

Blacks' Destiny In Own Hands . . .



SPECTACLES: A Closer Look



Political Leadership For The 80's: By Ada M. Fisher

The New Hampshire primary will soon be upon us, so we're off and running in the Presidential race. Thus far, we have 'rehashed' politicians trying to prove to Americans that they ought to be President. But before we give in, we really ought to look at what this race means.

Whoever is elected will set the tone not just for his tenure but also for the decade of the 80's. Truman, Kennedy, and Nixon all were the trend setters for their decade. Gerald Ford and James E. Carter will always follow in the shadow of Nixon for the 70's and whoever is elected now will be our man for the 80's.

There are some issues which black people ought to be standing up and demanding to be heard on. First and foremost should be the civil rights concerns of black Americans. Whenever our needs have been demonstrated, the "Hippie Movement," "Women's Lib," energy or other concerns surface to take away our thunder. George Orwell's 1984 addresses the issue of suppression of human rights and civil liberties. Already there are suits of "reverse discrimination," the Supreme Court has taken a more conservative bend — barring the press from trials, taking the right to subpoena journalist's notes, upholding wire tapping, etc.; the expansion of powers for the CIA and FBI in domestic surveillance through a new charter; the use of social security numbers as a means of identification on checks, licenses, insurance policies, etc.; and the shift in thinking to "me" rather than we as a nation. These trends support Orwell's 1984 thesis. Black people should be militant and demanding to know each politician's position on civil rights, busing, social assistance (medicaid), unemployment, housing and education. Each of these will be critical to our survival — much more than we currently appreciate.

We must also decide what type of leadership the 80's need. We don't need promises of all things to all people for we have neither the money nor resources to do that. We do need reforms in taxation so that the burden is equally shared. There should be no exemptions for the rich or businesses beyond those allowed the average taxpayer. Everyone who works, regardless of income, ought to pay taxes. A ten per cent tax on all salaries with no exemptions would be better than the constant loopholes now allowed. A fifteen per cent tax on business profits before divestiture, with no exceptions, could also serve the monetary drain the system has. If these types of measures were enacted, no one would need an accountant to explain the loopholes, the government would have an adequate budget from which to operate, and the burden of taxation would be equally shared.

We need a fresh approach to the Department of Energy. A blend of conservation, the wise use of natural resources, the development of alternative energy sources, and controls on the distribution and cost of oil, coal, natural gas, and nuclear power — all energy stores and products with legislation to prevent monopoly control of



Americans started to use zip codes on letters and packages in 1963. ZIP stands for Zone Improvement Plan.

TO BE EQUAL

Expand Opportunities For Young People

By Vernon Jordan
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NATIONAL URBAN
LEAGUE



If we as a nation wanted to give all our young people the skills training and job experiences they need, we would do so.

Let's look at some of the supposed causes of youth unemployment. One is that the economy isn't creating enough jobs for all. That's true.

But it is creating enough jobs to provide work for many. And blacks lag in getting that work — with black youth at the end of the line.

Another supposed cause is the minimum wage. I reject that absolutely. After the last hike in the minimum wage white youth unemployment declined while black rates went up. If the proponents of the minimum wage argument are right one would expect rates for both races to rise. They didn't which suggests that race is a bigger factor than the level of the minimum wage.

The minimum wage argument is not really concerned with black youth; it is part of a general effort to restrain the gains of labor. A split-level minimum wage would be the breach in the wall of protective legislation that surrounds working conditions. I'm opposed to driving holes in that wall.

Another cause is the attitudes found among young people today. It is hard to

make a clear distinction between the negative attitudes of some and the experiences in the workplace that reinforce those attitudes.

The behavior patterns that pay off in status on the street are the opposite of those that pay off in the work setting. The schools have failed to assist those kids in making the transition, and employers often don't want to.

If the need for labor were to expand, we would find that many of the attitudes employers find objectionable would no longer constitute an excuse to avoid hiring people.

We would find instead, that employers would make greater efforts to train youth, to overcome their suspicions and hostility, to provide the services alienated youth need to break through their protective armor, and to treat those young people with respect and dignity.

The remedy for youth joblessness is simple: create jobs in the public and private sectors.

I favor a national full employment policy that guarantees jobs for all who want to work. Every young person should have access to educational, skill training, or work experiences as a matter of right.

I also back a voluntary National Youth

Service that emphasizes recruitment of disadvantaged youth. The Service would grant volunteers paid educational, skill and work habit training and experiences that would enable them to compete in the economy.

There is a need too, for a Federal Youth Commission that would coordinate all federal programs that impact on youth and provide leadership in changing educational and other institutions to better serve disadvantaged young people.

And both government and private industry have to practice affirmative action. Affirmative action today has weathered the threat of *Weber*, but it is often diluted through inclusion of all women and all minorities.

Opportunities have to be concentrated on those who have the least, and that means the black minority in general and black youth in particular.

Finally, there must be maximum participation of black community based groups in all aspects of public and private youth programs and employment efforts. Any approach that ignores the institutions of the black community itself, is doomed to failure. Indeed, it is programmed for failure.

American Foreign Policy With Black Emphasis

By Lance Jeffers

Joseph Lowery's and Jesse Jackson's voyage into foreign policy began with Malcolm X's trip to Africa fourteen or more years ago; he was, Malcolm said implicitly, representing black America. Later, Martin Luther King publicly damned the war in Vietnam, stating that his previous silence on that war had been a betrayal. Then one of his lieutenants, Andrew Young, outspokenly conducted from the United Nations what was essentially an American foreign policy from the sensibility of a strong, thoughtful, and sensitive black man. His advanced sensibility led to his removal as Ambassador to the UN, but his removal led to the phenomenon of Lowery and Jackson as architects of a new Middle East foreign policy.

Jackson and Lowery are attempting to rearrange the hostile situation between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, attempting to change an American policy which is obviously not in the national interests of the United States, trying to inspire in Israel and the PLO a kind of treaty wisdom. Jackson and Lowery are unofficially conducting or attempting to unofficially conduct an American foreign policy with an Afro-American emphasis. This is good, for

it gives blacks the distinction of not following docilely behind the zigs and zags of American foreign policy; the distinction of creating vis-a-vis the Third World a unique foreign policy. We are a people of thirty-plus million, and the various black leaders who have forayed into foreign policy have given us a stature and independence that we deserve, for the foreign policy these leaders have advocated has been humanist and peace-loving. Moreover, this movement into foreign policy reflects our relatively new and most wholesome self-concept: we are coming to think of ourselves as citizens of the world with the right and with the responsibility to change the world.

The barbarous situation in the Middle East desperately needs changing, and the United States government, massively powerful as it is, lacks the moral strength to correct it, though it could easily do so. Israel, which has diplomatic relations with South Africa and which has supported Nicaragua's Somoza, created itself from the displacement of Palestinians (who, the Rev. Wyatt T. Walker says, are the "niggers of the Middle East.") The present premier of Israel, Menachem Begin, played, as the leader some

three decades ago of the right-wing terrorist organization, Irgun, a leading role in Palestinian displacement. But Israel exists, and its permanent existence must be recognized; this is reality. The Palestinians, however, from understandable bitterness, refuse to recognize this truth. There is therefore Palestinian terrorism, and, in return, Israeli terrorism in the bombing of Palestinians. There must be compromise; there must be a recognition of reality in both sides, in order that peace may ensue. But, like a husband and wife bent on self-destructive divorce, both sides refuse to give up.

It is to the credit of Joseph Lowery and Jesse Jackson, representing black constituencies (representing, that is, us, but representing white America too), that they have taken the initiative to attempt to stop the flow of blood in the Middle East and to attempt to bring about a healing.

Premier Begin's churlish refusal to receive Jackson (The Israeli Socialist Party received him) may be the key signal that Lowery and Jackson may indeed achieve what they have set out to achieve: conciliation and peace in the Middle East which must, willy-nilly, inevitably come to pass.

Army Reserve Training Program Teaches Skills That Reduce Unemployment, Says Army Official

"Minority Americans are finding enlistment in the Army Reserve provides valuable educational and occupational training which can often be utilized in both civilian and military life," says General Benjamin Watkins, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.

Continuing, he pointed out that the U.S. Army Reserve teaches hundreds of occupational skills, of which the majority have direct civilian application. Educationally, he adds, army schools are ranked among the finest in America.

Reserve Skill Training in such high-demand occupations as airplane and auto mechanics, data processing, lab and medical technician service, are just a few of the exciting and well-paying career skills taught by the Army Reserve, says General Watkins, who works directly under Army Secretary Clifford Alexander.

Not only is the Reserve recruit allowed to choose a specific area of training, but receives full Army pay while in training. Additionally, there is the opportunity to earn points toward retirement pay, low cost Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, (\$20,000 for only a \$3 monthly premium) and host of other fringe benefits, the Civilian Assistant explains.

Initial military training consists of eight weeks of Basic Training. Advanced Individual Training varies with the occupation chosen, but usually does not exceed more than two months. Upon completion of initial military training, Reservists return to local unit to attend monthly drills of sixteen hours per month usually on weekends, plus two weeks of annual training. Pay is received for all training sessions, Watkins says.

Army Reserve Training is an effective logical approach in aiding minority Americans to develop needed occupational skills to compete in today's competitive marketplace, he points out.

Details on the Reserve Program are available through local Army Recruiters, the General says. Reserve centers are listed in local telephone "White Pages" under "U.S. Government." Army recruiting station telephone numbers can be found in the "Yellow Pages" under "Recruiting." Interested applicants can also get more details on the program by contacting the operators of a toll-free number: (800) 431-1234.

33rd Degree Masons To Hold 92nd Session Of United Supreme Council in Washington
WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The 93rd Annual Session of the United Supreme Council, 33rd Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction, will be held here October 6-9, at the Sheraton Park Hotel, Dr. I.H. Clayborn, lieutenant grand commander announced this week.

Dr. Clayborn, who has been acting as Sovereign Grand Commander since the death of Dr. John G. Lewis, Jr., in April, will preside over the convocation of 33rd degree Prince Hall Masons. He is Grand Master of Texas.

Highlighting the Calendar of Events of public interest are the Divine Service on Sunday Evening, and the annual class banquet on Monday evening. Both events will be held at the Sheraton Ballroom.

A banquet feature will be the presentation of those Masons who were elevated to the 33rd degree. More than 200 are expected to

receive the terminal and highest degree during the afternoon session on Monday.

Also, Dr. Clayton will present the following awards: The Deputy of the Year, the Distinguished Service and the Gold Medal Achievement. The latter is the highest award presented to a Prince Hall Scottish Rite Mason.

The Annual Meeting of the Charitable Foundation, Inc. of the United Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., will meet on Saturday morning, October 6. Henry A. Dove of Washington is president and will preside.



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"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. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the oceans majestic waves without the awful roar of its waters."

—Frederick Douglass