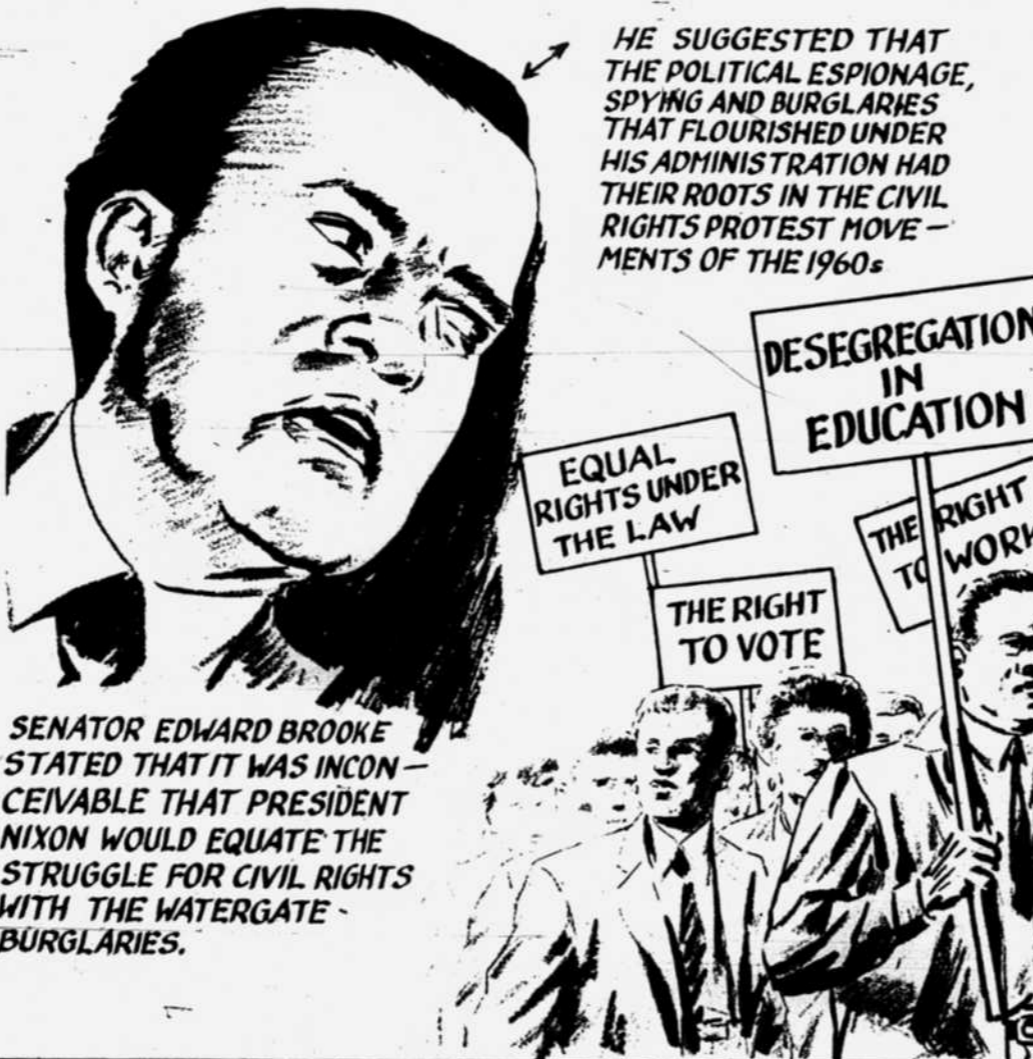
VERNON E. JORDAN, JR.

retooled to provide massive

aid to rebuild the stricken areas and to launch plans to help develop the region's economy. The inadequate ports and transportation network now proving to be a

major stumbling block to relief efforts ought to have been improved long ago. Colonialism's heritage, which now includes starvation, can be erased by an international Marshall Plan that funnels aid to impoverished nations of the

Third World. Instead of competing in development of destructive weapons, the super powers should now start competing in humanitarian works.



SENATOR EDWARD BROOKE STATED THAT IT WAS INCONCEIVABLE THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WOULD EQUATE THE STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS WITH THE WATERGATE-BURGLARIES.

HE SUGGESTED THAT THE POLITICAL ESPIONAGE, SPYING AND BURGLARIES THAT FLOURISHED UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION HAD THEIR ROOTS IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS PROTEST MOVEMENTS OF THE 1960s

Again Counting On The Code phrase

National Educational Campaign

On Sickle Cell Disease Set

Dr. Charles F. Whitten announces the launching of a national educational campaign on sickle cell trait and sickle cell disease to correct some of the misinformation about the disease. Dr. Whitten is president of the National Association for Sickle Cell Disease, Inc. (NASCD), which was organized to provide leadership and coordination of activities of many sickle cell groups formed at the grass root level.

The campaign kick-off was made with the presentation of the first National Sickle Cell Seal to members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

In addition to the educational program, Dr. Whitten stressed to members of the Caucus, the need for continued and accelerated support of sickle cell programs. Sickle cell disease was identified over a half century ago. Only recently has it come to the fore as a serious health problem among black people. In the wake of increasingly public awareness of sickle cell disease, the need for information and service programs has become quite urgent. However, in trying to meet the need, many well meaning but poorly qualified "experts" and organizations have sprung up across the nation. As a result, scientifically inaccurate literature has been circulated, testing programs have used unreliable or incomplete methods, persons with sickle cell trait have not been informed or have been misinformed as to the implication of the trait for their lives, said Dr. Whitten. Each of these inadequacies has resulted in grave human tragedies.

The National Association for Sickle Cell Disease, Inc., is

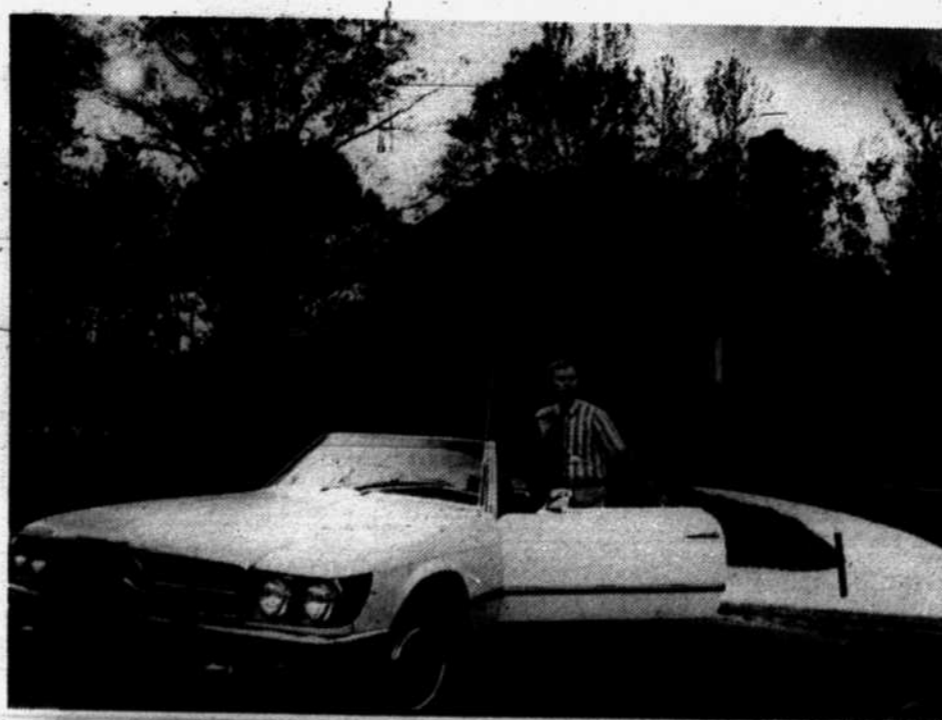
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seeking funds to help correct some of the misinformation and to provide services to interested groups on a national basis to insure that sickle cell programs are

developed in the best interest of the black community.

Urban Affairs, General Motors Corporation; Howard N. Lee, Mayor, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

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Dr. Miffleton tells why he bought a Patio Home.

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JCSU Grad Heads Soul City

(Continued From P. 1)

Mrs. Clayton, an alumna of Johnson C. Smith University, North Carolina Central University, is a native of Augusta, Georgia, and now lives in Warren County. Before going to the Health Manpower Development Program, she served as Executive Director of the Eastern North Carolina based Economic Development Corporation. She now serves on the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation, the N.C. Federation of Child Development, the N.C. Voter Education Project, and the Southern Regional Council.

She is a member of Cotton Memorial Presbyterian Church, a member of the Warren County Chapter of the NAACP, a trustee of Jubilee Health Center, and a member of the American Public Health Association, the Education Coalition, the National Black Alliance on Graduate Level Education, and a number of other professional and social service organizations. She has served on a number of state government committees, including the Advisory Task Group of the N.C. Health Commission, and the governor's special committee to deal with school problems and racial conflict. She is a consultant to the United

Presbyterian Church, National Committee for Self-Development of People.

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