

JIMMY LIGGINS REPORTS

BLACK GOLD MUSIC PROGRAM-REVIEW



THE KINGS OF HARMONY

Kings of Harmony Has First Religious Record on Duplex Label

John Eubanks, a young self-taught bass guitar musician, who started a group under the name "Undisputed Soul", (which later disbanded) is determined to represent his talent with a group.

John got together young musicians in Durham and they put together another band and the name they chose was "Duracha." After a period of time, the only members of the old group still associated are Larry Knight, Michael Meeks and John Eubanks. The group now recognizes no one individual as leader - they all receive the same pay under the management of Alfred Brunson. Brunson took the group after John had been turned down by all of the big band promotion men in the area. Brunson advised Liggins that he took the group after John was so persistent and brought the group to him.

They all agreed that they wanted to do something together and that Brunson would front the bills and stand for credit and the nine musicians would take the money from the their engagements and pay for their equipment in a family-type joint venture arrangement. With Alfred Brunson as manager, this arrangement has worked out fine.

Brunson has discussed the possibility of a recording session with Liggins in the near future on Duplex Records, but a lot of credit must go to John Eubanks, the young man who loved to play his instrument so well that he gave up leadership and money to be a part of an organization that is working its way to the top in the music business.

Blue Steam, Local Group Shows Determination To Make A Name

Edgar Sanders, leader of Blue Steam, a group of four young men with good voices and stage appearance, says the group is determined to make it. The group has one record to their credit, entitled "I Want a Girl" which did fair for them under poor promotion circumstances.

Discussing the group Blue Steam with Liggins, he says he saw the group once at the Club Baby Grand and that he was impressed very much with them. He advises that it takes time to build attractions and that he believes, in time if managed right, this group will be a top attraction.

The group is now under the management of Ray's Dairy Bar and L. Ragland of Hillside Barber Shop. The back-up band is composed of local musicians which includes Willie Hill, formerly with the Black Experience Band. He is also considered to be one of the best bass guitar men around. L. Ragland is discussing the possibility of dates with Black Gold Music Program promotions.

Duracha Band Established As Dynamite Element Of Funk

Jimmy Liggins, Chief Executive of the Black Gold Music Program and Duplex National Record Distributors, with southeast operations office located in Club Baby Grand, Durham, advises that Duplex will go on with distribution of the Kings of Harmony record moment by moment.

Due to the fact that the record was not over three minutes long, Liggins says he had plans of going back in the studio with the group and making the record longer, but sales for the record are good, "so we will go with it as it." Liggins says to not lose money in promotion of a record that won't sell, it is better to test a record with the public. Then if you find out you have a saleable item, it's time to put money into volume pressing and promotion. Liggins says in conclusion that the price of knowledge is high in the school of experience and it is better to have learned and lost than to never have learned at all. A voice of Black Music sales owned by Black people.



DURACHA BAND



BLUE STEAM



Clowns, dancers, and musicians will entertain shoppers at Northgate Mall, Friday, February 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. when the Durham Arts Council stages "A Happening" to promote current membership drive. Performing in Northgate's center court will be a dance group from NCCU, the Click'n'Cloggers, and the Foggy Headed Boys, a group of Blue Grass Musicians. Members of the Durham Arts Council will be present to give information on the Arts Council and activities.

The Durham Chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc. is sponsoring a grocery raffle as their annual fund raising project to benefit local charities. Tickets for this raffle may be purchased from any member of the Durham Chapter. After the drawing, to be held on Tuesday, March 2, the winner will be notified.

The Durham Theatre Guild will proudly present the Popular 19th Century Melodrama EAST LYNNE or THE ELOPEMENT in authentic style with musical interludes and entertainment.

The melodrama will be presented on the following dates: February 27, 28, 29; March 4, 5 and 7 at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.50.

For reservations call 682-5519.

Interview

(Continued From Page 1)

three-day emergency meeting of the Socialist-dominated World Peace Council which unanimously approved a resolution supporting the MPLA's efforts in Angola.

The MPLA is backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba, while the two other factions are backed by the United States and white racist South Africa. The Soviet Union's military support of the MPLA (which goes back to the days when black Angola was battling Portuguese oppression) has caused the White House in recent days to see Russian domination in Africa. But Santos pointed out in the NNPA interview that while the MPLA appreciates Russian aid, this doesn't mean that Angola is locked in the communist camp.

"We accept...help from all countries around the world on the basis of non-interference in our affairs," Santos said, explaining the MPLA's understanding with Moscow.

Does his "all countries" invitation include the United States which in the past - and now - sides with the enemies of the MPLA? Does this mean that the MPLA has the door open for support from the United States along with

continued support from the Soviet Union?

"Exactly," Santos answered in the affirmative. "We are working on this basis...which means we are still open to receive aid - especially economic aid - from any source, provided there are no strings attached."

Santos' receptiveness to the idea of dealing with the U. S. came somewhat as a surprise in view of the fact that the day before the interview he had strongly attacked the U. S. State Department for putting pressure on Gulf Oil Company to suspend its operations in Cabinda and to refuse to pay \$200 million in royalties to the Republic of Angola. Santos, appearing before the emergency meeting of the presidential committee of the World Peace Council, also lashed out at the Douglas Aircraft Corporation for allegedly failing to deliver two planes that had been purchased by his government. "It (Douglas) has confiscated both planes and the money," Santos charged.

In the NNPA interview, Santos also made reference to the Gulf decision. He said he was "astonished with the attitude" that Gulf demonstrated because his government, he said, had given certain "guarantees" to multinational corporations like Gulf. "We made it very clear

that we have to give guarantees and to respect and protect private interest in Angola" that are "really interested in working to help the interest of our national economy and the Angolan people," Santos said. This willingness to work with American corporation was seen as being related to the MPLA's possible shift in emphasis from military activities to rebuilding the country's economy which will be vital to the operation of the Republic of Angola once the war is over.

During the interview, Santos expressed disappointment at the failure of the United States to take advantage of at least two opportunities to support the MPLA and indicated that this failure forced his country to become more dependent on the Soviet Union for help.

He said the United States got its first opportunity shortly after Dr. Agostinho Neto was elected president of MPLA in 1963. "The first visit which he (Neto) made abroad was to the United States of America," Santos recalled. "Nevertheless, we never received help from the government of the U. S. On the contrary, the U. S. gave help in

various aspects to the government of Portugal and their colonialism."

Had the United States capitalized on this opportunity about 13 years ago, it would have not only been on the side fighting against forces backed by South African racists, but would have been on the side of the apparent winner in the Angolan conflict. Russia began supporting the MPLA about 10 years ago in the MPLA's fight against Portuguese rule.

Santos said the United States got another chance to support the MPLA when a Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) "sent missions around the world" to win "financial and moral support" for freedom in Angola. The United States was among the countries visited, Santos said.

In response to another NNPA question, Santos said he saw the deadlock vote on Angola at the recent Organization of African Unity summit as a "positive" result. "We consider the result...positive for us because for the first time in the history of OAU, we could see a clarification of forces - those for liberation and those against liberation in Africa," he said.

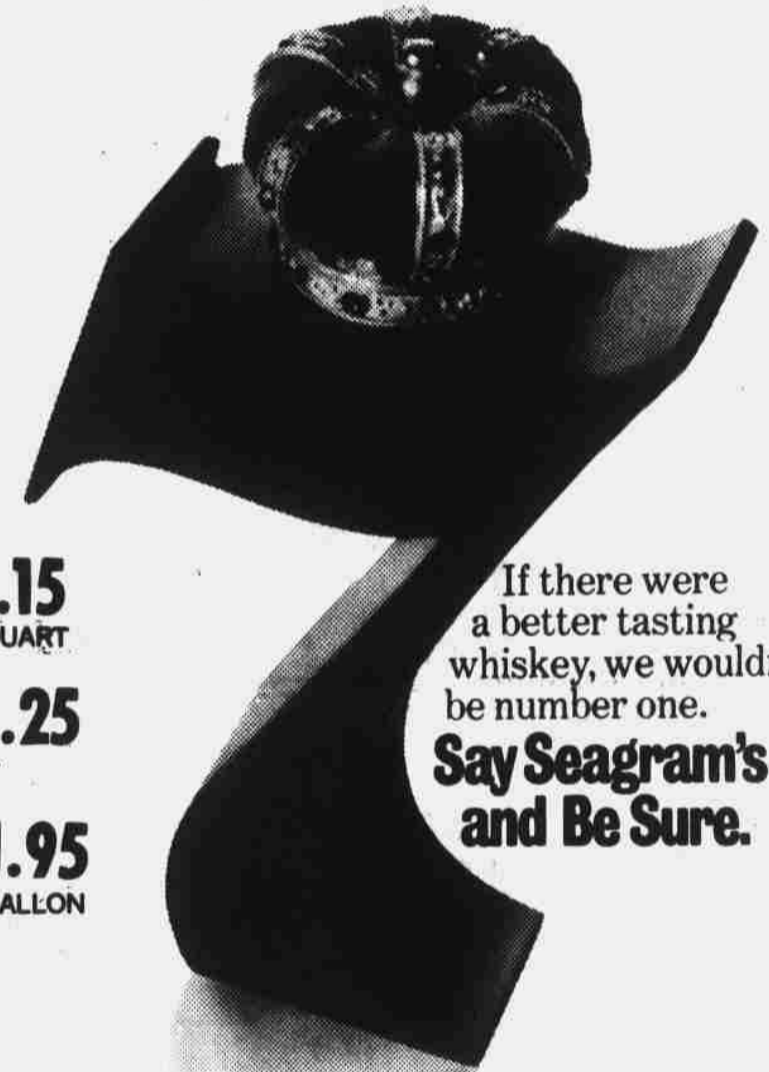
At that meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, African leaders representing 46 countries were evenly divided over whether to support the MPLA in the war or to call for a coalition of the three warring factions.

Santos conceded that the split summit vote didn't represent African unity - which he called "the most important item for OAU" - but he predicted that those 23 countries which voted for support of the MPLA at the summit "will be followed in the future by other countries."

Santos said there is a relationship between the black American's fight for racial justice in the United States and the MPLA's war against racism and imperialism in Angola. He further said that the MPLA is sympathetic with the American liberation struggle and extends a hand to black Americans in a gesture of "solidarity" against oppression.

"We have black, white, mulatto...and we believe all people are the same," said Santos, citing his government's stand for racial equality. "We do not believe anyone is less intelligent or more superior to another because of racial reasons."

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OUT NEW

SOUL 45 RECORD

- 1 New Orleans - Staple Singers
- 2 Today I Started Loving You Again - Rufus Bobby Bland
- 3 Sweet Thing - Rufus Bobby Bland
- 4 Surely - Johnny Taylor
- 5 Turning Point - Tyrone Davis
- 6 Kept On Smiling - Cal Brandon
- 7 Mysty Blue - Dorothy Moore
- 8 Stand Up And Be A Man - Sundia
- 9 Nothing Is Better For Me - 25th Century
- 10 Valerie - Jow Sutton

First time on chart

- 1 Old Black Magic - The Soft Tones
- 2 Love I Never Had - Tavares
- 3 Do it While You Can - Billy Preston
- 4 You Are My Weakness - Street People
- 5 Hipp - Ohio players
- 6 Day After Day - The Reflections
- 7 Richen - Mighty Clouds Of Joy
- 8 Once You Hit The Road - Dionne Warwick
- 9 I Won't Leave You - Debbie Taylor
- 10 I'm Not The Fool - E. Jackie Hines

Best just off chart

- 1 Rattle Snake - Ohio Players
- 2 I Chosen You - Chicago Gansters
- 3 Doleys Junk Yard Dogs - James Brown
- 4 Sweet Love - The Commodores
- 5 Full of Fire - Al Green

ALBUM

- 1 FAMILY REUNION - THE O JAYS
- 2 WAKE UP EVERYBODY - HAROLD MELVIN & THE BLUENOTES
- 3 ROUGH OUT HERE - THE MODULATIONS
- 4 ARCHIE WELLS AND THE DRELLS -
- 5 TELLING IT - ANN FEEBLES
- 6 COUNTRY GIRL - CHARLES MILLER PARTY

SPIRITUAL RELIGIOUS

- 1 KING HEROIN - SHIRLEY CEASAR
- 2 JESUS YOU'VE BEEN GOOD TO ME
- 3 HELP ME INEZ ANDREWS KEY NOTES
- 4 MOMENT BY MOMENT - KINGS OF HARMONY
- 5 UPS AND DOWNS - SWANEE QUINTET
- 6 MY HOME - THE NIGHTINGALES
- 7 I'M BOUND FOR MT. ZION - ANGELO SINGERS
- 8 SHAME ON YOU - SUPREME ANGELS
- 9 HE SAID HE WOULD - THE 21st CENTURY
- 10 I DECIDED TO MAKE JESUS MY CHOICE

NEW RELEASES

- 1 You - Aretha Franklin
- 2 24 Hour Love Man - Cal Brandon
- 3 Let Them Talk - Benny Hall
- 4 Get Up And Move Your Body - Powion
- 5 Lift This Hurt - Chosen Rev.

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